

ARTS AND CULTURE POLICY
Approved by Dunedin City Council December, 1997

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. This document should be reviewed regularly to reflect changes within Dunedin's Cultural environment.
2. The Dunedin City Council will observe the spirit of Te Tiriti O Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi, recognising the two main cultures of this country, and the rights and protocols of Kai Tahu, te iwi kaitiaki o Te Wai Pounamu. The Dunedin City Council will acknowledge and reflect the diversity and aspirations of New Zealand's, and in particular Dunedin's, ethnic and racial cultures.
3. Arts and Culture are essential to the health and well being of society. Like any essential service they should be available to all citizens regardless of circumstance, income or race.
4. The artistic and cultural life of Dunedin is a central feature of its character and identity and is responsible for attracting permanent residents and many of the city's tourists and visitors.
5. The activities of an active artistic and cultural life permeate all sectors of the community. Local Government can play a key role in the support and encouragement of such initiatives.
6. There is an increasing interdependence between heritage and cultural policy, employment and economic development to the extent that a vital, co-ordinated heritage and cultural programme is integral to Council Policy.
7. In implementing the City's Arts and Culture Policy, Council will pay special attention to the needs of its citizens who may find their access to activities, services and resources limited. Where possible the arts should be taken to the people and use should be made of the existing outlying venues.
8. The term "culture" as used in this policy, refers to the overall expression of identity of the greater Dunedin area. "Dunedin" and "the city", as used in this policy, refer to the local authority boundaries of Dunedin City.

VISION STATEMENT

" Dunedin is an environment that encourages, facilitates and embraces expressions of its communities' culture ".

KEY OBJECTIVES

1. To develop and promote Dunedin as an environment that encourages, facilitates and embraces expressions of its communities' culture.
2. To preserve and enhance Dunedin's many and varied cultural and heritage resources, and to ensure that opportunities to participate are available to all and predominantly free.
3. To promote the Policies outlined in this document.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

1. Provide encouragement and support for a sustainable, lively, creative and progressive arts and cultural environment.
2. Support initiatives that promote city wide community and individual involvement in arts and cultural activity.
3. To recognise the unique place of Maori Tikanga and Taonga, empowering and supporting the cultural identity and development of local Iwi.
4. To ensure Dunedin's cultural identity reflects, supports, and empowers the City's multi-ethnic and multi-racial character.
5. Maintain and enhance an environment which recognises, values and celebrates Dunedin's dynamic identity and heritage.
6. Attract visitors and residents to Dunedin as a centre of cultural diversity and creative innovation.
7. Resource, empower and sustain a creative cultural environment based on effective partnership, consultation and planning.

1. PROVISION OF ENCOURAGEMENT AND SUPPORT FOR A SUSTAINABLE, LIVELY, CREATIVE AND PROGRESSIVE ARTS AND CULTURAL ENVIRONMENT

Explanation:

The promotion of a vigorous cultural environment is an important part of community's well-being, allowing people to make lifestyle choices. It is also an important way to attract and retain employment in Dunedin. Underpinning this is a recognition that the arts/artists add value to the cultural and economic development of the city. In supporting a lively and progressive arts and cultural environment it is hoped to further the opportunities for artists to create and present their work and to gain income and employment.

In order to ensure that this objective can be obtained it will be vital to develop and implement a strategy for arts and cultural development. This strategy will need to be based on a sound understanding of the current environment and opportunities that exist for support networks and promotion to be developed. It is equally important to identify the barriers to progress (real and perceived) and to develop strategies for overcoming these.

The development of partnerships amongst Dunedin's major cultural institutions, artists, business and the wider community has considerable potential to assist in the achievement of this goal. Partnerships will pool resources (both intellectual and physical) and should promote the setting and achievement of common goals.

2. SUPPORT INITIATIVES THAT PROMOTE CITY WIDE, COMMUNITY AND INDIVIDUAL INVOLVEMENT IN ARTS AND CULTURAL ACTIVITY.

Explanation:

Community arts and cultural initiatives are vitally important to the health and well being of the community. They provide an opportunity for the community to express aspirations and for people to socialise and develop supportive networks.

The essence of community arts is that they are open to all to participate.

The development of an implementation strategy must recognise the important role that community arts initiatives play encompassing the breadth of activities and the diversity of community interest in the arts. Community involvement in the development of a strategy will, amongst other things, assist in: the exploration of linkages between cultural development and other community based activities and amenities, gathering information and ensuring that relevant issues are canvassed while maximising the use of cultural and community facilities.

3. TO RECOGNISE THE UNIQUE PLACE OF MAORI TIKANGA AND TAONGA, EMPOWERING AND SUPPORTING THE CULTURAL IDENTITY AND DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL IWI.

Explanation

The Dunedin City Council recognises the unique place of Maori Tikanga and Taonga, empowering and supporting the cultural identity and development of local Iwi. Accompanying this is recognition is an acknowledgement of Ngai Tahu as Te Iwi Kaitiaki, and a commitment to honouring the articles of Te Tiriti O Waitangi.

