

National **Arts + Disability** Strategy

Tell your story about arts and
disability in Australia

Hard words

This book has some hard words.

The first time we write a hard word

- the word is in **blue**
- we write what the hard word means.

You can get help with this book

You can get someone to help you

- read this book
- know what this book is about
- find more information.

About this book

This book is written by the Department of Communications and the Arts.

When you see the word **we** it means the government.

This book is a **discussion paper** about our plan for arts and disability in Australia.

A discussion paper is information about our plan that you can

- read
- think about.

After you read the discussion paper you can tell us your ideas.

There is more information about how to tell us your ideas at the end of this discussion paper.

What are the arts?

In our plan the arts means

- all types of art
 - for example, film and dance
- places where art is made or shown
 - for example, galleries and museums.

We made our last plan in 2009.

You can read more about the 2009 plan here

<https://www.arts.gov.au/mcm/work-mcm/national-arts-and-disability-strategy>

There have been lots of changes in the arts since 2009.

What has changed in the arts?

People with disability have helped to make changes in the arts.

Art groups have new ways to help people with disability to

- be part of the arts community
- make good art

- show good art to people in Australia and overseas
- work in the arts.

The National Disability Insurance Scheme or NDIS has changed how people with disability do art.

We want our plan to show changes that have happened in the arts.

What is disability?

In our plan disability means

- all types of disability
- things that make it hard for people to be part of their community.

Some people do **not** feel they have a disability. For example, Deaf people. We want ideas from everyone.

This discussion paper has 4 parts

Part 1 is about your story and ideas.

Part 2 is about how you engage with the arts.

For example, how you

- **practise** art
 - practise means how people work in the arts

- **express** yourself with art
 - express means how people enjoy art

- **connect** with the arts
 - connect means how people see different types of art.

Part 3 is about our plan and changes in the arts.

Part 4 is about disability and the arts in Australia.

Part 1 Your story and ideas

We want to hear ideas from lots of people .For example

- people with disability
- carers and families of people with disability
- people who work in places where art is made or shown
- disability groups
- education groups
- people who work in the arts
- anyone with ideas about arts and disability.

We also want to hear ideas from

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- people who live in regional or remote areas
- young people
- older people
- people who have different
 - cultures
 - languages
 - genders
 - sexualities.

Part 2 How you engage with the arts

How you practise art

People who practise or work in the arts are called **professional artists**.

Professional artists might **not** be paid workers.

We want to hear about

- how you found out about art
- how you make art
- your art goals.

Tell us your story

If you are an artist with disability we want to hear your story.

For example, you might tell us

- work you have done in the arts
- how you show your art
- if you get paid for your art
- if you have other jobs
- things that make it hard to practise in the arts.

You might also tell us

- the help you get to work in the arts
- if the **National Disability Insurance Scheme** or NDIS helps
- if art groups help
- if employment groups help
- if disability groups help your art goals.

We also want to hear from disability and art groups.

You might tell us about how your group

- teaches artists with disability
- helps artists with disability make and show their art
- helps people with disability to be part of the arts community
- works with other groups to give people access to art
- helps artists with disability to be leaders.

You might also tell us

- what you need to help people with disability access the arts
- if the NDIS has changed how your group works
- how the government helps people with disability to work in the arts.

How you express yourself with art

You might do art because you enjoy it.

You might go to art groups to

- learn about art
- meet people
- feel better.

Tell us your story

If you do art because you enjoy it we want to hear your story.

For example, you might tell us

- where you go to enjoy the arts
- how art makes you feel
- technology you use to enjoy art
- art programs you would love to do
- how the NDIS has changed things
- the changes you have seen in the arts
- what makes it hard to do art programs.

We also want to hear from disability and art groups.

You might tell us

- how your group helps people with disability enjoy the arts
- how your group works with other groups to help people enjoy art
- what your group needs to help more people with disability enjoy art
- how the NDIS has changed your group
- how government programs help people with disability to enjoy art.

How you connect with art

You might connect with different types of art.

For example, when you

- read a book
- watch a movie
- listen to music
- see a concert
- see an art show
- watch art on technology
 - for example, your computer.

Good things happen when you connect with art.

For example, you might

- enjoy the art
- meet friends
- feel good
- have a better life.

We want to make sure people with disability can connect with lots of different types of art.

We want Australians to see different types of art made by people with disability.

[Tell us your story](#)

If you like to connect with the arts we want to hear your story.

For example, you might tell us

- how you find out about art events and which events you choose
- when you go to art events
- what makes a good art event
- when you feel welcome at art events
- things that make it easy to go to art events
- if you have seen people with disability lead art events

- if you volunteer at art events and why.

We also want to hear from disability and art groups.

You might tell us

- how people with disability find out about your art events.
- how your group works with other groups to help people connect with the arts
- what makes an art event good for people with disability
- how people feel when they see work by artists with disability
- how your arts programs might help people feel better
- how government programs help people with disability to connect with art.

Part 3 Our plan and changes in the arts

We believe everyone in Australia has **human rights**.

Human rights are things everyone should be able to

- get
- have
- do.

Our plan about the arts is part of a bigger plan to make sure people with disability

- live in accessible communities
- are part of their community
- have the same choices as everyone else.

The National Arts and Disability Strategy was written in 2009.

The goals were to

- give people with disability better access to the arts
- make it easy for people with disability to work in the arts
- find new ways to show art made by people with disability
- get people with disability to help make the plan.

Part 4 About disability and the arts in Australia

We did research to learn more about

- people with disability in Australia
- artists with disability in Australia.

There is an Easy English summary of the results here

www.arts.gov.au/mcm

How to tell us your story and ideas

You can tell us your story and ideas in a way that suits you.

You can ask someone you know to help.

Survey

You can fill out a **survey**. A survey is a list of questions.

You do **not** have to answer all the questions.

You can stop and start the survey. You will **not** lose your work.

If you need help to do the survey you can call 1800 185 693.

There is a website link to the survey here
www.arts.gov.au/mcm

In person

You can tell us your ideas and story at 1 of our events from 24 September 2018.

There is more information about the event dates and times here
www.arts.gov.au/mcm

Write or call

You can write an email or letter.

You can write 1 idea or lots of ideas.

You can also call us.

Our contact information is on page 27.

Record your video or voice

You can record your ideas and story and send it to us by email at

arts.disability@arts.gov.au

We can help you to tell your ideas and story in a language other than English.

National Relay Service

TTY 133 677

Then ask for 1800 185 693.

Privacy

If you tell us your ideas we will ask for your name.

You can tell us if you do **not** want your name written on our website.

We will keep your information private. You can contact us if you have questions about how we use your information.

Next steps

We will talk to people from 24 September 2018 to 3 December 2018.

We will put the results of this discussion paper on our website before 28 February 2019.

www.arts.gov.au/mcm

Thank you for your help.

More information

For more information contact Department of Communications and the Arts. Call 1800 185 693

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National Relay Service

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Scope's Communication and Inclusion Resource Centre

wrote the Easy English in September, 2018.

www.scopeaust.org.au

To see the original contact Department of Communications and the Arts.

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