

National Cultural Policy Submission

Anonymous

Submitted: As an artist

What challenges and opportunities do you see in the pillar or pillars most relevant to you?

First Nations

Applaud. Often challenging in regional NFP groups to access skilled diverse participants for projects.

A Place for Every Story

Agree. Funding must apply to grass roots activity in communities, not just peak or touring organisations. Art/cultural practice should be as integrated into everyday life as sport. 10 pages of sporting activity in every country newspaper compared with 1 page for arts/culture and for which artists have to pay for ads etc.

Compare sponsors for Arts with sponsors for Sport. Everyone understand the sport-health connection but not the Arts/health connection. We need both; we need balance.

Raise the profile of the arts and storytelling as more than an add-on after everything else has been funded.

What role do costly PACs have in creating spaces and places for local artists and performers to work and play, create and present local stories. Costs are prohibitive- local performers are back in halls and sheds where they were before PACs existed.

The Centrality of the Artist

It is a lifetime engagement, mostly unpaid or underpaid.

The regions and regional artists receive even less incentive to take up the role of artist, and most young people head to the city for arts training and employment, few return, even in regional cities with Performing Arts Centres or should I say presentation boxes. No artists working in ours. Administrators get paid- not artists unless they have been able to develop a professional touring show, and again most head to the city to do this

Strong Institutions

Invest in education of regional Shire Councils who often hold the purse strings... what incentives do they provide for the Arts...

Reaching the Audience

Regional: Performance: Most of our regular audience members are over 50-60. The programs for youth do not seem to encourage majority to stay engaged.

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:

See my comments above

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

Engaging the general community to respect artists and arts.

Encouraging the development of Australian content with big positive incentives. I was enthralled by STC production of Wilde's Dorian Gray, the technical mastery, the potential for new styles and practices in storytelling, BUT I was so disappointed that it was not an Australian story. Does this still relate to the cultural cringe (of course, the "bums on seats" factor?)