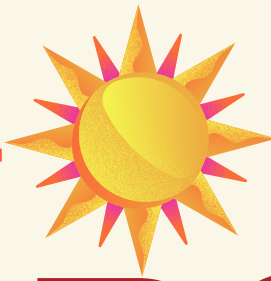


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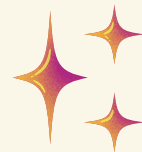


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Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival

ACN: 135 450 761

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General Manager: Pat Devery

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Email: admin@asbof.org.au | **Web:** www.asbof.org.au

The Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Australians, whose lands, winds, and waters we now all share. We pay respect to their unique values and their continuing and enduring cultures which deepen and enrich the life of our communities and our nation.

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WHO ARE ABODA NSW?

The Australian Band and Orchestra Director's Association (ABODA) is Australia's premier in-service support organisation for music educators, instrumental music teachers and band & orchestra directors.

ABODA pledges an ongoing commitment to the growth of music education and community music making throughout all areas of the country. ABODA is the only in-service organisation in Australia specifically for ensemble directors and communicates with other professional development organisations both locally and internationally.

WHAT DOES ABODA DO?

ABODA provides a valuable and reliable network both on a State and National level.

The organisation operates in-services and clinics on a regular basis, including the annual conducting schools. ABODA conducts a national conference (ANBOC) bi-annually. Internationally-renowned conductors and clinicians are used at these events providing the ensemble directing community with world-class professional development.

HOW DOES ABODA OPERATE?

ABODA was founded in 1985 by Mr Russell Hammond AM. State Branches also operate in Victoria, South Australia, Queensland and Western Australia. Representatives from each State Branch form the National Executive. National ABODA formulates broad policy and maintains important links with overseas organisations.

WHY BELONG TO ABODA?

- Receive priority information about Professional Development Courses including State and National Conferences, clinics, conducting schools and ensemble pedagogical workshops. Discounts to members apply.
- Meet and work with internationally renowned conductors and clinicians.
- Access state-wide and national network of collegiate support
- Latest information on professional issues through ABODA publications
- Opportunities for personal development through involvement on ABODA working parties & committees

JOIN ABODA NSW at www.abodansw.com.au

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IN AUSTRALIA

Welcome from the Patron

ANITA COLLINS



Welcome to the 2026 Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival.

Each year this Festival stands as a powerful reminder of what music education can achieve when schools, teachers, parents, and communities work together in support of young people. It is a celebration not only of musical performance, but of the profound educational and human value that music brings to our lives.

I am pleased to welcome Mr Monte Mumford OAM back as an adjudicator to this year's Festival after being awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia for services to music education in this year's Australia Day Honours. Monte's lifetime of service is a powerful testament to the extraordinary impact that dedicated music educators can have on generations of young Australians, and we are deeply grateful for his ongoing contribution to instrumental music education and to this Festival.

Research continues to show that only a relatively small proportion of Australians have experienced a meaningful music education. That means many people making decisions about education policy, funding, and curriculum have never personally encountered the transformative power of a musical education. Those of us gathered here today understand that power from lived experience, and with that understanding comes a responsibility to advocate strongly and clearly for music education in every school.

At a time when both money and time are under enormous pressure in education systems, we must continue to make the case that music is not an optional extra for a fortunate few. It should be available to all young people. Music education develops the brain in unique and remarkable ways, strengthening memory, creativity, discipline, collaboration, and the capacity for future learning. It lays foundations that extend well beyond the rehearsal room or the concert stage.

In an age increasingly shaped by artificial intelligence and rapid technological change, music education has never been more essential. Music trains young people to think critically and flexibly, to solve problems creatively, to ask meaningful questions, and to adapt confidently to new ways of learning and working. These are deeply human qualities, and I firmly believe they will become even more valuable in the years ahead. Music is an investment that pays back for the rest of a young person's life.

When we advocate well for music education, we see extraordinary results in our schools and communities. This Festival is living proof of that success.

I congratulate every student, conductor, volunteer, teacher, school leader and parent involved in this year's Festival for your continued commitment to music education.

Warmest regards,

Dr Anita Collins

Patron
Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival



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CCDB, founded in 1946, is comprised of a wind ensemble, marching band, stage band, daytime group, a youth ensemble and a progressive training program for all ages. Regular engagements include Anzac Day marches and commemorations, Australia Day and Fisher's Ghost Festival parades and celebrations, Relay for Life/24 Hour Fight Against Cancer. We also play weddings, netball season openings, football matches and a variety of other community and private events.

We provide for, and welcome, players of all levels and instruments - all that is required is a love of music. For more information on playing with, or hiring, a band, visit our website ccdb.org.au



**INSPIRATIONAL
EDUCATIONAL
MOTIVATIONAL**

Welcome from the General Manager

PAT DEVERY



On behalf of the Board of Directors, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2026 Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival.

This year marks an important milestone for the Festival community as we welcome more than 300 ensembles for the first time since the disruption caused by the Covid years. While the recovery of school music programs has taken time, the strength of this year's participation is a strong reminder of the resilience, dedication, and passion that exists within instrumental music education across Australia.

ASBOF has always been about learning, growth, and shared musical experience. It is an opportunity for young musicians to challenge themselves, to hear outstanding performances from their peers, and to receive constructive feedback from some of the finest music educators in the country.

This year we are especially pleased to welcome Monte Mumford OAM back to the Festival as adjudicator for the Percy Grainger Premier event. Monte's contribution to music education over many decades has had a profound impact on countless students and educators, and it was wonderful to see that contribution formally recognised earlier this year with the awarding of the Medal of the Order of Australia. We are honoured to have him involved once again.

The Festival also welcomes Megan Lipworth and Lawrence Patrick as new members of the ASBOF Board of Directors. Both bring significant experience, energy, and commitment to music education, and we look forward to their contribution to the continued development of the Festival in the years ahead.

As always, events such as this rely on the support of an enormous number of people behind the scenes. I extend my sincere thanks to our adjudicators, volunteers, partner organisations, school leaders, conductors, tutors, parents, and supporters. Most importantly, thank you to the students whose hard work and enthusiasm bring this Festival to life.

I wish every ensemble the very best for their performances and hope your time at ASBOF 2026 is rewarding, and inspires you as you continue your musical journey.

Pat Devery

General Manager
Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival



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The Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival gratefully acknowledges the support of UNSW's Music Performance Unit

EVENT CRITERIA

This overview of the event criteria provides parents, school leadership teams and general audience members with an insight into where their ensemble currently sits in the broader school instrumental music context.

The ASBOF is a non-competitive and educational event, therefore Music Directors are encouraged to select an event level which will challenge their ensemble and the individual musicians therein to continue developing their musical ability. We are aware that school ensembles change personnel from year to year. It is our expectation that schools consistently achieving gold ratings will look to challenge themselves by moving to a higher event level. Parents and school leadership teams should be aware that a band moving to a higher level may take a year or two to attain the standard capable of achieving a Gold award in that event category.

It runs counter to the philosophy of the Festival for a school to select an event level below the ability of their ensemble in order to ensure a Gold award. Parents and school leadership teams are encouraged to support MDs in continually challenging the students as they mature the instrumental program within their school.

Since 2015 it has been mandatory for all ensembles participating in the Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival to perform an Australian music item at all Festival event levels. The rationale behind this is to promote a home grown Australian music culture and to support the many Australian artists who are currently composing and arranging for school ensembles.

All ensembles entering the Festival are required to:

- Present a contrasting program. A slow melody, lyrical/tone piece allows the adjudicator to assess the musical capabilities of the ensemble.
- Perform a program which complies with the time requirements of the section they have entered.
- Include at least one Australian composition in their program.

SECONDARY SCHOOL WIND BAND CRITERIA

The PERCY GRAINGER Event: Secondary School Concert Bands, Premier Event

Music Guide: Grade 5.0 and upwards. **Total playing time:** 20-25 minutes

This is the Premier Event of the Festival and is open to secondary school concert bands of the highest ability level.

