**Vale Baillieu Myer AC**

The Australia Council wishes to acknowledge the passing of Baillieu (Bails) Myer, and recognise his extraordinary contribution as a businessman, philanthropist and patron of the arts.

He provided extensive leadership in the arts through his role as deputy chairman of the National Gallery of Victoria and the [Victorian College of the Arts](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victorian_College_of_the_Arts).

Mr Myer had a longstanding connection to the Australia Council, predominately through his role as co-founder and principal of the Myer Foundation. The Myer Foundation has been a generous contributor to numerous Australia Council initiatives and signature events including the Venice Biennale.

Australia Council CEO Adrian Collette AM said:

“Bails Myer was a much loved and highly respected leader as well as a passionate supporter of the arts. An avid art collector, he gifted some significant artworks to cultural institutions which will continue to delight audiences into the future. He leaves an impressive legacy spanning a broad range of areas from business to conservation, medical research, education, regional Australia and the arts. We extend our sympathies to his friends, family and colleagues.”