

NOTES FROM SUSTAINABILITY AND RESPONSIBLE ARTS SPONSORSHIP WEBINAR

RESOURCES

NAVA code

<https://code.visualarts.net.au/principles-ethics-and-rights/climate-adaptability-and-justice/summary-of-good-practice-recommendations>

PVI ethics template

<https://pvicollective.com/code-of-ethics-template/>

Groundwater arts contract clause

<https://www.groundwaterarts.com/divest-to-invest.html>

Chumps and champs spreadsheet

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/16SSOx_z6mGOwbLwhOgJ0AbPyKMGSW5_kUMmClfSA1s/edit#gid=0

Fossil Ad Ban

<https://fossiladban.org/>

ARTICLES

New climate in arts activism

<https://www.artshub.com.au/news/opinions-analysis/the-new-climate-in-climate-arts-activism-2592844/>

Tobacco companies can't sponsor Australian arts. Should fossil fuel giants be banned too?

<https://www.theguardian.com/culture/2022/nov/24/tobacco-companies-cant-sponsor-australian-arts-should-fossil-fuel-giants-be-banned-too>

The arts in Australia need to break up with fossil fuels

<https://overland.org.au/2021/09/the-arts-in-australia-need-to-break-up-with-fossil-fuels/>

Another step closer to the end of greenwashing

<https://overland.org.au/2022/10/another-step-closer-to-the-end-of-greenwashing/>

CONTACT

If you would like to contact Jennifer Mills re: open letter to the Adelaide Botanic Gardens, you can email via jenjen@jenjen.com.au

Where can we see Fossil Fuel companies involved in the arts?

**BHP
AGSA**

Woodside also sponsors Perth theatre companies Barking Gecko and Yirra Yaakin.

**SANTOS -
Museum of
Economic
Botany**

**There are 3 oil
and gas execs
on the WA
Ballet Board**

**BHP
Tarnanthi**

**Australia
Council
Chairperson
was Global
CEO of Rio
Tinto**

**Drag sticky
notes from
the left hand
column and
add your
examples!**

**Board
positions with
many arts
organisations.**

**LUMO
energy at
The Lab**

**LUMO energy
(energy supplier)
sponsor Adelaide
Fringe (YES
Australian owned
and Snowy Hydro
Limited)**

**Board
members
Adelaide
Festival**

**Woodside: WA
Symphony
Orchestra, WA
Ballet, Woodside
Youth Orchestra**

**AGL is Gold
partner of
Mardi Gras
Film Festival**

**The Dorothea
Mackellar Memorial
Society - Poetry
sponsored by
Whitehaven and
Idemitsu**

**Tarrkari - Centre for
First Nations Culture
current review led
by businesswoman
Carolyn Hewson
(BHP) and former
politicians Ken
Wyatt and Bob Carr.**

Why does it seem hard to get Fossil Fuel companies out of the arts?

There was actually a Mike Rann government arrangement with Santos to sponsor events for 10 years in return for them monopolising in SA

Adelaide in particular, it's small sector, very connected - risk of reputation long term, & particularly when it comes to challenging a powerful board member individual interests.

Some people hold an assumption that board members from fossil fuel companies are somehow "more worthy" of their board positions because they work for a big mining company.

Arts organisations still pay lip service to environmental response and responsibilities

People don't see it as a problem eg aren't Santos a great SA company?

Arts workers are so under the pump timewise that they don't have the time to find alternative funding sources.

Organisations are panicked about being seen to be turning down money / being ungrateful for money.

Some arts orgs lobby politicians to help them get funding from fossil fuel companies.

Boards

Governance - boards stacked by fossil fuel execs

The scarcity of funding in the Arts sector has led to desperation and a need to survive as a priority.

long term agreements

Negative media and governmental response when arts orgs refuse problematic funding

pressure from funding bodies to diversify income

Pressure from funders and agencies like Creative Partnerships Australia

Personal risk - career setbacks from speaking up

The feeling that even if we're not funded directly, we still work with others who are - if we're still implicated, we may as well get the rewards

Never enough money

Putting a resources industry CEO as the Chair of the Australia Council sends a clear message that its ok

More competitive funding environment than ever before

Neo-liberal expectations re diversification of income

As oil and gas have a lot of money, they are an obvious target to get funding in a tough financial environment for the arts

Cos it's hard to get money, so anything can seem like a good proposition.

