

# 2016 Federal Election: Report Card

Legend: ✓ = committed; ● = partially committed; ✕ = not committed; \* = LPA priority

## Total new funding for the arts

LIB/NAT

\$20m

ALP

\$176.6m

GREENS

\$270.2m

ARTS  
PARTY

### 1. Safeguard sustainability of the live performance industry

\* Return the funding cut of \$72.8 million over 4 years to the Australia Council to provide long term stability for small to medium companies

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\* Maintain and improve transparency of the Catalyst program

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Provide additional funding to Australia Council (over and above funding cut)

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Remove the 'efficiency dividend' and restore funding to major national cultural institutions

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### 2. Stimulate greater investment in live productions

\* Provide tax incentives on pre-production costs for live productions

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\* Establish a major seed fund for original Australian works of scale

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Establish Arts Research and Development Fund to encourage innovation

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✓

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### 3. Demonstrate government leadership for creative industries

\* Develop a creative industries strategic plan

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\* Create a cross-cutting 21st century government agency for creative industries

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\* Incorporate arts in the government's innovation and STEM agenda

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\* Renew funding of the Live Music Office to foster audience development and drive regulatory reform

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### 4. Increase access to live productions in regional and rural Australia

\* Increase level of funding and expand eligibility criteria of Playing Australia

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\* Double the number of companies with National Touring Status

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\* Introduce a funding mechanism to assist commercial producers to undertake tours throughout regional Australia

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\* Provide support for trialling digital initiatives for presenting live productions

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Increase funding to Regional Arts Fund

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Provide funding to build Latrobe Performing Arts Centre

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Legend: ✓ = committed; ● = partially committed; ✖ = not committed; \* = LPA priority

## 5. Raise our industry's global profile

- \* Increase investment in international touring of Australian productions
- \* Continue to fund Sounds Australia to advance Australia's live music exports
- Promote Australian art around the world and encourage visitors to engage with the arts in Australia through Tourism Australia
- Remove the 'in Australia rule' to allow tax exemptions for arts organisations touring internationally

## 6. Build knowledge and data about creative industries

- \* Enable the ABS to regularly collect data about the creative industries
- \* Establish and collect economic and social metrics for the creative industries

## 7. Other Commitments

- Expand existing school music programs
- Renew funding for the SongMakers program
- Establish 'National Arts Week'
- Restore and expand funding for ArtStart program
- Invest in local drama
- Pay artists for public display of their works / Make prize money of arts awards tax free
- Introduce 'Artist in Residence' program at Parliament House
- Support 'National voices in the arts'
- Establish advocacy body for Australian authors
- Provide funding to build a new Shepparton Art Museum (SAM)
- Artist living wage and a new low-income artist superannuation supplement
- Provide funding to maintain the National Library online collection 'Trove'
- Additional cultural policies

LIB/NAT

ALP

GREENS

ARTS  
PARTY

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## Coalition election commitments

Initiative	Funding	Comment
1. Maintain and improve transparency of the Catalyst program	-	Minister Fifield commented at the National Arts Debate that he is “open to adjusting and refining the [Catalyst] program”
2. Incorporate arts in the government’s innovation and STEM agenda	-	Minister Fifield commented during his opening remarks at the National Arts Debate that he wants “to work with [the arts industry] to bring the arts and creative industries to the centre of our innovation agenda”
3. Provide funding to build Latrobe Performing Arts Centre	\$10m	The National Party announced a funding commitment to build the Latrobe Performing Arts Centre. Refer to announcement in Media Release 9 June 2016 from Senator Fiona Nash and Darren Chester MP
4. Provide funding to build a new Shepparton Art Museum (SAM)	\$10m	Minister for Regional Development and Nationals Deputy Leader, Senator Fiona Nash pledged \$10 million towards building a new SAM
<b>Total new funding</b>	<b>\$20m</b>	

## Labor election commitments

Initiative	Funding	Comment
1. Return the funding cut of \$72.8 million over 4 years to the Australia Council to provide long term stability for small to medium companies	\$80m	Labor will return all uncommitted Catalyst funding (LPA calculates this to be \$24.7m) and provide \$20m per annum for 4 years to the Australia Council
2. Provide additional funding to Australia Council (over and above funding cut)	(see above)	
3. Develop a creative industries strategic plan	-	Labor's <i>Creative Australia</i> will be the basis for its strategic plan
4. Renew funding of the Live Music Office to foster audience development and drive regulatory reform	\$7.2m	The Live Music Office and the Australian Music Centre will come under the umbrella of an expanded Sounds Australia. Labor will commit \$1.8m per annum for 4 years to an expanded Sounds Australia
5. Continue to fund Sounds Australia to advance Australia's live music exports		
6. Increase funding to Regional Arts Fund	\$8m	Labor will increase funding to Regional Arts Fund by \$8m over 4 years
7. Expand existing school music programs	\$8m	Labor will provide \$2m per annum over 4 years to expand existing school music programs such as <i>Music: Count Us In</i> , <i>Musica Viva in Schools</i> and the <i>Song Room</i>
8. Renew funding for the SongMakers program	\$1.4m	Labor will provide \$350,000 per annum for 4 years to continue the SongMakers program
9. Invest in local drama	\$60m	Labor will provide \$60m over 3 years to the ABC to produce local drama

