

**ARTS INDUSTRY
COUNCIL OF
SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

*an independent
voice for the arts*

AICSA Sector Survey November 2018

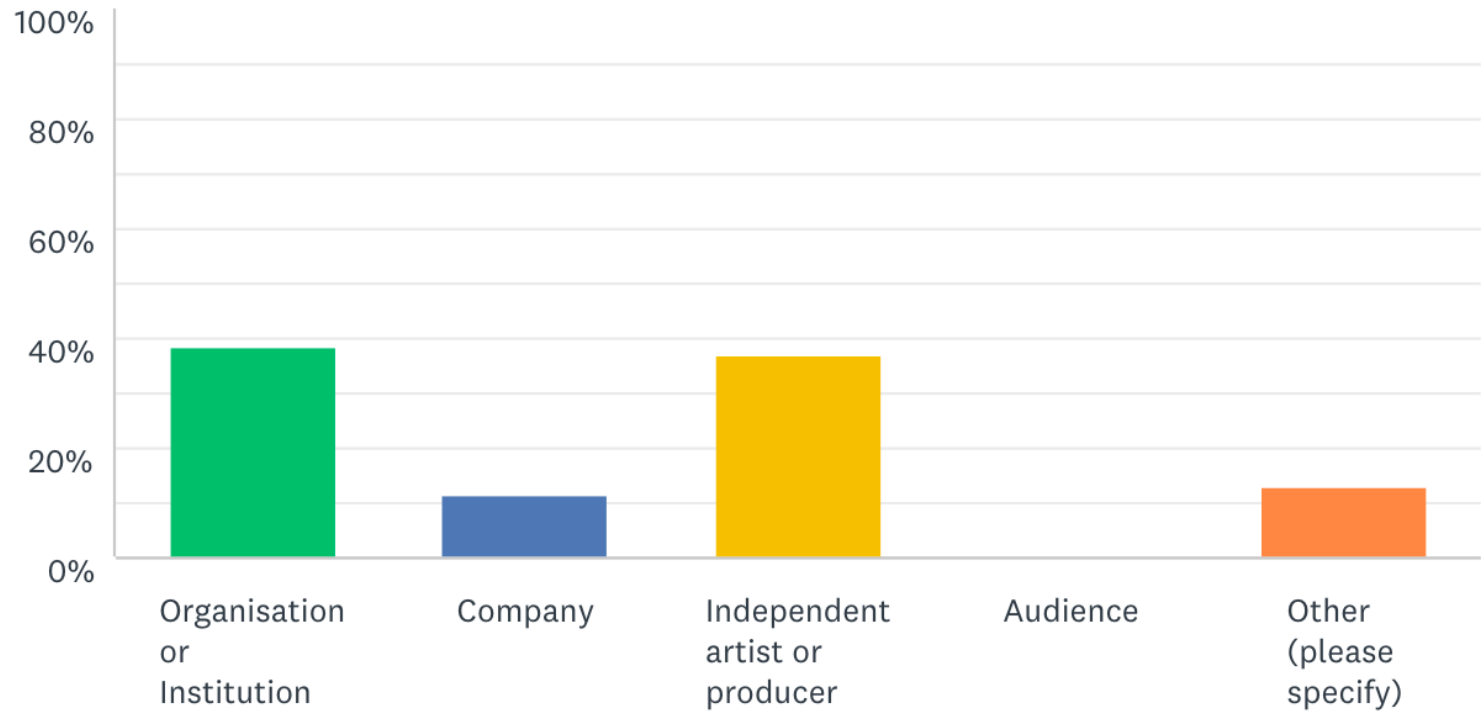
65 respondents (approx 15% response)

1. Which category are you: Organisation or Institution, Independent artist or producer, company, Audience, Other
2. Please describe in 1 paragraph why the arts are important to you
3. What are the most important services that Arts South Australia provides to you or your organisation
4. What are your priorities for the future of the arts in South Australia? - based on Key Messages in Creative South Australia: A Vision for the Arts
5. Do you have any additional priorities or comments?

Which category are you?

Answered: 62 Skipped: 3

Which category are you?