The JODIE BLACKSHAW Event: Secondary School Concert Bands – Advanced

Music Guide: Grade 4.0 and upwards (at least one Grade 5.0) **Total playing time:** 20 minutes

For established bands performing at a high level or which may lack the complete instrumentation to qualify for The Percy Grainger Event.

The DAVID STANHOPE Event: Secondary School Concert Bands – Advanced

Music Guide: Grade 3.0 and upwards (at least one Grade 4.0) **Total playing time:** 15 minutes

This event is intended for established bands which perform at a high level, comprised mostly of accomplished players typically having played for three or more years. These bands will have a broad range of instrumentation, including any scored percussion.

The GRAHAM LLOYD Event: Secondary School Concert Bands - Advanced

Music Guide: Grade 2.5 (at least one Grade 3.0-3.5) **Total playing time:** 13 minutes

This event is intended for established bands which perform at a good level, comprised mostly of competent players typically having played for three or more years.

The RAYMOND HANSON Event: Secondary School Concert Bands - Intermediate

Music Guide: Grade 1.5 and upwards (at least one 2.0-2.5) **Total playing time:** 11 minutes

This event is intended for developing bands which perform at a competent level. Players in these bands will typically have played for one to three years.

The GEORGE DREYFUS Event: Secondary School Concert Bands - Beginner to Intermediate

Music Guide: Up to Grade 1.5 **Total playing time:** 9 minutes

This event is intended for bands which perform at an elementary level from schools with a single band program or development bands in schools with established programs. Players in these bands will typically be first or second year players.

SECONDARY SCHOOL BIG BAND CRITERIA

The FRANK COUGHLAN Event: Premier Big Band Event

Music Guide: 25 minute contrasting program

The Premier Big Band event of the Festival, for bands consisting of the traditional big band line up. Artistic Director, John Morrison, will determine which bands are eligible from year to year. Bands are expected to feature soloists (including vocals) and must adhere as closely as possible to the traditional big band instrumentation. This event may take place in a commercial environment (a club auditorium or similar).

The JUDY BAILEY Event: Secondary School Big Bands – Advanced

Total playing time: 20 minutes (4 pieces max)

Open to all secondary school big bands playing at an advanced level. It is expected that bands playing in this event will attempt to restrict themselves to traditional Big Band instrumentation where possible.

The DON BURROWS Event: Secondary School Big Bands – Intermediate to Advanced

Total playing time: 15 minutes (3 pieces max)

This event is open to all secondary school big bands playing at an intermediate to advanced level. It is permissible for bands in this section to use alternative instrumentation, although it is expected they attempt to restrict themselves to traditional Big Band instruments where possible.

The JOHN MORRISON Event: Secondary School Big Bands - Beginner

Total playing time: 10 minutes

This event is open to secondary school big bands which perform at an elementary level including Training Band/Beginner Bands from established band programs, newly formed bands with typical first year players, or players who have not previously performed in public. Electronic instruments (keyboard bass etc - up to 4) are permitted in this section.

SECONDARY SCHOOL STRING ENSEMBLE CRITERIA

The ERNEST LLEWELLYN Premier Event for Secondary School String Ensembles

Music Guide: Grade 3.0 and above. **Playing time:** 15 minutes

This event is intended for established ensembles which perform at a high level, comprised mostly of accomplished players typically having played for three or more years. These ensembles will have a strong coverage of all sections, including any scored percussion.

The LORETA FIN Event for Secondary School String Ensembles

Music Guide: Grade 1.0 - 2.5 and above. **Playing time:** 12 minutes

This event is intended for established ensembles which perform at a good level, comprised mostly of competent players typically having played for three or more years.

The DONALD HAZELWOOD Event for Secondary School String Ensembles

Music Guide: Up to ensemble level 1.5. Includes unison playing. Open string parts permitted.

Playing time: 8 minutes

This event is intended for ensembles which perform at an elementary level from schools with a single ensemble program or a development ensemble in schools with established programs. Players in these ensembles will typically be first or second year players.

SECONDARY SCHOOL ORCHESTRA CRITERIA

The RICHARD GILL Premier Event for Secondary School Orchestras

Music Guide: Open. **Playing time:** 18 minutes

This event is intended for established ensembles which perform at a high level, comprised mostly of accomplished players typically having played for three or more years. These ensembles will have a strong instrumentation coverage of all sections, including any scored percussion.

PRIMARY SCHOOL CONCERT BAND CRITERIA

The ALEX LITHGOW Event: Primary School Concert Bands, Premier Event

Music Guide: Grade 2.5 and upwards. **Time limit:** 15-18 minutes

The Premier Event for Primary School Bands demanding a high standard of musicianship across a range of instrumentation. Bands are expected to use the instrumentation as scored. Substituting in electronic instruments would typically exclude a band from this premier event.

The WILLIAM LOVELOCK Event: Primary School Concert Bands - Advanced

Music Guide: Grade 2.0 – 2.5 **Time limit:** 12 minutes

Intended for established bands which have been performing at a high level for several years whose players are competent, but which may lack the instrumentation to qualify for the Alex Lithgow Event.

The JOE COOK Event: Primary School Concert Bands - Advanced

Music Guide: Grade 1.5 – 2.0 **Time limit:** 10 minutes

Intended for established bands which have been performing at a good level for some years or Lovelock/Lithgow level bands which are in the process of rebuilding. Competent players with two or more year's experience.

The ROBERT McANALLY Event: Primary School Concert Bands - Intermediate

Music Guide: Grade 1.0-1.5 **Time limit:** 8 minutes

Intended for developing bands formed for more than twelve months, which play at a competent level and whose players have had 12 months or more experience playing their instrument. This section may include more experienced bands with limited instrumentation.

The WILBUR SAMPSON Event: Primary School Concert Bands – Beginner Bands

Music Guide: Grade 0.5-1.0 **Time limit:** 6 minutes

Intended for beginner bands formed this school year, schools with newly established band programs and bands whose players have been learning for fewer than twelve months.

PRIMARY SCHOOL BIG BAND CRITERIA

The ED WILSON Event: Primary School Big Bands - Open

Time limit: 12 minutes (3 pieces max)

Intended for established bands which have been performing at a competent level. Bands are encouraged to feature a soloist (including vocals) and are expected, as far as possible, to restrict themselves to the traditional big band instrumentation. Rescoring for up to four (4) electronic instruments (e.g. Keyboard bass) is permissible.

The GRAEME BELL Event: For Primary School Big Bands - Beginner

Time limit: 8 minutes (2 pieces max)

Intended for bands formed within 12 months performing at an elementary level or training bands from an established band program. Players typically first or second year players. Bands are encouraged to feature a soloist (including vocals) and are expected, as far as possible, to restrict themselves to the traditional big band instrumentation. Rescoring for up to four (4) electronic instruments (e.g. Keyboard bass) is permissible.

PRIMARY SCHOOL STRING ENSEMBLE CRITERIA

The BRETT DEAN Premier Event for Primary School String Ensembles

Music Guide: Grade 2.5 and above. **Playing time:** 12 minutes

This event is intended for established ensembles which perform at a high level, comprised mostly of accomplished players typically having played for three or more years. These ensembles will have a strong coverage of all sections, including any scored percussion.

The DULCIE HOLLAND Event for Primary School String Ensembles

Music Guide: Grade 1.5 and above. **Playing time:** 10 minutes

This event is intended for established ensembles which perform at a good level, comprised mostly of competent players typically having played for three or more years.

The STEPHEN CHIN Event for Primary School String Ensembles

Music Guide: Grade 1.0 and above. **Playing time:** 8 minutes

This event is intended for developing ensembles which perform at a competent level, comprised mostly of competent players typically having played for one to two years.

