

Letter of support for AGAC multi-year funding

To whom it may concern,

I have been a music teacher and performer for over 40 years*. My fields of expertise range from early childhood music education to individual flute and recorder tuition to leading ensembles and conducting orchestras.

At the Ainslie Arts Centre I have been involved in Canberra's music community work for 22 years, as the founder and conductor of the CREMS recorder orchestra and ensembles, as a program developer and teacher for Music For Canberra, and now in running my own Music Circle offering various group and individual tuition to people aged 18 months to 99 years.

I first moved into the Ainslie Arts Centre in 2000. I have since seen many styles and shifts in management however, in more recent years the team of stewards of all areas have been making an ongoing positive change in managing and developing Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres (A+G).

Knowledgeable and reliable long term staff with a professional and caring attitude towards tenants and hirers have been providing an environment where cultural ideas and many diverse expressions of art have been growing and thriving. Not only do the programs developed at A+G enrich the cultural life of our capital city, their locations and accessibility invite Canberra residents of all walks of life to engage with a topic of their interest.

The premises are thoughtfully used for workshops and seminars, as much as for concerts and drama performances. Regular courses for all ages and abilities are on offer while a short term room hire can be booked, too. Professionally handled administration, clear conditions and prompt communication from staff are maintained at all time.

As a music teacher of students with varied age and mobility, A+G provide easy access: ramps for prams and wheel chairs, electronic doors, level floors to all rooms inside the building, appropriate toilet and parking facilities.

The central location, the building accessibility, the supportive and professional staff, and the enriching cultural work environment have convincingly kept me working at A+G. I hope to be able to continue to culturally contribute to people's lives in this positive place.

Sincerely yours,


Barbara Jerjen

(dipl. music / lic phil. I) Flute/Recorder Teacher/ Early Childhood Music Education

Contact phone: 0423 623 792 E-mail: barbara_jerjen@hotmail.com

*I studied flute and recorder at the conservatory of Basel, as well as musicology, pedagogy, languages and cultural anthropology at the university of Basel, Switzerland. Married with 4 children I moved to Canberra in 1995.