# 2025 YOUTH BURSARIES

## **BURSARY INFORMATION PACK**

APPLICATIONS OPEN 1 JULY APPLICATIONS CLOSE 29 JULY

07 4698 9938 foundation@empiretheatre.com.au empiretheatre.com.au/community/bursaries









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### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

This Bursary Information Pack is to be read in conjunction with the **Bursary Application Form**. Please note the Bursary Application Form is in **PDF format**. You <u>do not</u> need a professional Adobe Account to fill in the form and save it.

### AIMS OF THE YOUTH BURSARY

**The Empire Theatres Foundation** ('the Foundation') has, as one of its aims, 'to provide performing arts opportunities to further the cultural experiences and performing arts skills development of young people in the wider Toowoomba Region'.

The Foundation's **Youth Bursary program** offers a range of courses to develop and extend the skills and experiences of young people studying and/or working in our region's performing arts industry. The **preferred age** range is **12 – 25**.

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

- The Youth Bursary Round will open on **1 July 2025** and close **29 July 2025**.
- Applicants who are shortlisted will be interviewed by a panel of the Foundation's Directors ('Directors'). Interviews will be conducted on **22 23 September 2025.**
- In October, Directors will award a number of bursaries to support skills development in a range of performing arts activities.
- Applicants who are awarded a bursary will be invited to attend the Youth Bursary Awards Ceremony on **10 November 2025.**
- Bursary courses will be available to be taken up over a period of January 2026 October 2026.
- All recipients are required to complete a post-course report within 30 days of finishing their course.

### ELIGIBILITY

As defined in the Terms and Conditions, applicants must be **Australian Citizens** and preferably aged **between 12 and 25**. Please check specific course age ranges as limits can apply. A bursary must be utilised for the intended purpose and within the specified timeframe.

Applicants must reside in one of the below Local Government Areas (LGAs) to be eligible to apply:

- Toowoomba
- Lockyer Valley
- Southern Downs
- Somerset
- South Burnett
- Western Downs
- South Burnett
- Goondiwindi

#### **COURSES**

#### **TIER COURSES**

Most courses on offer are separated into Tiers, depending on the skills base and age required to attend these courses. Over a period of years an applicant may receive **up to three (3)** tier bursaries, but **only one bursary per year and per Tier.** The Tier courses awarded must be in **consecutive order**.

#### EXAMPLE

If a bursary is awarded at Tier one, then the applicant may, at a later stage, apply for a Tier two and/or a Tier three bursary. An awardee who is a awarded a Tier Two course may subsequently apply for a Tier three course, but not a Tier one, and if an applicant is awarded a Tier three course, they cannot apply again for a Tier course of study.

#### **AUDITION PREPARATION & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS**

An applicant is eligible to receive up to two (2) of these over a period of years.

#### **COURSE DETAILS**

Details of course requirements can be found under <u>course descriptions</u> and are correct as far as the Foundation is able to determine at the time of printing. Applicants should research their preferred course/s thoroughly and have a clear understanding of the course content and requirements. At interview, Directors may recommend another course, depending on age and skill level.

Where the Foundation secures a place for a recipient in a specific course, funding is paid directly to the course provider by the Foundation.

#### **AUDITIONS**

Some courses require a separate application and audition process, and the Bursary will be conditional on the applicant passing this process. It is the **applicant's responsibility** to ensure **any course pre-attendance conditions** are **complied with**. Bursary recipients who are not successful at audition or who stay on a reserve list may re-apply to the Foundation for a bursary at that level in a subsequent year.

#### **SELECTION PROCESS**

The following selection criteria will be used by Directors to assess bursary applications:

- Current involvement in the performing arts
- Likely future contribution to the performing arts
- Previous achievements in the performing arts
- Current developmental level and suitability of chosen course
- References

Decisions of the Directors are **FINAL**.

#### **APPLICATIONS**

Applicants must comply with the following in submitting applications:

• Late applications will not be accepted.

- All questions must be answered in the application. An application which is incomplete may not be considered.
- Supporting materials (e.g. press clippings, audio and/or visual materials) are **limited** to a **maximum four (4) x A4 sized pages.**
- The curriculam vitae (educational and professional history) is limited to three (3) pages.
- ALL applications must include contact details of two (2) referees (refer to Referees Section)
- Email or hand deliver by the closing date to:
  - o Email: foundation@empiretheatre.com.au
  - o Deliver to The Empire Box Office ATTN: Foundation Officer
    - Please note: if you hand deliver to The Empire Box Office, the opening hours are 9am – 3pm Monday to Friday. If hand delivering, please ensure it is handed in prior to 3pm on 29 July 2025

#### REFEREES

Each applicant must provide **full contact details for two (2) referees where indicated on the Application Form**, preferably individuals associated with the applicant's performing arts activities e.g. music/drama/dance teacher.

The Foundation will then contact each referee to request a reference. The referee will be forwarded a copy of the relevant Application Form and a link to the course descriptions. Referees will also be sent a form to complete; this form will be returned by them directly to the Foundation Officer. References will be required within seven (7) days of the Foundation's request to the referee. All **Referee Reports** are **confidential**.

It is very likely that applications in which referee contact details are incomplete and/or inaccurate, preventing contact with the referee, will not be considered by Directors.

### **REQUEST FOR SPECIAL FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION**

Bursaries do not cover costs of audition or travel to undertake the Bursary. Some, but not all bursaries include accommodation as part of the award. An applicant experiencing genuine financial hardship may request Directors consider allocating additional funds to assist with travel or accommodation costs. The request should be in writing, giving full and relevant details, and must be attached to the Application Form.

