INQUIRY INTO THE MUSIC AND ARTS ECONOMY IN NEW SOUTH WALES

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Date received: 17 February 2018

I am currently a year 12 student in NSW studying Music 1 and Visual Arts at HSC level. my perspective of music and the arts in NSW is fairly narrow due to my limited background but I would like to let you know my thoughts.

I believe that music and art as a part of the curriculum are just as important as any other mandatory subject on offer in NSW state schools. As I progressed through my secondary schooling, the parallels between subjects like advanced English and modern history became more and more apparent. Speaking on behalf of more visual learners, Music and art can be mediums for which one can view a culture or a societies past and see how an artists work was informed by their audience, their world and their own subconscious thoughts and feelings. Aside from providing an alternative method of learning for students, these creative subjects allow students an outlet for expression and creativity much like Sport gives individuals a physical outlet.

Although the arts are often under appreciated, I believe it is important to provide funding to this area in schools and in the wider community not only to improve the intellectual well-being of the community but also encourage creativity in an ever changing society where above all else, people should be encouraged to pursue their self identity through whatever avenue they see fit: be in sport, literature, music, art etc.

I would also like to mention the parallels between the subjects of English, history, music and art. one of my greatest fears is that eventually students will disconnect from the current materials being taught in classes, so in saying this I would like to mention the following. the music people write and art they create in their given time period often mirrors the social climate of their time (Bob Dylan - Masters of War) this can also be seen in today's climate (AB Original - January 26 - this is a rap/ HipHop track that could be seen as more relate-able to today's demographic just as the folk scene was most popular in Dylan's day) .This is also prevalent in art such as Picasso's Gernica as is demonstrated in TS Eliot's poetry suite.

In short, what I'm trying to get at here is, in a way, every aspect of education and life is interconnected in a way, no aspect is more important than the other; therefore I believe equal attention should be paid to each, including the arts in NSW.

Thank you