

National Cultural Policy Submission

1472561

Public

Individual

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Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

I think that since street dance is purely self-funded and out of the love from the community, it makes it really hard for people to run these street dance battles, whether it be small or large scale. Events are mainly all run by volunteers after paying out the venue hire, DJs, judges, media team etc., and small prizes are given to winners. Hence, a lot of organisers usually barely breakeven for what could be hundreds of hours of labour. Lack of funding and awareness means not many people attend these events either. When an audience fee has been hiked to up to \$35 these days, it really makes enjoying an event much less appealing -- but obviously it's necessary for the survival, or just the ability to run the event.

Personally, I think we also need more spaces for dance. Currently in Sydney, the only public training area with mirrors is at ICC/Dancer's Alley, which can be super inconvenient for people who have to travel 60+ minutes from the West just to get here. More spaces for dance should be proper, just like how we have skate parks or courts for sports.

I think genuinely, just more funding is preferred for Street Dance. Funding so that it can be recognised, because really before I took a random hiphop class from my uni's society, I didn't know about how enriched this street dance culture was. It's very powerful, being able to see every individual experience themselves, their storytelling through dance, but unfortunately the majority of people will have never heard of it other than 'breakdancing'.