




Best Commentary Award 1st Runner up

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School: St. Paul's Convent School

Theme:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Issues <input type="checkbox"/> Popular Culture <input type="checkbox"/> Inspiring People & Amazing Deeds
Division:	<input type="checkbox"/> S.1 – 3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S.4 – 7
Date:	26-4-2008
Title:	Live Music Provokes the Awareness of Piracy Worldwide
Picture:	
Caption:	Behind pure music enjoyment hides the undeniable and tragic fact – Touring and Radio are relatively the main sources of income for artists but not records sells anymore because of piracy.
Commentary:	<p>This photograph marked my one and only worst concert ever – Maroon 5, but it was in every way the best performance. I couldn't see the band clearly from afar but this snap shot I've taken I think, shows the ecstasy and devoted involvement of every one of us during the musical show. The blinding lights, deafening music and the mesmerizing vocals of Adam Levine were the reasons I was able to dwell in my own world behind the crowd, arms spread open, head held back, eyes closed, and for the first time, embrace the music.</p> <p>Music speaks. It's the universal language, better than English shall I say. Music touches the fundamental human spirit; it touches the heart and hence allowing us to express our feelings. That is the reason why a British woman who doesn't understand Italian can watch <i>La Traviata</i> and still weep. Of course we cannot forget the lyrical side of a song, it's speaks for the artists. So consider music as a different kind of art form.</p> <p>Unfortunately, this art form has recently struggled to strive for an existence. In other words, with piracy becoming more of a serious social issue around the world, the record business is deteriorating. But the good news is, the artists aren't. The internet, without doubt contributes</p>

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to this situation in both a good and bad way. The internet is in fact a great advertising tool. For example, YouTube, allows artist to officially advertise their music videos. Nevertheless, the downside of the internet is of course illegal downloading from the internet. Not only is this against the law, it also shows our flaws in not knowing how to respect other people's hard work and profession.

In hope for a change, it might be best that music labels also do online retailing of songs/albums and develop it further. As apparently, iTunes has achieved great success in collaborating with music labels to stimulate record sells. This also provides consumers with higher flexibility in buying songs they like. This problem can hopefully be solved in the near future and both consumers and the show business could attain a win-win situation

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