



Australian
National
Eisteddfod

*Canberra's
Eisteddfod*

CONCERT BANDS

JAZZ BANDS

BRASS BANDS

ORCHESTRAS

PROGRAMME

21-24 MAY 2026

**Llewellyn Hall (ANU School of Music),
Melba Copland Secondary School College Campus**

The Australian National Eisteddfod

Australian National Eisteddfod Inc.
ABN: 32 452 693 087
Ainslie Arts Centre, 30 Elouera St, Braddon, ACT, 2612
Ph: (02) 6182 0037
Email: info@nationaleisteddfod.org.au
www.nationaleisteddfod.org.au



Australian National Eisteddfod Calendar for 2026

BANDS & ORCHESTRAS: May 21-24, Llewellyn Hall (ANU) and Melba Copland Secondary School College Campus

CHOIRS: August 7-9, Snow Concert Hall, Canberra Grammar School

PIANO: August 15-20, Wesley Music Centre

SINGING: September 11-13, Ainslie Arts Centre

SPEECH AND DRAMA: September 19-20, Ainslie Arts Centre

Please check website to confirm details: <http://www.nationaleisteddfod.org.au>

Entries for all events can be made at: <http://www.stardom.com.au>

To confirm closing dates and details please check: <http://www.nationaleisteddfod.org.au>.

BANDS & ORCHESTRAS DATES FOR FUTURE YEARS:

2027: May 21-23

2028: May 19-21

If you would like to receive regular newsletters and updates on Eisteddfod activities, please email info@nationaleisteddfod.org.au

AustralianNationalEisteddfod



About the Australian National Eisteddfod

The Australian National Eisteddfod was first held in Canberra in 1938. Over the past 80 years the organisation has grown to offer a wide variety of performing arts opportunities in Bands, Orchestras, Choirs, Singing, Piano, Speech and Drama and Instrumental.

Each year around 5,000 individuals perform in Australian National Eisteddfod events. Every group or individual that performs is provided with feedback and guidance from experienced specialists in the field.

The Eisteddfod's mission is to "promote participation in the performing arts". It actively encourages an inclusive environment that fosters the growth of confidence and self-esteem in performers of all levels and ages. The majority of participants are children and young adults.

The Australian National Eisteddfod is a registered non-profit community organisation and is always in need of sponsorship and support to enable the events to be undertaken. To maximise accessibility, the organisation keeps the costs for participants and audiences as low as possible. Every donation, however small, is greatly appreciated, and will be used to assist in providing opportunities for many groups and individuals to grow and learn in the performing arts.

Further information on the Eisteddfod is available at: <http://www.nationaleisteddfod.org.au>

If you would like to become involved with the Eisteddfod as a sponsor or volunteer, please contact our Office Administrator by email: info@nationaleisteddfod.org.au.

The Eisteddfod is a not-for-profit community organisation, incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1991 of the ACT - Certificate A10

It is registered as a charity and as a tax deductible gift recipient under the Australian Federal Income Tax Assessment Act – ABN 32 452 693 087.

Board

President:	Sylvia Tulloch
Vice-President:	Janetta McRae
Secretary:	Janette Humphrey
Treasurer:	Amy Sleeman
General Members:	Event Directors, Trish Sandling
Administrative Officer:	Renee Radojkovic

Event Directors

Bands & Orchestras	Simon Best and Ben Green
Choirs	Miguel Wu
Piano	New one sought (Di Miley overseeing)
Singing	Janetta McRae and Peter Smith
Speech & Drama	Sylvia Tulloch and Dion Oxley

Contact details: australiannationaleisteddfod@gmail.com; www.nationaleisteddfod.org.au



The School of Music – a connected place.

In 2026 School of Music staff contribute to the life of music and culture in the ACT and the nation through regular music industry engagements as performers and composers, including recently with the SSO, the CSO and the MSO, and some are members of leading Sydney and Canberra jazz and funk bands. We are enjoying our leading role in sector building, and we continue to remain adaptable and serve the sector in 2026 and beyond. We thrive within our engagements and collaborations, and we are thrilled that in 2026 we have attracted a further 10 of the finest sessional staff from around the country to teach into the new and the old programs that we offer at the School. Some recent staff highlights include Professor Ken Lampl is film composer for *Monument* (see trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TH6hJajv4XE>) which just had its premiere screening in Times Square New York City, March 2026; composer and sessional staff member Dr Jodie Blackshaw received the premiere of her commissioned work *Eyes Turned Skyward* for symphonic wind orchestra, commissioned and staged through the College Band Directors National Association USA; percussionist and sessional staff member Dr Eugene Ughetti is again director for the Canberra International Music Festival (CIMF) 2026 and is key to linking the School integrally with the Festival, and just back from an MSO tour of Europe; and I was recently listed amongst the ANAM 30 Stories collection, recently worked as composer with the SSO and the MSO, and also recorded a new brass quintet with Lyrebird Brass – a faculty group from Melbourne Conservatorium. Our staff are connected and share such connections with the students.