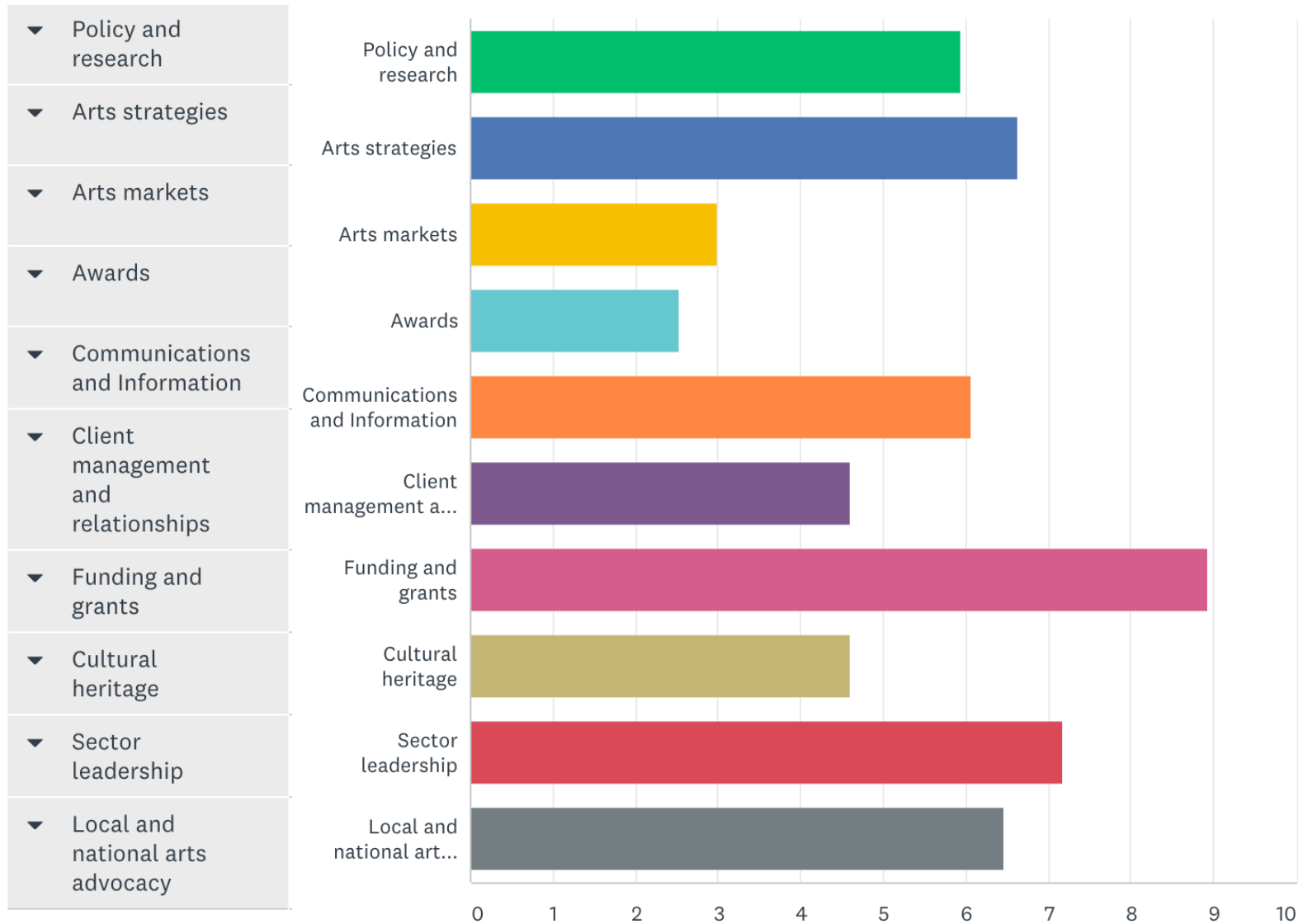


Other =

- student contemporary arts*
- Manager, lecturer, consultant*
- Shadow Minister*
- Arts volunteer and audience*

