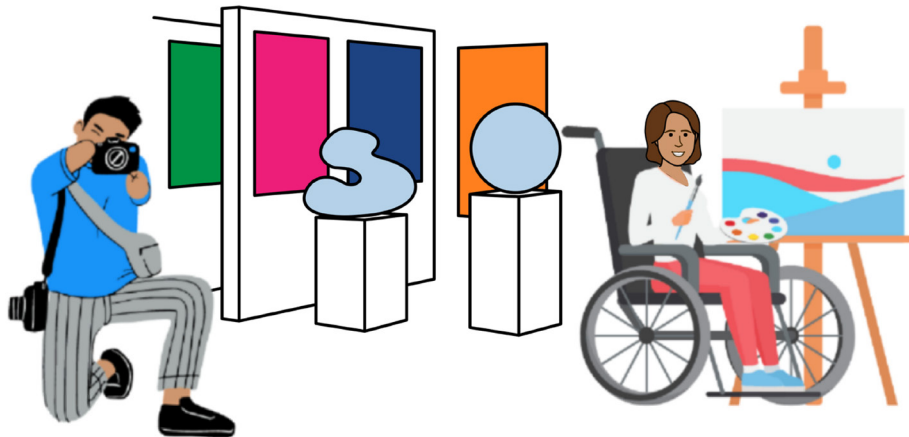


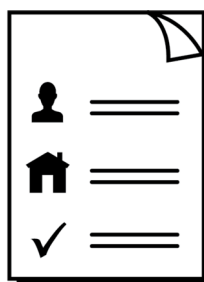


Australian Government



Building strong foundations

Research on arts and disability needs and opportunities



Easy Read

About this booklet



This booklet is from Creative Australia.

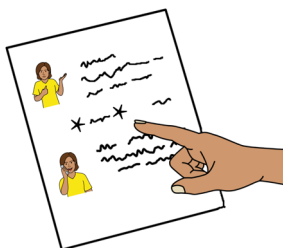
We are an Australian Government organisation that supports the arts.



This booklet is written in a way that is easy to understand.



You can read more information about this topic on our [Creative Arts web page](https://creative.gov.au)
<https://creative.gov.au>



We add a star before and after ***hard words***.
Then we explain what the words mean.



You can ask someone to help you read and understand this booklet.



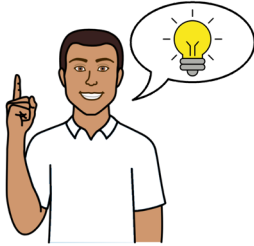
Contact information is at the end of this booklet.

About the report



We did research about people with disability in the arts and

- what they need



- supports they can use.



It is good for everyone if the arts are

- ***accessible***
 - accessible means everyone can use it and their needs are met



- ***inclusive***
 - inclusive means everyone can be part of and experience it



- ***diverse***
 - diverse means it includes people from different cultures and backgrounds.

This is a summary of the report.



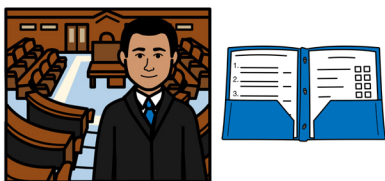
To make the report we spoke to

- people with disability and deaf people



- arts organisations.

Arts organisations can be lots of different types of organisations and places that create, put on and show lots of different types of arts.

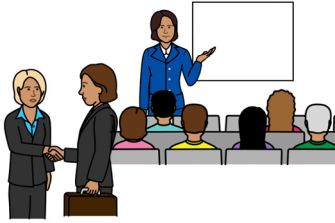


The information from our report will help the Australian Government decide what to do to support disability and accessibility in the arts.

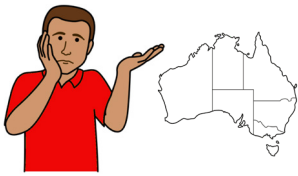


Creative Australia will use information from this report to make our Disability Action Plan.

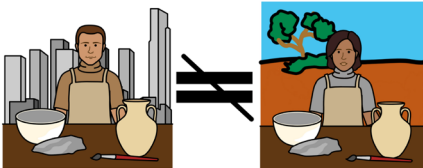
What we found



Some arts and disability organisations give services to deaf and disabled people to help them attend, learn and work in the arts.



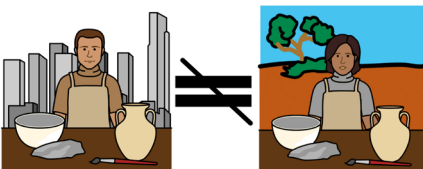
Not all states and territories in Australia have arts and disability organisations.



This means people with disability in some parts of Australia do not get the same opportunities as others.



A lot of the work arts and disability organisations do happens in big cities.



People with disability in regional areas do not get the same opportunities as people closer to big cities.

Service needs



The report tells us that

- arts and disability organisations need more money and resources



- opportunities should be equal across Australia for all artists



- people in regional and remote areas need better access to opportunities



- government services for the arts need to have better support for deaf and disabled artists.



People we spoke to say we need a national arts and disability service provider to make things fair and equal across Australia.

Investment



Investment means the money and time spent on making things better for everyone.



People we spoke to say we need more investment in arts and disability services over a long time.

For example

- money for deaf and disabled artists to do more big projects in the arts



- more support for new deaf and disabled artists.



We also spoke to deaf and disabled First Nations artists who told us they need

- more ways to get together to find out what support they need



- more investment in First Nations deaf and disabled artists.

Access and inclusion



People we spoke to said we need to improve access and inclusion in the arts.