For students there are, in fact, nine to ten performance courses one can take during a three-year degree. Titles may include Fit to Perform (a first-year subject in performance), Studio Performance, Professional and Community Music Leadership, Music Practice (a whole of third-year subject where one can focus on a major performance project - a major recital, a tour), amongst others. Most of these include seminars, ensemble practice, and 1:1 tuition totalling between 3 to 5 hours per week of face-to-face performance learning (different for each course). In addition, students are encouraged to participate in other ensembles as available. Students also have the option of studying composition and recording production at undergraduate level. There are various generous scholarships and awards available for students who choose to study at the School.

Many students at the ANU School of Music take advantage of the unique flexible double degree pathways offered by the university, combining their music studies with a broad range of other disciplines, including science, computing, medicine and the humanities.

Music is a valuable part of our society and brings us together in a special way. The Eisteddfod plays an important role in building community and offers a special platform for young people to share their music making. The ANU School of Music is delighted to be able to continue its support for the Australian National Eisteddfod Bands & Orchestras event and is sure that it will again be a most successful occasion for all involved.

Professor Christopher Sainsbury
Head, ANU School of Music

Adjudicator Biographies



Fiona Gardner MEd (Concert, School and Brass Bands)

Fiona is a passionate performer, conductor and advocate for the wind band. Her studies have included a broad range of work in the arts, including a major in Musicology from the University of New England, and a Masters Degree in Music Education with Orchestral Conducting and Performance Pedagogy at the University of Melbourne. She has had the privilege to conduct ensembles on stages all over the world from LA, to the Great Wall of China, the Sydney Opera House and in her local region of Geelong and Melbourne. She believes every rehearsal is an opportunity to encourage and serve the musicians she directs.

She is the Director of Music at Christian College Geelong, developing the music program alongside a skilled and committed team of music educators for the past 40 years. As well as being a busy administrator, looking after the more than 50 music teachers in her team, she also enjoys teaching Instrumental Music (woodwind), and directing the Colleges Senior Wind Symphony. She has toured extensively with her band taking them to festivals and competitions locally, interstate, to the USA, and Asia where they have been recognized for excellence and received numerous awards.

Fiona is passionate about community music making and the tremendous benefits it provides to the participants and audience. She is also an advocate for music education being available to every student in every school! She sees music education, and the opportunities it offers, as a wonderful vehicle to educate students deeply and richly for their lives. Fiona is also director of the Geelong Summer Music Camp, a day camp run by a volunteer committee, providing opportunity for 250 students to make music and learn 'new things' for a week in January each year. Please find details at <https://www.gsmc.org.au/>

Fiona has adjudicated at various school, local, state and national competitions. She particularly enjoys working with ensembles as a guest conductor and is looking forward to hearing the great work, joy and energy in the performances of the bands at the Australian National Eisteddfod in 2026.

Lindy Reksten BMus; Orchestral Development Liaison, Canberra Symphony Orchestra (Orchestras)

After completing a music degree at the Tasmanian Conservatorium of Music, Lindy moved to Germany. She undertook postgraduate cello studies at the University of Music in Detmold and was a full-time member of the orchestra at the opera house in Detmold (Landestheater) for 10 years. Lindy also had a large teaching practice at the music schools in Detmold and Lage. After completing her post graduate studies, Lindy was engaged as a mentor for cello students studying instrumental pedagogy at the University of Music.

After returning to Australia Lindy established a busy teaching practice in Canberra. She performs regularly with the Canberra Symphony Orchestra (CSO) and many other music operations.

Lindy has a particular interest in supporting developing young musicians. She established the very successful pre-tertiary chamber music program at the ANU Community Music Centre and was involved in the development of the ANU Orchestra.

Apart from playing in the CSO, Lindy has a role as the Orchestral Development Liaison with the CSO. In this role she works in the Future Pathways Program which offers enrichment programs to students from age 8 to tertiary.

Lindy is Vice President of the Friends of the School of Music ANU and is on the board of the Wesley Music Foundation.

Brendan Magee PhD, M Ed., B Ed., Adv Dip. Mus (Jazz) (Jazz Bands)

Brendan has a wide range of musical experience as both a performer and educator in a wide range of genres. He has over 25 years' experience working as a classroom, ensemble, performance music and band teacher. He has composed numerous works for Big Bands and rock bands at a school and professional level.

Brendan never lost his love of performing and has worked in a range of bands and orchestras, ranging from community ensembles, Big Bands, several 80's cover bands, and a 70's Disco band. He has performed at a range of venues – from the Monterey Jazz Festival with the Canberra School of Music Big Band to performing with the Screaming Jets and Chocolate Starfish at several V8 weekends in Bathurst!!

He is honoured to be invited to adjudicate at the National Eisteddfod.