#### **CONTRACTS**

Successful applicants will be required to sign a contract with Empire Theatres Foundation. The Contract covers details such as the terms and conditions of funding, obligations of the parties, termination and how the Empire Theatres Foundation is to be acknowledged.

### CONTACT

Contact the Foundation Officer on (07) 4698 9938 – <u>foundation@empiretheatre.com.au</u> if you need more information. If you are awarded a Bursary but have problems associated with taking it up, please do not hesitate to contact the Foundation Officer as soon as possible

### **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

- Applicants should be between 12 and 25 years of age at the time the application is made. However, the Empire Theatres Foundation Directors ('Directors') reserve the unfettered right to consider applications from exceptional applicants outside this range where appropriate circumstances exist. Applicants who are under 18 must have a parent or guardian sign the declaration where indicated.
- 2. Applicants must be Australian Citizens.
- Applicants must reside in one of these Local Government Areas (LGAs) Toowoomba, Lockyer Valley, Western Downs, Southern Downs, Somerset, South Burnett, Goondiwindi to be eligible to apply.
- 4. Recipients must utilise Bursaries only for the intended purpose and as approved by the Directors.
- 5. Bursaries must be utilised within the time specified in the contract.
- 6. Recipients will keep the Directors fully informed of any changes to the approved Bursary program and related arrangements, requesting endorsement **before** proceeding with any changes.
- 7. The Empire Foundation Youth Bursary Program is to receive acknowledgement for its support in the following manner: "*The generous support of The Empire Foundation Youth Bursary Program is gratefully acknowledged*". Acknowledgement applies to all advertising, media releases and all forms of publicity. The Empire Foundation logo must be included in its entirety, in all printed and visual promotional materials.
- 8. Each Bursary recipient grants the Directors the right to utilise their name and image in Youth Bursary publicity material in relation to the Bursary received.
- 9. Where the Foundation secures a place for a recipient in a specific course, funding will be paid directly to the course provider by the Foundation. Any funds incorrectly reimbursed or paid to a recipient must be transferred by the recipient to the Foundation immediately.
- 10. Where a recipient receives direct funding from the Foundation, copies of all documents and financial records (e.g. receipts) relating to the funding must be kept. Full details of all expenditure must be provided, as well as original receipts and invoices or an appropriate auditor's statement. COPIES OF FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE. If a recipient does not fulfill these reporting requirements, Directors may forward a notice in writing to the recipient requesting further information or compliance with the reporting requirements. The recipient will forward the additional material requested within seven (7) days.
- 11. In cases where funds are paid directly by the Foundation, Directors may request the return of funds from the recipient if those funds have not been expended in accordance with the approved application.
- 12. Each successful Bursary applicant will be sent a Contract to be signed by the applicant (and parent/guardian if the applicant is under 18 years) and returned to the Foundation Officer by a nominated date. Failure to comply with this date will result in the Bursary not being awarded.
- 13. If a Bursary course is cancelled by the course provider, Directors will negotiate with the affected recipient(s) on a case-by-case basis.
- 14. Each recipient must forward a letter of thanks to the sponsor of their Bursary, with a copy to be sent to the Foundation Officer, within **14 days** of the Bursary Presentation Ceremony. Each recipient must also complete a post-course report via a survey which is sent. The survey must be completed within 30 days of the completion of the course. If these conditions are not met, Directors reserve the right to take action, including requesting the return of up to all grant monies provided.
- 15. Directors reserve the right not to award any advertised Bursaries in any year.

16. Directors reserve the right to request that applicants participate in an activity organised with the support of The Empire Foundation (such as lecture, masterclass, tutorial, performance, mentorship, workshop etc.) to further the development of performing arts in Toowoomba and district.

#### Empire Theatres Foundation gratefully acknowledges the financial assistance from our sponsors



CLIFFORD GOULDSON







THE ARBOUR

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### **2025 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

When selecting your course preference/s, ensure that:

- You have read, understood and researched the course descriptions listed below
- You are available to take the course at the time and location it is conducted
- You fit any specific age range/skill level requirements for that particular course at the relevant date
- You are available on 22 23 September 2025 should you be shortlisted for an interview

If you have chosen **more than one course**, you MUST number each in order of preferences from 1 to 3, where 1 is the most preferred and 3 is the least preferred. These three preferences can, and most often would be within the same tier.

ONLY three (3) TIER courses AND one (1) AUDITION WORKSHOP may be chosen per application.

You will only be eligible to attend one course per year, if successful.

#### ALL COURSES ARE SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY AND ARE NON-TRANSFERABLE.

GENRE	COURSE/TIER	DATES/LOCATION
	TIER ONE	
Instrumental Music	MELBOURNE YOUTH ORCHESTRA – SUMMER SCHOOL 12 – 17 years	Melbourne January 2026
	Do something you love this Summer at the famous MYO Summer School. Join over 800 young musicians for an inspirational week of musical discoveries, engaging workshops and performances in the heart of Melbourne.	
	Summer School is about a whole lot more than developing your technique and expanding your repertoire knowledge. It's about opening minds to a whole new sphere of musical discovery. It's about sharing phenomenal musical experiences.	
	2026 Summer School Residential Camp   Melbourne Youth Orchestras	
	JAZZ WORKSHOP AUSTRALIA – SUMMER JAZZ CAMP 12 – 18 years	Sydney 11 – 15 January
	Jazz Workshop Australia is proud to present Summer Jazz Camp, a five-day residential program offering inspiration and learning through immersion and teaching in the wonderful world of jazz. It is for instrumentalists (including string players) and vocalists at all levels of experience from beginner to advanced to emerging professionals. For over 40 years this has been an institution among talented and motivated young jazz musicians in Australia.	2026
	<u> Jazz Camp - Jazz Workshop Australia</u>	

