

NFSA STATEMENT OF INTENT 2024

Provide strong leadership and foster collaboration within national and international galleries; libraries archives and museums sectors to promote the five pillars of Revive

As custodian of one of Australia's oldest cultural collections, NFSA has strong collegial relationships with national and international peer institutions and will continue to foster our collaborations at all levels. In particular, NFSA has well-established credentials as a respected leader in analogue preservation. We were at the forefront of the Deadline 2025 campaign, which led to increased funding to support the digitisation of at risk audiovisual materials. As a result, the NFSA will collaborate with seven other national collecting institutions (NCIs) - the National Library of Australia, National Museum of Australia, National Gallery of Australia, Australian War Memorial, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, Questacon, and the Australian National Maritime Museum – to digitise their at risk collections.

We are an active participant in formal peer networks, including GLAM Peak in Australia, the South-East Asia and Pacific Association of Audiovisual Archives (SEAPAVAA), the International Federation of Film Archives (FIAF), Association of Moving Image Archivists (AMIA) and the International Federation of Television Archives (FIAT/IFTA).

In 2024 we are also leading international thought on video game preservation, in partnership with the BFI National Archive at the British Film Institute and The Strong's International Center for the History of Electronic Games in the United States, through the development of an international survey looking at the state of game preservation globally.

NFSA staff actively pursue peer development opportunities through regular participation in national and international conferences across the year to raise the profile of the organisation, its collection, and its specialist expertise. In October 2024, NFSA Acton will host the Fantastic Futures Conference 2024, the leading global forum on artificial intelligence for the GLAM sector.

In the Pacific region, NFSA engages with partners to share knowledge and capability, both as a member of the SEAPAVAA organising committee and through bilateral projects. In 2024, NFSA is working with the Papua New Guinean National Film Institute (NFI) to preserve, digitise and provide ongoing access to at-risk films from the NFI collection. This project has been enabled with funding from the International Cultural Diplomacy and Arts Fund (ICDAF). We will build on the experience gained through this project to continue to support audiovisual archives in the region.

Ensure policies and procedures are in place to promote diversity, sustainability, reconciliation and inclusion

We will continue to implement strategies to ensure that we are a diverse, sustainable, inclusive and culturally safe place for all our staff and stakeholders. NFSA already has made significant headway towards this goal. In 2024 NFSA has completed a new Indigenous Strategy, supported by a Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024 -2026.

Our Sustainability and Climate Action Strategy for 2024-2026 will be published by 31 May 2024, establishing NFSA as a leader in sustainability practice in the field of audiovisual archiving. The strategy is guided by custodianship, a holistic commitment to care for the NFSA's collections, stories, buildings and the natural environment. The NFSA participated in

the first APS Net Zero first emissions reporting trial in 2023 and will be participating in the second trial from 2024.

The NFSA has also undergone a Collection Audit to understand better what is in the national audiovisual collection and the gaps that need to be filled to best represent Australia's diverse society and culture. In 2024-25 we will develop a Collection Development strategy that will target gaps identified through the audit.

Ensure there is a current Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) in place to support people with disability to participate fully in Australia's cultural and creative life

The NFSA acknowledges the disabled community as an integral part of our diverse national story and our responsibility to make the national collection accessible and inclusive. We aim to foster a culture of inclusivity, to make our physical and digital environments accessible and to continue to attract and support a diverse workforce.

The NFSA's commitment to supporting people with disability to participate fully in Australia's culture and creative life is underpinned by our Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2024-27, which was developed in consultation with a range of stakeholders and supported by Accessible Arts. The plan outlines activities to remove or reduce barriers to full participation across all of the NFSA's work – including for staff, as well as audiences and stakeholders. It will be supported by specific training and workshops to ensure effective implementation.

Continue to foster appreciation and understanding of First Nations arts, culture and knowledge systems, and contribute to a professional, viable and ethical First Nations art sector in line with the principle that First Nations arts and culture art is First Nations led

The NFSA holds and preserves more than 25,000 works that document the unique place that First Peoples occupy within Australian society, and the diversity of their cultural and creative expressions. With the leadership and participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, communities and institutions, we have undertaken work to understand the artefacts in our care, the cultural knowledge they contain, and how they can inform and enrich national culture for all Australians. In handling Indigenous materials, NFSA applies Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property Protocols and we work with Indigenous knowledge holders to manage the care of and access to cultural materials in our custody.

An important part of our work is to return these materials to their communities of origin where they can be enjoyed and valued by their owners and by future generations, and where they may assist as needed in the ongoing work of recovering and enriching cultural practices and the revitalisation of language. In 2024-25, our partnerships with First Nations stakeholders include working with the Torres Strait Islander Media Association to preserve and repatriate at-risk material from across the Torres Strait.

Other activities to support revitalisation of language in 2024-25 include contributing to the Decade of Indigenous Languages Framework through membership on the Cross-Agency Indigenous Languages Working Group, as well as continuing to engage with AIATSIS on work to strengthen Indigenous languages.