THURSDAY 21 MAY – MELBA COPLAND COLLEGE

5.00pm

Section B 161– 16 Years & Under Jazz Bands (Grade B)

Minimum of 8 players – Own choice item: 8 minutes

1. Marist College Middle Years Jazz Band
2. ACT Instrumental Music Program Jazz Foundations

Section B 162– 16 Years & Under Jazz Bands (Grade A)

Minimum of 8 players – Own choice item: 12 minutes

1. Canberra High School Jazz Band
2. Gold Creek High School Year 7-10 Jazz Band

Adjudicator's Comments and Presentation of Awards

6.15pm

Section B 181 – 18 Years & Under Jazz Bands (Grade B)

Minimum of 8 players – Own choice item: 8 minutes

1. Canberra Grammar School Jazz Ensemble

Section B 182 – 18 Years & Under Jazz Bands (Grade A)

Minimum of 8 players – Own choice item: 12 minutes

1. ACT Instrumental Music Program Jazz Collective
2. Canberra Grammar School Big Band

7.10pm

Section B 001 Open Jazz Bands Grade B

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 12 minutes

1. Prism
2. Daramalan College Big Band

Section B 002 Open Jazz Bands Grade A

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 12 minutes

1. Twilight Jazz Band
2. Sonus Big Band

The Kaaren Talty Jazz Encouragement Trophy will be judged by the Adjudicator, and awarded to a participating group which shows particular promise. It comes with a \$300 prize. Kaaren Talty, who passed away in 2007, was a strong supporter of the Eisteddfod Society and had a particular interest in the Jazz Band sections. This award is her family's way of continuing to foster the development of young musicians.

Award of Kaaren Talty Jazz Encouragement Trophy Adjudicator's Comments and Presentation of Awards

FRIDAY 22 MAY – LLEWELLYN HALL, ANU

Assessment in all sections will be based on 3 attainment levels: Gold, Silver and Bronze. A few Platinum awards are available to recognize outstanding performances; these come with a \$100 Better Music voucher.

5.30pm

Section B 006 – Open Brass Bands (Grade C)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 20 minutes

1. Canberra Youth Brass
2. Newbery Brass

Section B 007 – Open Brass Bands (Grade B)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 20 minutes

1. Victoria Street Brass

Section B 008 – Open Brass Bands (Grade A)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 20 minutes

1. Canberra Brass

Adjudicator's Comments and Presentation of Awards

7.30pm

Section B 003 – Open Concert Bands (Grade C)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 15 minutes

1. Hunter School of the Performing Arts Junior Concert Band *from Hunter Valley*
2. John Agnew Band

Section B 004 – Open Concert Bands (Grade B)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 20 minutes

1. Hunter Wind Ensemble
2. South Canberra Wind Orchestra
3. Hunter School of the Performing Arts Senior Concert Band *from Hunter Valley*

Section B 005 – Open Concert Bands (Grade A)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 20 minutes

1. Canberra City Band
2. Ginninderra Wind Orchestra
3. Cameraygal Wind Symphony *from Sydney*

Adjudicator's Comments and Presentation of Awards

SATURDAY 23 MAY – LLEWELLYN HALL, ANU

Assessment in all sections will be based on 3 attainment levels: Gold, Silver and Bronze. A few Platinum awards are available to recognize outstanding performances; these come with a \$100 Better Music voucher.

8:30am

Section B PS1 – Primary School Bands

Minimum of 8 players – Own choice item: 8 minutes

1. Canberra Girls Grammar School Bandicoot Concert Band
2. Canberra Grammar School Primary Concert Band

Section B 141 – 14 Years & Under Concert Bands (Grade B)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 8 minutes

1. Canberra Girls Grammar School Sapphire Concert Band
2. Marist College Year 8 Concert Band
3. ACT Instrumental Music Program Primary Concert Band

Section B 142 – 14 Years & Under Concert Bands (Grade A)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 12 minutes

1. ACT Instrumental Music Program Junior Concert Band

Adjudicator's Comments and Presentation of Awards

10.30am

Section B 163 – 16 Years & Under Concert Bands (Grade C)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 8 minutes

1. Belconnen Youth Band
2. Radford College Holst Concert Band
3. Canberra Grammar School Barrett Concert Band
4. Marist College Year 9/10 Concert Band

Section B 164 – 16 Years & Under Concert Bands (Grade B)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 10 minutes

1. Hunter School of the Performing Arts Junior Concert Band *from Hunter Valley*

Adjudicator's Comments and Presentation of Awards

Lunch break

12.45pm

Section B 183 – 18 Years & Under Concert Bands (Grade C)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 8 minutes

1. Canberra Girls Grammar School Holst Concert Band
2. Canberra Grammar School Middleton Concert Band

Section B 184 – 18 Years & Under Concert Bands (Grade B)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 10 minutes

1. Baulkham Hills High School Symphonic Wind Orchestra *from Sydney*
2. Hunter School of the Performing Arts Senior Concert Band *from Hunter Valley*
3. Radford College Bernstein Symphonic Wind Ensemble
4. Daramalan College Senior Concert Band
5. Canberra Girls Grammar School Empire Concert Band

Section B 185 – 18 Years & Under Concert Bands (Grade A)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 12 minutes

1. Canberra Grammar School Fischer Concert Band
2. Baulkham Hills High School Symphonic Wind Ensemble *from Sydney*
3. Northern Youth Symphonic Wind
4. ACT Instrumental Music Program Senior Concert Band

