

National Cultural Policy Submission

ASSEMBLY 197 / LAUNCESTON

TASMANIA - lutruwita

WHO ARE WE?

ASSEMBLY 197, Tasmania's Live Arts Centre is fresh cultural asset and burst of energy in the north and throughout Tasmania. Together, we creative live arts for and with Tasmanian communities, from our home at 197 Wellington Street, Launceston. ASSEMBLY 197 is a not-for-profit organisation.

ASSEMBLY 197 is the home of T ASDANCE (the company), SITUATE (the program), and ARTERY (the outreach).

T ASDANCE fuses outstanding dance artists with innovative artists from other disciplines to create multifaceted contemporary dance. We know bodies love to dance and we passionately engage communities in dance making around Tasmania and beyond.

SITUATE places artists in conversations and situations that encourage them to think broadly and boldly; a space for investigation of practice – how it connects to place, artists, audience, and community.

ARTERY believes everyone should have the ability to experience art making by delivering bespoke programs individually designed to reach every corner of Tasmania.

WHAT DO WE THINK A CULTURAL POLICY NEEDS?

We need our Cultural Policy to be informed by First Nations voices and ideas of culture. Where art and culture are not separate from day-to-day life, and where art and culture are as important as food and water.

We believe a cultural policy should not be conditional. It should be borderless, celebrating place-based being and knowing with equitable access.

We want an embodied Cultural Policy, where we feel it as much as we understand it.

We have responded to each pillar with outcomes that are both actionable and aspirational:

1. First Nations

2. A Place for Every Story

3. The Centrality of the Artist

4. Strong Institutions

5. Reaching the Audience

- We refer to and endorse the submission from the First Nations performing arts sector: Marrugeku, Ilbijerri, Yirra Yaakin, Moogahlin, BlakDance and NAISDA. In particular we endorse the key priorities of: a Skills and Workforce capacity building plan; a dedicated First Nations performing arts commissioning fund; and funding for the cost of cultural processes. We also support their recommended programs and initiatives. (Outcome drawn from TNA submission)
- Access to resources to ensure our organisation and programming is inclusive and accessible to all.
- Access to infrastructure funding to provide accessibility upgrades to ASSEMBLY 197 so we can provide access for wheelchair users.
- Access to funding for youth and education programs so we can ensure the next generation of artists have the best chance for success.
- A comprehensive review of arts education across Australia to identify gaps and opportunities.
- Programs for independent artists to learn arts specific business skills and develop their own small business portfolio.
- Artists as essential workers: A trial for a universal basic income program for independent artists.
- A whole of government (Federal, State and Local) review of arts funding to maximise investment for organisations to allow for the sector to rebuild and rebound.
- Access to longer term multiyear funding agreements at a State and Federal level that allow room for strategic growth
- Access to intra and interstate touring funding so we can reach more regional audiences with our programming.
- More funding for youth and young people programming so we can continue to provide exceptional opportunities for the artists of the future