

National Cultural Policy Submission

1472858

Public

Individual

Gautirya Muralietharan



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

I am a young emerging glass artist and the only practicing Tamil-Australian glassblower. I started my journey at Sydney College of the Arts and continued my training at the JamFactory's glass Associate program in Adelaide.

I believe my voice is particularly poignant to this discussion as a young minority in a highly specialised sector.

Specifically, the caliber of Australia's glass scene is incredibly high with many of our artists being household names within the craft internationally. However, the typical Australian has no idea of the prestige Australian glass carries. I believe that by establishing systems that support the growth of all crafts across Australia will help not only Australians take pride in our makers but will elevate Australia's international standing as an innovative and pioneering country.

I believe by focusing on supporting learning programs will ensure a healthy ecosystems of growth that is eventually self-sustaining.

Additionally, I believe by focusing on marketing the arts and crafts both within Australia and out will feed into building interest towards learning and supporting craft. The above two in tandem with each other will create a feedback loop that grows with our nation in the coming years.

I am literally the only brown glassblower in Australia currently, and I don't want to be. I want fellow Australians to see my field as an option through visibility schemes and see it as a viable pathway because of well-rounded funding.

Finally, my craft has taken me to live in multiple states and even overseas for employment due to limited opportunities. I was born and raised in Sydney but there are no viable work opportunities here, which forces me to move. I am hoping that proper investment and consideration of my above words will lead to a glass centre being established in Sydney in the future as a byproduct of systems, so I do not have to keep leaving my family and friends.

I am proud of my country, and I want to see it proud of me too.