



INVESTING IN OUR ARTS

Supporting Canberra's Artists

Our \$19 million plan to invest in Canberra's creative arts and artistic community.

The ACT Greens value the role of arts in our society. We understand that a vibrant, diverse and innovative arts sector is at the heart of any thriving society.

Our artists and creative industries not only enrich our community and our lives, they also contribute to our economy and local employment.

Putting the community first means funding and supporting our creative organisations and artists who enrich so many aspects of our lives. It means standing up to the Liberals' attacks on our national institutions and keeping politicians' personal preferences out of artistic funding decisions.

The ACT Greens will:

1. Invest \$1.2 million over 4 years for cultural and events-based tourism grants to promote and support Canberra's artists
2. Invest \$100,000 to establish entertainment precincts throughout the ACT
3. Provide \$500,000 per year for a Curator for the City
4. Invest \$250,000 per year for the Urban and Street Art Coordinator
5. Create a \$50,000 per year night time diversity micro-grants scheme to support the introduction of alcohol-free entertainment options
6. Commit \$15 million to Belconnen Arts Centre Stage 2
7. Reinstate developer incentives for public art
8. 10 x \$10,000 commissions in an expansion of the funky bike racks scheme

The Greens support a thriving live music and events scene in Canberra, grow our night time economy and enhance our arts tourism. We want to promote creativity and a greater level of excitement and social interaction.

> Promoting and supporting Canberra's arts & events

Canberra's unique lifestyle and cultural scene has so much to offer to attract visitors to our city.

The ACT Greens will develop a program to promote Canberra as an arts and events destination by:

- » Investing an additional \$300,000 per year for arts and events grants programs to assist local artists to showcase the local arts and entertainment in Canberra and interstate. This will help local artists to be competitive with interstate artists and performers who receive state based funding.
- » Set minimum local content percentages for major events such as Enlighten, Floriade and the annual Multicultural Festival;
- » Ensure payment of local artists for their work;
- » Providing funding pathways for local companies to make major works for flagship festivals;
- » Providing seed funding for local arts based festivals such as Design Canberra, Art Not Apart, You Are Here and other music festivals and arts and cultural activities;
- » Extending the Artist-in residence program to

Government huts in Namadgi and rural villages, and provide for an indigenous artist in residence program;

- » Further develop and implement an ACT Events Strategy that showcases Canberra's local talent and feature major arts and music events of regional and cultural importance;
- » Nurture partnerships between government, local business, and artists, including minimum percentage of local artist content in events such as Enlighten and Floriade;
- » Fight for funding for the national cultural institutions, and encourage them to work together to promote events building on the success of events such as Enlighten and the National Writers Festival; and
- » Support Canberra to become an Australian City of Design under the UNESCO creative cities network.

> Entertainment Precincts

Canberra's music and events culture has evolved organically with entertainment venues popping up everywhere from the city to town centres and at local shops.

While this is a demonstration of our creative and lively city, to address the growing conflict between residents and entertainment venues the ACT Greens will establish designated Entertainment Precincts where music and events will be encouraged.

This will include:

- » Investing \$100,000 to consult with the community to define entertainment precincts in the Territory Plan (for example in the City, Phillip, Belconnen, Mitchell and EPIC) over the next 12 months;
- » Providing information to people moving into these areas about the higher noise levels they should expect at night-time;
- » Requiring buildings in the precinct to meet higher acoustic standards. This could include co-funding for noise attenuation as in Melbourne;

- » Applying principles for open window measurement at affected premises; and

- » Applying the principle of order of occupancy to protect existing venues from complaints that may arise from subsequent residential developments.

We would also pursue further measures to prevent alcohol-related violence in entertainment precincts including stronger penalties for breaching 'responsible service of alcohol' laws, better enforcement of these laws and an improved approach to risk-based licensing.

> Night time entertainment diversity micro-fund

The ACT Greens want to see a greater diversity of night time events that aren't reliant on alcohol. We know that many venues derive a significant portion of their revenue from alcohol consumption.

We also know that entertainers who choose to put on events away from licensed venues struggle to cover their set-up, transport or marketing costs.

Many of us enjoy a drink, but the Greens believe it is important to provide a variety of night time entertainment options so that people who don't want to be in alcohol-related/focused environments can go out and have a good time too.

The ACT Greens will:

- » Invest \$150,000 to establish an entertainment diversity micro-grants fund to help artists and community groups hold events where alcohol is not served or consumed.

These will be delivered through rounds of competitive grants where applicants will be eligible for small grants of up to \$2,000 to cover costs relating to set up, transport and marketing costs.

> **Commit \$15 million to build Belconnen Arts Centre Stage 2**

Belconnen Arts Centre has been a fantastic hub for the Belconnen Community since it opened in 2009. It was always intended to be a 2 stage project and with BAC reaching its limits, it is time to commit to completing stage 2.

Stage 2 will double the capacity of the Belconnen Arts Centre, adding a major multi purpose space, foyer, rehearsal room and supporting utilities. It will allow for minor rectifications of Stage 1 to better leverage the existing dance studios and workshops. Stage 2 will complete the missing landscaping around the building, linking the the lake foreshore with Emu Bank.

> **Curator for the City**

We all know that our city centre needs a bit of love. We need to put energy and creativity into activating the street life in our city, so it can realise its potential as the focal point for entertainment in Canberra.

This would include curating a calendar of cultural events throughout the year that builds on successful examples like Floriade in Spring, Enlighten in Autumn, the Design Canberra Festival and the National Folk Festival at Easter;

The ACT Greens will invest \$1.75 million to create a new role of Curator for the City to:

- » Improve programming of events throughout the year for local artists and musicians
- » Enhance “place-making” by co-ordinating projects to improve the public domain
- » Provide a 24 hour presence or “eyes on the street” in collaboration with social service providers, youth workers and ACT policing
- » Encourage a more diverse range of night-time activities available in the city thus creating a more people-friendly night-time culture

- » Negotiate with building owners to improve street level activation and to facilitate affordable arts spaces
- » Coordinate with City Services maintenance of the public domain, including pavement repair and street tree replacement
- » Work with City Services to establish an activity node in Haig Park at the end of Lonsdale Street
- » Participate in the industry / government co-regulatory roundtable.

> **Reinstate incentives for public art in new developments**

The Greens want to see art integrated with new developments, to ensure that the private sector is also contributing to public art in our community. The ACT Greens will ensure that the Lease Variation Charge remissions scheme includes public art.

> **10 x \$10,000 commissions to expand funky bike racks**

Sparked by Minister for TAMS, Shane Rattenbury, the ACT Government rolled out a small scale funky bike rack program last Assembly, whereby four local ACT artists were commissioned \$10,000 to deliver artistic bike racks for installation around Canberra. The program attracted strong support from the community, and the bike racks are helping make Canberra just a bit more fun.

The ACT Greens will:

- » Roll out two more \$50,000 tranches of the program over the next 4 years of government.

> **Urban and Street Art Coordinator**

Street or urban art is a growing cultural movement and has so much potential to invigorate to our urban public

spaces. At the same time, we are seeing that illegal graffiti can greatly reduce the amenity of our suburban landscape.

That's why the ACT Greens will continue to fund the Urban and Street Art Coordinator to:

- » Continue to engage with urban and street artists, businesses and government to identify potential sites and opportunities for commissioned work;
- » Work to increase the number of legal graffiti sites for street artists
- » Work with graffiti artists to direct illegal graffiti art to legal sites
- » Commission several murals from a grants fund.