Importance of Music Education in Schools

The current state of the economy has been a difficult obstacle for many, with people and organizations facing job loss, rising prices and other financial issues that can be devastating. Schools have also had to struggle with budget cuts and limited funds. This can often mean that programs get eliminated. When it comes down to the decision to cut programs in schools, music is often the first to go. Unfortunately, what children miss from music education is something that cannot be made up in any other academic area.

Children go to school and study history, which is an area that is considered essential to a good education. Music is also a very important part of history, however. Students can see how music has evolved over the years, and in doing so, also see how the entire world has evolved and changed. Music history also teaches lessons that can help children in life. They will learn the stories of Mozart and Beethoven, people who overcame obstacles and went on to succeed. These are stories children need to hear, especially in a society that may make them believe they can't achieve their goals. Stories like this teach them that they can accomplish their goals as well through hard work and determination.

Music can often be considered a universal language. It can provide a way for students of different backgrounds to socialize and find common ground. You don't have to understand the words or even be able to read music to feel it. Music is a way to communicate feelings and thoughts. Students need to know about the outlet music provides. Like reading, writing and learning how to do research, music is a skill that is critical to development.

Music is sometimes thought of as strictly a form of entertainment and something children don't really need to become successful intellectuals. However, <u>studies</u> have shown that children who study music have better developed brains and score much higher on tests that involve academic subjects such as math. Learning music can also make students healthier and more advanced in coordination skills. These are all things that will contribute to success in the world after graduation.

Above all else, music can change lives. It has the power to heal, bring happiness, and clarity. Music has turned lives around. If students are not given the opportunity to learn music, as well as experience it, they may miss out on some valuable opportunities. If they are never introduced to the guitar, or exposed to vocals, they won't have the chance to see if maybe they, too, are gifted in this art. That's why it is so important to keep music in schools and in the lives of children. Children of all ages deserve to witness and experience the power of music for themselves.