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Victorian Music Teachers' Association (VMTA)

Australia's new National Cultural Policy

We commend this review and appreciate the opportunity to contribute to the discussion. The nation's cultural identity is built on a vital ecosystem of education.

The VMTA strongly supports the *Alberts Foundation Music Education Right From The Start* in its submission to Australia's National Cultural Policy, particularly both recommendations:

“ *Establish a Creative Arts Education Pillar in the National Cultural Policy and Invest in the Music Education Workforce* ”

As an organisation supporting the professional learning of instrumental music teachers in Victoria, we recognise both the realities of each jurisdiction resourcing the sector and the highly specialised nature of the work undertaken.

The VMTA is confident they could help achieve the recommendations outlined by the *Alberts Foundation Music Education Right From The Start* submission, including:

- Supporting resource development and delivery for micro-credentials to help upskill Primary Music Specialist Teachers - we already do this in a self-regulatory capacity for instrumental music teachers across a variety of settings and possess a bank of professional learning materials for instrument technique, fundamentals and more.
- Supporting allocation of Department of Education employed instrumental teachers across schools through our existing diligent accreditation practices for qualified educators and subsequent teacher directories.
- Partner with universities and other music organisations to enable musicians to work alongside teachers, particularly in rural and regional schools.

The VMTA operate within Victoria, however, we have peer organisations just like ours supporting instrumental music teachers across the country in other jurisdictions.

We are a highly collaborative organisation, keen to support collective efforts to ensure access to quality music education for all.

Sincerely,

VMTA BOARD