The NIGEL BUTTERLEY Event for Primary School String Ensembles

Music Guide: Up to Grade 1.0. Includes unison playing. Open string parts permitted. **Playing time:** 6 minutes

This event is intended for ensembles which perform at an elementary level, from schools with a single ensemble program or a development ensemble in schools with established programs. Players in these ensembles will typically be first or second year players.

PRIMARY SCHOOL ORCHESTRA CRITERIA

The ELENA KATS-CHERNIN Premier Event for Primary School Orchestras

Music Guide: Open. **Playing time:** 12 minutes

This event is intended for established ensembles which perform at a high level, comprised mostly of accomplished players typically having played for three or more years. These ensembles will have a strong instrumentation coverage of all sections, including any scored percussion.



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Mackillop Catholic College Mornington *Wind Symphony*

At 7:30am on a freezing Thursday morning in Hobart, while most teenagers would rather still be in bed, the students of the Mackillop Catholic College Mornington Wind Symphony are already hard at work. With frost covering the ground and temperatures still in the single digits, these dedicated young musicians gather before school to rehearse, driven by a shared passion for music and performance.

In 2026, that commitment and enthusiasm will take the ensemble on an exciting new journey as they travel interstate for the very first time to perform at the Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival (ASBOF). Their appearance also marks a significant milestone for the festival itself, with Mackillop becoming the first school from Tasmania ever to participate in ASBOF.

The Wind Symphony is an audition and invitation-only ensemble made up of students from Years 7 to 12 who have demonstrated not only a high level of musical ability, but also consistent dedication to practice and a willingness to challenge themselves musically. The ensemble brings together students who are performing beyond the level of the College Concert Band and are eager to continue developing as musicians and performers.

Beyond their musical achievements, the group is known for its strong sense of camaraderie and encouragement.



Older and younger students work side-by-side, supporting one another and creating an environment where every member is encouraged to “have a go” and strive to be their very best. That spirit of teamwork and positivity has become a defining feature of the ensemble.

The Mackillop Catholic College Mornington Wind Symphony will perform in the Graham Lloyd Secondary School Concert Band Event, and the students are eagerly anticipating the opportunity to share their music with audiences and fellow musicians from across Australia. During their time in Sydney they will also be hosted by Marist Catholic College North Shore and their Music Director, Rod Herbert.

ASBOF is delighted to welcome Mackillop Catholic College to the festival and looks forward to celebrating this historic first Tasmanian appearance.

A BIG THANKS TO AUSTRALIA *AGAIN!*



Choosing an international destination to travel to with the Xili Primary School Band is always a process – but once the idea was suggested to return to Sydney again to participate in the 2026 ASBOF (our first time was 2019), it became quickly obvious that it was the BEST choice! Those of us with the band who traveled here in 2019 have such wonderful memories of our time in Sydney and performing at the ASBOF – it’s widely considered to be one of the best international experiences ever for the Xili Band.

That being said, it’s important to give thanks – first of all to the people of Sydney. In 2019 we were given such a warm welcome and everyone we encountered treated us with kindness and a friendly smile – 2026 has been no different and it really elevates the quality of the experience for our students, teachers and parents. Next, we want to thank Lane Cove Public School – Terry McKinnon (principal) and Prem Love (band director) have been so generous and friendly in offering to host our band for a school visitation and cultural exchange. Our school leaders at Xili Primary School regard cultural exchanges to be a major priority for our international trips, it allows our students (and teachers) to learn about different cultures and customs, interact with students from other countries and forge new friendships.

Last (and definitely not least), we would like to thank Patrick Devery. Pat has been a true friend to our band (both in 2019 as well as this year) in always being available and helping us with the smallest of details – and he’s been there for us even while tackling his duties as General Manager of the ASBOF. Thank you Pat, for everything you have done for us – we can never say ‘Thank you’ enough for your kindness and generosity!

Once again, it will be a honor for us to take the stage in 2026 and perform for you – and we sincerely hope that you enjoy our show. If you happen to see or meet any of our students, don’t be shy in saying ‘hello’ or even ‘thank you for being here’ – it truly means the world to them!

Sincerely,

Jon Steinwinder, *Principal Conductor*

The Australian Band and Orchestra Directors Association (ABODA) NSW and the Open Academy at the Con are pleased to present the Australian National Band and Orchestra Conference 2026.

Calling ALL ensemble directors, private music teachers, ensemble managers – in wind band, jazz band, strings, and symphony orchestra. ANBOC 2026 offers an array of opportunities to work with outstanding conductors and music educators in a collaborative and friendly environment at the Sydney Conservatorium

of Music. The conference will feature conducting masterclasses, keynote lectures and gala concerts.

DATES AND VENUE

Friday 2 October to Monday 5 October 2026
Sydney Conservatorium of Music

ANBOC 2026's theme is: **The Next Movement**

The Next Movement is a rallying cry for inspiration, connection and action across Australian music education. At ANBOC 2026 we look ahead and build the network that powers a stronger future: schools, studios, universities, community bands and professionals pulling together. We will share practical strategies that lift recruitment, grow vibrant ensemble communities, deepen teaching practice and commissioning with purpose. The goal is a national movement that sustains participation and excellence from first lesson to lifelong music making.

Within that momentum sits a clear commitment to composition. We will champion new works that

ensembles can play with pride, and we will support composers to write boldly, often and locally. Expect reading sessions, workshops, commissioning labs and partnerships that bring fresh scores to life.

ANBOC 2026 invites you to write it, teach it, play it and move the nation with it. The Next Movement starts now.

Come and join the biggest ensemble education conference in Australia!

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ANBOC
Australian National Band & Orchestra Conference

2026

The Next Movement

With Special International Guest Clinicians

Cynthia Johnston Turner Mark Laycock Patrick Bowen

October 2 - 5
Sydney Conservatorium of Music



Adjudicator JODIE BLACKSHAW

Jodie Blackshaw (b. 1971) is a proud regional Australian who grew up in the south-east of rural Australia (Wiradjuri) and formed a very personal relationship with music early in life through the creative application of her imagination to musical colours and movement.

In 2020 Jodie completed her PhD in Composition studying with Carl Vine and later, Australian indigenous composer Dr. Christopher Sainsbury. Her music has been featured as test pieces in state and national competitions, appears on numerous state curriculum repertoire lists and has been performed by numerous school and professional ensembles throughout Australasia, Europe and the Americas.

Jodie has thrice presented at the Midwest Clinic in Chicago (2012, 2014, 2018) and is published by Manhattan Beach Music, GIA Music Inc., Alfred Music and is exclusively distributed by Brologa Music/C. Alan Publications.

In July 2022 Jodie proudly became a board member of the World Association of Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE).



Adjudicator KATRINA PAPALLO

Katrina Papallo obtained her Bachelor's degree at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, and during her time there, was awarded two performance scholarships. She enjoys conducting string ensembles in several schools; mainly situated in the Northern districts.

Katrina plays violin professionally in a number of orchestras, musical societies, and is Director of her String Quartet; Carinya Strings, which performs at weddings and other special occasions. Katrina is a regular Assessor at the Northern Beaches Instrumental Festival, and adjudicated for Ryde Eisteddfod in 2021 - 2024.

Katrina is a proud member of the ASBOF Advisory Board, and is happy to assist with any queries relating to strings. She looks forward to hearing your performances today.



Adjudicator JOHN MORRISON

John Morrison has delighted audiences for more than 25 years with his humour and dedication to sounds that swing. Equally at home in a small group or big band setting, his musical facility runs the entire spectrum from traditional jazz, swing, Bebop, R&B, Soul and commercial jazz rock.

As well as fronting his own band, *Swing City*, John has played with a variety of other well-known artists including James Moody, Scott Hamilton, Richie Cole, John and Jeff Clayton, Garry Dial, Jimmy Whitherspoon, Eartha Kitt, Don Burrows, George Golla, and Bob Barnard.

John is well known for his efforts in music education and has been deeply involved with the Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival for many years as an adjudicator, clinician and as the Artistic Director of the Frank Coughlan Premier Big Band event. As a testimony to the esteem in which John is held, a Festival event has been named in his honour.



