

National Cultural Policy Submission

1472748

Public and anonymous

Individual

Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

I am a professional glass artist who has been instrumental in setting up and running a world-class glass-making facility in [REDACTED] over the past 20 years. The facility is available for resident and visiting artists to hire and for members of the public to engage with the craft through residencies, workshops and masterclasses. A wide range of artists have completed residencies here in a range of mediums including glass, visual art, music recording, writing, silversmithing etc. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I am particularly concerned with Pillar 4, Strong Cultural Infrastructure.

I am concerned that arts education in our universities is more expensive than ever before, and yet it is delivering far less than it used to.

More and more, prospective and emerging artists are looking elsewhere to gain the practical skills required to pursue a career in art making - particularly in mediums such as Glass.

Small community-led and artist-led institutions and organisations like ours [REDACTED] have had to step up and meet this need, endeavouring to provide affordable/accessible studios and equipment as well as tuition and mentoring.

Increasingly students are pulling out of university-based arts education and looking for local, practical, affordable opportunities to develop their careers - particularly where supportive arts communities exist.

I would love to see the Australian Government recognise and value these smaller community-based initiatives (such as ours) that are punching above their weight and delivering where universities (which attract large amounts of funding) do not.

If Pillar 4 is about \,Providing support across the spectrum of institutions which sustain our arts, culture and heritage\,, then I would like to see the Government identify some of the quiet achievers like us, who often lack the administrative resources to seek and win highly competitive grants.

It is time to take stock and offer direct support to these organisations, or risk losing them completely - and risk losing the next generation of skilled artists and artisans in Australia.