-THE AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL BAND & ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL

EVENT CRITERIA

Held annually through July, August, & September

ASBOF
AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL BAND AND ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL

A non-competitive, inspirational and educational event

Updated: January 2027

ASBOF 2027

The Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival is a non-competitive and educational event. Music Directors choose the event level they believe most suits their ensemble based on the published criteria. All ensembles receive an audio adjudication and, if they elect to do so, also receive a Gold, Silver, or Bronze award for the level at which they have registered.

ASBOF is aware that school ensembles vary in their ability levels from year to year and MDs are free to alter the event level they enter to reflect these changes.

Music Directors are encouraged to select an event level which will challenge their ensemble and the individual musicians to continue developing their musical ability. It runs counter to the philosophy of the Festival for MDs to select an event level below the ability level of their ensemble in order to ensure a Gold award.

While we understand that parental and school executive pressure to achieve a Gold award is a legitimate concern, we believe it is far better if these parties were educated as to the true purpose of this musical experience.

As school instrumental music programs continue to mature, we would naturally expect to see more and more ensembles entering the higher grades. As ensembles move into a higher level it is to be expected they might take a year or two to attain the standard capable of achieving a Gold award in that event category.

Below you will find an explanation of the Festival conditions and a full list of the Primary and Secondary school event criteria for this year's Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival.

Please ensure you read the Festival Conditions before proceeding to the event criteria.



"The Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival is one of the most significant events on Australia's school music calendar.

Since 1962 years ASBOF has been providing performance and educational opportunities for the children in our schools.

Join over 350 ensembles and more than 11,000 students at this wonderful celebration of young Australian musicians learning, having fun and making music.

I am absolutely thrilled to be Patron of such a professionally run and worthwhile event."

Dr Anita Collins, Patron

The Festival at a Glance

Event	Playing time	Music level
Secondary School Concert Band Events		
The Percy Grainger Event	20-25 mins	Grade 5.0+ (excluding slow melody)
The Jodie Blackshaw Event	18-20 mins	Grade 4.0+ (excluding slow melody)
The David Stanhope Event	15 mins	Grade 3.0+ (plus one 4.0 piece)
The Graham Lloyd Event	13 mins	Grade 2.5+ (plus one 3.0-3.5 piece)
The Raymond Hanson Event	11 mins	Grade 1.5+ (plus one 2.0-2.5 piece)
The George Dreyfus Event	9 mins	Up to Grade 1.5
Secondary School Big Band/Jazz Combo Events		
The Frank Coughlan Event	20-25 mins	Open – contrasting program
The Judy Bailey Event	18 mins	Open – contrasting program
The Don Burrows Event	15 mins	Contrasting program (4 pieces max)
The John Morrison Event	10 mins	Contrasting program (3 pieces max)
The Sandy Evans Event	15 mins	Contrasting program (4 pieces max)
The Andrea Keller Event	10 mins	Contrasting program (3 pieces max)
Secondary School String Ensemble Events		
The Ernest Llewellyn Event	15-18 mins	Grade 3.0+
The Loreta Fin Event	12 mins	Grade 1.0+
The Donald Hazelwood Event	9 mins	Up to Grade 1.0
Secondary School Orchestra Events		
The Richard Gill Event	20-25 mins	Open – contrasting program
The Miriam Hyde Event	12 mins	Developing – contrasting program
Primary School Concert Band Events		
The Alex Lithgow Event	15-18 mins	Grade 2.5+ (excluding slow melody)
The William Lovelock Event	12 mins	Grade 2.0+
The Joe Cook Event	10 mins	Grade 1.5+
The Robert McAnally Event	8 mins	Grade 1.0+
The Wilbur Sampson Event	6 mins	Up to Grade 1.0
Primary School Big Band Events		
The Ed Wilson Event	12 mins	Contrasting program (3 pieces max)
The Graeme Bell Event	8 mins	Contrasting program (3 pieces max)
Primary School String Ensemble Events		
The Brett Dean Event	12-15 mins	Grade 2.5+ (excluding slow melody)
The Dulcie Holland Event	10 mins	Grade 1.5+
The Stephen Chin Event	8 mins	Grade 1.0+
The Nigel Butterley Event	6 mins	Up to Grade 1.0
Primary School Orchestra Events		
The Elena Kats-Chernin Event	12-15 mins	Open – contrasting program

Other conditions at a glance:

- All ensembles are required to play an Australian composition/arrangement (see conditions)
- All ensembles are required to play a contrasting program

This summary table is produced for your convenience only. Please ensure you refer to the detailed event criteria as well as the General Festival Conditions prior to finalising your entry.