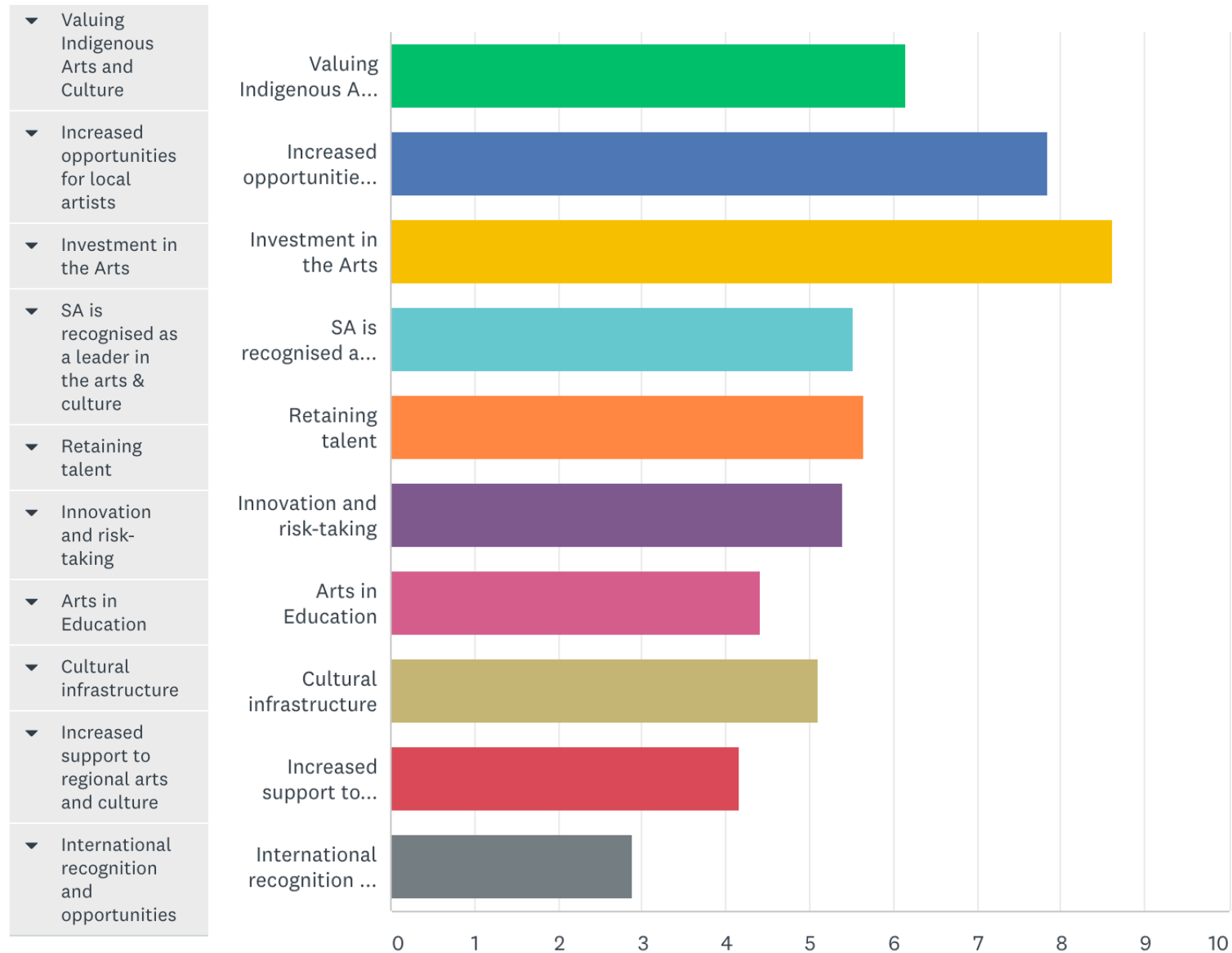
What are the most important services that Arts South Australia provides to you or your organisation (highest = 1, lowest = 10)

Answered: 63 Skipped: 2



What are your priorities for the future of the arts in South Australia? (highest = 1, lowest = 10)

Answered: 63 Skipped: 2



Why the arts are important to you. Selected responses from a total of 64 responses.

