

**Submission
No 278**

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

Name: Name suppressed
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Partially
Confidential

To whom this may concern,

Hi, I'm not even entirely sure what this submission is supposed to entail but here's a thing or two that I know all too well. Growing up as a creative has always been a blessing a curse, I got to experience the world in ways that perhaps many others wouldn't have. I enjoyed art and music and everything that it had to offer and yet it was always viewed as surplus because there's just so much focus on academics that somehow people like myself that would rather be more hands on, artistically approached were just completely invalidated. Sure there were music and art electives in high school but they ranked so much lower than the other subjects that it basically just ruined my ATAR all together as I took both visual arts and HSC music which led me down the road of trying to find bridging courses into university and very quickly realising how much it would all cost as institutions that specifically specialised in eg. sound engineering, were usually private whereas the more namely universities didn't focus on creative disciplines at all or scarcely, only UTS comes to mind apart from USYD and the fine arts degree in which they offer but that place can be way too pretentious for the average creative that just want to expand their horizons.

Luckily I found a way to express myself musically without too much hassle, and managed to do so independently. I met my now best friend in my first year of University and we decided to make music together we worked long and hard between our studies for 2 years and I managed to get a job as a shelf stacker that third year to fund my ascent into adulthood in which I met the mother of our current bassist, and from there we met two more people and now the 5 of us write and perform our own music. We play gigs around Sydney's inner west and the friendships we have formed are absolutely exponential, I would have never even dared to think that I could be apart of such an amazing community but this unity is something that needs to be protected at all costs. It is incredibly important to recognise that beyond what people believe "the real world" or "a real job" to be, that we all need each other for the world to go around. Everyday we experience art, design, carefully curated, audience specific products thanks to who? ARTISTS! sure there's a marketing team, accountants and other fancy people in their white collared shirts but everyday we consume art and music to some degree, some more than others but that's besides the point. It would mean the world to people like myself to know that perhaps our children can grow up and freely HAVE THE OPTION to take a more alternative route without having to live out the stereotype of being "a struggling artist" WHY? why is that even a thing? People with gifts, knowledge, talent and perseverance and yet they can't seem to reap the rewards and be truly commended for their efforts UNLESS by the very off chance they somehow blow up on facebook? It just doesn't seem right, I'm not sure what I'm entitled to ask of the government but society has it wrong. Music can heal people, music is so much more than just sounds and rhythm, it is an endless journey that allows for people to rejoice and become one, this is the attitude that will help end war and suffering in the various forms in which it comes.

PROTECT LIVE VENUES, CREDIT AND PAY ARTISTS ACCORDINGLY AND TEACH OUR CHILDREN THAT LIFE IS MORE THAN SITTING AT A DESK FROM 9-5.

Yours Truly