Adjudicator's Comments and Presentation of Awards

4.10pm

Section B PS2 – Primary School Orchestras

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 8 minutes

1. Canberra Grammar School Primary String Orchestra
2. Canberra Girls Grammar School Alma String Orchestra
3. Canberra Grammar School Sinfonia

Adjudicator's Comments and Presentation of Awards

Dinner break

5.45pm

Section B 166 – 16 Years & Under Orchestras

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 8 minutes

1. Canberra Grammar School Senior String Orchestra

Section B 186 – 18 Years & Under Orchestras

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 8 minutes

1. Baulkham Hills High School Orchestra *from Sydney*

Section B187– 18 Years & Under String Orchestras

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 8 minutes

1. Canberra Grammar School Senior Chamber Strings
2. Baulkham Hills High School String Ensemble *from Sydney*
3. Radford College Corelli Chamber String Orchestra
4. Hunter School of the Performing Arts String Orchestra *from Hunter Valley*
5. Canberra Girls Grammar School Holland String Orchestra

Adjudicator's Comments and Presentation of Awards

Section B 010 – Open Orchestras

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 20 minutes

1. Daramalan College Orchestra

Section B 008 – Open String Orchestras

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 20 minutes

1. Hunter School of the Performing Arts String Orchestra *from Hunter Valley*

Adjudicator's Comments and Presentation of Awards

SUNDAY 24 MAY – LLEWELLYN HALL, ANU

Assessment in all sections will be based on 3 attainment levels: Gold, Silver and Bronze. A few Platinum awards are available to recognize outstanding performances; these come with a \$100 Better Music voucher.

10.00am

Section B PS1 – ACT Primary School Age Bands

Minimum of 8 players – Own choice item: 8 minutes

Players must attend the same school and predominantly have playing experience of 7 months.

1. Maribyrnong Primary School Year 6 Band

Section B HS1 – ACT High School Bands (Beginner)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 8 minutes

Players must attend the same school and predominantly have playing experience of 7 months.

1. Gold Creek High School Year 7-10 Beginner Band
2. Canberra High School Year 7 Band
3. Lyneham High School Year 7 Beginner Concert Band

Adjudicator's Comments and Presentation of Awards

11.20am

Section B HS2 – ACT High School Bands (Novice)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 10 minutes

Players must attend the same school and predominantly have playing experience of 1 year.

1. Mount Stromlo High School Junior Concert Band
2. Lyneham High School Year 7 Continuers Band
3. Canberra High School Year 8 Band
4. Belconnen High School Band
5. Melba Copland Secondary School Year 7 Concert Band

Adjudicator's Comments and Presentation of Awards

Lunch Break

2.00pm

Section B HS3 – ACT High School Bands (Intermediate)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 10 minutes

Players must attend the same school and predominantly have playing experience of 2-3 years.

1. UC High School Kaleen Concert Band
2. Mount Stromlo High School Senior Concert Band
3. Melba Copland Secondary School Combined Concert Band
4. Canberra High School Senior Band
5. Lyneham High School Year 9 Concert Band
6. Gold Creek High School Year 7-10 Band
7. Lyneham High School Year 8 Concert Band

Adjudicator's Comments and Presentation of Awards

4.10pm

Section B HS4 – ACT High School Bands (Advanced)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 12 minutes

Players must attend the same school and predominantly have playing experience of 3-4 years.

1. Lyneham High School Year 10 Concert Band
2. Melba Copland Secondary School Senior Concert Band

Adjudicator's Comments and Presentation of Awards

Award of Masling Encouragement Trophy

The Masling Encouragement Trophy will be judged by the Adjudicator, and awarded to a participating group in one of the ACT High School Bands sections which shows particular promise.

Biginelli's Café

*Coffee, Cake, Panini
Level 5 School of Music, ANU
Voted best coffee on campus
Open throughout the Eisteddfod*

CLOSE OF BANDS & ORCHESTRAS EVENT

With Thanks

The Bands & Orchestras Event would not be possible without the valuable support of many people and organisations including:

Staff at venues **ANU School of Music**
 Melba Copland Secondary School and College
Shared percussion **Ginninderra Wind Orchestra**
Adjudicators **Fiona Gardner, Lindy Reksten, Dr Brendan Magee**



for provision of Platinum award vouchers

Special thanks to the following volunteers without whom we could not operate:

- Debbie Masling, Denise Carlton, Jayne Flanagan, Janette Humphrey, Di Miley, Fiona McEwan, Renee and Aidan Radojkovic, Eileen and Neil Currie, Tracy Best and Amy Sleeman
- Sarah Taylor, Alex Penn-Turrell, Bronwyn Kosman, Wendy Lim, Lola Power, Lucas Hope Rothwell, Justine Bruce, Natasha Poon, Sally Rose (ushers)
- Roger Kauffman, Polly Ball and Ben Green (Emcees)
- Brin Yeowell, Elijah Crosby, Raine Xu (Stage hands)
- Daniel Morvell for recordings
- Peter Hislop and Dalice Trost for photography
- Many other volunteers (e.g. stagehands and general assistants) without whom we could not operate.

