

Legislative Assembly for the ACT
Standing Committee on Education, Training and Youth Affairs
GPO Box 1020
Canberra ACT 2601

9 December 2011

To whom it may concern

Australian Print Workshop supports Megalo Print Studio and Gallery's proposed move into the Fitters Workshop in the Kingston Visual Arts Precinct.

Over the past 30 years Megalo Print Studio and Gallery has built its reputation as a community arts facility promoting the art of printmaking through comprehensive classes, residency programs and a yearly schedule of exhibitions.

Megalo Print Studio and Gallery contributes to Australia's creative industry, locally, nationally and internationally, providing diverse communities with the opportunity to both make and view art, which in turn, contributes to Canberra's economic, social and cultural vitality.

Megalo Print Studio and Gallery is at the forefront of promoting the art and craft of printmaking. Finding a permanent home will build stability for the organisation, enabling it to further develop and grow its programs. It is responsive to community demand by having extended hours – open 7 days a week, both day and night for artists, and open to the public 5 days a week.

Locating Megalo in the Fitters Workshop would be appropriate for a 'traditional workshop', enlivening that original space with creative activity. Its close proximity to the Canberra Glassworks would increase the potential for collaborations across media and also makes it an ideal organisation to build critical mass and interest around the Kingston Visual Arts precinct.

With many leading print studios around the world housed in former industrial spaces, the Fitters Workshop is the ideal location for Megalo Print Studio and Gallery. Australian Print Workshop fully endorses the securing of a permanent home for Megalo Print Studio and Gallery ensuring that they continue to provide professional training and skills development in fine art printmaking. The Fitters Workshop will provide the infrastructure required to support Megalo and its operations well into the future and further opportunities for communities to engage with and in the art of printmaking.

Yours sincerely

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