If you have any questions please contact the General Manager, Pat Devery, on admin@asbof.org.au

General Festival Conditions

1.0 Australian composition requirement

1.1 Since 2016 it has been mandatory for all ensembles participating in ASBOF to perform an Australian music item in all Festival event levels.

1.2 The rationale behind this is to build the Australian music catalogue and support the many Australian publishers and artists who are currently composing and arranging for the various music ensemble mediums.

1.3 All ensembles **MUST** include at least one piece that has been:

- Composed by an Australian or a resident whose work has largely been completed in Australia.
- Arranged by an Australian or a resident whose work has largely been completed in Australia. *Note: this does not include published works which have only had parts re-scored for alternative instrumentation. If you are unsure, please contact the General Manager.*

2.0 Slow melody requirement

2.1 In order for the adjudicator to establish the full range of an ensemble's musicality:

- Concert bands/string ensembles/orchestras are required/encouraged to perform a slow melody, hymn, lyrical/tone piece, or extended slow movement, at any appropriate level.
- Big bands are required/encouraged to perform a ballad/slow melody.

2.2 For all higher-level events the slow melody requirement is compulsory.

2.3 For lower-level events the slow melody requirement is strongly recommended.

3.0 Contrasting program/non-pop/TV theme/show tune requirement

3.1 All ensembles are required to perform a contrasting program.

3.2 In order to display the full range or their musical ability, all ensembles are encouraged to perform at least one piece which is not a non-Pop/non-TV theme/non-Show tune.

3.3 For all higher level events the non-pop/non-TV theme/non-show tune requirement is compulsory.

3.4 For lower level events the non-pop/non-TV theme/non-show tune requirement is highly recommended.

4.0 Player eligibility/use of tutors

4.1 All players must be an enrolled student of the school at the time of performing.

4.2 If a Music Director wishes to use A LIMITED NUMBER of more experienced players in lower grade events in order to fill essential parts in the score they should email the General Manager with the details requesting approval. In the spirit of the non-competitive nature of the event MDs are requested to minimize their use of this facility.

4.3 Apart from primary string ensembles and orchestras (piano accompaniment only), tutors or professional players are NOT ALLOWED to perform with school ensembles. ASBOF management will happily assist you in sourcing more experienced players from schools performing on the day if you require a specific part to be filled.

4.4 If using tutors becomes unavoidable ensembles should consider performing under the 'adjudication only' option. Contact the Festival GM prior to the event.

4.5 *'Stacking'* ensembles or entering ensembles into lower events in order to achieve a higher rating runs contrary to the spirit of the event, does little to improve the ability of your ensemble or the improvement of the school instrumental movement in general, and may result in a review of any future entry applications from your school.

5.0 Other conditions

5.1 In the event of an ensemble being entered in an event which is clearly below the ability level of the group the Adjudicator will advise the General Manager to monitor future entries for that particular school.

5.2 If you have any questions regarding your entry, contact the GM or one of the experienced ASBOF Advisory Panel members who can assist you with your entry decision.

5.3 A full list of the Festival Conditions of Entry can be found on our website.

Secondary School Concert Band Events

The PERCY GRAINGER Premier Event
Secondary School Concert Bands

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

Music Criteria

Grade: Grade 5.0 and above (excluding the slow melody)
Playing time: 20-25 minutes program (30 minutes maximum stage time)

Conditions

- Bands entered in this section must present a contrasting program
- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody requirement: compulsory

For the in-venue event only:

- A maximum of 30 minutes stage time is allowed for this section. If time is required to reset between pieces, it must be taken into account in the overall programming
- All bands are required to provide TWO (2) copies of each score as there will be 2 adjudicators for this event

Professional Guest Artists (in-venue event only)

- All Music Directors are advised that ASBOF will assist in providing a professional Guest Artist to perform with the band in the Grainger Event
- All bands engaging a professional artist will be given a total stage time of 45 minutes to perform and will be scheduled to perform towards the end of the event
- Please contact the General Manager for details

The JODIE BLACKSHAW Event
Secondary School Concert Bands

This event is intended for bands which are performing at a very high level but may lack the instrumentation to allow them to perform successfully in the Grainger Event.