Adjudicator **PAUL VICKERS**

BMus Studies (Perf), Grad Dip Ed, MMus (Perf - Conducting), MACEL

Paul Vickers has over twenty-five years' experience directing ensembles in educational and professional settings in Australia and internationally. From 2018 to 2025, he was Conductor and Music Director of the Wind Symphony at the University of New South Wales, where he also lectured in Music Education. He was previously Assistant Conductor of the University of Victoria Wind Symphony, while earning his Master of Music in Conducting.

Paul has led school music programs across Sydney, including nearly a decade as Director of Music at The Scots College and senior roles at Newington College, Fort Street High School and Caringbah High School. He has also worked with The Arts Unit of the NSW Department of Education and conducted professional orchestras through Symphony Services International's conductor development program.

Paul is currently Head of Senior School at The Illawarra Grammar School and remains in demand as an adjudicator, guest conductor, clinician, consultant and coach.



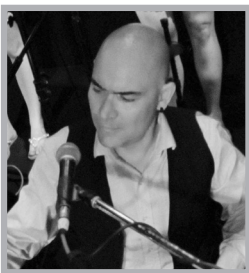
Adjudicator **DAVID COIT**

Lieutenant Commander David Coit, psc, RAN, was born in Brisbane, he completed an undergraduate degree in Jazz Performance before undertaking postgraduate studies in Secondary Education and Conducting.

David joined the Royal Australian Navy Band in 1998 while remaining active across Queensland's music scene. As a reservist, he served as Head of Music Performance at Sheldon College, conducted the Queensland Youth Orchestra Big Band, lectured in conducting at QUT and Elmhurst College in Chicago, and served on the ABODA (Queensland) board. In 2008, he conducted the 2,000-piece orchestra at the Beijing Olympic Games.

David has performed with leading Australian artists including Delta Goodrem, James Morrison, Katie Noonan and The Veronicas, alongside international performers such as Ziggy Marley and Tito Puente Jr. and Mitch Frohman

David has served as Assistant Director of Music Navy, held roles at HMAS Penguin and Fleet Headquarters in addition to operational deployments, and is currently Officer-in Charge of the Royal Australian Navy Band Sydney.



Adjudicator **GERALD STEINMANN**

Gerald commenced his professional music career in the military where he performed at many vice-regal occasions, including the Mounting of the Royal Guards at Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle, and was recognised an award-winning musician.

Gerald currently directs ensembles across schools from Sydney to the far north coast of NSW, as well as being engaged as a performer, composer, arranger, advisor, adjudicator, event consultant, and guest conductor.

Gerald has adjudicated at many events, including the Sydney Eisteddfod and the Yamaha Band Festival. Gerald has a long association with ASBOF as a music director, adjudicator, and clinician at ASBOF music educator conferences. Gerald is a member of the ASBOF Advisory Board and is also the ASBOF specialist percussion advisor.

Gerald is the recipient of an ARIA Gold Record Award, holds a Graduate Diploma of Music and continues to perform with a multitude of bands and orchestras throughout NSW and QLD.



Adjudicator

RACHEL POGSON

Originally from Orange in rural NSW, Rachel Pogson is a freelance cellist, string specialist and conductor with a special interest in ensemble pedagogy. She studied 'cello with Susan Blake at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and Anthea Scott-Mitchell at Newcastle Conservatorium.

In 2005 Rachel became Head of Strings at Burwood Girls High School, conducted orchestras at Fort St High School, Sydney Girls High School, Annandale North Public School, Forest Lodge Public and spent many years conducting Sydney Youth Orchestras Strings program.

In 2019 Rachel received the Louise Crossley Scholarship through the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, working with Elana Schwarz in their Australian Conducting Academy.

Rachel is currently head of the music program at Leichhardt Public School, teaches chamber music at the Conservatorium High School, runs workshops for primary and secondary string orchestras throughout greater Sydney and maintains a wonderful studio of private 'cello students at Newtown Performing Arts High.



Adjudicator

MEGAN LIPWORTH

Megan Lipworth is a dedicated music educator and dynamic conductor of bands and orchestras, working in a variety of schools and community arts organisations, including ASBOF's affiliated ensemble, Bondi Brass.

Meg trained as a professional percussionist at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, Sydney University, has a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Macquarie University, and has begun her Master of Teaching.

Meg is a song writer and producer, a dancer, and an early-childhood entertainer. Her accolades and achievements include an ARIA Awards nomination for Best Children's Album with her band 'TIPTOE GIANTS'.

As a conductor and instrumental tutor Meg has had a long tenure working as a conductor and tutor in percussion and vocals with the Department of Education's Arts Unit, including their State Music Camps, and other premiere organisations such as the Sydney Youth Orchestras. She was also the 2020 recipient of the ASBOF Cliff Goodchild Scholarship for Conducting.

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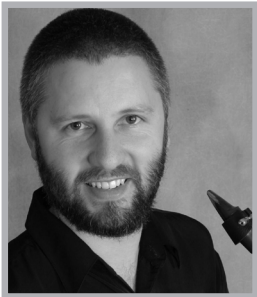


Adjudicator **JASON ISAAC**

Jason Isaac has been conducting orchestras, symphonic bands, and jazz ensembles for over 20 years. Currently Director of Bands at Ashbury Public, Newtown HS of the Performing Arts, Willoughby Girls High, and Director of Jazz at St Andrew's College, Sydney University; Jason also works at The NSW Department of Education Arts Unit as conductor of the NSW Public Schools' Symphonic Wind Ensemble, and the NSW Public Schools' Symphony Orchestra.

In 2008 he travelled to the US to study with Victor Lewis, Jeff Hirschfield, Gregory Hutchinson and Carl Allen (Julliard). In 2009 Jason was accepted into the Symphony Services International Conductor Development Program. In 2014, Jason made his conducting debut to acclaim at Chicago's Midwest Clinic and is currently the Assistant Music Director of the NSW Schools' Spectacular.

Jason holds a BMus(Perf), and a DipMus(JazzPerf) from the Sydney Conservatorium, and a Masters of Teaching from the University of Sydney.



Adjudicator **GARRY CLARK**

Garry Clark is one of Australia's most respected music educators, with a long and distinguished career as a conductor, teacher, performer, and administrator. He studied conducting with Dr Robert Rosen and Professor Jerry Nowak and was selected for the Symphony Australia Conductor Development Program in 2005 and 2006.

A former National and NSW President of the Australian Band and Orchestra Directors' Association (ABODA), Garry has made a significant contribution to music education both in Australia and internationally. He has represented Australia at conferences throughout the Asia-Pacific region and was awarded ABODA's Citation of Excellence in recognition of his outstanding service.

Garry currently conducts primary school bands in Sydney's Hills District, as well as ensembles at the Hills Music Academy and in the Blue Mountains. His groups regularly perform at prestigious venues including the Sydney Opera House and Sydney Town Hall.

He holds a Bachelor of Music/Bachelor of Teaching from the University of New England and remains a passionate advocate for young musicians.



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Adjudicator

SIMON SWEENEY

Simon Sweeney is professional trumpet player, composer and educator based in Sydney. Simon holds Bachelors and Masters degrees from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and a Diploma of Law from the Legal Professional Admissions Board.

Simon is a studio musician and has been prolific in the live music scene since 1993. He has appeared as guest Principal trumpet with the SSO, the Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra, the Adelaide Symphony and the Tasmanian Symphony. Film recording credits include *Happy Feet*, *The Great Gatsby*, *The Extra*, *Hotel Transylvania 2*, and *The Bank*.

Simon is currently director of Jazz bands at Moriah College, Music Director of The Arts Unit Jazz Orchestra and director of the Leichhardt Public School Big Band. He directs Con Jazz Orchestra 2 (of 4). He has appeared as a clinician for ABODA NSW and has presented a clinic at ANBOC in early July 2024.



