



Winner of the 2018 John Fries Award, Akil Ahamat with award benefactor Vivienne Fries (left), the award's curator Consuelo Cavaniglia and Copyright Agency CEO Adam Suckling

Photo: Silversalt Photography courtesy of UNSW Galleries

Supporting Australian creativity

Just as copyright helps drive the creation of new works, so the Copyright Agency works to support writers, publishers and visual artists at all stages of their careers.

Cultural Fund

2018 saw the announcement of two new highly valuable Cultural Fund Fellowships, for Non-Fiction Writing and Visual Art, both worth \$80,000. These are in addition to the existing Fellowships for an Author (\$80k) and for two Publishers (\$15k each).

The Fellowships provide sustained support to Australian writers and artists to create an important work that will connect with a broad audience.

Overall, the Cultural Fund provided almost \$1.8m in funding, including grants to 88 organisations and 27 individuals.

The 2017 Author Fellowship was awarded to Kathryn Heyman to develop her memoir, *Words to Live By*. The 2016 Author Fellow Melissa Lucashenko's book, *Too Much Lip*, was published by University of Queensland Press in July 2018. Ms Lucashenko said, "The Copyright Agency Author Fellowship was a real lifesaver. It allowed me to focus purely on this difficult and ambitious novel and to dedicate myself body and soul to creating a work of real excellence."

Resale Royalty scheme

The Resale Royalty scheme for artists has generated \$6.3m in royalties for 1600 artists since the scheme began. Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander artists have received 38% of the total royalties.

resaleroyalty.org.au

Sydney Contemporary

In 2018, Copyright Agency sponsored the talks program at the major art fair, Sydney Contemporary. Audiences heard panel sessions on the emerging technology of blockchain; questions around the ownership of Indigenous cultural and intellectual property; and best practice when developing new markets for work through residency programs.

John Fries Award

The ninth John Fries Award saw 550 artists submit entries for the coveted award, which went to Sydney artist Akil Ahamat for his video and installation work, *So the spaces between us can stay soft*. Ahamat takes his inspiration from online and consumer cultures and how they affect and shape identity in a contemporary context. The judges also highly commend Rachael Mipantjiti Lionel from South Australia for her work *Kapi Wankanya*.

johnfriesaward.com

\$1.8m
to the creative
community



Copyright Agency Chair Kim Williams announces Kathryn Heyman as the 2017 Author Fellow

Photo: Caitlin Hicks

\$80k
awarded via
Author Fellowship