

National Cultural Policy Submission

University of Queensland Press

22 August 2022

As a leading Australian independent publisher, University of Queensland Press (UQP) supports the submission from the Australian Publishers Association (APA).

UQP is the 2022 Australian Small Publisher of the Year, having also won the award in 2021. We are known for publishing literary works, poetry and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stories, fiction, non-fiction, children's and young adult books. We create books that enrich and inspire readers, and our authors make a major contribution to the fabric of arts and literature in Australia and the world. We proudly connect artists, readers, writers and arts organisations and passionately advocate for the value of books to the human experience.

In relation to the APA submission, we particularly support the recommendation for targeted funding to independent publishers to establish the careers of new writers and emerging artists. Funding helps independent publishers to invest in new, unique voices and produce books for Australians across a range of ages and readerships, supporting our collective ability to take Australian stories and writers to the world.

We can therefore unearth debut writers and support them with editorial excellence while investing in innovative marketing and sales strategies to ensure their stories are read and celebrated as widely as possible. Our new authors can then be nurtured into significant national and international names, promoting stories that are distinctive and diverse.

UQP is also fully supportive of each of the other 10 recommendations in the APA submission.

Warm regards,

Ben James
Director, UQP