



Statement about delay in the launch of National Cultural Policy

As organisations and individuals working in the arts and culture related professions and industries in Australia, we continue to be hopeful that the National Cultural Policy will be launched in a timely and effective manner.

We commend the commitment of Minister Simon Crean to the National Cultural Policy and to supporting and resourcing arts and culture in Australia. This statement is to encourage him to continue to realise the vision of the National Cultural Policy.

By the Government's own figures, the arts and culture sector employs 285,000 Australians and 85% of Australian adults attend cultural events. Culture is not a marginal issue in Australian lives.

Many of us work in the areas that will be directly influenced by the changes that the policy will create. Many of us have made substantial contributions to the National Cultural Policy process.

The last time a vision was set for culture and arts in Australia was in 1994. We have waited a long time for a renewed vision that addresses contemporary challenges and opportunities. We know that there has been a strong response to the consultations with a large volume of submissions. As a policy that aims to set a 10 year vision, we understand the need to launch it as a strategic and resourced policy.

We encourage and support the Minister in moving forward with the National Cultural Policy. While we are no doubt disappointed at the delay, we look forward to a robust, significant and well resourced policy that will shape Australian culture for the next decade.

At a time of social challenges, arts and culture are vital to supporting communities to face change and to find innovative solutions.

From

CHASS members and Partners

1. Arts Law
2. Association of Northern Kimberley and Arnhem Aboriginal Artists
3. Association of NSW Regional Conservatoriums
4. Australian Dance Council - Ausdance
5. Australasian Association for Theatre, Drama and Performance Studies
6. Australian Association for Research in Education
7. Australian Design Alliance
8. Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies
9. Australian Major Performing Arts Group
10. Australian Network for Art and Technology
11. Australian Performing Arts Centres Association
12. Currency House Incorporated
13. Design Centre - Tasmania
14. Design Institute of Australia
15. Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, University of Adelaide

16. Feral Arts Corp Ltd
17. Hecate Journal and Women, Gender, Culture and Social Change Research Group
18. Independent Media Foundation
19. Interior Design/ Interior Architecture Educators Association
20. Live Performance Australia
21. Museums Australia
22. Music Council of Australia
23. National Association for the Visual Arts
24. National Gallery of Australia
25. Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE (NMIT)
26. Regional Arts Australia
27. School of Global Studies, Social Science & Planning, RMIT University
28. Tertiary Dance Council of Australia, Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts
29. The Australian Sociological Association
30. Theatre Network Victoria