

AMaGA

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

The Australian Museums and Galleries Association (AMaGA) is delighted with Prime Minister Anthony Albanese's announcement today of the government's \$535.3m investment in the nine National Collecting Institutions over the next four years.

AMaGA sees this funding boost, with its clearly stated framework for ongoing support, as further reinforcement of the considered approach demonstrated in the release of the National Cultural Policy, *Revive*, in January.

The funding will be provided to the Australian National Maritime Museum, Bundanon Trust, Museum of Australian Democracy (Old Parliament House), National Archives of Australia, National Film and Sound Archive, National Gallery of Australia, National Library of Australia, National Museum of Australia and the National Portrait Gallery of Australia.

These nine institutions can now breathe out, knowing their immediate infrastructure repairs can begin and staff jobs are secure. The relief will be felt beyond Canberra, as these federally funded institutions resume their roles in sharing their collections and expertise with the rest of the sector, through touring exhibitions, loans and skills development.

The Government has also committed to secure funding for the National Library's digital archive Trove. Trove will receive \$33 million over four years plus an additional \$9.2 million in indexed ongoing annual funding as part of the \$535.3 million investment package. Finance Minister Katy Gallagher referred to Trove's funding reprieve as "taking Trove off life support" and noted the importance of Trove to many community members, with an unprecedented amount of support from across the country. AMaGA understands that Trove's immediate and ongoing funding ensures many museums and galleries and their communities will continue to have access to Australia's digitised heritage, with Trove holding over 14 billion records.

AMaGA National Director, Katie Russell sees today's announcement as, ... "a great morale boost for the entire Australian museum and gallery ecosystem, as it provides hope for increased and sustained investment from all levels of government, in infrastructure, skills and regional collaboration to revitalise a sector that, until today, was on its knees".

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