- Critical to the economic, cultural and social future of South Australia, as well as to our health and wellbeing as individuals and communities.
- Fundamental to make up of South Australia's identity. Fundamental to wellbeing of individuals and society as a whole. South Australia punches well above its weight in production and presentation of high quality arts and festivals and must be supported to grow and export this sector.
- Encourages creativity for future generations.
- The arts spark change. The arts enable inclusion. The arts tell important stories. The arts share cultural perspectives. The arts empower people to feel included. The arts make people feel emotions. The arts create joy. The arts heal wounds. The arts encourage tourism. The arts add cultural and financial capital to a community.
- Because they are our way of understanding our world and imagining the future and describing ourselves to ourselves.

Do you have any additional priorities or comments? Selected responses from a total of 41 responses.

- The sector demands self determinacy, culturally legitimate institutions, strategic planning for the long term and public spirited leadership.
- You've left out Disability Arts. This is an incredibly important and profitable sector. It benefits thousands of people in SA and brings us national and international publicity and acclaim.
- There must be separate funding to support artists in sustaining a career. It is simply unacceptable that young performers must commit to insecure "work" in the hospitality industry (for example) to be able to build a career in Adelaide. And the lack of sustainable and AFFORDABLE training in Adelaide will mean that very few actors in the future will be able to claim they are from Adelaide!
- Increased support to community arts and cultural development projects and practitioners. Increased investment in supporting creative work made by First Nations artists and People of Colour. Continued investment in and commitment to a robust youth arts sector. More attention given to best practice in this sector beyond mere production quality.
- SA artists need more connection to national discourse, dialogue and opportunities.

Please describe in 1 paragraph why the arts are important to you. (64 responses - raw data)

Creative practices stimulate how we see, think and feel about the world around us.

It's my livelihood

Provides cohesion and learning within a creative outlet that makes life colourful and passionate -- arts are an opportunity to show that we care for others

They are at the core of a society

Arts are a safe place to have difficult conversations.

A vibrant and multifaceted arts scene is both a source and outcome of a healthy, perceptive society. Arts stimulate debate, provoke questions and offer repose to the general public as well as arts professionals. For me, a musician, they are my raison d'être. I cannot exist without creating art, or engaging with it. It is the sunshine that nurtures life.

It's my life, it is the way I look at life, It is the only language I know that has the potential to connect us ALL

The arts are our highest cultural achievement and define us

Critical to the economic, cultural and social future of South Australia, as well as to our health and wellbeing as individuals and communities

My passion, love, life & work for 40 years

The Arts make life bearable during bleak times and joyous during good times. The Arts are becoming more inclusive and this is a good indicator for society in general. The Arts are my work, hobby, interest and life.

A community arts project saved my life. The arts are a place and a language for us all to wrestle with who we, who we want to be and who we might become. The arts is a social good on par with universal education and healthcare.

A crucial part of intelligent society and a focus for my working life.

The arts are a way of 'knowing' the world, an epistemology in their own right, a source of knowledge about the world we live in, different from but as valid as science.

The arts is what makes life worth living. It enables us to explore emotions, concepts, theories, issues, history, the present and the future in a deep and meaningful way. It brings people together in a way only the arts can

The arts provides meaning and context to our lives and the time that we live within

They are the way I see the world and represent both my personal and professional passions. I've spent my career presenting and exploring opportunities to share with the public for the betterment of our community, our individual lives and the world around us and seen how they improve all aspects of our lives.

The arts are vital to society. The arts reflect society, question our values, morals, thinking and dreaming. The arts inspire, engage, challenge, criticise and feed the soul.

As a freelance performer, the arts (and entertainment) is the industry I have worked in exclusively for nearly 50 years. Not only have I developed a huge range of skills which have sustained me but which now should be applied across the whole state economy. I can help people from all walks of life, in many businesses and workplaces to understand the most important components of personal inter-relationships in a modern community and economy. The Arts should be at the centre of all our lives, we are ready and waiting...where is the policy which will cost practically nothing?

