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## Candidate Research Problem Statement #2

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The Role of Music in our Lives: Musical Meaning, Music Therapy, and its Neural Underpinnings

**I am studying** musical meaning in human minds, the neural regions and pathways that are affected by musical activity, and the applications of these two phenomena in music therapy, **because I want to find out how** people discover and ascribe meaning to their lives through music and how associated neural activity, impacted by different musical genres in different contexts and affecting the engager's feelings, moods, and behaviors, can provide insight for therapeutic interventions **in order to help my reader better understand** the benefits of music and its restorative properties.