students that helps extend and encourage their pursuit of musical excellence. Please note – you need to be nominated by your teacher. State Honours Ensemble Program (griffith.edu.au)  GEELONG SUMMER MUSIC CAMP 12 – 21 years Geelong Summer Music Camp provides a day camp experience for music students. Our goal is to provide an immersive and fun environment for students to learn and grow their musical abilities and friendships. With experienced instructors and a diverse range of activities, we offer a unique opportunity for students to explore and be inspired by a community of likeminded people. Home   Gsmc  CUSKELLY COLLEGE OF MUSIC – BRASS 12+ years Participants in the Brass Program will be engaged in a range of activities intended to develop both their instrumental and ensemble skills. Students will perform in masterclass sessions and may choose any style/genre of music to play in these classes. An important aspect of this program is the opportunity for students to participate in small group/chamber ensembles as chamber music provides unique opportunities for the development of deep musicianship and ensemble skills. Students will also sing at least one of the choirs and they have the option to use some of the time for private practice. As there will be a number of opportunities both for performing and for individual tuition, students in this stream should ensure they have prepared at least four pieces for performance throughout this course. It is important to note that there is no minimum level of performance required – all students are welcome to participate.	JAZZ WORKSHOP AUSTRALIA – WINTER JAZZ CAMP 12 – 17 years Winter Jazz Camp is a non-residential camp held over three days at the JWA studio in St Leonards. It includes groups for beginner to advanced jazz students. This camp is for people who can already play an instrument and are at least good enough to play in a school band. Vocalists can do the camp if they are prepared	Sydney July 2026
STATE HONOURS ENSEMBLE PROGRAM (SHEP) – DARLING DOWNS       2026         12 – 17 years       2026         The State Honours Ensemble Program is an educational program for music students that helps extend and encourage their pursuit of musical excellence.       Please note – you need to be nominated by your teacher.       2026         Please note – you need to be nominated by your teacher.       State Honours Ensemble Program (griffith.edu.au)       Geelong         State Honours Ensemble Program (griffith.edu.au)       Geelong       January 2026         Geelong Summer Music Camp provides a day camp experience for music students. Our goal is to provide an immersive and fun environment for students to learn and grow their musical abilities and friendships. With experienced instructors and a diverse range of activities, we offer a unique opportunity for students to explore and be inspired by a community of likeminded people.       Brisbane         Home I Gsmc       L2 + years       Brisbane         Participants in the Brass Program will be engaged in a range of activities intended to develop both their instrumental and ensemble skills. Students will perform in masterclass sessions and may choose any style/genre of music to play in these classes, An important aspect of this program is the opportunity for students to participate in small group/chamber ensembles as chamber music provides will be stream should ensure they have prepared at least four pieces for performance throughout this course. It is important to note that there is no minimum level of poportunities course. It is important to note that there is no minimum level of poportunities course. It is important to note that there is no minimum level of per		
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CUSKELLY COLLEGE OF MUSIC – ALL TOGETHER NOW All ages All Together Now is a joyful, high-energy music event designed to ignite the love of music in both kids and adults alike! Whether you're a budding young musician or simply love to sing, this is your change to be part of something truly special. This event features an uplifting Community Singing Day, open to everyone, no matter your experience level. Alongside this, student music workshop sessions will inspire and challenge young performers in a fun, supportive environment. <u>'All Together Now!' 2025 - The Cuskelly College of Music</u>	Stanthorpe September 2026

Contemporary	AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF MUSIC – HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS	Melbourne or
Music	14 – 17 years	Sydney
	The Australian Institute of Music hosts a range of school holiday workshops for budding musicians to explore their interests across their Sydney and Melbourne campuses. AIM's high school music workshops provide incredible opportunities to explore <i>songwriting, performance and exam preparation</i> mentored by AIM's own accomplished musicians and educators. Please refer to website for current workshops on offer. <u>Events - The Australian Institute of Music</u>	

Piano	CUSKELLY COLLEGE OF MUSIC – PIANO 12 + years	Brisbane 5 – 16 January 2026
	Students will perform in piano masterclass and may choose any style/genre of music to play in these classes. All students will have individual lessons throughout the duration of the course. As there will be a number of opportunities both for performing and for individual tuition, students in this stream should ensure they have prepared at least four pieces for performance throughout the course. It is important to note that there is no minimum level of performance required – all students are welcome to participate and learn!	
	Home - The Cuskelly College of Music	

Singing	CUSKELLY COLLEGE OF MUSIC – CHILDREN'S CHOIR 12 – 14 years	Brisbane 5 – 16 January 2026
	Participants will be involved in daily musicianship to foster the ongoing development of musical skills and knowledge, as well as daily choir rehearsals and a musical theatre excerpts session. Students who participate in this program have the option of half-day with formal classes finished by 1.00pm each day but they also have the option of a full-day program (finishing at 3.15pm everyday). <u>Home - The Cuskelly College of Music</u>	

Classical/ Choral Singing	GONDWANA NATIONAL CHOIRS - <i>SINGERS</i> 14 – 16 years	Sydney 12 – 24 January 2026
	Gondwana <i>Singers</i> is a dynamic young SATB choir which caters for singers aged $14 - 16$ years, including boys with changed/changing voices as well as treble voices.	
	Please note – auditions for Gondwana occur in August 2025.	
	<u>Gondwana National Choirs - Gondwana Choirs</u>	

