

National Cultural Policy Submission

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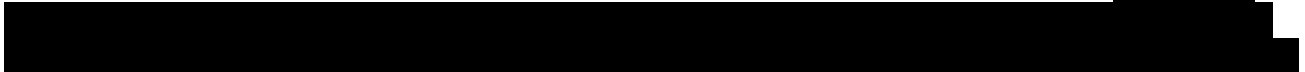
Public and anonymous

Individual



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

I strongly support the implementation of a National Cultural Policy and think this is an important step in the right direction for the Arts in Australia. I am a freelance Set and Costume designer working in theatre. 



Having been working in theatre industry for just over a year I have watched my extremely talented classmates have to walk away from the career they studied for 3 years and find a job that will make ends meet. I have the privilege of still living with my parents and not having to pay rent and for that reason have been able to pursue my artistic career. There's a very plausible future where I will not have the luxury of creating art that feeds my soul and instead find something that feeds my hands. I have done thousands of hours of unpaid work and have worked on independent theatre productions where I made a loss (paying for costumes and set, with the show not meeting box office and me not getting paid for 2 months of full time work). I support the policy Fund Art Like Sport. Our sector, like sport, is central to Australia's history and future. I would also like to suggest a tax reform policy that means money earned from feeding Australia's Cultural Arts space should be taxed at a discounted rate as the work being performed is enriching our country inherently. The reality is the theatre industry is shrinking, the work being made is fixated on ticket sales and budgets instead of Art, and it is sad to say that it is not sustainable to be an artist in Australia. I am optimistic that a National Cultural Policy will create a more vibrant, loved and rich Australian Culture. Thank you for considering my response and hearing from your artists.