Bands & Orchestras Partners:

- Capital Trophies and Sportswear
- Bignelli's Café

2025 BANDS & ORCHESTRAS RESULTS

Section B 161– 16 Years & Under Jazz Bands (Grade B)

Minimum of 8 players – Own choice item: 8 minutes

1. Canberra High School Jazz Band - BRONZE
2. Lyneham High School Jazz Band - SILVER
3. Gold Creek High School Jazz Band - BRONZE

Section B 162– 16 Years & Under Jazz Bands (Grade A)

Minimum of 8 players – Own choice item: 12 minutes

1. Campbell High School Senior Band - GOLD

Section B 181 – 18 Years & Under Jazz Bands (Grade B)

Minimum of 8 players – Own choice item: 8 minutes

1. Canberra Grammar School Jazz Ensemble - SILVER
2. Radford College Big Band - GOLD

Section B 182 – 18 Years & Under Jazz Bands (Grade A)

Minimum of 8 players – Own choice item: 12 minutes

1. Canberra Grammar School Big Band - GOLD
2. ACT Instrumental Music Program Senior Jazz Band - GOLD

B 001 Open Jazz Bands Grade B

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 12 minutes

1. Daramalan College Big Band – PLATINUM and Kaaren Talty Jaz Encouragement Award
2. Prism - GOLD

B 002 Open Jazz Bands Grade A

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 12 minutes

1. Sonus Big Band - SILVER
2. Twilight Jazz Band - SILVER

FRIDAY 20 MAY – LLEWELLYN HALL, ANU

Assessment in all sections will be based on 3 attainment levels: Gold, Silver and Bronze. A few Platinum awards are available to recognize outstanding performances; these come with a \$100 Better Music voucher.

Section B 003 – Open Concert Bands (Grade C)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 15 minutes

1. Hunter School of the Performing Arts Junior Concert Band - GOLD
2. John Agnew Band - SILVER

Section B 011 – Open Brass Bands (Grade C)

1. Newbery Brass - SILVER

Section B 006 – Open Brass Bands (Grade B)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 20 minutes

1. Victoria Street Brass - SILVER

Section B 007 – Open Brass Bands (Grade A)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 20 minutes

1. Canberra Brass - PLATINUM

Section B 004 – Open Concert Bands (Grade B)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 20 minutes

1. Hunter School of the Performing Arts Senior Concert Band - GOLD
2. Merewether High School Senior Concert Band - SILVER
3. ACT Instrumental Music Program Senior Concert Band - SILVER

Section B 005 – Open Concert Bands (Grade A)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 20 minutes

1. Ginninderra Wind Orchestra - GOLD
2. Canberra City Band - GOLD

SATURDAY 21 MAY – LLEWELLYN HALL, ANU

Assessment in all sections will be based on 3 attainment levels: Gold, Silver and Bronze. A few Platinum awards are available to recognize outstanding performances; these come with a \$100 Better Music voucher.

Section B PS1 – Primary School Bands

Minimum of 8 players – Own choice item: 8 minutes

1. Canberra Grammar School Primary Concert Band - GOLD
2. Canberra Girls Grammar School Bandicoot Concert Band - GOLD

Section B 141 – 14 Years & Under Concert Bands (Grade B)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 8 minutes

1. Marist College Year 8 Concert Band B - SILVER
2. Canberra Girls Grammar School Sapphire Concert Band - SILVER
3. Telopea Park School Junior Ensemble - BRONZE
4. ACT Instrumental Music Program Primary Concert Band - SILVER

Section B 142 – 14 Years & Under Concert Bands (Grade A)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 12 minutes

1. ACT Instrumental Music Program Junior Concert Band - GOLD
2. Marist College Year 8 Concert Band A - SILVER

Section B 163 – 16 Years & Under Concert Bands (Grade C)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 8 minutes

1. Belconnen Musicians YMS Concert Band - SILVER
2. Daramalan College Junior Concert Band - BRONZE
3. Canberra Grammar School Barrett Concert Band - GOLD

Section B 164 – 16 Years & Under Concert Bands (Grade B)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 10 minutes

1. Hunter School of the Performing Arts Junior Concert Band - GOLD
2. Merewether High School Junior Concert Band - SILVER
3. Telopea Park School Senior Ensemble - BRONZE

Section B 183 – 18 Years & Under Concert Bands (Grade C)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 8 minutes

1. Canberra Grammar School Middleton Concert Band - SILVER
2. Canberra Girls Grammar School Holst Concert Band - SILVER
3. Radford College Bernstein Symphonic Wind Ensemble - GOLD

Section B 184 – 18 Years & Under Concert Bands (Grade B)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 10 minutes

1. Daramalan College Senior Concert Band - GOLD
2. Canberra Girls Grammar School Empire Concert Band - GOLD
3. Hunter School of the Performing Arts Senior Concert Band – PLATINUM
4. Baulkham Hills High School Symphonic Wind Orchestra - SILVER
5. Merewether High School Senior Concert Band - GOLD

