



TRADITIONAL
MUSIC & SONG
ASSOCIATION OF SCOTLAND

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TRADITIONAL ARTS DECLARATION

We, the undersigned, maintain that:-

- Scotland has one of the richest living traditions in Europe
- the traditional arts of making music, singing, dancing, poetry and storytelling are an intrinsic and vital part of Scottish culture
- all of Scotland's indigenous languages and traditions are of equal importance and value
- Scotland's traditional arts and languages make an irreplaceable and distinctive contribution to world culture
- the foundation of all traditional arts is the grassroots inclusive participation of the people of Scotland
- the traditional arts give a unique perspective on Scotland's political and social history
- the traditional arts bind together communities in Scotland and the Scots Diaspora
- Scotland's traditional culture can and should be reinterpreted by each generation but that this must not result in discarding the past.
- Scotland's cultural traditions can and should play a part in the economic and social regeneration of Scotland

We therefore call on the Scottish Government and Parliament and all bodies sponsored and/or funded by them to ensure that:-

- all the indigenous languages and traditions of Scotland are treated equally
- funding for traditional arts is enshrined in all government arts policies
- traditional arts are embedded in Scottish education at all levels
- opportunities for taking part in traditional arts are actively encouraged
- provision of spaces for traditional arts is supported
- initiatives to make our traditional forms of expression accessible to all are supported
- in the drive to make commercial use of the traditional arts, the traditions themselves are not distorted or lost
- all of the traditions - not only the more commercial aspects - are valued and maintained
- recognition is given to the irreplaceable contribution that volunteers supporting traditional arts in Scotland make to the economy.

I AGREE WITH THE TMSA TRADITIONAL ARTS DECLARATION	
Name	
Address	
Postcode	
Telephone	
Email	
Comments	