Feeling helpless to affect change

Audiences surveyed often don't see an issue

misconception that sponsoring the arts is a way for these companies to give back to the community

Lack of leadership (currently grass roots activism)

If we don't take it someone else will.

8 consecutive years of public arts funding cuts federally

Wealthy resources industry reps can afford to be on arts Boards, while independent artists and practitioners can't

What are some specific campaigns and tactics to use to break up with Fossil Fuel companies?

In WA, some artists are asking for contract clauses that specify images of their events can be used in future promotion EXCEPT when associated with resources industry par

Governance in organisations in regards to policies and documents that state what is considered inappropriate to receive funding from.

Change organisation missions to include behaving in ways that will improve the environment (so boards can't justify accepting funding due to 'fiduciary duties')

solidarity across other movements - sports, STEM, uni sponsorship

pvi collective Art Wash Award (WA)

high profile spokes people

performance protests (liberate tate, WA ballet events)

Disrupt opening nights

direct action

XR protests

Artistic responses (eg: artworks and songs)

Perth Festival + Chevron split is rumoured to have been a Chevron decision rather than a Perth Festival refusal

ethical sponsorship

Fight for the Bight was successful
<https://www.fightforthebight.org.au/>

Perth Festival + Chevron split has been amicable/complimentary (still giving them social licence?)

tour down under

open letters

bigger picture conversations about subsidies

petitions

Face saving tactics!

Partner with activist organisations

Museum of economic botany

Tennis Australia / Santos, Alinta / Cricket, Hancock / Netball

Community workers (inc artists and arts workers) need to be on corporate boards, just like corporates have made their home on community org boards.

Fossil Ad Ban - local councils and also federal pressure (like what happened with tobacco)

speaking out at events

talk about how climate impacts effects the arts - how do we tour in floods, fly in planes

Journalists asking questions

intervene in strategic planning to move from lip service to real world action

open letter

Don't invite climate criminals and politicians to events.

informing our Boards, encouraging them to adopt ethical sponsorship frameworks.

Lobbying for tax reform

more public conversations about this issue

Destruction / defacing of fossil fuel marketing materials on arts materials (eg: signage)

Raise the budget of Arts SA, Australia council - lobby for more funds for the arts

Next steps (for us together, for your org, for you) + resources

Divest to invest
contract clause
<https://www.groundwaterarts.com/divest-to-invest.html>

Ethical
Sponsorship
Policy
template

**connect
Kelly 350
+ Kate
Larsen**

**Support
political
artists**

Call out
unethical
sponsorships
on the socials

AGSA
Directorate
conversation,
5 year strat
plan

Keep writing
articles on
social license
and arts

**direct
action
+ XR**

Direct action
with XR,
Fireproof
Australia...

Work with
XRSA to
disrupt special
events and
opening
nights etc.

open letter to
the botanic
gardens- MEB

**Support
Darwin
campaign**

Arts Science
Alliance -
Melbourne

**Make art
and write
about all
this**

**Ask the
questions**

Academics can
undertake research
that continues to
reveal the insidious
nature of fossil fuel
sponsorship, and
suggest pathways
out of reliance on
fossil fuel funding.

**Develop
course
materials on
ethics for arts
workers**

next step up here in
NT. get those on
board to adopt
ethical sponsor
frameworks to make
a network

**contact
Adelaide
Festival and
Adelaide FF re
sponsorship
policies**

If anyone wants to
contribute/collab on
an Ethical
Sponsorship template,
I'm at
kate@larsenkeys.com.au

kelly@350.org.au

kate@larsenkeys.com.au

Create catchphrases
and hashtags. eg:
*#noartonadeadplane
t

kelly@350.org.au re
letter and pledge re
climate champions

link with NAVA code
<https://code.visualarts.net.au/principles-ethics-and-rights/climate-adaptability-and-justice/summary-of-good-practice-recommendations>

Share Gabrielle video
<https://www.gabrielledevietri.net/maps-of-gratitude>