Section B 185 – 18 Years & Under Concert Bands (Grade A)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 12 minutes

1. Baulkham Hills High School Symphonic Wind Ensemble - SILVER
2. Canberra Grammar School Fischer Concert Band - GOLD

Section B PS2 – Primary School Orchestras

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 8 minutes

1. Canberra Grammar School Primary String Orchestra - SILVER
2. Radford College Haydn String Orchestra – SILVER
3. Canberra Grammar School Sinfonia - GOLD

Section B 166 - 16 Years & Under Orchestras

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 8 minutes

1. Radford College Elgar String Orchestra – SILVER

Section B 167 - 16 Years & Under Ensembles

Minimum of 4 players – Own choice item: 8 minutes

1. Radford College Zappa Guitar Ensemble Orchestra – SILVER

Section B 186 and B187– 18 Years & Under Orchestras and String Orchestras

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 8 minutes

1. Hunter School of the Performing Arts String Orchestra - SILVER
2. Baulkham Hills High School Orchestra - GOLD
3. Canberra Grammar School Senior String Orchestra - SILVER
4. Baulkham Hills High String Ensemble - SILVER
5. Merewether High School String Ensemble - SILVER
6. Radford College Corelli Chamber String Orchestra - GOLD
7. Canberra Girls Grammar School Sutherland Chamber Orchestra - SILVER

Section B188 – 18 Years & Under Ensembles

Minimum of 4 players – Own choice item: 8 minutes

1. Radford College Montgomery Guitar Ensemble – BRONZE
2. Hunter School of the Performing Arts Percussion Ensemble – SILVER
3. Daramalan College String Ensemble - SILVER

Section B 008 – Open String Orchestras

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 20 minutes

1. Hunter School of the Performing Arts String Orchestra - SILVER
2. Canberra Grammar School Senior Chamber Strings - SILVER

SUNDAY 22 MAY – LLEWELLYN HALL, ANU

Assessment in all sections will be based on 3 attainment levels: Gold, Silver and Bronze. A few Platinum awards are available to recognize outstanding performances; these come with a \$100 Better Music voucher.

Section B PS1 – ACT Primary School Age Bands

Minimum of 8 players – Own choice item: 8 minutes

Players must attend the same school and predominantly have playing experience of 7 months.

1. Maribyrnong Primary School Band - GOLD

Section B PS3 – ACT Primary/High School Age Bands

1. Harrison School Junior Band - SILVER

Section B HS1 – ACT High School Bands (Beginner)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 8 minutes

Players must attend the same school and predominantly have playing experience of 7 months.

1. Gold Creek High School Year 7-10 Beginner Band - SILVER
2. Campbell High School Blue Band (Beginner) - SILVER
3. Canberra High School Year 7 Band - GOLD
4. Lyneham High School Year 7 Beginner Concert Band - SILVER

Section B HS2 – ACT High School Bands (Novice)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 10 minutes

Players must attend the same school and predominantly have playing experience of 1 year.

1. Lyneham High School Year 7 Continuers Band - SILVER
2. Mount Stromlo High School Junior Band - SILVER
3. Canberra High School Year 8 Band - SILVER
4. Belconnen High School Band - SILVER
5. Campbell High School Year 7 Red Band (Continuing) - SILVER

Section B HS3 – ACT High School Bands (Intermediate)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 10 minutes

Players must attend the same school and predominantly have playing experience of 2-3 years.

1. Lyneham High School Year 8 Concert Band - BRONZE
2. Melba Copland Secondary School Band - SILVER
3. Mount Stromlo High School Senior Band - SILVER
4. Harrison School Band - BRONZE
5. UC High School Kaleen Concert Band - SILVER
6. Gold Creek High School Year 7-10 Band - SILVER
7. Lyneham High School Year 9 Concert Band – PLATINUM

Section B HS4 – ACT High School Bands (Advanced)

Minimum of 10 players – Own choice item: 12 minutes

Players must attend the same school and predominantly have playing experience of 3-4 years.

1. Canberra High School Senior Band - GOLD
2. Lyneham High School Year 10 Concert Band - GOLD

BANDS AND ORCHESTRAS

- **Thursday 21 May – Sunday 24 May 2026**
- **Llewellyn Hall (ANU) and Melba Copland Secondary School College Campus Theatre**

Entries close: 31 March 2026

Event Directors: Simon Best, Ben Green
email: ausnateist@gmail.com

Adjudicators: **Fiona Gardner (Concert and Brass Bands), Lindy Reksten (Orchestras),
Brendan Magee (Jazz Bands)**

Adjudicators Secretary: **Janette Humphrey**

Special Notices

Selecting sections

- Conductors are to select the section for their band where more than one exists (e.g. 'A', 'B' or 'C' Grade).
- As a general guide for non-competitive sections: repertoire with a Publisher grading of Level 2.5 or lower, or average playing experience of less than 3 years, is suitable for 'B' rather than 'A' grade. 'C' grade is intended for beginning or early-development groups.
- The Adjudicator has the right to re-classify a group.