Acting	ATYP – OWN CHOICE – HOLIDAY WORKSHOP Up to Year 12 ATYP offer a wide range of workshops throughout the summer school holidays. Please refer to website for current workshops on offer. Holiday Drama Workshops – ATYP	Sydney January 2026
	<b>THE EMPIRE – YOUTH ARTS DRAMA CLASSES</b> 13 – 15 years or 16 years + Create performance and express yourself without fear. Learn how to communicate with your friends in a way that encourages creativity and working together. Gain valuable performance skills as a strong foundation for future exploration of theatre, drama and performance. <u>Workshops - Empire Theatre</u>	Toowoomba Term 1 – 4, 2026
	<b>QUEENSLAND THEATRE – THEATRE RESIDENCY WEEK</b> 14 – 17 years Theatre Residency Week (TRW) is an intensive theatre camp for students in Years 9–12. It is the longest running theatre program of its kind in Australia. Students will stay on campus at Stuartholme School in its boarding facilities and spend each day developing their acting skills through workshops conducted by Core Group Artists who have a speciality in a particular style of theatre. Each Core Group will work towards a performance on the final day for a live audience of family and friends.	Brisbane September 2026
	NIDA OPEN – SHORT COURSE – OWN CHOICE NIDA Open offers term and holiday short courses, residencies and intensive part- time studio courses across Australia for all ages and abilities. Please refer to the website for further information on available workshops. <u>NIDA Open Home</u>	2026

Dance	BRENT STREET - SUMMER INTENSIVE WORKSHOPS 12 - 15 years and 16+ years	Sydney January 2026
	The Brent Street Summer Intensive Workshops are an intense week of dance, drama, singing and musical theatre for children and young adults wishing to refine their skills in the performing arts. Students enjoy the company of like-minded peers and have the opportunity to experience the entertainment of industry's finest choreographers and teachers.	
	Brent Street Performing Arts   Dance, Singing & Acting   Sydney Australia	

	CONROY DANCE CENTRE – SUMMER INTENSIVE 12 years+ Conroy Dance Centre is proud to present a fantastic two-day summer intensive with some of Australia's finest teachers. Classes include commercial jazz, contemporary music theatre, aerial arts, commercial lyrical and more! Summer School - Conroy Dance Centre	Brisbane 23 – 24 January 2026
	SYDNEY DANCE COMPANY – HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS 12 – 18 years Sydney Dance Company school holiday workshops provide a fun and focused environment for young people to improve their dance technique and learn new routines under the direction of professional teachers and choreographers. Please refer to website for current workshops on offer. School Holiday Workshops — Sydney Dance Company	Sydney Each School Holidays 2026
	AUSTRALIAN DANCE FESTIVAL – WORKSHOPS Get ready to groove and move at the Australian Dance Festival, the ultimate dance extravaganza. This is not just any dance event – it's a high-energy celebration of Australia's top dance talent, filled with electrifying workshops, jaw- dropping performances, and fierce dance competitions. <u>Workshops for Dancers   ausdancefest</u>	Sydney 18 – 20 September 2026
	DANCE WORLD STUDIOS – SUMMER CAMP 12 + years Dance World Studios Summer Camp programs recognise the need for specialised tuition for all students in both traditional and modern dance streams and offer students challenging but enjoyable workshop classes in a variety of dance styles and performance mediums. Dance Camp Melbourne   Dance World Studios	Melbourne January 2026
Musical Theatre	QUEENSLAND ACADEMY OF EXCELLENCE IN MUSICAL THEATRE (QAEMT) - MUSICAL THEATRE WORKSHOP 13 – 15 years & 16 – 17 years	Brisbane September 2026

The Brisbane Musical Theatre Workshop, held at Queensland Performing Arts Centre studios offers training for the purpose of improving general technical application and knowledge, while gaining insight into training practices encouraged for the QAEMT Bachelor of Musical Theatre Audition. Participants have the opportunity to develop their musical theatre skills (acting, singing and dancing) and be workshopped on a musical theatre audition song.

Workshops (griffith.edu.au)

LITTLE RED COMPANY – MUSICAL THEATRE HOLIDAY WORKSHOP	Brisbane June/July 2026
12 – 17 years	
Ignite your passion for stage with a dynamic music theatre workshop. Join us for an unforgettable adventure into the world of singing, acting and dancing led by an all-star team of incredible professionals. This four-day workshop is open to students from Grade 7 – 12 and will focus on technique, performance skills and confidence, culminating in a showcase for family and friends. <u>Music Theatre Holiday Workshop — LITTLE RED</u>	

Film & TV	SUMMER SCHOOL IN FILMMAKING – WRITING, DIRECTING &	Melbourne	
	ACTING	7 January 2026	
	Participants, in pairs or groups, will learn how to devise, then act and direct, a short story – and have a great time discovering how to bring their script to life. You will also look at the director/actor relationship, casting, rehearsing, acting styles, blocking and performance. You will explore specific tools and techniques used by actors and directors and gain experiential insight into the actor's and director's craft.		
	Filmmaking School Melbourne Australia - Acting & Directing		

TIER TWO		
Instrumental Music	<b>STATE MUSIC CAMP</b> The young musicians attending this camp work with some of Australia's finest conductors and tutors to explore and develop their talents whilst learning the art of orchestral music making. At the conclusion of the camp, students enjoy the exhilaration and satisfaction of an orchestral concert. This music camp is audition based. <u>SMC Camp - State Music Camp</u>	Melbourne July 2026
	AYO SYMPHONISTS 12 – 17 years – Grade 8 AMEB equivalency is recommended Formerly known as Young Symphonists, AYO Symphonists represents the highest calibre of young Australian musicians of high school age. Indicative performance standards are highly differentiated according to instrument type. You'll join other gifted young musicians from around the country for an intensive, week-long residential program. You will attend tutorials and workshops led by some of Australia's top professional musicians. The exciting and rigorous rehearsal and performance schedule will come to a triumphant conclusion with a public performance. Please note – Submission deadlines to AYO are 25 August 2025 (strings) and 27 August 2025 (all other instruments).	Canberra 5 – 12 April 2026