Initiative	Funding	Comment
10. Provide funding to maintain Trove	\$12m	Labor will provide \$3 million a year over four years to maintain and expand Trove, the National Library online collection of Australian culture and history.
<b>Total new funding</b>	<b>\$176.6m</b>	

## Greens election commitments

Initiative	Funding	Comment
1. Return the funding cut of \$72.8 million over 4 years to the Australia Council to provide long term stability for small to medium companies	-	<p>The Greens will abolish the Catalyst fund and return the full 2013/2014 levels of funding to the Australia Council for the Arts. LPA calculates the return to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 2014-15 Budget measure <i>Arts programmes – reduced funding</i>, which applied an annual reduction of \$6 million to the Australia Council's appropriation over four years and an additional reduction of \$3.6 million in 2014-15.</li> <li>• The 2015-16 Budget redirection of \$78 million over four years from the Australia Council's appropriation to support the establishment of the former National Program for Excellence in the Arts (now Catalyst), Creative Partnerships Australia's matched funding program, and the transfer of the Visions of Australia and Festivals of Australia programs and the Major Festivals Initiative, to the Ministry for the Arts.</li> <li>• The 2015-16 Budget efficiency of \$7.3 million over four years from the Australia Council's appropriation.</li> <li>• The 2015-16 Budget redirection of \$6 million over three years towards the establishment of the Book Council of Australia.</li> </ul> <p>LPA calculates that the restoration of Australia Council funding to the full 2013/14 level (\$218.7m), would equate to a total return of \$118.9m over four years.</p>

Initiative	Funding	Comment
2. Provide additional funding to Australia Council (over and above funding cut)	\$218.7m	The Greens will double the funding (from 2013-14 levels) available for Australia Council grants and initiatives for small to medium organisations and individuals
3. Remove the 'efficiency dividend' and restore funding to major national cultural institutions	-	Funding amount not specified in Greens policy document ( <i>Investing in our arts</i> )
4. Establish Arts Research and Development Fund to encourage innovation	\$5m	The \$5m Arts Research and Development Fund will support cutting-edge work. It will be a competitive grants program supporting ventures such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performing arts in community development and social enterprise</li> <li>• Providing access to space, resources and mentoring within major performing arts groups to small companies for the partnering of specific innovation projects</li> <li>• Major innovative production concepts that need support for creative work before being pitched</li> </ul>
5. Develop a creative industries strategic plan	-	Funding amount not specified in Greens policy document ( <i>Investing in our arts</i> )
6. Incorporate arts in the government's innovation and STEM agenda	-	The Greens arts policy states that "the Greens will put arts on the innovation agenda" (p3). This commitment was reinforced during the National Arts Debate.
7. Increase level of funding and expand eligibility criteria of Playing Australia	\$14.6m	The Greens will increase funding for Playing Australia to support artists touring regionally by \$2m per annum until it reaches \$10m indexed annually. The Greens policy does not mention whether eligibility criteria will be expanded

Initiative	Funding	Comment
8. Promote Australian art around the world and encourage visitors to engage with the arts in Australia through Tourism Australia	\$1m	The Greens will provide \$1m to Tourism Australia to promote Australian art around the world and encourage visitors to engage with the arts in Australia
9. Remove the 'in Australia rule' to allow tax exemptions for arts organisations touring internationally	-	Funding amount not specified in Greens policy document ( <i>Investing in our arts</i> )
10. Establish 'National Arts Week'	\$1m	The Greens will provide \$1m for National Arts Week to celebrate and raise the profile of the arts
11. Restore and expand funding for ArtStart program	\$3m	The Greens will restore funding and provide an additional \$3m to the ArtStart program over 4 years
12. Pay artists for the public display of their works	\$20m	The Greens will support artists' incomes through a \$20m fund so that organisations can pay artists fees for works that are publicly displayed, loaned to non-selling exhibition or used on other occasions when art is shared with the public
13. Introduce 'Artist in Residence' program at Parliament House	\$1m	The Greens will introduce an artist in residency program at Parliament House, providing artists with an opportunity to build upon and share their skills
14. Support 'National voices in the arts'	\$1m	The Greens will establish 'National voices for the arts'. As explained during the National Arts Debate, it will be comprised of "relevant cultural institutions and practitioners ... so that a coherent voice is coming from the sector." A cross-sectoral body would collaborate with (but be independent of) government.
15. Make prize money of arts awards tax free	-	Funding amount not specified in Greens policy document ( <i>Investing in our arts</i> )



