

National Cultural Policy Submission

1472310

Public and anonymous

Individual



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

I am an independent young emerging artist and I'm calling for the Australian Government to invest in street dance.

I ask the Australian Government to explicitly recognise street dance, dance battles, cyphers and jams as legitimate contemporary cultural practice in the National Cultural Policy. Street dance should be recognised on its own terms, not forced into traditional arts models that do not reflect how the culture works.

I also ask the Government and Creative Australia to create dedicated Street Dance funding allocations. Street dance is popular and has strong participation among young people and culturally diverse communities that are often marginalised in the arts. However, it does not receive enough recognition, funding or infrastructure that reflect its participation.

I support the establishment of a dedicated Community Arts and Cultural Development body within Creative Australia. Grassroots communities like street dance build culture and empower young people from the ground up. They create artists, mentors, event organisers, community leaders, and attract young locals and international audiences. These communities need dedicated support that reflect their impact on Australian culture, and young marginalised people. The young people are the future of Australia, yet the support for street dance that has such high engagement with a young demographic and youthful culture is being ignored.

Many dancers do not have enough or affordable places to practise, gather or build community. We need accessible spaces with safe surfaces, shelter, lighting, transport access and permissions without being moved on.

If Australia is serious about "A Place for Every Story", then street dance stories, spaces and communities must be recognised and supported.