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MUSIC CAMP	Adelaide July 2026
12 – 23 years	0019 2020
The value of South Australia Music Camp is recognised by placing young players in a stimulation environment where they tackle and master challenging and enjoyable repertoire in the course of five days and succeed in presenting an exciting final concert to parents and friends. <b>Please note entry into South</b> <b>Australia Music Camp is by audition.</b>	
Home   South Australian Music Camp (samusiccamp.com.au)	
STATE HONOURS ENSEMBLE PROGRAM (SHEP)	Brisbane
12 – 17 years	October 2026
SHEP is an educational program for music students that helps extend and encourage their musical excellence.	
Please note – you need to be nominated by your teacher.	
State Honours Ensemble Program (griffith.edu.au)	
JAZZ MUSIC INSTITUTE – SUMMER CLINICS	Brisbane
All ages	January 2026
Jazz Music Institute Summer Clinic is ideal for anyone looking to either start learning how to play jazz, or build upon knowledge they already have, these clinics are delivered in a fun and relaxed environment conducive of learning and growth. These are perfect for musicians of all ages and abilities, from young musicians looking for extra musical development, to mature age musicians looking to spark their passion for jazz.	
JMI Jazz Clinics- Jazz Music Institute	
JMI Jazz Clinics- Jazz Music Institute CUSKELLY COLLEGE OF MUSIC – INTERMEDIATE STRINGS 12+ years	Brisbane 5 – 16 January 2026
CUSKELLY COLLEGE OF MUSIC – INTERMEDIATE STRINGS	5 – 16 January

CUSKELLY COLLEGE OF MUSIC – BRASS	Brisbane
<b>12</b> + years	5 – 16 January 2026
Participants in the Brass program will be engaged in a range of activities intended to develop both their instrumental and ensemble skills. Students will perform in masterclass sessions and may choose any style/genre of music to play in these classes. An important aspect of this program is the opportunity for students to participant in small group/chamber ensembles are chamber music provides unique opportunities for the development of deep musicianship and ensemble skills. students will also sing in at least one of the choirs and they have the option to use some of the time for private practice. As there will be a number of opportunities both for performing and for individual tuition, students in this stream should ensure they have prepared at least four pieces for performance throughout the course. It is important to note that there is no minimum level of performance required – all students are welcome to participate and learn.	
Home - The Cuskelly College of Music	
<b>CUSKELLY COLLEGE OF MUSIC – WOODWIND</b>	Brisbane
12 + years	5 – 16 January 2026
Participants in the Woodwind Program will be engaged in a range of activities intended to develop both their instrumental and ensemble skills. Students will perform in masterclass sessions and may choose any style/genre of music to play in these classes. An important aspect of this program is the opportunity for students to participate in small group/chamber ensembles as chamber music provides unique opportunities for the development of deep musicianship and ensemble skills. Students will also sing at least one of the choirs and they have the option to use some of the time for private practice. As there will be a number of opportunities both for performing and for individual tuition, students in this stream should ensure they have prepared at least four pieces for performance throughout this course. It is important to note that there is no minimum level of performance required – all students are welcome to participate.	
AUSTRALIAN ROMANTIC & CLASSICAL ORCHESTRA – YOUNG	Brisbane
MANNHEIM SYMPHONISTS – QLD STATE ACADEMY	Sept/Oct 2026
<b>15 – 21 years</b> The Young Mannheim Symphonists program is designed to give school students	
and emerging musicians the opportunity to discover for themselves the magic of approaching music with appropriate performance style. As they are led through great musical masterpieces and exposed to the knowledge and perception of experienced professional musicians, they are inspired by how the music comes to life, and empowered to begin making informed musical decisions on their own.	
Please note - this workshop is audition based.	
<u> Australian Romantic &amp; Classical Orchestra - Young Mannheim</u>	

HARP HOLIDAY PROGRAM 14 years and under AND 15+ years	Sydney 12 – 17 January 2026 ( <b>14 years &amp;</b> <b>under</b> )
At Harp Holiday you will participate in lessons, private practice, ensemble classes, special classes including improvising, harp maintenance and functions. Instruments can be left for the duration of your stay whether you come for one day or the entire week. Your newly acquired skills will culminate in the renowned Harp Holiday <i>Heavenly Harps in Concert</i> , give you a chance to show off. During the week you are encouraged to develop your repertoire, improve your technique and learn good practice skills. You are welcome to explore the extensive harp music library available and be assisted with creating fabulous solo folders for weddings, functions or other events. <u>Book HH25 + Youth Program25</u>	10 – 17 January 2026 ( <b>15 years &amp;</b> over)

Classical/	GONDWANA NATIONAL CHOIRS - VOICES	Sydney
Choral Singing	12 – 17 years	12 – 24 January 2026
	Gondwana <i>Voices</i> is Australia's national children's choir for treble singers aged $10 - 17$ years. It regularly performs with the country's leading ensembles and has built a reputation for performances of outstanding musicianship.	
	Please note – auditions for Gondwana occur in August 2025.	
	<u>Gondwana National Choirs - Gondwana Choirs</u>	

