

# National Cultural Policy Submission

## Jane Polley

Submitted: As a worker/professional in an industry who uses arts (e.g. art therapist, tour guide)

**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

Opportunity to rightfully centre First Nations artists and art.

### Strong Institutions

Opportunity to connect art education to the ecology of the creative and cultural sector.

**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

As a curriculum writer for the arts, it is a constant battle to ensure an equitable approach to the arts in education. A strong commitment from a federal government to value culture and the arts in a national cultural policy would help art educators to advocate and resource the sector.

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

- A clear and robust understanding of culture as the values, beliefs and ideas expressed and maintained in a society and that includes the arts
- That there is intrinsic value in art beyond economic benefits or contribution
- That there is intrinsic value in art education
- The cultural and creative industries are equally important as professional sectors and pathways for learners
- That every Australian learner has the right to a quality art education, which is currently not the case, through neglect, and a reflection of the devaluing of the arts and culture in Australia's public sphere
- A mapping and understanding of the different ways that young people engage in, and experience the arts and art education
- An Educational Advisory Board or some mechanism to include art education and young peoples' voices.