

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **16-year-old student pens winning entry on illegal file sharing in ACMF National Songwriting Competition**

Music Industry Piracy Investigations (**MIPI**) congratulates aspiring singer-songwriter Sarah Krust, 16, for her winning entry on the downside of illegal downloading in the 2008 Australian Children's Music Foundation's National Songwriting Competition. Krust's song, *Ain't Yours For Free* won first place in the *Music For Free?* category, a MIPI-sponsored category which asked entrants to write about the importance of respecting artist creativity in the age of illegal downloading.

"It is so encouraging to see young artists speak out to their peers about the realities that illegal downloading has on the future of Australian music," said Sabiene Heindl, MIPI General Manager. "Sarah's song is written from the perspective of a young artist and she tells listeners that by taking what isn't theirs is stealing her creativity and essentially, a part of her."

*Ain't Yours For Free* is an appeal to illegal file sharers pointing out that while illegally downloading music may not seem like a big deal given people are doing it everyday, it's not a victimless crime. She writes, "...every time you steal one melody, you throw a bit of the magic away...." asking them to think about her as an artist and how sharing her work with strangers is "taking all there is to take."

*Ain't Yours For Free* can be heard at [www.acmf.com.au/2008-secondary-musicforfree.html](http://www.acmf.com.au/2008-secondary-musicforfree.html).

Krust, a student from Sydney, is a second-time winner in the competition. She has submitted entries in the last three competitions and won for her work in 2007. Second prize was awarded to Stephanie Russo for her song *Piracy* which focuses on the "sweat and tears" that artists put into creating their music.

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### **About MIPI**

Music Industry Piracy Investigations Pty Ltd ([www.mipi.com.au](http://www.mipi.com.au)) is the anti-piracy organisation for the Australian music industry. MIPI represents close to 125 music labels through their association, ARIA and over 1,700 music publishers and songwriters through their association, AMCOS.

MIPI operates a toll-free piracy hotline on **1800 06 16 16** and a report piracy form that can be accessed at [www.mipi.com.au/report\\_piracy/report.htm](http://www.mipi.com.au/report_piracy/report.htm).

### **About The ACMF**

*The Australian Children's Music Foundation is a not for profit organisation which was established in 2002 with the vision to use the power of music to inspire and enrich the lives of all Australian children and youth, particularly the disadvantaged and Indigenous.*