

The Greens (WA) 2017 policy

Arts & Culture

The Greens (WA) believe that:

- all spheres of government are responsible for helping to facilitate creative expression and engagement with the arts through funding and the provision of appropriate facilities
- creative artistic expression and cultural experience are fundamental aspects of social wellbeing
- access to diverse, innovative artistic and cultural experiences should be available to all West Australians
- artistic expression and culture should be protected and promoted in Western Australia
- creative artists play an essential role in social life and should be fostered and supported in Western Australia
- The State's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and artistic work express unique cultures and heritage which must be supported, respected and appropriately protected through legislation, policy and funding priorities (see also The Greens (WA) [Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Peoples](#) policy)
- state libraries and collecting institutions are essential to our understanding of ourselves and our place in the world
- specialist artistic education and training programs provide a unique learning environment for aspiring West Australian artists and should be promoted wherever possible

Aims

The Greens (WA) want:

- arts and culture in Western Australia to maintain their unique character and diverse nature through support and promotion of local content and the development of local projects for all forms of art and culture
- an integrated approach to arts and culture policies and programs that encourage cross-portfolio awareness of their broad social and economic benefits
- a State arts and culture policy that supports and encourages the development of local arts programs and promotes access to arts and cultural events in urban, rural and regional areas and in areas of social and economic disadvantage
- to maintain and develop State libraries as the repositories of cultural heritage in Western Australia
- to increase participation of regional and local organisations and groups in policy-making, project determination and funding allocation (see also The Greens (WA) [Public Participation](#) policy)
- to encourage communication, cooperation and consultation by decision-makers with the grass-roots level of the arts community

- a greater recognition of the role of local government in the development of arts and cultural policies (see also The Greens (WA) [Local Government](#) policy)
- to protect the intellectual property rights of artists
- to give emerging artists access to small business start-up grants and schemes
- improved access and participation opportunities in arts and culture activities for people with disabilities
- to nurture the creativity of young people by giving higher priority to arts in schools (see also The Greens (WA) [Education](#) policy)

Measures

The Greens (WA) will initiate and support legislation and actions that:

- support and promote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' art forms through appropriate funding and as part of school-based curricula
- support the return of sacred objects that have been appropriated as 'art objects', or for any other reason, to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who have responsibility for them (
- increase the funding and promotion of public libraries as centres of community interaction, provided local capacity permits and ensure such centres are compatible with other local government initiatives
- ensure that the ABC and SBS are adequately funded and able to entertain, inform and educate, particularly in regional and remote regions
- develop rotating, well-promoted Artists in Residence schemes for all branches of the arts, particularly in community-based and regional arts centres
- provide ongoing funding and promote greater consultation with youth communities and those working directly with youth, to develop youth arts policies and projects which reflect and develop youth interests and capabilities (see The Greens (WA) [Youth](#) policy)

(See also [the Australian Greens Arts and Culture](#) policy)

Arts & Culture policy ratified by The Greens (WA) in 2017