The Arts foster culture, creative and cultural exchange, community, innovation and meaningful interactions between human beings. The Arts bring culture, activity and energy to a place and open people's minds to ways of thinking that may not have been previously considered! The Mill as a Multi Arts Organisation, is an influential creative force in South Australia where our artist community drives our operations and we believe in the arts for all the reasons mentioned above. Artists flourish in The Mill's cross-disciplinary creative incubator, where our thriving CBD complex of studios, galleries, workshops and performance spaces are a hothouse laboratory for shared, investigative practice and where our programs enable our artists to forge sustainable career pathways and to look nationally and internationally through a collaborative lens. The Mill focusses on a holistic, critical, accessible, and social engagement with contemporary art that delves beneath the surface to understand what it means to be an artist in a broader cultural landscape and encourages and supports artists to consider the performativity of their practice through exploration of the impact it produces.

Art, and the creation of it are an intrinsic part of any culture. The moral discussions, joy, sadness and discoveries of art imbue us with empathy and fullness that no other medium can convey

A vibrant culture is precious to all societies - Adelaide is no different. We rely on the arts for enjoyment and recreation, education, insight and employment.

I believe the arts are vital to society as they nurture creative ways of thinking and change how we

Consider and appreciate the world. They are personally so important to me; seeing other peoples art has felt so valuable and in fact like the most important thing in life and in this world, it has gotten me through some dark times as it feels vital, true, honest and beautiful. As a maker it is the most important thing in my life and I feel the most whole, alive and grounded when I am in the studio making. I can only hope, strive and work hard to make art experiences that impact others the way I have been impacted by so many wonderful artworks.

When Winston Churchill was asked to cut arts funding to support the war effort, he replied: “Then what are we fighting for?” The arts give meaning to life. Without the arts, it immediately becomes meaningless.

Altering lives and perspectives

The arts should be interval to our lives, they give expression to who we are and meaning in our life

The arts make our society better - telling stories, providing immersive experiences and finding our own voice.

Culture is an intrinsic part of our humanity and the arts is a vital form of human expression.

A sound reason for an economy

The arts can provide an independent voice that reflects our society. As an artist I can help people see and understand aspects of the world around them that they were not aware of and who respond as being genuinely grateful for that encounter.

They enrich my life - feed my intellect and my senses.

Art encourages deep insight, asks tough questions and sometimes gives honest answers. In general, it enriches my life in a way nothing else could... I'm unsure if I could survive without it!

The arts seeds creative thinking in all industries, it provides opportunities for expression, identity, inclusion, community and so much more. It adds so much value to our lives, it uses the other side of our brain, it is a basic human right!

It's life. Arts are the muck and the mire, the beauty, joy. An ultimately human expression of our brief speck of existence.

Empowering, enabling, allows us to travel in the footsteps of others, connects individuals and communities, gives a voice to those less heard in the political context, reminds us of the truth and beauty humankind is capable of

It allows ones imagination to see different perspectives. Art is the imagination of ones self. Creativeness has no bounds!

The arts are humanity in action. They bring us together as a community and allow us to collectively think and feel in new ways. Capitalist society at large is alienating and not created with our best interests in mind, art helps us to connect back to our collective humanity and think and feel the things that matter.

The arts are the way I express myself and the way I see the world. They provide both my livelihood and my inspiration. They are an open door on Australian life at a time when so many other doors are closed.

As a trained and practicing artist, the arts are my mode of expression which I share with the wider community.

They are vital in any intelligent, engaging and diverse community

They're not, really. I like Netflix?

As a practicing visual artist, I rely on an income from the arts.

Our mission (as a fully volunteer-run community gallery) is to promote the work of local artists/artisans and to our community and to make art accessible for all in our community

I use the body as an analogy: STEM provides the brains and it is the ARTS that provide the heart. Arts grounds us in our culture, crosses cultural divides, offers ways of communicating and tools for expression. Arts creativity is the core of innovation.

The arts are what make a community civilised

Art connects us with each other and our world. It challenges us and delights us. It pushes boundaries and changes what we think is possible. It reflects humanity and it expands our imaginations, making us ambitious across all other parts of our lives—through to other industries and sectors and activities.

