

## National Cultural Policy Submission

1470329

Public and anonymous

Individual



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

My name is [REDACTED] I am based in [REDACTED] and I work as a Glass artist and graphic designer.

Art is my life. It is who I am and all that I have ever wanted to do. I am so fortunate to be able to work in the field I love, but it is a struggle.

The little committed to the arts in Australia is an absolute disgrace. We are so far behind the rest of the world with our support of artists and I feel that this country's priority is sport.

The closure of the Australian Design Centre is an example of how little craft and design is valued and it is an absolute travesty that it is closed.

As a glass artist I have had the privilege of working at the Canberra Glassworks and am so grateful for this world class facility in Australia. This is my largest retail outlet and I would find making a living very difficult without this opportunity. The calibre of artists who work here is outstanding, as are the workshops and professional opportunities available to our very small field. The Glassworks and the Jam Factory have always been retail outlets that artists have aspired to since starting their courses at university. I can't stress how important these institutions are in Australia and if these were to close our very small but prestigious artist community would be decimated.

The [REDACTED] glass community is very disparate and there is no real 'centre' here. We also lost our main retail gallery [REDACTED] several years ago and many of the artists here are still finding it difficult to find quality outlets for their work. It is imperative that investment needs to be made in the arts. We are not just a country of sports mad citizens and our artists need more support. Not only that but the arts need to be held in higher esteem within government and valued.

I support the three asks made by the Australian Craft and Design Centres (ACDC) network in their submission to this consultation: a 10-year workforce development plan that addresses skills and training shortages for craftspeople and designers; the establishment of a dedicated craft and design structure within Creative Australia, with its own mandate to advocate for the sector, develop funding pathways, and coordinate across government; and an export and tourism development strategy that positions Australian makers in international markets, including at showcase events like Milan Design Week.