

## Call for Papers: Renew and Revive

On 30 January, the Australian Government released its new National Cultural Policy – [Revive: a place for every story, a story for every place](#). The aim of this policy is to “renew and revive”; to “change the trajectory of the creative sector and deliver new momentum to Australia’s arts, entertainment and cultural sector.” After years of austerity in arts funding, no national cultural policy under the Coalition government, and struggles of the artistic and creative sectors during the Covid-19 pandemic, Revive promises a future for Australia’s arts and culture industries, creators and workers that is more financially sustainable and inclusive. The policy is structured around five interconnected pillars:

- First Nations First: Recognising and respecting the crucial place of First Nations stories at the centre of Australia's arts and culture
- A Place for Every Story: Reflecting the breadth of our stories and the contribution of all Australians as the creators of culture
- Centrality of the Artist: Supporting the artist as worker and celebrating artists as creators
- Strong Cultural Infrastructure: Providing support across the spectrum of institutions which sustain our arts, culture and heritage
- Engaging the Audience: Making sure our stories connect with people at home and abroad.

These pillars highlight the objectives of the policy, but also the values underpinning it. This policy is predicated on foundational ideas of art for itself and as a fundamental value of democratic society, and positions histories, diversity, labour, institutions, and people as central to arts and culture. The policy also introduced Writers Australia, which will provide direct support to the literature sector from 2025, assist the development of writers, and position books and other kinds of publishing as a central part of Creative Australia.

We seek papers that engage with the ideas, ideals and promises of Revive. Although our preference is for papers that focus on independent publishing, presentations on all aspects of publishing are welcome. We are also interested in papers from related disciplines, such as cultural economics, literary studies, creative writing, platform studies, media and communications, law and humanities. First Nations, people of colour, LGBTQIA and gender-diverse scholars as well as graduate students and early career researchers are encouraged to submit. We also welcome papers that engage playfully or creatively with the conference theme.

Possible topics include:

- First Nations publishing, writing, reading and storytelling
- Potential outcomes, gaps, caveats and promises of cultural policy
- The labour of publishing and experiences of workers
- Meaningful diversity, inclusion and representation
- How the places of publishing inform creators' outputs
- The rights of writers, illustrators and creators in publishing
- Publishing infrastructures – from community spaces to business and government
- Place and sites of culture, writing and publishing
- Education and vocational pathways for writing and publishing
- Innovation and technologies in publishing
- The pleasure and pain of negotiating cross-disciplinary writing i.e. for theatre and film

The 2023 Independent Publishing Conference will run from 23-25 November, 2022 as a hybrid conference at the Wheeler Centre, Melbourne, and on Zoom. The Research Day will be held on Thursday 23 November.

We invite proposals by **Friday 30 June 2023**. Proposals should contain an abstract of 200-300 words. Please include your paper title, institutional affiliation, short author bio, contact details, and whether you anticipate participating in-person or online.

Submissions and enquiries should be sent to Claire Parnell ([claire.parnell@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:claire.parnell@unimelb.edu.au)).

<https://smallpressnetwork.com.au/>

The Independent Publishing Conference is proudly supported by the Copyright Agency.

The convenors of the Research Day and Small Press Network acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which the conference is held, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung of the Kulin Nation, and pay our respects to their Elders, past and present.