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## Marrickville Cultural Policy

#### INTRODUCTION

The Marrickville Cultural Policy states Marrickville Council's position on and understanding of its role in local culture, in which culture is used as an inclusive term incorporating creativity, community, diversity, knowledge and heritage as expressed in the social, physical, economic and governance spheres that create the way of life unique to the Marrickville local government area. Marrickville Council's position is aligned to the principles of Agenda 21 for Culture.

#### **RELATED LEGISLATION, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

- 1. Agenda 21 for Culture
- 2. The UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity
- 3. NSW State Government Cultural Planning Guidelines 2004
- 4. LGSA Policy Cultural planning and development
- 5. Local Government Act, 1993
- 6. Principles of Multiculturalism Act 2000
- b. Principles of Multiculturalism Act 2000
  7. Council Policies and Statements: Marrickville Community Plan 2025 Marrickville Council Strategic Plan 2006-2011 Marrickville Council Social Plan Marrickville Urban Strategy Development Control Plans Marrickville Library Services Strategic Plan Marrickville Library Services Collection Development Policy Local Agenda 21 for the Environment Local Environment Plans Community Consultation Policy Media Liaison Policy Cultural Diversity Action Plan
- Sponsorship Policy

#### **POLICY STATEMENT**

Marrickville Council recognises the land of the Gadigal Wangal people of the Eora nation, its Aboriginal communities and the diversity of cultures brought to the area through migration and lifestyle choice, and the fundamental role these cultures play in creating Marrickville's uniquely diverse culture of a just, aware and active community, united through a sense of belonging.

Council recognises the right of all citizens to participate in a creative life and have access to arts and culture as a vital part of wellbeing.

Marrickville Council is committed to its role in supporting local arts and culture for citizens at all stages of life, and providing opportunities for participation in local arts and culture.

Council will advocate for and maintain services and programs to support cultural diversity in all representations, and encourage participation in issues of community importance, including social justice and ecological action.

Council recognises the essential role of creativity in building a united, dynamic and sustainable community.

#### **1. THE CREATIVE LIFE**

#### Council will develop and support

access to and participation in arts and cultural activity for:

- small children;
- school-aged children;young people;
- adults:
- older people;
- artists and audiences from Aboriginal communities;
- artists and audiences with a disability; and
- artists and audiences from CALD communities.

#### 2. THE CREATIVE COMMUNITY Agenda 21 for Culture

Council recognises its role regionally, nationally and internationally and encourages civic, social, cultural and economic exchange and the development of civic friendships and partnerships with other local authorities. Council will advocate the centrality of local government's role in cultural development to support human rights, cultural diversity, sustainability, participatory democracy and creating conditions for peace, as encapsulated in United Cities & Local Governments' (UCLG) Agenda 21 for Culture.

#### Communication

As part of the Marrickville community, Council is committed to its role as an open communicator and source of information and recognises that this is a vital element of the creation of local cultural identity and an active and informed citizenship. Council will provide and maintain a range of relevant communication channels to effectively enhance these values.

#### **Community Events**

Council will maintain a Community Events Program that provides an ongoing source of employment for local performing artists and arts workers and actively engages in the local community in celebrations of place, culture and diversity.

#### Cultural Assessment

Council will develop and implement system of cultural indicators to better understand local cultural developments and emerging needs, and ensuring relevant programs and services are provided. Council will also implement cultural impact assessments for major developments in the local area.

#### **Cultural Diversity**

Council is committed to supporting and enhancing cultural diversity at its most local level and ensuring that the diversity of cultures, including local Aboriginal communities and those brought to the Marrickville area by migration and lifestyle choice have the opportunity to participate in their chosen cultural life including cultural practices and languages and have access to the collective culture of the local area, enjoying and benefiting from a sense of belonging.

#### **Cultural Heritage**

Council will preserve and promote the cultural heritage of the Marrickville area, including the protection of Aboriginal heritage sites, and preservation of Aboriginal and migration histories for the appreciation and respect of present and future generations.

#### **Cultural Infrastructure**

Council will provide and maintain a range of infrastructure and programs and services to support and reflect the diversity of local arts and culture, including arts and cultural facilities, community facilities, libraries, open spaces, and public places.

#### Public Art

Council recognises that the integration of art into public places provides arts experiences to the whole community and will promote the heritage and cultural significance of public art. Council will facilitate and maintain a diverse collection of permanent and temporary artworks in public places that contribute to Marrickville's unique culture, acknowledge community values, foster local identity and pride, and contribute to sense of place.

#### Sister Cities

Council will maintain a Sister Cities program, administered through a consultative committee, that effectively contributes to cross-cultural co-operation and dialogue through initiatives that support cultural diversity, understanding, communication and sharing, such as civic, cultural, and economic exchange. Council will establish and maintain relationships with other cities and towns where there is relevance to the Marrickville community and a commitment to develop a relationship based on matters of mutual interest.

### ATIVE LIFE

#### 3. THE CREATIVE ECONOMY Creative Business Sector

Support Council recognises that its creative workers service the greater Sydney region and is committed to supporting and working with the creative sector as an area of competitive strength for Marrickville, maintaining networks and entrepreneurial support. Council will support and work with the local creative sector through appropriate programs and services to facilitate creative businesses to establish, grow and innovate locally.

#### **Cultural Tourism**

Council recognises the importance of cultural tourism to the local economy and will support the continued development of local arts, cultural heritage collections, significant local buildings, built and natural places, and community events.

#### Employment

Council recognises the contribution made by artists to the community, artists' intellectual property rights, and will employ artists in Council activities where appropriate. Council also recognises Marrickville's value as a place to live and work and will support and facilitate local employment through relevant programs and services.

#### **Urban Centres**

Council recognises that its urban centres and villages are the focal points of local culture and community life, and local businesses are a significant part of the local economy. Council will support the economic sustainability of its local centres through business friendly practices and the implementation of an Urban Centres Program that enhances local business viability through the development and support of special levy areas, administered through service agreements and consultative committees

#### **Urban Planning**

Council recognises the importance of urban land-use planning to the local creative industries and will work to create favourable conditions to attract and retain creative businesses within the local area through its planning controls. The creative industries are defined to include businesses whose primary function is one the following:

- audio-visual, media and digital media;
- advertising;
- craft, visual arts and Aboriginal arts;
- cultural heritage institutions;
- design, including architecture, fashion and graphic, urban, industrial and interior design;
- radio, film and television;
- music;
- publishing; and
- performing arts.

The Marrickville Cultural Policy will be implemented through the development of relevant strategies and procedures.

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