

**Submission  
No 291**

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

**Name:** Ms Sarah O'Malley

**Date received:** 27 February 2018

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To whom it may concern,

Music in NSW is critical the wellbeing of so many people and more needs to be done to ensure it grows and is fostered within communities.

I've been attending concerts since I was 12 years old, now 22 years old, and can honestly say that music has changed my life for the better. It has ensured I've been able to find a university course that suits my goals and ambitions to make a career for myself, it's ensured I have made lifelong friends and had common ground with complete strangers. It's engulfed my life in the best way possible!

Regarding how it needs to be developed, venues need to be able to put on more all ages shows. This was one of the most frustrating things to me as a young person and still frustrates so many young people I see in the community today. Legalities regarding all ages shows being difficult to put on need to change in order for more young people to be involved and find their creative niche or, at the very least, find their community of people to relate to and be a part of.

Live music at night also needs continued fostering, whether that be through further grants being available OR THE LIFTING OF THE LOCKOUT LAWS WOULD BE BRILLIANT, something needs to change. Perhaps a similar situation as Amsterdam, where Sydney in particular, as well as other large cities within NSW, have a Night Mayor who will step up for the community, for performers and for patrons and take everything on board and actually continue to fight for change.

Overall, music in NSW needs to change and needs to be fought for.