



Secure Artists' Futures

VOTE FOR ART 2025



Anthony Romagnano, Untitled, pencil on paper, 2022. Courtesy of the artist and Arts Project Australia, Melbourne.

Artists shape and enrich public life, now it's time to secure their future.

There's been a welcome shift in how the arts are valued in Australia. Public recognition of artists' vital role in shaping and enriching our communities is growing. Recent national policy and funding changes are a step forward, but too many artists still face precarious working conditions and limited support.

There's more to do to ensure visual artists are paid properly, protected at work, and supported to build long-term careers. This election is our opportunity to secure lasting change – and we're calling on all parties and candidates to commit to policies that make creative work sustainable, respected, and secure.

NAVA's Three Pillars

1 Secure Artists' Futures

- Mandate payment of artists' fees on all government-funded projects, aligned with NAVA's Code of Practice.
- Ensure superannuation is paid on all artist fees.
- Exempt all grants, prizes, and fellowships from taxable income.
- Scrap Non-Commercial Loss rules that penalise artists with secondary incomes.
- Introduce tax deductions for living costs during residencies (1–12 months).
- Fund 200 mid-career creative fellowships at \$100K per year for 3 years.
- Pilot a living wage program for artists, testing sustainability and scalability.

2 Invest In A Stronger Visual Arts Workforce

- Invest \$200M/year in small-to-medium organisations to secure stable jobs.
- Fund real career pathways through funding for skills, leadership, and mentorship.
- Support First Nations leadership via a \$20M/year National Workforce Development Fund.
- Grow the Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support (IVAIS) program.
- Strengthen the visual arts from the ground up - invest in arts education and support training pathways for future educators and artists.
- Close the gender pay gap with targeted investment.
- Improve accessibility through Disability-led initiatives and inclusive hiring.
- Ensure at least 30% of funding supports marginalised groups, artists and programs (including by race, gender, disability and region).

3 Defend Artistic Independence

- Protect funding decisions from political or media interference.
- Safeguard Creative Australia's independence from external pressure.
- Guarantee sector-led policymaking - centre artists in decisions that affect them.
- Legally recognise freedom of expression for artists in all cultural policy.

Join the call nava.net.au/voteforart

Let's build a future where artists are paid properly, respected, and protected.

- Email your MP
- Ask your candidates where they stand
- Find out how your MP has voted: theyvoteforyou.org.au
- Spread the word using #VoteForArt Artists don't just reflect our future – they create it.