

Model Policy on Ethical Programming and Partnerships for Cultural Institutions



Art and cultural production cannot be neutral in the face of oppression and human rights violations.

Not only does cultural production inherently involve political and ethical choices, cultural programming and sponsorship/partnership agreements clearly do as well.

Any claim to neutrality is categorically incompatible with platforming artists, groups or orchestras that are implicated in perpetrating, advocating, defending, or whitewashing grave human rights violations. It is just as incompatible with having sponsorship/partnership agreements with corporations or other entities involved in such violations.

This cultural institution commits to uphold universal principles of human rights and international law, to refrain from doing or contributing to undue harm, and to ensure basic ethical standards.

Based on this:

1. **Programming:** This institution will not include in its programming artists, cultural groups/bands/orchestras, or cultural products that are produced by entities that are verifiably complicit in, advocate for, or whitewash grave violations of international law (such as war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide), racism or racial violence.
2. **Sponsorship & Funding:** This institution will not accept sponsorship/partnership or other forms of funding from individuals, corporations or other entities that are verifiably complicit in, advocating for, or whitewash grave violations of international law (such as war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide), racism or racial violence.