Piano	CUSKELLY COLLEGE OF MUSIC – PIANO	Brisbane
	12 + years	5 – 16 January 2026
	Students will perform in piano masterclass and may choose any style/genre of music to play in these classes. All students will have individual lessons throughout the duration of the course. As there will be a number of opportunities both for performing and for individual tuition, students in this stream should ensure they have prepared at least four pieces for performance throughout the course. It is important to note that there is no minimum level of performance required – all students are welcome to participate and learn! <u>Home - The Cuskelly College of Music</u>	

Voice	CUSKELLY COLLEGE OF MUSIC – PRE-TERTIARY VOCAL	Brisbane 5 – 16 January
	14 – 17 years	2026
	This is a special program for all young singers who wish to develop their ability as singers or who are interested in pursuing vocal studies at the tertiary level, particularly in Classic Voice. Participants in this specialisation will participate in masterclasses and workshops, explore repertoire appropriate to their developmental abilities and will receive individual singing lessons throughout the duration of the course.	
	Home - The Cuskelly College of Music	

Acting	NIDA – YOUNG ACTORS RESIDENCY 15 – 18 years	Sydney July 2026
	Work with industry experts and NIDA tutors in an intensive Residency course exploring core acting techniques and their application to a variety of material. Develop and extend your acting skills within a highly motivated group. NIDA's Residencies are designed for people with a commitment and curiosity to undergo intensive artistic development over an extended period of time. This is a <u>two-week course</u> .	
	<b>Please note -</b> NIDA Young Actors residency will only proceed if NIDA receive a suitable number of applicants. If you are awarded a bursary to attend, please do not book accommodation and/or flights until you receive confirmation from NIDA the course will be proceeding. The Foundation are not responsible for late cancellation notice provided by NIDA.	
	Young Actors Residency, 15-18 Years - NIDA OPEN	
	BRAVE STUDIOS – SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTING COURSE 13 – 17 years	Melbourne Each School Holidays 2026
	This three-day course is perfect for the young aspiring actor wanting to deepen their knowledge of the craft, be challenged and receive constructive feedback to get over habits getting in the way. It will give you the chance to improve your acting abilities above and beyond what you thought possible. The aim is to make you the best actor you can be but enjoy it in the meantime. Participants will perform and film scenes in our in-house professional studio.	nonudys 2020
	Acting Classes for Teenagers   School Holiday Program   Brave Studios	

Film & TV	AFTRS – OWN CHOICE SELECTION	Sydney 2026
	16 + years	
	AFTRS offer short courses, taught by expert practitioners that will give you relevant and practical skills and knowledge to help progress or kick start your career in the screen and broadcasting industry.	
	Short Courses   Australian Film Television and Radio School (aftrs.edu.au)	

Dance	QUEENSLAND BALLET – SUMMER SCHOOL 12 – 18 years	Brisbane January 2026
	The Summer School program includes classes in classical ballet technique, pointe work, repertoire, character dance, contemporary dance, and male technique (subject to number of male participants). Students also participate in informative discussions with a variety of professionals from Queensland Ballet, the broader industry and/or affiliated health fields.	
	Queensland Ballet - Every step a story - Queensland Ballet	

	<b>ROYAL ACADEMY OF DANCE – DANCE FEST</b> <b>12 + years</b> Dance Fest is a wonderful five days of learning new skills, making new friends and kick starting the dance year! Students will be taught by an exciting Australian faculty in classical, contemporary, lyrical, jazz, Broadway jazz, tap, commercial, and hip hop. Classical stream students (13 + years and above) will be offered Pilates, stretch and conditioning, character, repertoire and Rambert grades. <u>Australia   Royal Academy of Dance - Home</u>	Adelaide January 2026
Musical Theatre	CUSKELLY COLLEGE OF MUSIC – MUSIC THEATRE AND JAZZ 14 + years – ideally for High School and Tertiary Students Participants will develop a music theatre piece to be perform in the final concert. After lunch, students have the choice of singing in one of the classical choirs or participating in Pete's Megaband and will spend the final session of the day	Brisbane 5 – 16 January 2026

working in the Jazz Ensemble with Pete Churchill. This course provides invaluable opportunities for the development of musical and performance skills but also includes options for drama/acting sessions. <u>Home - The Cuskelly College of Music</u>

#### CUSKELLY COLLEGE OF MUSIC – MUSIC THEATRE & CLASSICAL ACTING

#### 14 + years – ideally for High School and Tertiary Students

This specialisation deals with the art of Music Theatre through Song, Classical Acting and devised ensemble work. Students in this program will be involved in staged scenes, character movement classes, text work, chorus singing, acting techniques and ensemble coaching. The students will also be challenged to devise and research their own song material, make and source props, costumes, create soundscapes for voice and potentially full orchestration.

Home - The Cuskelly College of Music

Film & TV

#### SUMMER SCHOOL IN FILMMAKING – FROM SCRIPT TO SCREEN

Participants, in pairs or groups, will learn how to devise, then act and direct, a short story – and have a great time discovering how to bring their script to life. You will also look at the director/actor relationship, casting, rehearsing, acting styles, blocking and performance. You will explore specific tools and techniques used by actors and directors and gain experiential insight into the actor's and director's craft.

