

National Cultural Policy Submission

1472080

Public

Individual

Margaret (Margie) Hartley



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

First decade as an Arts Executive, Director 1993 & 1994 Melbourne Int. Comedy Festivals (MICF). Current consultant in Coaching & leadership Psychology.

I followed the doctrine of the late and great Betty Churcher, - it's all about accessibility. Current issues I observe.

1. Arts Boards stuck between funding and political risk. 2. Arts Boards full of business people who don't understand the strategic modelling necessary and only looking at bottom line and Arts Ceo's who are unable to innovate or not able to be commercial (balance of both required). 3. Lack of accessibility for public, incl: cost, geography, venues,

information 4. Lack of space for emerging artists to engage offline. I believe that the modelling of many Arts organisations isn't fit for modern world and Arts Board members are not fit for future flourishing. We remodelled the MICF in 1993 by creating a hub for 3 events and supporting the artists and entrepreneurs to build, own and earn from their shows. This model is under utilised even today. In Melbourne the collaborative nature of Ministry for the Arts, city of Melb (Elizabeth Proust), all other festivals and Arts organisations in the 1990's was excellent. I came to Sydney in 1999 to discover an uncoordinated and competitive landscape. I would like to see support for strategic modelling for Arts organisations and their leadership. As a successful evidence based leadership consultant over the last 25 years there are massive opportunities to shape the leadership of the arts and the thinking. Just as Democracy Australia are attempting to support education in politics. I propose a universal, evidence based and strategically lead program for current and emerging arts executives as well as Board training. I do not believe this will be or needs to be expensive however to secure the future fitness isn't about more money but education and awareness that is able to be created at scale. I would be very happy and grateful to be apart of this transformation.