

Office for the Arts
Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development, Communications and the Arts
GPO Box 594 | CANBERRA ACT 2601

[REDACTED]

25 May 2026

Dear Committee Members,

Re: Inquiry into Australia's creative and cultural industries and institutions

I am an author and member of the Australian Society of Authors and Western Edge Performance Writers. I support their submissions.

Over the past 15 years, I've been represented by a literary agent at a leading London agency, won a writing fellowship and Judge's Choice award in Australia, won writing festival prizes in the UK, been shortlisted for a Disney Company Story Lab and selected for an 'emerging voices in film' talent incubator, and benefited from writing development grants. I've published regular travel and magazine feature editorials. For all 15 years, I've competed with hundreds of equally talented authors for a handful of opportunities that essentially fund time to write. Like many authors, I still produce new creative work in the small gaps between making a living.

Why does it matter? Because funding writers is an investment in truth, hope, and self-awareness. It is a gift to society that helps Australians be more inclusive, more connected, and less isolated.

Authors are grateful for the initiatives introduced in *Revive* to assist with the sustainability of our careers, but the conditions we face have become increasingly precarious. Without immediate support, the viability of the book industry in Australia is at serious risk.

I urge the committee to ensure we have a thriving arts community that can continue to produce new work that builds an inspired, hopeful, inclusive society.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

Donyale MacKrill

[REDACTED]