Filmmaking School Melbourne Australia - From Script to Screen

Brisbane

Melbourne

2026

7 – 11 January

2026

5 – 16 January

#### TIER THREE

Instrumental Music

#### **AYO – NATIONAL MUSIC CAMP**

Adelaide 5 – 18 January

14 – 22 years – as general guideline, Grade 8 AMEB equivalency is required

2026 National Music Camp is a whirlwind of two weeks filled with new faces, exhilarating challenges and uplifting performances. Be inspired by tutors, artists and conductors of international standing and experience music-making at an elite national level as part of a superb symphony or chamber orchestra. You'll join the country's best young musicians for a two-week residential program. Throughout the program, you will be engaged in orchestral and sectional rehearsals, as well as tutorials with some of Australia's most respected instrumental tutors and conductors. You will also gain practical skills in areas that support your performance aspirations through professional development sessions led by experienced tutors and artists. In addition, you will have the opportunity to explore the world of chamber music as part of a small chamber ensemble. Please note - Submission deadlines to AYO are 25 August 2025 (strings) and 27 August 2025 (all other instruments). AYO National Music Camp - Orchestral Program | Australian Youth Orchestra Various **AYO – PROFESSIONAL IMMERSION** Year round 2026 18 - 25 years The AYO Professional Immersion is designed for young musicians and arts leaders at the cusp of professional careers. The program acts as a springboard for those wanting to pursue performance at an elite level, or delve into the world of arts administration, providing you with the skills to establish a diverse and successful career in music. Please note - Submission deadlines to AYO are 25 August 2025 (strings) and 27 August 2025 (all other instruments). AYO Professional Immersion | Australian Youth Orchestra Brisbane **CUSKELLY COLLEGE OF MUSIC – CHAMBER STRINGS** 5 – 16 January Age group is dependant upon audition 2026 The Academy of Strings is dedicated to the advancement of string players through participation in a wide range of activities: targeted musicianship training, chamber music, ensemble performance, workshops, masterclasses and chamber orchestra performance. Participants in the Chamber Strings stream will be involved in daily graded musicianship classes (appropriate to their experience and ability), performance and demonstration workshops, choir, ensemble and individual practice, individual and group lessons, string orchestra and repertoire study. Participants will work intensively in their chosen chamber group and receive individual tuition as part of these sessions. Students who aspire to participate in this program should be confidently performing quartet repertoire of Haydn or Bartok for example. There will be a number of opportunities for public performance, dependent upon lecturers' discretion/advice.

Home - The Cuskelly College of Music

AUSTRALIAN ROMANTIC & CLASSICAL ORCHESTRA – YOUNG MANNHEIM SYMPHONISTS – <i>NATIONAL ACADEMY</i>	Sydney July 2026
<b>15 – 23 years</b> – refer to website regarding recommend Grade Levels	
The Young Mannheim Symphonists National Academy is a <b>residential</b> course where successful applicants will board for five nights and spend their days and evenings participating in workshops, tutorials and orchestral rehearsals. The National Academy culminates in a public concert in which the Young Mannheim Symphonists perform the repertoire they prepare throughout the week.	
Please note - this workshop is audition based.	
<u>Australian Romantic &amp; Classical Orchestra - Young Mannheim</u> <u>Symphonists 2025</u>	
	Sudmay

Classical/	<b>GONDWANA NATIONAL CHOIRS - CHORALE</b>	Sydney	
Choral Singing	18 – 25 years	12 – 24 January 2026	
	Gondwana <i>Chorale</i> is a vibrant national youth choir, is an SATB (soprano, alto, tenor, bass) ensemble for singers aged $18 - 25$ . With a reputation for an exciting sound across a varied repertoire, Gondwana Chorale comprises some of the brightest young singers from across Australia.		
	Please note auditions for Gondwana occur in August 2025.		
	<u>Gondwana National Choirs - Gondwana Choirs</u>		

Piano	CUSKELLY COLLEGE OF MUSIC – PIANO PERFORMANCE PROGRAM (GILBERT DE GREEVE) Age group is dependent upon audition In this program, students will work with Gilbert de Greeve (previously Head of the Music Academy, Antwerp) and would be expected to be at minimum Diploma level. Students will perform in the daily master class and should come to the program with a minimum of four pieces already at performance standard in order to gain maximum benefit from this work. All students will have individual lessons throughout the duration of the course. There will be a number of opportunities for performing, dependent upon the lecturer's discretion/advice.	Brisbane 5 – 16 January 2026
	CUSKELLY COLLEGE OF MUSIC – PIANO 12 + years Students will perform in piano master class and may choose any style/genre of music to play in these classes. All students will have individual lessons throughout the duration of the course. As there will be a number of opportunities both for performing and for individual tuition, students in this stream should ensure that they have prepared at least four pieces for performance throughout the course. It is important to note that there is no minimum level of performance required – all students are welcome to participate and learn! <u>Home - The Cuskelly College of Music</u>	Brisbane 5 – 16 January 2026

Acting	NIDA – ACTORS RESIDENCY 18+ years	Sydney July 2026
	Develop and utilise fundamental skills and techniques for performance as you collaborate with an ensemble and industry experts in a rigorous residency program. NIDA's Residencies are designed for people with a commitment and curiosity to undergo intensive artistic development over an extended period of time. This Residency can be customised to be two or three weeks.	
	<b>Please note -</b> NIDA Young Actors residency will only proceed if NIDA receive a suitable number of applicants. If you are awarded a bursary to attend, please do not book accommodation and/or flights until you receive confirmation from NIDA the course will be proceeding. The Foundation are not responsible for late cancellation notice provided by NIDA. <u>Actors Residency - NIDA OPEN</u>	