Music Criteria

Grade: Grade 4.0 and above (excluding the slow melody)
Playing time: 18-20 minutes playing time

Conditions

- Re-scoring of parts is admissible in this section (please indicate on adjudicator's copy).
- Bands entered in this section must present a contrasting program
- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody requirement: compulsory

The DAVID STANHOPE Event
Secondary School Concert Bands

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.

Music Criteria

Grade: Grade 3.0 and above, including at least one Grade 4.0 piece (excluding slow melody)
Playing time: 15 minutes playing time

Conditions

- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody requirement: compulsory
- Contrasting program/non-pop/TV theme/show tune requirement: compulsory.
- Limited rescoring of parts is allowed in this event, however, these must be indicated on the adjudication copy of the score

The GRAHAM LLOYD Event
Secondary School Concert Bands

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

Music Criteria

Grade: Grade 2.5 and above, including at least one Grade 3.0 piece (excluding slow melody)
Playing time: 13 minutes playing time

Conditions

- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody requirement: compulsory
- Contrasting program/non-pop/TV theme/show tune requirement: encouraged

The RAYMOND HANSON Event
Secondary School Concert Bands

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.

Music Criteria

Grade: Grade 1.5 and above, including at least one Grade 2.0 piece
Playing time: 11 minutes playing time

Conditions

- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody requirement: encouraged
- Contrasting program/non-pop/TV theme/show tune requirement: encouraged

The GEORGE DREYFUS Event
Secondary School Concert Bands

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.

Music Criteria

Grade: Up to Grade 1.5
Playing time: 9 minutes playing time

Conditions

- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody requirement: encouraged
- Contrasting program/non-pop/TV theme/show tune requirement: encouraged

Secondary School Big Band Events

The FRANK COUGHLAN Premier Event
Premier Big Band Event

This is the Premier Big Band event of the Festival and is for bands consisting of the traditional big band line up (5 Saxophones, 4 Trumpets, 4 Trombones, Rhythm section).

Playing time: Bands are required to present a 20-25 minute contrasting program

Conditions

- The total number of players in the Big Band should not ordinarily exceed 20 (Deps/limited doubling allowed)
- Instrumentation must adhere to the traditional Big Band line up
- Bands unable to comply with these conditions should consider entering the Bailey or Burrows Event
- Bands are encouraged to feature soloists (including vocals)
- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody/ballad requirement: compulsory

Please note: the Coughlan Event may be scheduled as a separate event from the main Festival and may be ticketed separately

The JUDY BAILEY Event
Secondary School Big Bands - Open

This event is open to secondary school big bands performing at a very high level, but which might lack the instrumentation to qualify for the Coughlan event.

Playing time: A time limit of 18 minutes playing time applies

Conditions

- Bands must present a contrasting program
- Bands are encouraged to feature soloists (including vocals)
- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody/ballad requirement: compulsory

Note: For this section it is expected that all bands restrict themselves to traditional Big Band instrumentation

If bands wish to use non-traditional instrumentation or rescore a number of parts with electronic keyboard parts, they should consider performing in the Don Burrows event

The DON BURROWS Event

Secondary School Big Bands

This event is open to secondary school big bands performing at a good level. Players will be very competent and will have been learning their instruments for three or more years.

Playing time: A time limit of 15 minutes (4 pieces MAXIMUM) playing time applies

Conditions

- Bands must present a contrasting program
- Bands are encouraged to feature soloists (including vocals)
- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody/ballad requirement: compulsory

Note: Bands wishing to perform longer than 15 minutes or more than 3 pieces should consider entering the Judy Baily Event

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

This event is open to secondary school big bands performing at an elementary level, have been formed this year, or are training/beginner bands from established programs. Players will typically be first year/beginner players.

Music Criteria

Playing time: A time limit of 10 minutes (3 pieces MAXIMUM) playing time applies

Conditions

- Bands must present a contrasting program
- Bands are encouraged to feature soloists (including vocals)
- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody requirement: encouraged

Note: It is permissible for bands in this section to use alternative instrumentation, including rescoring on electric keyboards, although it is expected they attempt to restrict themselves to traditional Big Band instruments where possible

The SANDY EVANS Event

Secondary School Jazz combos - Advanced

A jazz combo is typically made up of between 3 and 7 players and can consist of any combination of rhythm section (piano, bass, drums, guitar) and brass/winds/reeds. Improvisation, interplay, and individual expression is strongly encouraged.

