

National Cultural Policy Submission

1470366

Public and anonymous

Individual



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

One major concern is that funding may become increasingly tied to political or social priorities rather than artistic merit. Many creatives fear they will need to align their work with government-approved themes in order to receive support, which absolutely limits creative freedom and certainly does not encourage creative risk-taking. The arts thrive when Creatives are free to challenge ideas, provoke discussion, and experiment without pressure to fit within specific frameworks.

It also impacts smaller and regional arts organisations as they may struggle to compete for funding against larger institutions that already have strong administrative structures. Sure the policy claims to support diversity and accessibility, however there are concerns that independent artists and grassroots theatre companies could be left behind due to complicated funding processes and increased reporting requirements.

There is also concern about the centralisation of decision-making. The policy gives too much power to government bodies and funding agencies, which may influence what kinds of stories are told and whose voices are prioritised. Rather than encouraging a broad and independent arts culture, critics argue the policy risks creating an environment where artists self-censor in order to remain employable and funded. How is this creative freedom???

Ultimately, while the National Cultural Policy professes to strengthen Australia's cultural identity, many of us believe that it could unintentionally weaken the independence, creativity, and diversity that make the arts valuable in the first place.