

A SUMMARY

NSW ARTS AND CULTURAL POLICY FRAMEWORK & THE NATIONAL ARTS AND HEALTH FRAMEWORK

ARTS AND CULTURE POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT IN NSW

Arts and culture are central to the life of our State.

Increasing cultural participation is one of thirty priority reforms in *Making it Happen* – the NSW Government's 2015 state plan to grow the economy, deliver infrastructure, and improve health, education and other services across NSW.

The arts, cultural and screen sectors contribute to personal and collective wellbeing and to an innovative and robust local economy – promoting socially connected communities and creating vibrant places to live, work and visit across the diverse communities of metropolitan Sydney, Western Sydney and regional NSW.

In February 2015, the NSW Government released its whole-of-government arts and cultural policy framework, *Create in NSW*. *Create in NSW* outlines a 10-year vision for excellence in arts and culture in NSW through increased participation and a strengthened arts, cultural and screen sector.

Arts NSW has a strategic leadership role in implementing *Create in NSW*.

Arts NSW is the NSW Government's arts and culture policy and development body.

It invests in the professional arts and culture sector in NSW through infrastructure, funding programs, targeted strategies and ongoing engagement with the arts and cultural sector, government partners and our diverse communities.

CREATE IN NSW

The *NSW Health and the Arts Framework's* integrated approach to the design and delivery of health facilities and services to patients and clients and public health messaging draws on and complements the aims of *Create in NSW* to:

- increase participation in arts and culture in NSW;
- support the professional arts sector to provide best practice and innovative programs;
- support high quality activity, engagement and participation of priority groups:
 - people living and/or working in regional NSW
 - people living and/or working in Western Sydney
 - Aboriginal people
 - people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
 - people with disability and
 - young people;
- develop sustainable partnerships, including across agencies;
- utilise the arts to build liveable and vibrant communities– by integrating arts and culture into the design of precincts, facilities and public spaces; and
- create new platforms for art and culture, competitively positioning to attract the best global talent.

Developing networks and partnerships is central to both the *NSW Health and the Arts Framework* and *Create in NSW*. Under the *NSW Health and the Arts Framework*, Arts NSW will collaborate with NSW Health to support partnership approaches to health and the arts.

Summary: *National Arts and Health Framework*

In 2013, the Standing Council on Health (now the COAG Health Council) and the Meeting of Cultural Ministers endorsed the *National Arts and Health Framework*. This framework was developed to enhance the profile of arts and health in Australia and to promote greater integration of arts and health practice and approaches into health promotion, services, settings and facilities. It is intended as a guide to State and Territory governments to evaluate programs, consider new directions and identify new partners.

The *National Arts and Health Framework* notes that exemplary approaches to arts and health include those that:

- Deliver activities and arts outcomes in health care facilities that engage patients and staff, provide a positive focus, and reduce stress and anxiety
- Occur within community settings and engage individuals and diverse population groups to build and sustain social and cultural capital, foster community cohesion, promote awareness of health issues, facilitate interaction, inclusion, intellectual stimulation and reduce isolation
- Recognise and place Indigenous cultural maintenance central to health and wellbeing and use this holistic approach to inform the delivery of health services
- Promote positive mental health through improved communication and enhanced self-expression and self esteem
- Assist people with disability to build on their skills, experience health related outcomes and pursue career opportunities in The Arts and cultural sector
- Engage with people with age related health conditions including dementia, and their carers, to provide stimulation, reduce isolation, ease boredom and enhance wellbeing
- Use sensitive and good design and public art to create buildings and environments that are inspiring, engender civic pride, create community identity and support healthy living.

The *National Arts and Health Framework* suggests that agencies including NSW Health could consider the inclusion of arts and health initiatives across a spectrum of practice models and portfolio responsibilities, including through the following areas and actions.

Areas for consideration by Arts and Health departments included in the *National Arts and Health Framework* are on the following page.

HEALTH AREAS

ACTIONS FOR HEALTH AND THE ARTS

Promoting health and wellbeing using the arts

- support health communication and education about the social determinants of health including on issues such as sexual health and relationships, early childhood and parenting, dying with dignity, mental health and healthy ageing
- communicate about preventative health matters including alcohol and drugs risk and harm reduction, obesity and health literacy across a number of areas

Through partnerships, collaboration and relationships, build strategic alliances and collaborative approaches across arts and health sectors, the spheres of government, the community, business, education and the non-government sector

- expand the breadth of agencies and organisations involved in this work
- strengthen recognition and awareness of arts and health practice and its value and outcomes
- achieve greater acceptance and integration of arts and health practice and approaches into health services and health care settings
- provide opportunities for health care workers to use alternate evidence based models of care
- continue to grow the models of practice and optimise the potential of The Arts to contribute to achieving health and wellbeing outcomes
- engage The Arts to support the development of social capital and aid community cohesion
- explore enhanced opportunities for workforce development and training of both arts and health professionals
- increase opportunities for artists to explore new and innovative practice.

Ongoing research, evaluation and documentation of arts and health practice

- strengthen the case for arts and health by growing the body of evidence about the benefits
- develop and build on existing expertise and professionalism in arts and health
- grow and share information, case studies and learnings about practice and outcomes
- refine research methodologies and measures of progress, outputs, outcomes and impacts arising from arts and health practice.

Integrating The Arts into health facility buildings and their environs

- implementing different approaches and funding models to achieve this
- including the integration of art in facility design and functional briefs
- creating spaces for arts practice and activities to occur within health facilities.

Contributing to the achievement of Government priorities

- the delivery of arts and health programs and initiatives that address government priority agendas including Closing the Gap on Indigenous Disadvantage, preventative health, mental health, dementia and primary health care.