This event is intended for advanced players with three or more years' experience.

Playing time: A time limit of 15 minutes (4 pieces MAXIMUM) playing time applies

Conditions

- Combos must present a contrasting program
- Advanced combos are expected to feature soloists, which could include vocals
- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody requirement: compulsory

The ANDREA KELLER Event
Secondary School Jazz combos - Beginner

A jazz combo is typically made up of between 3 and 7 players and can consist of any combination of rhythm section (piano, bass, drums, guitar) and brass/winds/reeds. Improvisation, interplay, and individual expression is strongly encouraged.

This event is intended for beginner players who will typically be first or second year players.

Playing time: A time limit of 10 minutes (3 pieces MAXIMUM) playing time applies

Conditions

- Combos must present a contrasting program
- Beginner combos are strongly encouraged to feature soloists, which could include vocals
- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody requirement: strongly encouraged

Secondary School String Ensemble Events

The ERNEST LLEWELLYN Premier Event
For Secondary School String Ensembles

This event is for established ensembles of any number of players (5 players minimum) which are performing at the highest level. Players will typically have been playing for approximately 3 years or more.

Music Criteria

Grade: Grade 3.0 and above (excluding the slow melody)
Playing time: 15-18 minutes playing time

Conditions

- Ensembles in this section are to play a contrasting program of two or more pieces
- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody requirement: compulsory
- Accompaniment on a non-string instrument is permitted by a secondary-school aged musician only. Maximum one accompanist. Acoustic instruments only i.e. piano or percussion (No CD backing permitted)

Are you looking to motivate your ensemble or for some personal Professional Development?

All our local and international adjudicators/clinicians are available to conduct guest sessions with your ensemble or work with you 1:1 to assist you in your development as a Music Director.

If you are travelling to Sydney for the Festival we can assist with rehearsal venues and workshops.

Contact Festival GM, Pat Devery, for further details
admin@asbof.org.au

The LORETA FIN Event
Secondary School String Ensembles

This event is for ensembles of any number of players (5 players minimum) which are performing at the good level. Players will typically be competent on their instrument and will have been playing for approximately 2 years or more.

Music Criteria

Grade: Grade 1.0 - 2.5 (excluding the slow melody)
Playing time: 12 minutes playing time

Conditions

- Ensembles in this section are to play a contrasting program of two or more pieces
- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody requirement: compulsory
- Accompaniment on a non-string instrument is permitted by a professional or school aged musician only. Maximum one accompanist. Acoustic instruments only i.e. piano or percussion (No CD backing permitted)

The DONALD HAZELWOOD Event
Secondary School String Ensembles

This event is for ensembles of any number of players (5 players minimum) which have recently formed and/or are performing at an elementary level. Players will typically have started playing this year or have been playing for approximately 1-1½ years.

Music Criteria

Grade: Up to Grade 1.0
Playing time: 9 minutes playing time

Conditions

- Ensembles in this section are to play a contrasting program of two or more pieces
- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody requirement: encouraged
- Accompaniment on a non-string instrument is permitted by a professional or school aged musician only. Maximum one accompanist. Acoustic instruments only i.e. piano or percussion (No CD backing permitted)

Need Some Advice?
ASBOF Advisory Panel

A number of our most experienced Music Directors are on hand to assist you with your entry decisions. Contact them for information regarding:

- The event level in which to enter your ensemble
- What music you should be playing in each event
- Advice on how to improve your music program/professional development ideas

To contact members of the ASBOF Advisory Panel log onto the Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival site at **www.asbof.org.au** or ring the Festival General Manager, Pat Devery, on 0417 664 472

Secondary School Orchestra Events

The RICHARD GILL Premier Event

Secondary School Orchestras

This event is for established ensembles which are playing at a high level. The orchestra will typically possess full instrumentation for the program which they are performing, including any scored percussion.