Initiative	Funding	Comment
16. Establish advocacy body for Australian authors	\$5m	The Greens will provide \$5m to establish a body that can advocate for Australian authors and the broader industry
17. Artist living wage and a new low-income artist superannuation supplement	-	The Greens will allow artistic activities that provide community benefit to be eligible for Centrelink mutual obligation requirements, as well as provide a low-income artist superannuation supplement of \$500 annually for artists eligible for the Low Income Superannuation Tax Offset (LISTO). The Parliamentary Budget Office estimates these initiatives will cost a total of \$74 million over four years.
<b>Total new funding</b>	<b>\$270.2m</b>	

## Art Party election commitments

Initiative	Funding	Comment
1. Return the funding cut of \$72.8 million over 4 years to the Australia Council to provide long term stability for small to medium companies	\$72.8m	The Arts Party wants the full return of Australia Council funding removed from the 2014 and 2015 budgets – Refer to <i>The Arts &amp; Heritage Sector – Core Support Policy</i>
2. Provide additional funding to Australia Council (over and above funding cut)	\$124m pa	The Arts Party wants to triple the actual budget distributed through grants to artists and small/medium sized organisations – estimated to cost \$124m in additional annual funding – Refer to <i>The Arts &amp; Heritage Sector – Core Support Policy</i>
3. Maintain and improve transparency of the Catalyst program	n/a	The Arts Party wants the Catalyst program to continue but be resourced with separate new funding as well as more transparency in funding decisions – Refer to <i>The Arts &amp; Heritage Sector – Core Support Policy</i>
4. Remove the 'efficiency dividend' and restore funding to major national cultural institutions	n/a	The Arts Party wants a reversal of all funding cuts and a 5% funding increase to all national cultural institutions. In addition the Arts Party wants an immediate suspension of the efficiency dividend on all national cultural institutions and funding bodies – Refer to <i>The Arts &amp; Heritage Sector – Core Support Policy</i>
5. Provide tax incentives on pre-production costs for live productions	n/a	Refer to <i>Venues &amp; Live Performance Policy</i>
6. Establish a major seed fund for original Australian works of scale	\$100m pa	The Arts Party wants to establish a major seed fund (\$100m p.a.) for developing original Australian work – Refer to <i>The Arts &amp; Heritage Sector – Core Support Policy</i>

Initiative	Funding	Comment
7. Incorporate arts in the government's innovation and STEM agenda	-	Refer to <i>The Arts &amp; Heritage Sector – Core Support Policy</i>
8. Renew funding of the Live Music Office to foster audience development and drive regulatory reform	n/a	The Arts Party wants funding returned for the Live Music Office – Refer to <i>Music Policy</i>
9. Increase level of funding and expand eligibility criteria of Playing Australia	n/a	The Arts Party wants the doubling of funding for and expansion of eligibility criteria for Playing Australia – Refer to <i>Venues &amp; Live Performance Policy</i>
10. Double the number of companies with National Touring Status	-	Refer to <i>Venues &amp; Live Performance Policy</i>
11. Introduce a funding mechanism to assist commercial producers to undertake tours throughout regional Australia	\$50m pa	The Arts Party wants funding of \$50m per annum to assist commercial producers to tour throughout regional Australia. Refer to <i>Venues &amp; Live Performance Policy</i>
12. Provide support for trialling digital initiatives for presenting live productions	n/a	Refer to <i>Venues &amp; Live Performance Policy</i> or <i>The Arts &amp; Heritage Sector – Core Support Policy</i>
13. Increase investment in international touring of Australian productions	\$40m pa	The Arts Party wants an additional \$40m per annum made available to support international touring of Australia Productions, provided the company has National Touring Status – Refer to <i>Venues &amp; Live Performance Policy</i>
14. Continue to fund Sounds Australia to advance Australia's live music exports	n/a	Refer to <i>Music Policy</i>
15. Enable the ABS to regularly collect data about the creative industries	n/a	Refer to <i>The Arts &amp; Heritage Sector – Core Support Policy</i>

Initiative	Funding	Comment
16. Establish and collect economic and social metrics for the creative industries	n/a	Refer to <i>The Arts &amp; Heritage Sector – Core Support Policy</i>
17. Invest in local drama	\$200m pa	The Arts Party wants the reversal of funding cuts imposed on the ABC since the 2013 budget and a programming fund of \$200m per annum to support new ABC and SBS programming – Refer to <i>Film, TV &amp; Radio Industry Policy</i>
18. Establish 'National Arts Week'	n/a	Refer to <i>The Arts &amp; Heritage Sector – Core Support Policy</i>
19. Additional cultural policies		Additional policy initiatives are outlined in the following Arts Party documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The Arts &amp; Heritage Sector – Core Support Policy</i></li> <li>• <i>Film, TV &amp; Radio Industry Policy</i></li> <li>• <i>Music Policy</i></li> <li>• <i>Venues &amp; Live Performance Policy</i></li> <li>• <i>Education Policy</i></li> </ul>
<b>Total new funding</b>	<b>n/a</b>	