

**INQUIRY INTO THE MUSIC AND ARTS ECONOMY IN  
NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Name:** Name suppressed

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Partially  
Confidential

The teaching of music at universities and schools within Australia is a very important matter to me. To me, music is more than just pressing a few buttons, or singing a few lyrics - it's a form of self expression and art.

As someone who has never been an academic, I always felt as though I wasn't good enough and that there was something wrong with me, because I lacked in maths and science. However, since immersing myself in Music, it's made me realise that music is my calling.

I've been studying at the Newcastle Conservatorium of Music for a semester now, and I've never felt so welcomed and as though I belonged.

Music is very important in this world, and that it shouldn't be belittled as a subject, just simply because it's not law, economics, or medicine. Without music, you wouldn't have anything to listen to in bars/pubs/clubs, there'd be no soundtracks or follies for film, and there'd be no music therapy for patients suffering with mental issues. As someone with an autistic niece, I know how beneficial music therapy can be, and am aware of many of my fellow cohort at the Conservatorium having a strong desire to move into Music Therapy for Autistic children once having completed their degree.

Thank you very much for your time. I hope I was able to express my view adequately.