

National Cultural Policy Submission

1472481

Public

Individual

Mark Dalglish



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

I'm an emerging comedy artist trying to build capacity in the community for queer and neurodivergent artists to develop and perform. I've participated in Fringe festivals and Comedy festivals. My biggest challenges are breaking into a very cliquey and closed curated comedy scene, with straight males gatekeeping access and restricting it to their straight male friends. It's difficult to find safe spaces for people who don't fit. So I tried creating space myself, but it becomes expensive and I can't afford marketing and publicity. If there was more affordable workshops and content creation tools, it would be easier to market to wider audiences and counter audience decline since COVID. Having more dedicated queer spaces for venues would also help, especially at festival times.