

National Cultural Policy Submission

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Public and anonymous

Individual



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

I am excited that we have a National Cultural Policy in Aus, and I'd like to make some suggestions. I am a professional actor, I graduated NIDA with a BFA, and have been working professionally for ten years; Malthouse, STC, Bell Shakespeare, etc. And yet, for most people in the arts who are working and middle class, it is extremely difficult. There is such precariousness within the theatre industry. The pay in professional theatre is such that most actors are living well below the average national income, some indeed closer to the poverty line. It seems that Australia might value the arts, but not the artists. I suggest that the cultural policy contains strategies to generate income for artists, I think something like Ireland's Basic Income for the Arts would be great, and that program has shown to be hugely beneficial for stimulating the economy. The arts should be funded like sport.