Adjudicator

LORETA FIN

LMusA, AMusA, ATCL

Born in Sydney, Loreta studied at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and was a first violinist with the Sydney Youth Orchestra. She moved to Brisbane in 1988 and has been the Principal Viola player with the Qld Pops Orchestra for over 25 years.

Loreta has presented at conferences all over Australia and was invited to present at the 2007 and 2009 American String Teachers' Association Conferences in Albuquerque and Atlanta. Loreta has written over 90 publications for young string orchestras, and are distributed worldwide by Alfred Publishing.

As a member of the Australian Strings Association (AUSTA) for over 25 years, Loreta has served as both State and National President and is currently on the National Consultancy Committee. She received the State Award for Services to Austa in 2009, and in 2015 she received the National Award for Services to Music and Excellence in String Teaching in Australia.



Adjudicator

ANDREW McWADE

Andrew has been Director of Bands at Barker College since 2015 and is also the founding music director of the North Shore Wind Symphony. He holds two degrees from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music: a Bachelor of Music Education, with a principal study in saxophone, and a Master of Music Studies in Conducting.

Andrew has been a guest conductor for many high school ensembles, representative combined high school music camps and university ensembles.

Andrew has been fortunate to study and learn from many of Australia's leading music educators and has also participated in international conducting symposiums. He is the Vice-President of the NSW Australian Band and Orchestra Directors Association (ABODA), where he organises and leads professional development courses.

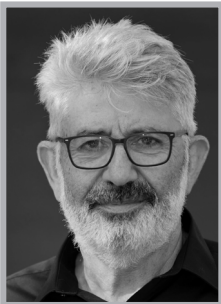
In 2017, 2018 and 2019 Andrew received the ABODA Prize for the conductor who prepared the most challenging and entertaining program of the Australian School Band and Orchestra Festivals.



Adjudicator
REBECCA MORRIS

Rebecca Morris is a committed, dynamic, and passionate Music Professional and Teacher, with over 15 years' experience directing and conducting a wide variety of highly successful and competitive music ensembles across all musical styles. She is currently employed as 'Director of Instrumental Music' at Knox Grammar School and works closely with a number of Upper North Shore Co-Educational Public Schools and Community Bands. She offers an innovative and collaborative approach to engaging children in the love of music and performance, together with the ability to supervise and motivate staff while incorporating modern technology and energy in the classroom environment.

Rebecca is a highly skilled and experienced Director, Band Conductor and Teacher of all musical styles – Concert Bands Jazz/Stage Bands, Performance and Training Bands, rock / pop, Marching Bands, Percussion Ensembles, Guitar Ensembles, Orchestras and small Chamber Ensembles.



Adjudicator
DAVID SAFFIR

Born into a musical family in Melbourne, David went to the Tasmanian Conservatorium where he studied with Professor Jan Sedivka. From 1980 – 1983, David studied at the Koelner Musikhochschule in Germany with Professor Igor Ozim and members of the Amadeus Quartet.

In 1983, he returned to Australia to lead the New England String Quartet, the resident ensemble at the University of New England in Armidale. From 1986 – 89, David freelanced in Sydney, working with all the major orchestras.

For more than thirty years, David worked in two of the top school music programs in Sydney; first at Newington College, and then at Barker College, where he was appointed Director of Strings in 2000, working with students throughout Barker as an instrumental teacher and ensemble director until his retirement in 2026.

David continues to perform professionally as a soloist, chamber musician and orchestral leader.



Adjudicator
KATHRYN CROSSING

Kathryn Crossing is a passionate violinist and music educator who graduated from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music with a Bachelor of Music (Music Education) in 2005. She also holds an Associate Diploma from Trinity College London and an AMusA performance diploma.

Kathryn performs professionally with the Metropolitan Orchestra and as a freelance musician, appearing alongside internationally renowned artists including Bruce Springsteen, Michael Bublé, Jessica Mauboy and Delta Goodrem.

An experienced ensemble director, Kathryn has conducted with the Sydney Youth Orchestra and previously led ensembles at several Sydney schools. She is currently Head of Strings at St Aloysius' College, where she conducts the Symphony Orchestra and oversees the College's strings program.



Adjudicator

JOAN THORP

Joan Thorp is the Managing Director of one of Australia's leading music publishing companies, Thorp Music. She has published over 250 works for bands, orchestras and ensembles. Joan enjoys regular praise for her creative and inspiring music for school bands.

Joan's outstanding record as a music educator has seen her direct the Junior State Band Camp Concert Band as well as the NSW Senior State Wind Ensemble. Joan's career has included directing a professional corporate function band, "Abracadabra", teaching, performing, adjudicating, guest-conducting as well as earning state and national championship titles on French Horn. She has also received an ATCL for French Horn, an AMusA for Theory of Music and a LMusA in Orchestration and Arrangement. Joan is accredited by the Australian Music Teachers' Association, the Music Arrangers' Guild of Australia and the Australian Band & Orchestra Directors' Association.

Joan has had a long association with the Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival and looks forward to adjudicating again this year.

AUSTRALIAN COMPOSITIONS FOR CONCERT BAND



- GRADE 1 -

Down Under *arr. J. Thorp*
 Advance Australia Fair *arr. J. Thorp*
 Snake Charmer *arr. J. Thorp*
 Volcano! *by A. Hallam*
 Kung Fu *by A. Hallam*
 Waltzing Matilda *arr. J. Thorp*
 The Sword of Destiny *by A. Hallam*
 Cops and Robbers *by A. Hallam*
 Stadium Rock *by A. Hallam*



- GRADE 1.5 -

It's a Long Way to the Top *arr. J. Thorp*
 Bluey (theme) *arr. J. Thorp*
 The Unknown Soldier *by A. Hallam*
 Australian Medley No.1 *arr. M. Butcher*
 Australian Medley No.2 *arr. M. Butcher*
 Blew Bottle Blues *by G. Butcher*
 A Brown Slouch Hat *arr. J. Thorp*
 Haunted *by A. Hallam*
 Swinging Saxes *by M. Butcher*
 The Clarinets Polka *by M. Butcher*
 Advance Australia Fair *arr. M. Butcher*
 Waltzing Matilda *arr. M. Butcher*



- GRADE 2 -

Space Quest *by A. Hallam*
 Transylvanian Dances *by A. Hallam*
 Carnival Capers *by G. Butcher*



- GRADE 2.5 -

Liquorice Allsorts *by M. Butcher*
 I Still Call Australia Home *arr. J. Thorp*



- GRADE 3 -

Time Machine *by A. Hallam*
 You're the Voice *arr. J. Thorp*
 Starlight *by A. Hallam*
 Exuberance *by A. Hallam*
 Jazzin' Around *by G. Butcher*
 Ragtime Square *by G. Butcher*
 Captain Thunderbolt *by A. Hallam*



- GRADE 4 -

Celebration *by J. Thorp*
 A Centivintennial Overture *by G. Butcher*
 Phaeton *by A. Hallam*
 The Man from Snowy River *arr. B. Bignell*
 Kurrajong *by A. Hallam*
 Music for a Jubilant Occasion *by G. Butcher*



- GRADE 5 -

Kangaroo Hill *by E. Johnson*
 Surfonic Winds *by A. Hallam*
 Parapet Crenellations *by G. Butcher*

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Adjudicator **DR JIM COYLE**

Dr Jim Coyle is on the permanent faculty at Sydney Conservatorium of Music, where he lectures in Music Education. His current research is largely focussed on the idea of poly-technicality, that is music with parts for players of differing levels of skill. This is an idea which is reflected in many of Jim's compositions for school band, including the Spotlight concerto series and the OurBand series for elementary level bands. His concert band music is published in Australia by Mattklohs.com and in the USA by Maestro and Fox.

Jim is also a conductor, a mentor for young composers, leader of professional learning for music teachers and a popular pre-concert speaker for the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. He has occasionally been observed playing the tuba.