Music Criteria

Grade: Open (simplified arrangements of existing works are acceptable)
Playing time: 20-25 minutes playing time

Conditions

- Ensembles in this section are to play a contrasting program of two or more pieces
- Australian composition requirement: compulsory either as a standardised work or within a larger work
- Slow melody requirement: compulsory

Note

- Only students who are enrolled at the school are allowed to perform. No professional musicians or tutors are allowed to perform. If this is unavoidable you may perform under the 'adjudication only' option. Contact the Festival GM prior to the event
- Accompaniment on acoustic piano by a school aged student only
- Any specific percussion requirements should be discussed with the Festival GM prior to the event

The Miriam Hyde Event

Secondary School Orchestras

This event is intended for developing secondary school orchestras performing at an elementary level or are a second-tier orchestra in their school. These ensembles may not have the complete instrumentation required for successful performance in the Richard Gill Event, with players who are still developing competency on their instruments.

Music Criteria

Grade: Open (simplified arrangements of existing works are acceptable)
Playing time: 12 minutes playing time

Conditions

- Ensembles in this section are to play a contrasting program of two or more pieces
- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody requirement: compulsory, either as a standardised work or within a larger work

Note

- Only students who are enrolled at the school are allowed to perform. No professional musicians or tutors are allowed to perform. If this is unavoidable you may perform under the 'adjudication only' option. Contact the Festival GM prior to the event
- Some rescoring of parts is allowable in this section. Please indicate clearly on score
- Accompaniment on acoustic piano by a school aged student only
- Any specific percussion requirements should be discussed with the Festival GM prior to the event

Primary School Concert Band Events

The ALEX LITHGOW Premier Event
Primary School Concert Bands

This is the premier event for primary school bands and demands a high standard of musicianship across a range of instrumentation, including scored percussion.

Music Criteria

Grade: Grade 2.5 and above (excluding the slow melody)
Playing time: 15-18 minutes playing time

Conditions

- Bands entered in this section must present a contrasting program
- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody requirement: compulsory

For the in-venue event only:

- Bands are required to provide TWO (2) copies of each score as there will be 2 adjudicators for this event

The WILLIAM LOVELOCK Event
Primary School Concert Bands

This event is intended for bands which are performing at a very high level but may lack the instrumentation to allow them to perform successfully in the Lithgow Event.

Music Criteria

Grade: Grade 2.0 and above (excluding the slow melody)
Playing time: 12 minutes playing time

Conditions

- Bands entered in this section must present a contrasting program
- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody requirement: compulsory
- Contrasting program/non-pop/TV theme/show tune requirement: compulsory

The JOE COOK Event
Primary School Concert Bands

This event is intended for established bands which are performing at a good level or are in the process of rebuilding. Players will be competent on their instrument and will typically have been learning for two or more years.

Music Criteria

Grade: Grade 1.5 and above (excluding the slow melody)
Playing time: 10 minutes playing time

Conditions

- Bands entered in this section must present a contrasting program
- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody requirement: compulsory
- Contrasting program/non-pop/TV theme/show tune requirement: encouraged

The ROBERT McANALLY Event
Primary School Concert Bands

This event is intended for developing bands which are performing at a competent level. Players will be competent on their instrument and will typically have been learning for twelve months or more.

Music Criteria

Grade: Grade 1.0 and above (excluding slow melody)
Playing time: 8 minutes playing time

Conditions

- Bands entered in this section are to play two or three contrasting pieces
- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody requirement: strongly encouraged
- Contrasting program/non-pop/TV theme/show tune requirement: encouraged

The WILBUR SAMPSON Event
Primary School Concert Bands

This event is intended for beginner bands which are performing at an elementary level. Players will be beginner players and will typically have been learning for fewer than twelve months.

Music Criteria

Grade: Up to Grade 1.0
Playing time: 6 minutes playing time

Conditions

- Bands entered in this section are to play two or three contrasting pieces
- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody requirement: strongly encouraged
- Contrasting program/non-pop/TV theme/show tune requirement: encouraged

Primary School Big Band Events

The ED WILSON Event
Primary School Big Bands - Open

This event is intended for established bands which are performing at a good level. Players will be competent on their instrument and will typically have been learning for two or more years.

Music Criteria

Playing time: A time limit of 12 minutes (3 pieces MAXIMUM) playing time applies

Conditions

- Bands entered in this section must present a contrasting program
- Soloists, including vocalists are encouraged
- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody/ballad requirement: compulsory
- Bands should endeavour to restrict themselves to the traditional Big Band instruments where possible (saxophones, trumpets, trombones, and rhythm section)
- Some rescoring for electronic keyboards is permissible

The GRAEME BELL Event
Primary School Big Bands - Beginner

This event is intended for newly established/training/beginner bands performing at an elementary level. Players will typically have been learning for one to two years.