4. TO ENSURE DUNEDIN'S CULTURAL IDENTITY REFLECTS, SUPPORTS, AND EMPOWERS THE CITY'S MULTI-ETHNIC AND MULTI-RACIAL CHARACTER.

Explanation

The Dunedin City Council will acknowledge and reflect the diversity and aspirations of New Zealand's, and in particular Dunedin's, ethnic and racial cultures through the implementation of the Arts and Culture Policy. From a Cultural perspective Dunedin's racial and ethnic diversity are an important part of what makes Dunedin special.

5. MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE AN ENVIRONMENT WHICH RECOGNISES, VALUES AND CELEBRATES DUNEDIN'S DYNAMIC IDENTITY AND HERITAGE.

Explanation

The distinctive character of the Dunedin environment, both physical and cultural is a source of community pride and identity. The maintenance and enhancement of Dunedin's cultural resources, physical, social and artistic requires the co-operation of cultural institutions, groups and individuals, all of whom can contribute to the preservation, planning and development of Dunedin's identity and heritage.

The inner city has a rich architectural heritage from which the city draws its distinctive character (e.g. the Municipal Chambers, First Church, St Paul's Cathedral, Stuart Street, and the low rise nature of George Street with its shop fronts and facades) which is now protected by the proposed District Plan, with restoration, maintenance and reuse encouraged as a method to ensure the buildings' survival. This is an important part of Dunedin's cultural heritage, providing an insight into the changes in the city's culture. The distinctive character of the city is a draw card for tourists.

The identification of historical buildings is well established in the proposed District Plan and are an integral part of the Dunedin City Council's architectural, planning and economic development philosophies.

While the 'built environment' is an important expression of Dunedin's cultural heritage, this policy addresses issues pertaining to recognition of many other aspects of our communities' culture. The policy recognises the built environment is a foundation stone in what makes Dunedin unique.

6. ATTRACT VISITORS AND RESIDENTS TO DUNEDIN AS AN ENVIRONMENT OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND INNOVATION

Council's commitment to economic and community development, and the growth of employment opportunities can only be enhanced by promoting the diverse, innovative cultural environment of Dunedin. The development, promotion, monitoring and refining of existing cultural activities and amenities is a necessary and desirable strategy in attracting visitors and residents to Dunedin.

7. RESOURCE A SUSTAINABLE ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL ENVIRONMENT BASED ON EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIP, CONSULTATION AND PLANNING.

Explanation

Dunedin City Council is a significant partner in the development, resourcing and maintenance of Dunedin's Cultural environment. The recognition and use of this role to act as a catalyst in the development of an integrated, responsive cultural development strategy based on partnership, planning and sustainability will ensure a co-ordinated dynamic usage of Dunedin's Cultural resources.

Dunedin has the potential to further enhance its' creative and cultural environment. The adoption of this policy and its Cultural development implementation strategy will see better co-ordination, administration and use made of existing resources, empowering Dunedin's cultural environment, attracting additional financial, human and amenity based resources.

AN IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY FOR DUNEDIN'S ARTS AND CULTURE POLICY

An implementation strategy is an integral part of empowering the vision and principles of the Arts and Culture Policy. The strategy needs to incorporate a consultative, partnership based philosophy in order to create an implementation process which contributes to the sharing of information, responsibility and power within Dunedin's cultural environment.

POLICY ACTIONS - A PRECURSOR TO AN IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

(to be incorporated into an Arts and Culture Implementation Strategy)

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop an "Arts and Cultural Implementation Strategy" based on research of the Dunedin environment and developed in partnership with representatives of the Dunedin	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To include in Council publications and programmes the marketing and promotion of the city's Cultural and Heritage activities to residents, potential residents, and visitors
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<p>community.</p>	<p>including the provision of alternative Language translations where appropriate</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively seek and encourage community input into the "Arts And Cultural Implementation Strategy". 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the Dunedin City Council service delivery units Service Level Agreements recognise the need to cater for the needs of artists, and cultural groups and that costs for these services reflect the intent of this policy objective.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When preparing the Arts and Cultural Implementation strategy existing Council policy on heritage will be consulted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the collections of the city's cultural institutions are accessible to and are representative of Dunedin's communities.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult and involve Dunedin's Cultural community in the Corporate, urban planning, Community and Recreation Planning, Economic development, and 'place making' activities of Council, so that cultural planning can assist in maximising the benefits of services and amenities to the Dunedin Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examine the potential for partnership and collaboration between Dunedin's major cultural institutions. The Dunedin City Council to act as a catalyst in this process
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop performance indicators for the Arts and Cultural implementation strategy. This will assist future reviews of the Policy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To assist the emergence of creative works by local artists and to provide appropriate assistance in bringing these works to public performance/exhibition.