

**Submission  
No 107**

**INQUIRY INTO ARTS AND MUSIC EDUCATION AND  
TRAINING IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Name:** Ms Diane Berger

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Hello. I am Principal Piccolo of the Opera Australia Orchestra ( since 1991) and a teacher of Flute and Music Theory.(since 1985). I believe that every child should have access to a decent music education in primary school years no matter what socio economic area one may live. I was fortunate to receive a wonderful music education from Year 3 which led me to my professional career. This education gave me confidence in all learnings areas, tenacity, discipline and social connection. As a teacher I have witnessed students who struggle with anxiety but have gradually gained immense confidence after receiving music instruction. Infact, I have never seen any student of mine shy away from music instruction. Engagement in learning is infectious when it comes to music instruction. Music instruction stimulates the brain motivating auditory comprehension in all other areas of learning. I believe all teachers of primary school aged students need comprehensive training in basic music instruction. It can only be enhancing for every student.