

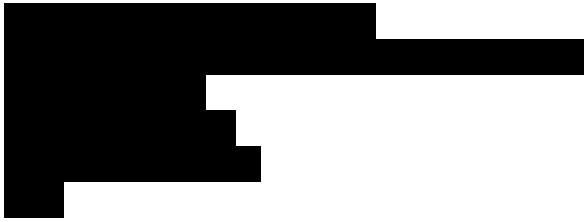
National Cultural Policy Submission

1470228

Public

Organisation

Waverley Park Homestead Art Gallery



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

Waverley Park Homestead Art Gallery is a part of the Willunga Branch of the National Trust of South Australia (NTSA) and the only NTSA Art Gallery in South Australia. It is an entirely volunteer-run, primarily not for sale, not for profit (charity), free entry art gallery and community cultural center. The gallery receives no recurrent funding from the Commonwealth, State or Local government and depends on grants, donations and sales in order to operate.

Waverley Park Homestead was the first art gallery in South Australia to apply for, and be allowed to borrow, relevant nationally significant artworks painted in our local district from the National Gallery of Australia (NGA) under the \Sharing the National Collection\, initiative. This partnership with the NGA has not just provided the loaned artworks, which has helped us to increase our visitation but has also allowed our volunteers to learn from the NGA professional staff (curators and conservators) who have visited our facility.

We believe that the continuation of the Sharing the National Collection (STNC) program it is critically important for small regional and outer suburban galleries, like ours, as we have found that the status associated with being accepted for the STNC program has also allowed us to borrow important artworks from other sources (galleries and art collectors).

Waverley Park Homestead has previously suggested in our regular feedback to the NGA that a regular annual visit could be made to all South Australian venues by an NGA staff member that could include a suitable talk/lecture at each venue in order to share their knowledge with our volunteers/supporters. This would be a valuable, and relatively inexpensive, extension to the program.

Another extension might be to offer a small, recurrent grant program that aligns with the STNC program (ie. each year for up to five years) to allow the venues to properly promote that the STNC loans are available to view. At present due to lack of funding we are unable to promote the STNC loans to the extent that they deserve and we still have local people arrive in our gallery who do not know about them or their significance to the local area.

Overall the \Sharing the National Collection\, component of the National Cultural Policy is to be applauded and we certainly encourage that it is continued, and extended if possible.