

National Cultural Policy Submission

Anonymous

Submitted: On behalf of an organisation with arts-components (e.g. community organisation, tourism, venue, health, education etc)

What challenges and opportunities do you see in the pillar or pillars most relevant to you? Feel free to respond to any or all pillars:

First Nations

Opportunities to share First Nations cultural music and dance through the National Curriculum. The Challenge is to do it respectfully and correctly. This can only be done through context specific Professional Development for all teachers in Primary and Secondary schools.

Strong Institutions

In order to develop our Artists, we need to ensure that specialist teachers and classes are available to all schools – city, regional and remote – so that our young people have the opportunities to be exposed to the Arts at all ages. These programs are vitally linked to our identity as a nation. Most specifically, music education, particularly in Primary Schools is of significant importance because of its heavy influence on literacy, numeracy and social outcomes for students. Given the amount of research available telling us how effective this is and at a low cost to the Government, I can't understand why priority hasn't been given to this more urgently.

Please tell us how each of the 5 pillars are important to you and your practice and why. Feel free to respond to any or all that are applicable to you:

Strong Institutions

We spend huge amounts of time and money researching literacy and numeracy programs, differentiating for diverse learners to assist students with better outcomes for their education. Classroom and Instrumental Music programs that do just this are sitting right under our noses and we aren't ensuring every child has access to this. There is endless research that speaks to the benefits of the outcomes of the person as a whole when they have access to a music education. To build better educational outcomes, and better artists, we need to make this an educational priority. When you look at our results through NAPLAN and PAT testing, we are going backwards, yet educational practice is supposedly so much better now. What has changed? Our investment in specialist classroom music teachers and programs in our schools.

Are there any other things that you would like to see in a National Cultural Policy?

Arts education as a priority.