

# Arts Nation

## An Overview of Australian Arts

Arts Nation is a new report which provides evidence as a catalyst for informed discussion about the arts.

March 2015

## AUSTRALIANS EXPERIENCING THE ARTS

### CREATIVE AND ENGAGED: AUSTRALIA IS A NATION THAT HIGHLY VALUES THE ARTS



**9 IN 10**

Almost 9 in 10 Australians think that the arts make for a more rich and meaningful life



**PARTICIPATION**

Nearly all Australians consume at least one form of art and half participate in arts creation each year



**ARTS ENRICH**

The arts enrich how we express ourselves, think creatively and develop new ideas



**4 IN 10**

Almost 4 in 10 Australians creatively participate in the arts six or more times per year



**7 IN 10**

Reading is the most popular way of consuming the arts and seven in ten Australians read a novel in 2013



**87%**

of Australians read some form of literature



**18 MILLION**

Physical attendance at performing arts events remains important and almost 18 million tickets were sold in 2013



**78 TICKETS**

sold to performing arts events for every 100 Australians

## THE ART OF WELLBEING

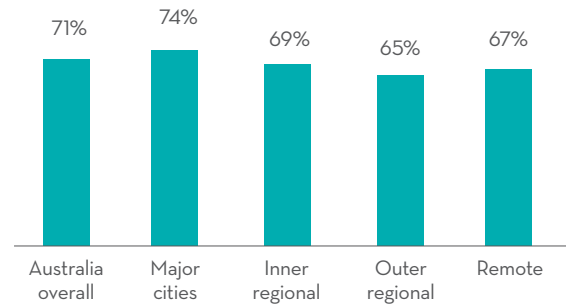
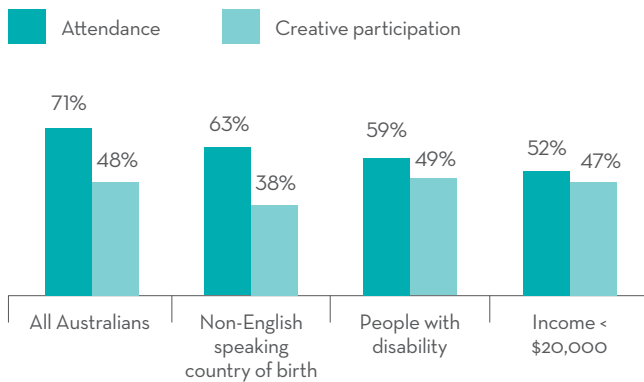
**\$66 BILLION PER YEAR**

The arts may be worth \$66 billion per year to Australia's wellbeing. New research on subjective wellbeing suggests that engagement with the arts correlates with higher life satisfaction. The wellbeing valuation approach is well established in the UK and Europe but is relatively new for Australia.

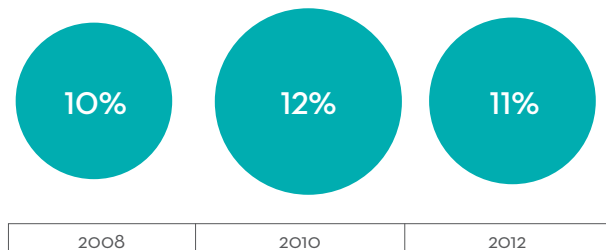
## CREATIVE AND ENGAGED: THE ARTS IN AUSTRALIA ARE MORE ACCESSIBLE THAN EVER

People with disability or low incomes are now just as likely to create art as Australians overall. But attendance at arts events remains lower for these groups.

Living in regional and remote locations does not affect arts attendance as much as might be expected.



Affordability of tickets to performing arts events has remained relatively stable. In 2012, a ticket cost 11 percent of weekly household disposable income.



*'It isn't possible for as many people from disadvantaged backgrounds to get to the theatre as it should be...[but] there are things that can be done and we need to concentrate more on them.'*

**Janet Holmes à Court**

Chair of the Western Australian Symphony Orchestra and Founding Patron of Black Swan Theatre Company

### FACT SHEETS ARE AVAILABLE FOR EACH ARTS NATION REPORT THEME:

- Australians Experiencing the Arts
- Artists and the Arts
- Australian Arts Internationally
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts
- The Cultural Economy