Adjudicator **DEBORAH L DIETZ**

Originally from Chicago, Illinois, USA, Ms. Dietz has been associated with music education since her arrival in Sydney in 1975. Ms. Dietz's main instrument is the French Horn, having played Principal horn with the Ku Ring Gai Philharmonic Orchestra for over 25 years, as well as having performed with the AOBO and various professional and community organisations, including Bondi Brass.

Ms. Dietz holds Bachelor of Science (Hon) and Master of Science (Hon) degrees from the University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois, USA, majoring in instrumental conducting, studying with Dr. Harry Begian and Mr. Paul Vermeil. During her time in the U of I Symphonic Band, she performed in recording the works of Percy Grainger, considered the best of his wind works by the Grainger Museum, University of Melbourne.

Ms. Dietz was the first woman to adjudicate the NSW School Band Festival, now ASBOF, and is a member of ASBOF Advisory Board.

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Adjudicator

MONTE MUMFORD

Monte H Mumford OAM is widely recognised as one of Australia's leading figures in music education, conducting and instrumental pedagogy, with a distinguished career spanning more than four decades across Australia, New Zealand, the United States and Asia. A respected conductor, educator, adjudicator and clinician, he is known for his inspirational teaching style, musical expertise and enduring contribution to community and professional music education.

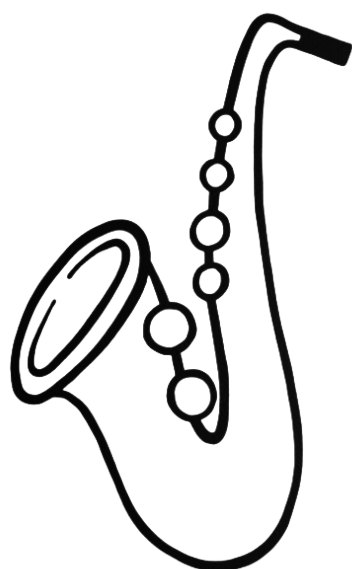
Holding qualifications in Music Performance, Music Education and a Master of Music, Mr. Mumford has contributed extensively to the advancement of music education through conference presentations, publications, professional development programs and masterclasses. He is regularly engaged as a guest conductor, adjudicator and music education consultant, working with teachers, school administrators and ensembles at national, state and regional levels.

As a performer, Mr. Mumford has enjoyed an extensive career as a trombonist, performing with orchestras, concert bands, chamber ensembles, jazz groups and show bands in Australia and internationally. His orchestral experience includes performances with the Chaffey Symphony Orchestra in Los Angeles, the Cascade Orchestra in Seattle and the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra. Throughout his career he has also performed with internationally renowned artists including James Morrison, Shirley Bassey, Bob Barnard, Ricky May, Acker Bilk and Woody Herman, as well as productions such as Disney on Ice and the Moscow Circus.

Mr. Mumford has presented papers and workshops at numerous state, national and international conferences, including those hosted by the Australian Band and Orchestra Directors' Association, the Australian Society for Music Education and the International Society for Music Education. His expertise has also seen him contribute to conducting institutes and music education forums in New Zealand, the United Kingdom and Türkiye.

From 1984 to 2003, Mr. Mumford served as Senior Lecturer at the University of Tasmania, where he lectured in conducting, music history, aural studies and instrumental and vocal pedagogy. During this time he established the university's extensive ensemble performance program and founded the University of Tasmania Community Music Programme. He later served as Associate Professor of Music at the University of Northwestern in Minnesota, USA.

In recognition of his exceptional contribution to music education and community music development, Mr. Mumford has received numerous honours, including the Australian Band and Orchestra Directors' Citation for Excellence, Life Membership of the Victorian Branch of ABODA, and appointment as an AMEB Brass Examiner. In 2026 he was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for his outstanding service to music education.



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Clovelly Public School Training Band
Crestwood Public School Junior Band
Epping Heights Public School Training Band
Epping North Public School Training Band
Epping West Public School Training Band
Hornsby North Public School Junior Band
Knox Junior Band
Lane Cove West Public School Training Band
Lindfield East Public School Training Band
Lindfield Public School Junior Band
Manly West Public School Training Band
Matthew Pearce Public School Junior Band

Middle Harbour Public School Training Band
Mimosa Public School Training Band
Neutral Bay Public School Junior Band
Normanhurst Public School Training Band
Northbridge Public School Training Band
Oakhill Drive Public School Junior Band
Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Primary School
Winson Winds (Online)
Pymble Public School Junior Band
Roseville Public School Junior Band
St Ives North Public School Training Band
Tempe Public School Training Band
Thornleigh West Public School Training Band
Turramurra North Public School Junior Band
Wahroonga Public School Beginner Band
Warrawee Public School Training Band
Willoughby Public School Training Band

Robert McAnally Primary School Concert Band Event

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Barker College Junior School Concert Band
Beaumont Road Public School Intermediate Band
Beecroft Public School Intermediate Band
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Knox Intermediate Band
Lane Cove West Public School Intermediate Band
Lindfield Public School Intermediate Band
Manly West Public School Intermediate Band

Matthew Pearce Public School Intermediate Band
Mimosa Public School Intermediate Band
Newington College Wyvern Concert Band
Northbridge Public School Concert Band
Oatley West Public School Concert Band
Pennant Hills Public School Intermediate Concert Band
Pymble Public School Concert Band
Randwick Public School Performance Band
Riverview Regis Concert Band
Roseville Public School Intermediate Band
Rouse Hill Anglican College Intermediate Band
Samuel Gilbert P.S. Concert Band
St Ives North Public School Junior Concert Band
Stanmore Public School Senior band
Tempe Public School Band
Thornleigh West Public School Junior Band
Turramurra North Public School Performance Band
Wahroonga Public School Intermediate Band
Willoughby Public School Intermediate Band

Joe Cook Primary School Concert Band Event

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Barker College Junior School Wind Orchestra
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Clovelly Public School Senior Band
Crestwood Public School Concert Band
Epping Heights Public School Concert Band
Epping Public School Symphonic Winds

Gordon West Public School Senior Concert Band
Griffith East Public School Performance Band
Knox Senior Band
Lane Cove West Public School Senior Band
Lindfield East Public School Concert Band
Manly West Public School Concert Band
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Neutral Bay Public School Senior Band

Newington College Wyvern Winds

Normanhurst West Public school Concert Band

Northbridge Public School Concert Band

Pennant Hills Public School Senior Concert Band

Redlands Junior Performance Band

Rouse Hill Anglican College Performance Band

Samuel Gilbert Public School Performance Band

Summer Hill School Wind Ensemble

Willoughby Public School Performing Band

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Barker College Junior School Wind Ensemble

Beecroft Public School Concert Band

Epping North Public School Senior Band

Epping West Public School Senior Band

Hornsby North Public School Wind Ensemble

Knox Performance Ensemble

Lindfield East Public School Performance Band

Lindfield Public School Concert Band

Manly West Public School Performance Band

Mimosa Public School Senior Band

Murray Farm Public School Performance Band

Neutral Bay Public School Concert Band

Pymble Public School Performance Ensemble

Roseville Public School Senior Band

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Ed Wilson Primary School Big Band Event

Beecroft Public School Stage Band

Forest Lodge Public School Stage Band

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Murray Farm Public School Jazz Band

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Thornleigh West Public School Jazz Band

Wahroonga Public School Stage Band

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Canberra Grammar School Primary School String Orchestra (Online)

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Newington College Dragonetti

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St Ives North Public School Junior Strings

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Lindfield Public School Vivaldi Ensemble

Mowbray Public School Camerata

Newington College Wyvern Strings

North Rocks Public School Senior String Ensemble

Redlands Junior String Ensemble

SCEGGS Darlinghurst Sinfonia (Online)

