Submission Number: 108 Date Received: 11/04/2013

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Dear Madam/Sir,

My husband and I did several TAFE courses to boost our business and to advance our skills. In particular we enjoyed the Drawing skills courses, actually that much that we entered into a Tour guiding course to keep access to the Tafe library for drawing videos and books. My husband continued to do Certificate II, III and IV to get away from the tiny jewellery designs. We also enjoyed the tour guiding course Certificate III, so we continued with Certificate IV. All of these courses built confidence and helped us with different skills improving our opportunities in our businesses as self-employed.

We incorporated a lot of knowledge in our teaching or it would help us in case we need to venture into a different profession, if we cannot continue professional goldsmithing any more, once our eyes give up with such intricate work or our finger ability gets beyond mastering the skills required.

It is extremely sad to see funding of art courses stopped.

Best regards

Dörte Martin & Dörte Planert