Support and promote artists and ensure they are remunerated appropriately

An important way that NFSA supports artists is by facilitating use of archival material in new productions, and by promoting and supporting intellectual property rights held in material in the collection by content creators. In 2024, artists will benefit from the recent review of

our fees to reduce some of the most often applied charges, making it even easier for creators to use the collection. In addition, we have expanded our Zero Fee Licence support program so that more creators are eligible to use up to three minutes of NFSA owned collection material usage fee free, increasing the reach and relevance of the collection.

As part of our commitment to respect creators' rights, NFSA negotiates licenses with copyright holders for the internal use of third party owned collection material, beyond uses that are allowed under copyright exceptions or statutory licences.

Provide greater opportunities for all Australians to access arts and culture, including through a diverse range of exhibitions, programs, events and digital offerings.

NFSA is custodian of an immensely valuable public asset that provides unique insight into our past and contemporary Australia. With additional Australian Government support, we are building our digitisation capability and fast-tracking preservation activity to digitise more of the national collection – increasing its ability to be accessed and enjoyed.

In 2024, NFSA will continue to build the digital infrastructure necessary to expand access and deepen engagement with the collection. This includes enhanced collection data management, new discovery tools for searching the collection and a new website. The NFSA will also continue to curate digital offerings to highlight themes and histories and respond to current events.

Additional funding received in the 2023-24 Budget has enabled the NFSA to refresh its public spaces – in particular, delivering access to objects and stories from the national audiovisual collection, reimagining its headquarters in Canberra as a local cultural and creative hub for experiencing the collection and for conversation.

The funding commitment from government has also enabled the NFSA to undertake a feasibility study for the Acton site that is directly shaped by First Nations voices, places sustainability at the forefront of design and amplifies the community experience at the NFSA. In 2024-25, NFSA will continue to explore and implement enhancements to Acton site to create an accessible, safe and inclusive community destination that can support a diverse artistic, cultural and community program.

Engage in activities to enrich arts and cultural education at all levels

The NFSA develops media literacy resources and offers a range of educational experiences on site in Acton, and online, for students at primary, secondary and tertiary levels. We also facilitate screenings and discussions with academics, researchers, and creative practitioners as part of our public program.

Media & Me, our principal media literacy program, promotes critical engagement with media, building media literacy skills and exploring historical events and culture as recorded in the NFSA collection. The program is targeted primary school students in years 4–6 and secondary students in years 7–9 and has seen significant growth in participation over the past year. In 2024, will develop the second iteration of Media & Me to maintain currency and relevance.

We partner with universities to engage in a range of research projects. In 2024, NFSA is a partner on two projects funded through the Australian Research Council Linkage Program:

- *Addressing Misinformation with Media Literacy through Cultural Institutions* (2023-2026), lead by University of Western Sydney; and

- *Comedy Country: Australian Performance Comedy as an Agent of Change* (2024-2027), lead by Monash University.

In Canberra, the NFSA takes part in activities facilitated by the National Capital Education Tourism Project, promoting the National Collecting Institutions and their work to the education market nationally.

Our public programs, such as the monthly Art.Science.Film. series presented with Australian National Centre for the Public Awareness of Science and ANU Humanities Research Centre, provide thoughtful discussions on topical issues with artists and scholars.

Funding Commitment

In the 2023-24 Budget the NFSA received a welcome and essential uplift in funding of \$34 million over 4 years, and then \$9.7m per annum (indexed and ongoing) to protect existing jobs, to provide long-term financial sustainability and address urgent capital works. We are committed to the responsible use of this funding, which will enable the NFSA to better fulfill our remit to collect, preserve and share Australia's audiovisual history.

NFSA is also focused on building its earned revenue across a range of activities. The funding commitment from Government has supported the NFSA to deliver capital works that augment its capacity for commercial venue hire and to deliver appealing ticketed public programs. We are working to increase our revenue from collection access services, through improved delivery systems and increasing our client base over time. The NFSA also recognises the potential to grow our philanthropic support and in 2024-25 the NFSA will launch its first Philanthropy Strategy and will begin a program of activity to identify and cultivate donors.

Information Management

The NFSA is advancing its information and data management strategies, guided by the Archives Act 1983 and the NAA's Building Trust in the Public Record. In particular:

- We have developed a comprehensive information management roadmap, covering future activities, resourcing, and budgeting. Key initiatives include refining Records Authorities with the National Archives of Australia, enhancing system interoperability, and endorsing the Information Management Framework.
- Recent Data and Information Management improvements include enhancing data quality for corporate systems, identifying Master Data sources, and mapping data lifecycles. The consolidation of Data and Information Management functions has streamlined these processes.
- Risk Management and Record Preservation: The NFSA is developing a plan to mitigate risks associated with paper-based record storage, aligning with our digital-first approach. Information Asset Register and Security Risk Management plans are in development.
- Governance and Training: We have established a robust Information Governance Framework and are now focusing on staff training to manage information and data assets effectively, ensuring compliance and efficient record management.

These measures reflect our proactive stance in evolving NFSA's practices, ensuring they are not just compliant, but also forward-thinking and resilient.