Structure of Bands & Orchestras program

The program structure for 2026 will be similar to previous years.

It is:

- Thursday May 21, late afternoon-evening – Jazz Bands
- Friday May 22, evening – Open age Concert and Brass Bands
- Saturday May 23, morning – Concert Bands (14, 16, 18 Years & Under)
- Saturday May 23, afternoon and evening– Orchestras and String Orchestras
- Sunday May 24 – ACT High School Bands

This program is subject to change depending on entry numbers and logistics.

Members of Bands and Orchestras

Except with the express permission in writing of the Event Directors of the Bands and Orchestras Event:

- a) all members of a school band or orchestra must be enrolled as students of that/those school/s; or
- b) all members of a non-school band or orchestra must be normal financial members (having paid an annual membership fee) of that band or orchestra or, if that band or orchestra does not have financial members, must have been playing regularly with that band or orchestra since 1 March 2026
- c) where a band or orchestra has entered a section with an age limit all players must not exceed that age limit. Applications for exemption can be made where the age limit of no more than 2 players exceeds the age limit by no more than 12 months. No further exemptions will be granted.

An entrant not complying with this rule may be disqualified.

ACT High School Bands Sections

The ACT High School Bands Sections are open to all schools within the ACT, encompassing Years 7-12.

Time Limits

Time limits will be enforced.

Applications for extensions must be made well in advance to the Event Directors.

Entries

Entries are made through the online Stardom system (<http://www.stardom.com.au>)

Entry fees are to be submitted with the entry form.

GST is NOT APPLICABLE to entry fees.

Adjudication

- The adjudicator has the right to re-classify an entrant.
- Each entrant will receive a USB recording with verbal adjudication comments over the performance (on separate tracks) and a written adjudication report.
- Adjudication in all sections will be non-competitive, and based on attainment levels (Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze). These levels are in no way comparative (e.g. each group in a section could be awarded the same attainment level), and reflect an overall judgement on the performance (and hence may not be directly related to marks on specific criteria).
- An adjudication only option is available for each section; this allows groups to perform and receive feedback from the adjudicator, without being rated. Groups choosing this option will receive a participation trophy.

Information to be submitted electronically by Friday 24 April

Information from entrants must be submitted by Friday 24 April, given the work entailed in event preparation. It will include:

- Completion of Googleform (link to be provided) with details of piece/s to be performed, and any notes for the Adjudicator
- Copy of the conductor's score/s for the adjudicator as a PDF and stage plan (to be loaded to a GoogleDrive folder; link will be provided). **We will not check scores comprehensively; this is your responsibility.**
- Please ensure the following:
 - The score is legible.
 - Each bar is numbered, not just the beginning of the system, etc. This may mean that you have to write the bar numbers by hand in order to comply with this requirement.
 - It must be in one complete PDF document, not separate sections, as the adjudicator must be able to read the score in its entirety
 - The score is able to be read in portrait layout and is in correct page order.
 - Please do not include parts in the uploaded PDF, only the conductor's score..

Copyright

The Australian National Eisteddfod Society Inc. (ANES) holds an Australian Performing Rights Association (APRA) licence that covers the public performance of all copyright musical works at this event. The licence fee is based on a per entry rate, and has been included in the entry fee for performers.

ANES also has an arrangement with the Australian Mechanical Copyright Owners Society (AMCOS) that allows entrants to submit an original piece of sheet music for adjudicators. An entrant may supply the adjudicator with an unlicensed copy of the piece provided that (a) the original is used by the entrant for performance and (b) the Executive Committee or its delegate destroys the copy immediately after the adjudication.

Entrants must perform from original published editions of music, unless prior permission has been obtained from the copyright owner.

General Rules and Conditions, appearing at the back of this Entry Guide, apply to this Event.

General rules and conditions of entry

All entrants participate according to these rules and conditions and any special conditions as may apply to individual divisions or events.