Dance	AUSTRALIAN BALLET – SUMMER SCHOOL 12 – 18 years	Melbourne January 2026
	The Australian Ballet's annual Summer School offers comprehensive training in classical ballet and other dance styles, in a variety of different programmes for national and international students. Classes are led by staff of the school and guest teachers from The Australian Ballet and the dance community.	
	ABS Summer School – The Australian Ballet School   ABN 18004852108   CRICOS Provider Code 00253A   RTO 3132	
	AUSTRALASIAN DANCE COLLECTIVE – ADC INTENSIVE Professionals, recent graduates and students in current pre- professional training	Brisbane Dates TBC 2026
	Australasian Dance Collective invites professional dances, recent graduates and students in current pre-professional training to apply for ADC Intensive in 2026. Immerse yourself in Australian Dance Collective's unique environment at the ADC intensive.	
	Get to know our remarkable artistic team, company artists and guest collaborators over a <b>five-day</b> deep dive into exploring practice, examining process and engaging in robust conversation about being collectively creative. <u>ADC Intensive - Australasian Dance Collective</u>	

Film & TV	SUMMER SCHOOL IN FILMMAKING – CINEMATOGRAPHY INTENSIVE 12 – 25 years In this course, you will look at cinematography essentials such as designing a "ook" and "feel" for your story, composition, framing, continuity, crossing the line, blocking scenes, scene coverage, production design and explore creative choices of lighting, lenses and camera placement. You will examine specific scenes in scripts and films to work out what makes for a good shot and why. In addition, you'll learn how to interpret the script in visual terms with storyboarding and how to tell stories with stills and how cinematography conveys meaning and enhances story.	Melbourne 7 – 11 January 2026
Arts Administration	AYO – NATIONAL MUSIC CAMP – ORCHESTRAL MANAGEMENT 18+ years	Adelaide 5 – 18 January 2026
	Behind every orchestra is a hard-working team of operations and production staff. As a participant in the Orchestral Management program, you will be part of the team ensuring that many AYO National Music Camp activities happen smoothly and safely. Learn the ins and outs of an orchestral manager's responsibilities from an industry professional and dive into writing stage plans, managing rehearsals and chamber concerts, and troubleshooting any challenges that come their way. Learning from an industry expert, you'll develop the skills to help keep the orchestra running smoothly as you master the essentials of stage management, foresight and planning. Put your new skills to the test as you expertly manage the two weeks of rehearsals and concert series at AYO National Music Camp. Please note – Submission deadlines to AYO are 25 August 2025 (strings) and 27 August 2025 (all other instruments). AYO National Music Camp – Orchestral Management   Australian Youth <u>Orchestra % %</u>	
	AYO – NATIONAL MUSIC CAMP – MEDIA & COMMUNICATION 18+ years	Adelaide 5 – 18 January 2026
	The right words can powerfully influence an audience's experience of live music. This program will immerse you in the world of online, radio and print mediums as you learn to expressively communicate about music and the cultural factors which influence it. As a Media and Communication participant, you'll learn the tricks of the trade behind music journalism and content creation. You'll use these newfound skills to create inspiring, engaging pieces about the music you'll hear every day at camp.	2020
	Please note – Submission deadlines to AYO are <b>25 August 2025</b> (strings) and <b>27 August 2025</b> (all other instruments).	
	AYO National Music Camp - Media and Communication   Australian Youth Orchestra	

Technical	AYO – NATIONAL MUSIC CAMP – SOUND PRODUCTION 18+ years Learn to capture the wonder and beauty of live orchestral performances immaculately produced concert recordings. This program will equip you with the technical knowledge and experience essential for sound production and mixing. You'll also learn interview and editing techniques to develop your broadcasting skills. This is a unique, hands-on experience that leads to professional-quality outcomes. Please note – Submission deadlines to AYO are 25 August 2025 (strings) and 27 August 2025 (all other instruments). AYO National Music Camp - Sound Production   Australian Youth Orchestra	Adelaide 5 – 18 January 2026
Conducting or composing	AYO – NATIONAL MUSIC CAMP – COMPOSITION PROGRAM 16+ years – previous participants of the Composition program are ineligible to apply Energise your craft with a hive of inspiration in this two-week musical immersion.	Adelaide 5 – 14 January 2026

Compositional growth is our goal, and participants will together explore techniques, styles and processes in creating music that demands to be played and heard. Your resulting composition will be rehearsed and performed by the musicians and tutors of the AYO National Music Camp orchestral program with guidance from one of Australia's leading composers.

**Please note** – Submission deadlines to AYO are **25 August 2025** (strings) and **27 August 2025** (all other instruments).

AYO National Music Camp - Composition | Australian Youth Orchestra

#### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

<b>QLD CONSERVATORIUM – TERTIARY PREPARATION WORKSHOP</b> Whether you're in your final years of high school or a mature-age student applying for entry to a university music degree, this program can help you to better prepare for the theatrical and practical requirements of the audition process. <u>Tertiary Preparation Workshop (griffith.edu.au)</u>	Brisbane June/July 2026
QUEENSLAND ACADEMY OF EXCELLENCE IN MUSICAL THEATRE (QAEMT) MUSICAL THEATRE AUDITION WORKSHOP	Brisbane June/July 2026
These workshops are open to applicants in year 11 and above who want to develop auditioning skills in Music Theatre. Successful applicants will work in detail with expert musical theatre staff in intensive small-group sessions and learn the essentials of auditioning processes, techniques, etiquette, and material selection. They will also learn a short dance routine; take part in mock auditions; work on prepared individual singing and acting repertoire and hear from performance professionals and current students about their own audition experiences, both within the QAEMT Bachelor of Musical Theatre program and the industry itself.	
Workshops (griffith.edu.au)	

#### **SELF-DEVISED PROGRAM**

#### SELF-DEVISED PROGRAM

- Is there a local course we do not know about that you would like to attend?
- Would you like to create a short film?
- Is there someone you would like to be mentored by?

The Empire Foundation may be able to assist with funding such concepts or courses. You can apply via our application form. Please ensure you submit sufficient information relating to your self-devised course/project including structure of the course/project and associated fees.