It's my vocation. I raise my three kids and am a carer on that income. It's my passion.

A meaningful arts life is akin to a rich and diverse culture. We all should be surrounded, engaged with, and immersed in the arts to enrich our lives and value the creative ones.

The arts are the medium through which positive, civilising values such as participation, collaboration and social understandings are expressed and mutually debated. A thriving and diverse arts sector is a required element of a positive culture.

The arts as a critical tool in the cultural expression of our personal and communities' lives.

For mind-feeding, soul-feeding, entertainment and general happiness and sense of interest and belonging in the world. In my work, for creation and its thrills, status in community, ability to help artists and authors become recognised, ability to help publish from Adelaide to the world so this state doesn't disappear from the world's mind map. Especially important given that SA, alone among the states except Tasmania, has no real university publishing house, and the 'big six' multinationals (or five plus A&U) have no presence here. So, a sense of duty and of serving.

Fundamental to make up of South Australia's identity. Fundamental to wellbeing of individuals and society as a whole. South Australia punches well above its weight in production and presentation of high quality arts and festivals and must be supported to grow and export this sector.

Because they are our way of understanding our world and imagining the future and describing ourselves to ourselves.

The arts get people together to share stories; this is glue for the community. You see yourself and see things from new viewpoints. They are fun, provocative and invigorating.

The arts are key to a civilised existence.

My life and livelihood

The arts spark change. The arts enable inclusion. The arts tell important stories. The arts share cultural perspectives. The arts empower people to feel included. The arts make people feel emotions. The arts create joy. The arts heal wounds. The arts encourage tourism. The arts add cultural and financial capital to a community.

The arts reflect and enhance our lives. Arts and creativity bring opportunities for exploration of ourselves and our culture.

Encourages creativity for future generations

The arts are an essential part of being human: exploring the world, challenging preconceptions, communicating inner worlds, enriching communities, liberating the spirit... Of course, the arts encompass major social and commercial enterprises, ranging from local galleries to major festivals, film studios, theatres, production companies and everything in between.

The arts change lives, enrich communities, and strengthen our democracy. They support and promote well being as well as providing important tourism and entertainment options for locals and tourists alike.

An essential part of life for multiple social, physical and economic reasons

Do you have any additional priorities or comments? (41 responses - raw data)

Increased funding for small to medium arts sector

Arts SA used to do a lot of things it doesn't seem to do now, maybe that's because i'm no longer emerging and that cut to the independent funding round 10 years ago had a huge impact - and there's no one like Di Laidlaw anymore. But then, at the time, why did they not fund and develop umbrella organisations that could house a range of independent work, rather than as they did, selecting a few companies in a winner takes all scenario (and most of those companies failed). Too much playing god rather than encouraging and developing strategies for a flourishing independent sector. Control issues much.

When disabled artists need to do something that is outside a degree for the degree to move ahead, that there be financial support to do so. I am in a situation where being mentored by the father of studio glass in Australia (Stephen Skillitzi) will not be funded by the university even though it is a placement of sorts and neither will they make it a negotiated study. I physically cannot do glass blowing and yet many glass artists do not blow glass so why can't I move ahead in glass with just kiln and casting? It is being stressed by certain people that I do glass blowing in order to work in glass? That is not right. Bad gatekeeping! Yet I am an undergrad and am supposed to be looked after by the university -- where do I get funds to pay Stephen at NAVA rates? Then I will use his mentoring as RPL to help me move forwards.

More \$\$\$\$\$

We need a policy on traditional culture(s) not just Indigenous sector. The importance of community based cultures. This area has been excluded and removed from the arts agenda

The loss of political recognition of the Arts as critical to the wellbeing of our State is a tragedy. The way the changes to Arts South Australia have been handled is a travesty.

You've left out Disability Arts. This is an incredibly important and profitable sector. It benefits thousands of people in SA and brings us national and international publicity and acclaim.

Increased support to community arts and cultural development projects and practitioners. Increased investment in supporting creative work made by First Nations artists and People of Colour. Continued investment in and commitment to a robust youth arts sector. More attention given to best practice in this sector beyond mere production quality.