Music Criteria

Playing time: A time limit of 8 minutes (3 pieces MAXIMUM) playing time applies

Conditions

- Bands entered in this section must present a contrasting program
- Soloists, including vocalists are encouraged
- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody/ballad requirement: strongly encouraged
- Bands should endeavour to restrict themselves to the traditional Big Band instruments where possible (saxophones, trumpets, trombones, and rhythm section)
- Some rescoring for electronic keyboards is permissible

Primary School String Ensemble Events

The BRETT DEAN Premier Event
Primary School String Ensembles

Established ensembles of any number of players (3 players minimum) which are performing at a high level. Most players will have been playing for 3 years or more.

Music Criteria

Grade: Grade 2.5 and above (excluding the slow melody)
Playing time: 12-15 minutes playing time

Conditions

- Ensembles in this section must present a contrasting program of two or more pieces
- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody requirement: compulsory
- Accompaniment on a non-string instrument is permitted by a professional or school aged musician. Acoustic instruments only i.e. piano or percussion (No CD backing permitted)
- Any piano part must serve as a genuine accompaniment and should not double or reinforce the melody line or the part played by any string section

The DULCIE HOLLAND Event
Primary School String Ensembles

Developing ensembles of any number of players (3 players minimum) which are performing at a good level. Most players will have been playing for approximately 2 to 3 years.

Music Criteria

Grade: Grade 1.5 and above (excluding the slow melody)
Playing time: 10 minutes playing time

Conditions

- Ensembles in this section must present a contrasting program of two or more pieces.
- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody requirement: compulsory
- Accompaniment on a non-string instrument is permitted by a professional or school aged musician. Acoustic instruments only i.e. piano or percussion (No CD backing permitted

The STEPHEN CHIN Event

Primary School String Ensembles

Developing ensembles of any number of players (3 players minimum) which are performing at a competent level. Most players will have been playing for approximately for 1 to 2 years.

Music Criteria

Grade: Grade 1.0 and above (excluding the slow melody)
Playing time: 8 minutes playing time

Conditions

- Ensembles in this section must present a contrasting program of two or more pieces
- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody requirement: strongly encouraged
- Accompaniment on a non-string instrument is permitted by a professional or school aged musician. Acoustic instruments only i.e. piano or percussion (No CD backing permitted)

The Nigel Butterley Event

Primary School String Ensembles

Beginner ensembles of any number of players (3 players minimum) which are performing at an elementary level. Most players will have been playing for approximately 12 months.

Music Criteria

Grade: Up to Grade 1.0 *Unison playing and open string parts appropriate in this section*

Playing time: 6 minutes playing time

Conditions

- Ensembles in this section must present a contrasting program of two or more pieces
- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody requirement: encouraged
- Accompaniment on a non-string instrument is permitted by a professional or school aged musician. Acoustic instruments only i.e. piano or percussion (No CD backing permitted)

Need some advice?
ASBOF Advisory Panel

A number of our most experienced Music Directors are on hand to assist you with your entry decisions. Contact them for information on:

- The event level in which to enter your ensemble
- What music you should be playing in each event
- Advice on how to improve your music program/professional development ideas

To contact members of the ASBOF Advisory Panel log onto the Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival site at **www.asbof.org.au**

or ring the Festival General Manager, Pat Devery, on 0417 664 472

Primary School Orchestra Events

The Elena Kats-Chernin Event

Primary School Orchestras

For orchestras which are playing at a competent level. These ensembles would form part of an established band and string program, and the players will have typically been playing for approximately 3 years or more.

Music Criteria

Grade: Open
Playing time: 12-15 minutes playing time

Conditions

- Ensembles in this section must present a contrasting program of two or more pieces
- Australian composition requirement: compulsory
- Slow melody requirement: encouraged
- Accompaniment on acoustic piano by a school aged student only

Note

- Only students who are enrolled at the school are allowed to perform. No professional musicians or tutors are allowed to perform. If this is unavoidable you may perform under the 'adjudication only' option. Contact the Festival GM prior to the event.
- Any specific percussion requirements should be discussed with the Festival GM prior to the event.

ASBOF AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL BAND AND ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL
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