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Crusader who backed the arts

SAMELA HARRIS

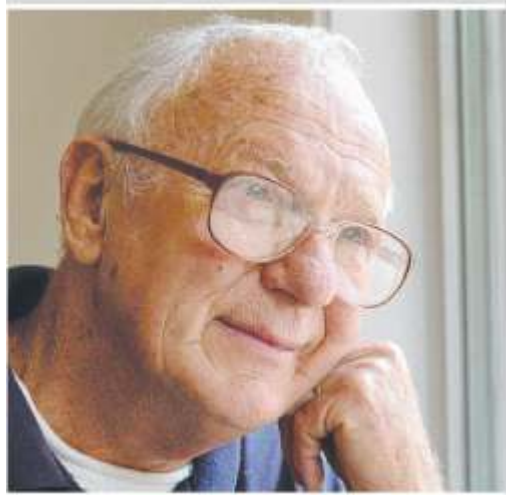
THE arts world is mourning the loss of Jim Giles AM, one of the most articulate arts advocates the State has known. He died this week, aged 78.

Jim Giles is remembered as inaugural chairman of the Come Out Youth Festival of Arts. But he was also a very potent presence as chair of the Arts Industry Council.

Mr Giles started out as a country teacher, becoming the SA deputy director of education before retiring, aged 57. It was a very busy retirement, culminating in a distinguished era championing seniors as national president of the Council on the Ageing, declaring that older people's "ideas should burn bright".

He was on the board of the South Australian Theatre Company and he was chair of Doppio Teatro. He had also served as chairman of the board of management of Survivors of Torture and Trauma Assistance and Rehabilitation Service and having spent time teaching English to overseas students at UniSA, he could lay claim to having taught from reception to university.

He was awarded a Member of the Order of Australia for his services to education, multiculturalism and the arts.



ARTICULATE: Arts advocate Jim Giles.