

# National Cultural Policy Submission

## Albury City Council

Submitted:

On behalf of government or government body

**First Nations** - recognising and respecting the crucial place of these stories at the centre of our arts and culture.

Opportunities:

- Mandated awareness training in cultural safety and protocols for arts and culture workers.
- Promote cultural safety and inclusive work environments to protect and respect First Nations workers and artists.
- Appropriate and varied engagement methodologies.
- Sharing First Nations culture through art and cultural experiences.
- Dual signage and place naming.
- Support the regeneration of First Nations languages and maintaining of traditional cultural practices for the next generation.
- Create socio-economic opportunities to help break the poverty cycle for First Nations communities.
- Support "Truth telling" (Uluru Statement of the Heart) through public art, galleries and museums.
- Engaging First Nations voices to tell First Nations stories.

Challenges:

- Limited processes and frameworks to appropriately remunerate for cultural intellectual knowledge.
- Procurement processes for artist and performer engagement can be prohibitive.
- Organisations holding limiting views of what constitutes an 'artist', which can reduce opportunities for First Nations engagement.
- First Nations artists not feeling comfortable or safe to share their art publicly.

**A Place for Every Story** - reflecting the diversity of our stories and the contribution of all Australians as the creators of culture.

Opportunities:

- To be guided by truth-telling and First Nations Voice (Uluru Statement from the Heart).
- Tell our stories by encouraging public artworks and activations that reflect and respond our place.
- Provide increased funding for TROVE to support increased digitisation and access to Australian collections and stories.
- Develop specific placemaking projects that honour First Nations stories at significant cultural and heritage sites.
- Develop and engage multicultural networks to increase participation in arts and culture.
- Support knowledge retention and sharing of traditional arts, crafts and cultural practices.
- Sound assessments of funding applications, to ensure funds are distributed appropriately.
- Engage cultural advisers, as well as create opportunities for CALD representation on boards, committees, and assessment panels.

- Provide opportunities for investment in and education for artists and cultural workers from diverse backgrounds.
- Provide opportunities for community cultural development and storytelling.

**The Centrality of the Artist** - supporting the artist as worker and celebrating their role as the creators of culture.

Opportunities:

- Work with industry partners, such as universities and TAFE institutions, to create training and employment pathways in the arts and culture industry, and grow the creative industries economy.
- Capacity development in artists at a regional level with diverse programs including public art, visual arts and museum storytelling.
- Establish Industry Award rates for artists and cultural workers.
- Ensure artists and creatives are on funding assessment panels to ensure that art and cultural works are judged by experts in the field.
- Create a broader range of opportunities for artists. For example, creating opportunities to build capacity and skills through process-based, not simply outcome-focused, initiatives.
- Improved procurement and funding application processes that are accessible and user-friendly for artists.
- Grant submissions and funding applications included as part of JobSeeker looking for work requirements.
- Increase supply of and access to affordable creative and maker spaces.
- Arts and culture to be mandatory in the national curriculum at all school levels.

**Strong Institutions** - providing support across the spectrum of institutions which sustain our arts and culture.

Opportunities:

- A cohesive, consistent policy approach across National, State and Local tiers of government.
- Consistent funding arrangements of arts and cultural institutions to enable them to operate sustainably.
- Build the capacity of artists and art organisations to attract and grow diverse revenue streams.
- Broaden the Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status to include public art and similar cultural endeavours at Local Councils.
- Support National cultural institutions in providing services, training, mentorship and product to regional institutions and communities.
- Increased funding for arts education across arts and cultural institution and the education sector.
- Encourage collaboration amongst local arts and culture organisations to enhance and promote creative programs and projects.
- Increasing supply of and access to affordable creative and maker spaces.

Challenges:

- Significant funding has been available for cultural infrastructure but not ongoing operational costs. Sustainability becomes an issue for new cultural facilities.
- Inconsistency in policy and strategy across National, State and Local tiers of government.
- Local Government perspective – There is limited opportunity for philanthropic donations through the DGR process.

**Reaching the Audience** - ensuring our stories reach the right people at home and abroad.

Opportunities:

- Research barriers and enablers to participation – enriching understanding of why people are/aren't engaging.
- Provide more opportunities for children and young people to participate in arts and culture.
- Develop accessible digital tools to communicate creative activities, events and festivals. For example, provide readable and audio information for the sight impaired.
- Increased funding opportunities for community art education, and subsidised programmes for marginalised groups.
- Develop consistent outcome focused arts and cultural engagement evaluation tools.
- Provide opportunities for people to access pop-up or temporary art installation, events and activities in everyday situations and public spaces.
- Provide increased opportunities for cultural festivals and celebrations.
- Provide opportunities for children and young people to participate in arts and culture.

Challenges:

- Regional NBN blackspots and connectivity issues.

**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:**

#### **First Nations**

- Assists in achieving the actions and vision of our Reconciliation Action Plan.
- First Nations storytelling and voices essential in telling our region's story through museum, gallery and public art.

#### **A Place for Every Story**

- Links to our Community Strategic Plan and Cultural Plan.
- Local Government has an integral role in showcasing our communities diverse stories.

#### **The Centrality of the Artist**

- Local Government can have an integral role in supporting the creative economy.
- We have a commitment to remunerating artists appropriately and advocating with all agencies that we work with to do the same.

### **Strong Institutions**

- It is the business of local government to build strong local institutions and work with / partner with strong state and national institutions.
- Our region's strong cultural industry and practice is primarily as a result of strong professional cultural institutions on both sides of the State border.
- A recognition that strong institutions are key in developing and maintaining a strong creative economy.

### **Reaching the Audience**

- Local Government seeks to have a strong connection with our local communities. We aim to provide a diversity of cultural experiences and to reach a diverse audience.

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

1. Champion the creative sector to grow the economy.
2. A pillar that talks to investment in arts and culture and how it will grow and develop the creative economy