Less hype and a better matching of resources and capabilities to task delivery can enhance delivery of credible outcomes.

One of my main focuses is on community, how the arts brings people together and how it can improve community

There must be separate funding to support artists in sustaining a career. It is simply unacceptable that young performers must commit to insecure "work" in the hospitality industry (for example) to be able to build a career in Adelaide. And the lack of sustainable and AFFORDABLE training in Adelaide will mean that very few actors in the future will be able to claim they are from Adelaide!

There isn't much point promising an Arts Plan if there is no one left to write it or implement it.

Arts South Australia as a funding body is absolutely crucial to the artistic and cultural health of this city and ESPECIALLY for retaining talent (and not losing all of our young people to Sydney and Melbourne) and without it we run the risk, or this state government, runs the high risk of looking very silly on a national front.

All of the above priorities are very important and hard to rank in order.

The sector demands self determinacy, culturally legitimate institutions, strategic planning for the long term and public spirited leadership. Marshall's policies piss against all of these priorities.

Embed art strategies into all facets of government.

Every one of those is important to me!

There may well be, but I think you've covered most here!

It is important that funding and grant assessments in the new structure are still assessed by an independent peer assessment panel! They can't be curated by one or two people in charge under the P&C and need to retain a fair process in all grants assessment and funding allocations!

Access and inclusion: ensuring arts activities are available for everyone to enjoy. The recent cuts will effect the most vulnerable and under-served communities the most.

Artists Unpaid labour via volunteering for arts organisations/ festivals should be accounted for as in-kind monetary savings. Not doing so undermines the arts sector and arts workers by displaying a false economy.

Build on SA's reputation and strengths in craft media, skills training and studio practice

New jobs in Arts - Arts in Health Creating arts job pathways

South Australia was founded by creative thinking, the innovation and success since has come from creative thinking. The local arts environment attracts innovation and entrepreneurship, young incomes and pays for itself in tourism and economic value. The arts industry in SA create, share and give so much more to communities and the state than we ever pay ourselves so it's time to recognise that value.

Arts SA staff provide valuable advice and support to SA artists. It is essential to retain a viable pool of experienced and informed staff at Arts SA

Using the arts in areas such as urban design, open space and cultural development, health and wellbeing.

I can't really answer question 3 as Arts SA over the last few years has dropped most regular funding opportunities for publishing. So a priority from this end is to argue the value of literary and cultural publishing, and its importance to local authors and artists as well as the status of South Australia elsewhere. Many of the items in question 3 could be important (in these respects) to this organisation, but aren't now simply because publishing is much not in Arts SA's purview atm. On the other hand all points in q4 are very important, I feel.

SA artists need more connection to national discourse, dialogue and opportunities.

Sustaining arts practice requires long-term commitment and support. Arts SA's job is to understand the relationship between independent and mainstream arts practice. It's unclear that the proposed restructure will retain independent artists, despite the increased funding, because there needs to be balance in arts companies to support their development.

South Australia leads in many areas of the arts. I believe in cross government support from a number of sectors that benefit (including health/prisons/education etc), but a centralised unit/department is fundamental for coherency and communication.

The local arts environment thrives on the interplay between the major arts organisations across the various domains of visual art, theatre, music, dance, literature, etc, and the individual practitioners that generate innovation, local community engagement, and the underlying networks that support so many people. A major issue for small organisations and individual practitioners is the near-impossibility of gaining support for on-going, successful activities. Not every project can be new and ground-breaking; not every project can have novel community engagement: there is a critical need for providing infrastructure support for the day-to-day running of low-budget arts activities. This includes support for admin costs, venue hire, actually paying people properly, and so on... You cannot keep on innovating if you don't have the \$\$\$ for an office, a gallery, a program, insurance, a website ...

Increased funding and capacity on current State funded cultural institutions (History Trust of SA, State Library of SA, SA Museum, Art Gallery of SA), rather than adding additional institutions that thin out the capacity of already struggling organisations.

To re-iterate the importance of an arts strategy