SCEGGS Darlinghurst Sinfonietta

St Ives North Public School Intermediate Strings

The Scots College Junior Preparatory String Ensemble

Brett Dean Primary School String Ensemble Premier Event

Arden Chamber Strings

Becroft Public School String Ensemble

Epping West Public School Senior String Ensemble

Knox Grammar Preparatory School Concert Strings

Lindfield Public School Ravel Ensemble

SCEGGS Darlinghurst Chamber Strings

St Ives North Public School String Orchestra

Sunshine Philharmonic Combined Schools Chamber Orchestra

George Dreyfus Secondary School Concert Band Event

Canberra Grammar School Barrett Concert Band (online)

St Joseph's College Hunter's Hill Cerise and Blue

Raymond Hanson Secondary School Concert Band Event

Abbotsleigh School Concert Band

Baulkham Hills High School Concert Band

Emanuel School Concert Band

Epping Boys High School Concert Band

Georges River College Combined Campus Concert Band

Inner Sydney High School Concert Band

James Ruse Year 7 Concert Band

Redfield College Concert Band

Riverview Intermediate Concert Band

Rouse Hill Anglican College Concert Band

SCEGGS Darlinghurst Clarion Concert Band

St Joseph's College Hunter's Hill Wind Ensemble

Tangara School for Girls Concert Band

Tara Anglican School for Girls Concert Band

The Illawarra Grammar School Senior Concert Band

The King's School Middle School Concert Band

Graham Lloyd Secondary School Concert Band Event

Asquith Boys and Girls High School Concert Band

Barker College Kurrajong Wind Ensemble

Barker College McCaskill Wind Ensemble

Baulkham Hills High School Symphonic Wind Orchestra

Burwood Girls High School Senior Concert Band

Cherrybrook Technology High School Junior Concert Band

Concord High School Concert Band

Danebank Concert Band

Emanuel School Symphonic Winds

Inner Sydney High School Symphonic Wind Ensemble

Macarthur Anglican School Concert Band

MacKillop Catholic College Mornington Wind Symphony

Manly Campus Concert Band

Mount St Benedict College Concert Band

Newtown High School of the Performing Arts Concert Band

Normanhurst Boys High School Junior Concert Band

Northholm Grammar School Concert Band

Pennant Hills High School Concert Band 2

Reddam House Concert Band

Redlands Intermediate Concert Band

Riverina Combined Schools Band

Riverview Symphonic Wind Band

SCEGGS Darlinghurst Holst Wind Ensemble

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Abbotsleigh School Wind Band

Asquith Boys and Girls High School Wind Ensemble

Barker College Middle School Wind Orchestra

Baulkham Hills High School Symphonic Wind Ensemble

Canberra Grammar School Fischer Concert Band

Gosford High School Premier Ensemble

Manly Campus Wind Ensemble

NBSC Cromer Campus Concert Band

Normanhurst Boys High School Senior Wind Band

Reddam House North Shore High School Concert Band

Rouse Hill Anglican College Symphonic Wind Ensemble

St Joseph's College Hunter's Hill Symphonic Wind Ensemble

Sydney Secondary College Wind Ensemble

The Scots College Robinson Wind Ensemble

Jodie Blackshaw Secondary School Concert Band Event

Abbotsleigh School Symphonic Winds

Barker Wind Orchestra

Cherrybrook Technology High School Senior Concert Band

James Ruse Symphonic Band

Killarney Heights High School Symphonic Winds

Manly Campus Symphonic Wind Orchestra

Northholm Grammar School Symphonic Wind Ensemble

Pennant Hills High School Concert Band 1

Redlands Advanced Concert Band

St Luke's Grammar Wind Ensemble

Turramurra High School Symphonic Wind Orchestra

Percy Grainger Secondary School Concert Band Premier Event

Barker Wind Symphony

Newtown High School of the Performing Arts Symphonic Wind Ensemble

Richard Gill Secondary School Orchestra Premier Event

Baulkham Hills High School Orchestra

James Ruse Chamber Orchestra

Manly Campus Chamber Orchestra

The Illawarra Grammar School Senior Orchestra

The Scots College Symphony Orchestra

Jazz Combo Beginner

St Augustine's College, Sydney Jazz Ensemble 2

The Illawarra Grammar School Senior Jazz Ensemble

John Morrison Secondary School Big Band Event

Manly Campus Jazz Orchestra

St Augustine's College, Sydney Big Band 2

St Joseph's College Hunter's Hill Stage Band

Jazz Combo Advanced

Inner Sydney High School Jazz Combo

St Augustine's College, Sydney Jazz Ensemble 1

Don Burrows Secondary School Big Band Event

Asquith High School Stage Band

Canberra Grammar School Big Band

Georges River College Stage Band

Hornsby High School Stage Band

James Ruse Stage Band

Manly Campus Stage Band

NBSC Cromer Campus Stage Band

Normanhurst Boys High School Junior Big Band

Pennant Hills High School Junior Stage Band

Redlands Advanced Stage Band

Riverview Big Band

Rouse Hill Anglican College Jazz Band

St Augustine's College, Sydney Big Band 1

St Patrick's College Strathfield Jazz Orchestra

Tara Anglican School for Girls Stage Band

Judy Bailey Secondary School Big Band Event

Killarney Heights High School Big Band

Manly Campus Big Band

Pennant Hills High School Big Band

The Scots College Big Band #1

Loreta Fin Secondary School String Ensemble Event

Burwood Girls High School Margaret Sutherland Chamber Orchestra

Canberra Grammar School Senior String Orchestra (Online)

Canberra Grammar School Senior Chamber Strings

Concord High School String Ensemble

Emanuel School Korngold Intermediate Strings

Gosford High School String Ensemble

Inner Sydney High School String Ensemble

NBSC Cromer Campus String Ensemble

Rouse Hill Anglican College Giocoso Strings

SCEGGS Darlinghurst Amati Strings

Sydney Secondary College String Orchestra

Ernest Llewellyn Secondary School String Ensemble Premier Event

Baulkham Hills High School String Ensemble

James Ruse String Ensemble

Macarthur Anglican School Sinfonia Strings

Manly Campus String Ensemble

Normanhurst Boys High School String Ensemble

Redlands Combined String Ensemble

The Illawarra Grammar School Senior String Ensemble



pocket tutor

The smarter way to find instrumental teachers

Every strong band program relies on quality instrumental tuition.

But finding the right tutor isn't always straightforward.

Who teaches locally? Who has availability? What do they charge? Do they have their Working With Children Check clearance? Are they experienced with school band programs?

Pocket Tutor was founded by two experienced school band directors to bring clarity to this process.

It's an Australian-built, searchable directory where families can find instrumental tutors by instrument and location. Tutor profiles clearly outline what they teach, where they teach, lesson rates, and relevant verification details – so you can make informed decisions without endless emails or guesswork.

For school band committees, Pocket Tutor provides one central place to direct enquiries. Instead of repeatedly answering tutor recommendation requests, committees can point families to a structured, transparent platform designed specifically for school music communities.

www.pockettutor.com.au



Pocket Tutor is a fantastic website... I've never come across anything that makes scheduling and payment so easy for private music lessons. It works really well for teachers, students and parents. It's something every music educator should get behind.

— Patrick Muldrew

The goal is simple: reduce administrative friction and make quality instrumental tuition easier to access.

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KNOW YOUR VOLUNTEERS

TOMISLAV CUK

Whether he is leading the trombone section of Bondi Brass, solving logistical problems behind the scenes as our current president, or enthusiastically encouraging a nervous young ensemble before they walk on stage at ASBOF, Tomislav has become one of the great modern pillars of ASBOF and Bondi Brass family.

Tomislav first wandered into the world of bands as a nine-year old at Ashbury Public School, starting on trumpet before someone noticed the obvious. “After a year I moved to trombone because I had long arms!” he laughs. It proved a wise decision. Since then, the trombone has taken him on a lifelong musical journey which began with a brand-new primary school band program and was fuelled by a family already filled with music. His older sister played clarinet and piano, and music was always part of the family atmosphere growing up. One of his earliest musical memories is sitting at home playing on the family upright piano, unknowingly beginning a lifelong love affair with music.