GENERAL

1. Entries must be submitted in the Stardom system (<http://www.stardom.com.au>) and accompanied by full fees or they will not be processed. Responsibility for correct entry rests with the entrant.
2. The Eisteddfod reserves the right to:
 - (a) refuse an entry;
 - (b) cancel a section (e.g. due to lack of entries);
 - (c) vary the prizes (e.g. when insufficient entries perform);
 - (d) demand proof of age of an entrant in an age section, or proof of amateur or professional status, or
 - (e) combine sections together.
3. An entrant may only enter a particular section once, except where specifically stated otherwise. The name of the partner(s) in a duo, lieder or ensemble must be included on the entry form, except for bands, orchestras, choirs and ensembles of six or more players.
4. No person may enter under a name other than his or her own. Entries are not transferable from one person to another.
5. Refunds of entry fees will be made to an entrant only if a section has been cancelled by the Eisteddfod.
6. One conductor may conduct any number of groups, and one director may present any number of groups. Age limits do not apply to conductors.
7. Entrants at Eisteddfod functions take part at their own risk. The Society does not accept responsibility for any accident or personal loss or injury, however caused.
8. Prizes, reports and original material not collected at the conclusion of the relevant division will be available for collection by arrangement with an Event Director.
9. Age, where specified for any section, shall be the age on the first day of competition of the division in which the entry is made.
10. Any entrant wishing to withdraw from a section must notify the Eisteddfod as soon as possible.
11. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Eisteddfod.
12. **The Australian National Eisteddfod Society will not be liable for any copyright infringement relating to the submission of photocopies. Entrants should be aware of the rules of copyright (see section 31 headed 'Copyright' below).**
13. The Society reserves the right to record, film, broadcast, telecast, videotape or photograph any entrant, item or event in the Eisteddfod without notification, unless the entrant advises the Eisteddfod in advance their photo is not to be shared. Any such photograph, recording or broadcast may be used at the Eisteddfod's discretion for publicity or promotional purposes, but shall not necessarily constitute an endorsement of any entrants, and no remuneration or compensation whatsoever shall be attributable to any entrants so featured.
14. Recording of performances on video is not permitted except where this forms the basis of adjudication. Photography is permitted so long as a flash is not used.
15. A high standard of behaviour is expected from all entrants and spectators. Participants and supporters must comply with the Code of Conduct.
16. Any mechanical rights which should be obtained in respect of recordings for performance is the responsibility of the performer. The Eisteddfod holds a licence issued by APRA for the live performance of published music.
17. An entrant, who during the three months preceding the opening date of the division in which he or she has entered, has been taught, coached or advised by the appointed Adjudicator of the division, shall not be eligible to compete in that division of the Eisteddfod.
18. Failure to comply with any of the foregoing rules and conditions may result in disqualification and withholding of prizes. The decision of the Eisteddfod in all questions or disputes arising out of, or not provided for, by these rules and regulations shall be final. All entries are received on this condition and in the spirit of friendly competition upon which the Australian National Eisteddfod is based, and no dispute shall become the subject of any appeal at law.

PERFORMANCE

19. Entrants should pay particular attention to neatness of appearance when appearing on stage, as this may be taken into consideration by the Adjudicator.
20. (a) No entrant may render the same item in more than one section of the Eisteddfod except where otherwise specified.
(b) No entrant, having won a section, may render the same item in the following year.
21. A copy of the music or other material to be performed in "own choice" events MUST be provided for the Adjudicator and Accompanist, unless it is a piece set by the Eisteddfod. The onus of choosing the right material for the event rests with the entrant. Suitability and degree of difficulty will be taken into consideration by the Adjudicator. The Eisteddfod does not accept responsibility for the loss of music or other material. In accordance with Copyright law, photocopies and other texts will be destroyed following the event.
22. Time limits set out in the Syllabus must be adhered to. Entrants who exceed the time limit may have marks deducted or be disqualified by the Adjudicator.
23. A teacher shall not be allowed on stage except in the capacity of an official, accompanist or conductor.
24. Prompting or assistance of any kind shall not be given to any entrant, except by the Adjudicator, who may take any contravention of this Rule into consideration in his or her adjudication.
25. Communication with the Adjudicator by entrants, teachers or other interested parties (other than in an official capacity) during a section is strictly prohibited, and the Eisteddfod reserves the right to disqualify an entrant for any breach of this rule.
26. The Adjudicator's decision shall be final.
27. Any protest shall be made in writing to the Eisteddfod within 24 hours of the completion of the relevant section. A protest can only be made by an entrant, or the entrant's teacher or parent. The decision of the Eisteddfod shall be final.
28. A copy of the Adjudicator's report will be made available free of charge at the end of each section.
29. Entrants shall not practise in the performing space for their division on the division's competition days.

PRIZES

30. The Eisteddfod comprises competitive and non-competitive sections. The prize or award for each section is outlined in the relevant Syllabus and Stardom section description. All prizes, including highly commended, are at the discretion of the Adjudicator. In exceptional circumstances the adjudicator may award a prize jointly to more than 1 competitor with a total monetary value **not exceeding the specified prize amount.**

COPYRIGHT

31. The Australian National Eisteddfod Society Inc. holds an Australian Performing Rights Association (APRA) licence. An entrant may supply the adjudicator with an unlicensed copy of the piece providing that (a) the original is used by the entrant for the performance or held at the venue for inspection and (b) the Eisteddfod or its delegate destroys the copy immediately after the event.

Life Members

The Society gratefully acknowledges the long service and significant contributions by individuals to the Society's Eisteddfodau by award of Life Membership.

Dianne Anderson AM

Brian White

Judith Bauer OAM

Paul Barsdell

Janet Bedloe

Simon Best

Julia Butler

Fay Cull

Dorothy Dashwood OAM

Angela Finnegan OAM

Ben Green

Janette Humphrey

Janelle MacDonald

Norma MacKay

Janetta McRae

Di Miley

Margaret Minnis

Robbie Robson

Gwynneth Rowe

Amy Sleeman

Gavin Tulloch

Sylvia Tulloch

Bands & Orchestras Partners



Bignelli's Cafe

Bands & Orchestras Venues



Eisteddfod Partners



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ARTS CENTRES