For example



- accessible ways for artists to write
grant applications
 - grant applications means people ask for money for an art project



- education and training about access and inclusion for arts organisations

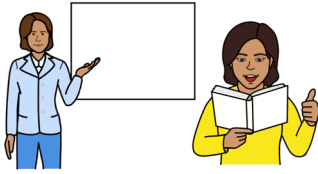


- more inclusive workplaces and accessible arts spaces

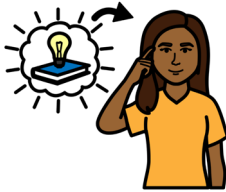


- arts organisations have plans that make them more accessible.

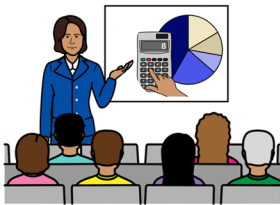
Capacity building



Capacity building means supports to learn new skills and achieve goals.



People we spoke to said we needed capacity building for deaf and disabled artists.



Supports can be

- training to learn business skills



- grant writing services and workshops



- more opportunities for new artists



- programs run by disabled people so other disabled people can get skills, have careers and become leaders in the arts.



People we spoke to want

- more deaf and disabled people in charge of arts organisations and projects



- leaders to think about issues that affect how people work, like health concerns



- artist management agents that are deaf and disabled friendly



- more help to get audiences for disabled artist's work.



People we spoke to also want more

- ***networking*** opportunities
 - networking means meeting other people who work in the arts



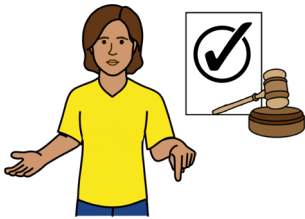
- ***mentoring*** programs
 - mentoring means someone who can support, advise and guide you.

Advocacy



Advocacy means support from another person or organisation to help you

- say what you want



- stand up for your rights.

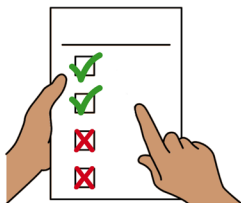


People we spoke to want

- advocacy to make the arts more accessible



- more training for people who work with deaf and disabled groups



- rules for access and inclusion so organisations make the arts more accessible



- arts and disability services across Australia to share advocacy ideas and supports.

***Connections* in the arts**



Connections means people from different groups in the arts work together and support each other.



People we spoke to want

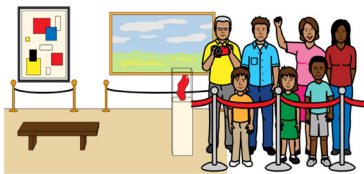
- opportunities for everyone across Australia to meet and share ideas



- more opportunities for different groups to work together



- deaf and disabled people to help plan projects



- festivals to show work by deaf and disabled artists.

***Culture* change**



Culture means the way of life and beliefs of a group of people.



The report tells us there needs to be a change in culture for disability and accessibility.

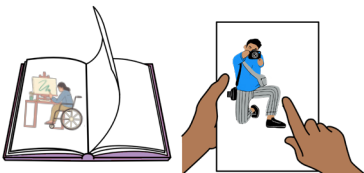


People we spoke to want to see more education and information about inclusiveness in the arts.



People we spoke to want

- more deaf and disabled artists as leaders



- more people with disability in marketing information



- more inclusive information and workplaces
 - for example for First Nations and regional communities.

Ideas for change



People we spoke to had a lot of ideas about how to make things better for deaf and disabled people in the arts.



Have deaf and disabled people working in arts organisations to make sure disability and accessibility are included in plans and programs.



A ***fund*** to support deaf and disabled artists to make new work.

A fund means money used for a special project.



More places for deaf and disabled artists to show their work.



Agents who manage and support deaf and disabled artists.



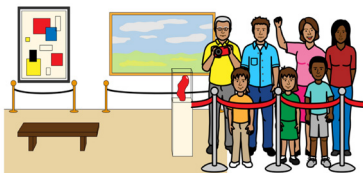
More accessible venues and arts spaces.



A disability led campaign to tell people in Australia about work by deaf and disabled artists.



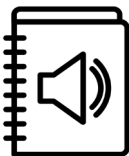
More programs to support disabled leaders.



Opportunities for deaf and disabled artists to share their work with festivals, arts organisations and other artists.



More support for access services in the arts.



For example

- Audio Description



- Auslan interpreters.



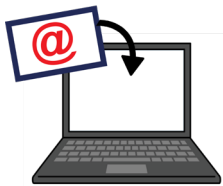
More information



For more information contact Creative Australia.



Call 1800 226 912



Email enquiries@creative.gov.au



Website [Creative Australia contact us page](https://creative.gov.au/about-us/contact-us/)

<https://creative.gov.au/about-us/contact-us/>

Help to speak and listen



If you need help to speak or listen, the National Relay Service can help you make a call.

Call 1800 555 660

Website [NRS Helpdesk](https://www.accesshub.gov.au/about-the-nrs/nrs-helpdesk)

<https://www.accesshub.gov.au/about-the-nrs/nrs-helpdesk>

Help in your language



If you need help with other languages, contact the Translating and Interpreting Service.

Call 131 450

Website [TIS National](https://www.tisnational.gov.au)

<https://www.tisnational.gov.au>



Creative Australia proudly acknowledges all First Nations peoples and their rich culture of the country we now call Australia. We pay respect to Elders past and present. We acknowledge First Nations peoples as Australia's First Peoples and as the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters on which we live.

We recognise and value the ongoing contribution of First Nations peoples and communities to Australian life, and how this continuation of 75,000 years of unbroken storytelling enriches us. We embrace the spirit of reconciliation, working towards ensuring an equal voice and the equality of outcomes in all aspects of our society.

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