Outside the band room, Tomislav works as a civil engineer managing major infrastructure projects including Sydney’s light rail, roads, rail, bridges and, more recently, the construction of public schools. It feels appropriate that someone who spends his working life building things has also spent many years helping build musical communities.

Like many brass players, Tomislav’s musical tastes are eclectic. One minute it might be Mahler’s mighty Resurrection Symphony, the next it could be Gordon Goodwin’s Big Phat Band blasting through a jazz chart. His proudest musical moment came performing Mahler’s Second Symphony, which he describes as “a profound emotional experience”. Tomislav recalls his favourite concert memory was seeing Tower of Power live in San Francisco, while his favourite movie soundtrack is Pirates of the Caribbean because, in his words, “it’s just lots of fun!”

Tomislav admits the greatest challenge in music is the endless pursuit of improvement. “You’re always striving

to better your playing,” he says, a mindset which has helped make him such a fine musician and leader within the band.

Tomislav’s earliest ASBOF memory came as a performer in 2001 at the age of 14 with the Performing Arts Unit Symphonic Wind Ensemble, conducted by David Stanhope premiering his piece, *Southern Cross*. Since volunteering from 2019 onward, he has become one of the many dependable faces helping keep the Festival running smoothly. He believes ASBOF’s strength lies in its willingness to evolve while still maintaining its core purpose, celebrating young musicians and fostering a lifelong love of music. What he enjoys most is encouraging young performers, sharing in their excitement and hearing the extraordinary variety of music presented throughout the Festival.

And if Tomislav ever wins the lottery? He dreams of building a giant multi-purpose performing arts venue complete with concert hall, rehearsal spaces, restaurant, hotel and community facilities, all designed to make music more accessible and perhaps even give ASBOF a permanent home. That probably tells you everything you need to know about him.

No Bondi Brass profile would be complete without at least one slightly questionable story. Tomislav recalls the memorable occasion when a fellow musician offered him a swig from a hip flask literally seconds before walking on stage for a concert. Whether it improved the performance remains unresolved. He also claims he can wiggle his ears, but no one in the band can confirm that!

Tomislav’s advice to the young musicians performing today is simple: “Watch the conductor, keep the tips of your fingers on the valves/slide/strings/keys, listen to each other, and most of all enjoy your performance.”

Tomislav, we salute you.



CLIFF GOODCHILD OAM

Scholarship

The Cliff Goodchild OAM Scholarship was established in 2016 to provide ongoing professional development for directors of school band programs.

The Scholarship will fund professional music educators to work as mentors with the recipient in their school context within a twelve month period in areas such as: Conducting and rehearsal technique, repertoire selection, instrumental pedagogy, band program management.

Eligibility

The Cliff Goodchild OAM Scholarship recipient will:

- Be currently working as a Music Director in a NSW primary or secondary school
- Be a current member of ABODA
- Have presented bands at the Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival for at least the previous two (2) years
- Have the express support of their school and/or school band committee to undertake the Scholarship program within the coming twelve month period
- Have shown a commitment to engage in professional activities to improve their teacher practice and student learning

See the Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival Website
for Application Details



Scholarship Recipients

2020 Megan Lipworth

2024 Logan Birchall

2021-2023 Not Awarded

2025 Tyler Barnes

MUSICAL SUDOKU

#		♪	♪	♪				
			♪				♪	♪
♪		♪				♪	♪	
	b				♪		♪	♪
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	♪				♪		♪	
♪				b		♪		♪
		♪	♭		♪			
b	#			♪			♭	♪

Medium difficulty

INSTRUCTIONS

Enter the musical symbols and notations below in the blank spaces so that each row, column and 3 X 3 box contains only one of each symbol/note.



Solutions can be found on the ASBOF website: www.asbof.org.au



UNSW
SYDNEY

Music Performance Unit

The Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival gratefully acknowledges the support of UNSW's Music Performance Unit

NINE LETTER WORD CHALLENGE

S	R	E
V	I	E
M	B	E

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Find as many words as you can using only the letters in the box
2. Words must be between 4–9 letters
3. No letter can be used more than once (unless duplicated in the puzzle)
4. All words must contain the centre letter
5. No plurals ending in 's', no proper nouns, no words not generally used in English

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28	

SCORE: 12 Good **15** Very Good **18** Excellent

Solutions can be found on the ASBOF website: www.asbof.org.au



QUIZ - WHERE WERE YOU IN THE...

1990s

1. Which Australian duo released the 1996 hit *"Truly Madly Deeply"* which became a worldwide success?
2. Which 1991 album by Metallica is commonly referred to as The Black Album?
3. Who sang the 1995 hit *"Gangsta's Paradise"* featured in the film Dangerous Minds?
4. Which Australian singer released the hit song *"Chains"* in 1994?
5. Which British girl group told us in 1996 that *"friendship never ends"*?

2000s

1. Which Australian band released the 2006 anthem *"Straight Lines"*?
2. Who won the Academy Award for Best Original Song with *"Lose Yourself"* in 2003?
3. Which Australian singer released the album *Sound of White* in 2004?
4. Which artist released the album *Back to Black* in 2006?
5. Which classical crossover violinist released the bestselling album *Libertango* in 2000 and became hugely popular in Australia?

2010s

1. Which Australian artist released the 2015 hit *"Never Be Like You"* featuring Kai?
2. Which musical film starring Hugh Jackman and Zac Efron featured the song *"This Is Me"*?
3. Which singer released the album *25* in 2015?
4. Which Australian rock band released the song *"Hoops"* in 2015?
5. Which composer wrote the music for the hugely popular television series *Game of Thrones*?

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BONDI BRASS

Megan Lipworth *Music Director*

Bondi Brass was established in 1958 by Cliff Goodchild OAM. Supported by the Waverley Council, the band has performed at many of Sydney's famous events and landmarks including the Sydney Opera House, Observatory Hill, the opening of the Sydney Film Festival, the opening of the Darling Harbour Convention Centre, Historic Houses Trust venues, religious processions and other community events. The band performs at Bondi Beach for the annual Festival of the Winds and Carols by the Sea, as well as fulfilling council Australia Day and Anzac Day obligations. Each year the Band travels to picturesque Dangar Island on the Hawkesbury River for a carols festival with the local community.

Bondi Brass boasts a proud history of nurturing the careers of many of Australia's leading brass players. Paul Goodchild (Associate Principal Trumpet, Sydney Symphony/Director, Sydney Brass) and Tom Burge (Charlotte Symphony) are two players with distinguished professional careers both in Australia and overseas who spent their younger days playing in the band.

Bondi Brass also supports Australian composers having commissioned the Concerto for Trumpet and Brass Band by Barry McKimm in 1995. In 2001 the Band commissioned a work by David Stanhope, which was premiered at the 40th Annual School Band Festival.

Bondi Brass draws its repertoire from the broad range of music available for brass bands, from the Renaissance dances of Tilman Susato to the music of modern Australian composers such as George Dreyfus, David Stanhope and Barry McKimm. In between there are selections from movies and musical comedies, folk songs, classical and romantic symphonies, pop tunes and of course traditional brass band marches.

There are currently over thirty members of Bondi Brass of various ages from a variety of professions, and with one of Australia's largest music libraries we can certainly find the repertoire to suit every occasion.

Players Wanted!

New to Sydney? Looking to return to playing music after a taking a break due to other commitments? Bondi Brass is the place to come. We are looking for players of all ability levels. We don't worry about auditions, just come along and enjoy making music!

Booking the Band...

Bondi Brass adds atmosphere and class to any occasion. Consider booking the band for your next birthday, community event or corporate function. We have one of the largest music libraries in Australia and can provide ensembles of all sizes. Contact the secretary for rates.



BAND ENQUIRIES

Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/bondibrassydney>

Email: bondibrass@gmail.com

Phone: 0422 242 249



Members of Bondi Brass have supported the Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival (formerly NSW School Band Festival) as volunteers since the event was first held in 1962.

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