

National Cultural Policy Submission

1471891

Public and anonymous



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

Pillars 1 & 2 — First Nations First and A Place for Every Story

Everyone's story counts

- First Nations culture is central to who we are and needs real, ongoing support — led by First Nations people themselves.
- Our arts should reflect the full diversity of Australia — including migrants, the queer community and people with disability, who have important stories to tell and must be supported as artists and participants.
- Local stories and local culture are worth protecting. Once they're gone, they're gone.

Pillar 3 — Centrality of the Artist

Pay artists properly

- Musicians, actors, singers, visual artists, filmmakers and screen workers are skilled workers and deserve to be paid equitably.
- Too many artists juggle multiple jobs just to get by. That's not sustainable and it's not fair.
- Appreciation of arts and culture begins well before school age — access to creative experiences in early childhood is just as important as what happens later in education.
- Creative and arts degrees shouldn't cost more than other disciplines — film, music, theatre and visual arts matter too.
- A career in the arts should be a real option, not just for those who can afford years of low pay.

Pillar 4 — Strong Cultural Infrastructure

Fund it properly

- Good intentions don't keep a theatre company or music venue running — reliable, ongoing funding does.
- Short-term grants aren't enough. Organisations need stable investment so they can plan ahead.
- When a local venue or arts organisation closes, it's very hard to get back. These places protect local culture and stories and must be supported.
- Regional and community arts need an equitable share of funding — not just the big cities.

Pillar 5 — Engaging the Audience

Keep it accessible and keep it live

- Live music, theatre and exhibitions bring people together in a way screens can't. That human connection is worth protecting.
- Tickets are getting too expensive and people are being priced out. The fix is public investment, not cutting artist pay.
- Streaming platforms operating in Australia should meet minimum local content quotas — if they're making money here, they should invest in Australian stories.
- Tax subsidies for Australian film and TV investment would attract private capital and keep the industry competitive, as they do in many other countries.
- Venues must be genuinely accessible for people with disability — including hearing loops

