

National Cultural Policy Submission

1472242

Public

Individual

Blanche Tilden



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

My name is Blanche Tilden. I am based in Melbourne, and I work as a glass artist, jeweller.

I have contributed to the craft and design sector as a practitioner, educator and mentor since 1988. 38 years of contributing to the craft and design sector makes me part of community that values the fundamental human need and right to make things, understand materials and share the experience of creativity.

I have had the privilege of working with many distinguished craftspeople and designers who have generously passed on their experience and knowledge. Craft and Design is essential to the ongoing cultural life of Australia. Creativity isn't a luxury - it is a necessity

The arts in general and craft and design in particular are essential human - life is diminished without creativity. Without proper investment in the sector the unique Australian voice that contributes to a worldwide need for social connection will be lost. Proper investment will ensure the support for future generations of makers

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.