

## MUSIC PERFORMANCE AT MACARTHUR



*“I would teach children music, physics and philosophy; but most importantly music, for the patterns in music and all the arts are the keys to learning.”*  
— Plato

### Music Performance Co- Curricular\_ An Unbinding Programme

Macarthur provides a leading program in music performance for our students that is both diverse and inclusive; encouraging a lifelong connection with music through active participation. There are many opportunities at Macarthur for students to perform in a diverse range of ensembles. The joys and benefits of rehearsing and performing in an ensemble range from a feeling of belonging and connectedness, to working towards a common goal to create a piece of mastery and beauty. Our ensembles are open to students who learn an instrument and/ or voice at school or learn externally. Through belonging to an ensemble students are able to reinforce what is learned in peripatetic music lessons and through rehearsals and a collaborative learning environment develop greater listening and music interpretation skills in a supportive group setting.

At Macarthur, Music Performance focusses on an unbinding co-curricular experience across Year groups. Our programmes create a strong sense of community and encourage the pursuit of excellence. With a focus on providing students with an opportunity for their creativity to thrive. Our Music Performance Programme nurtures leadership and teamwork skills and encourages confidence in performing.

We seek to be both inclusive and exclusive, providing opportunities for all our students to engage with music while also catering for students who have decided to make the study of music a specialty. Students have opportunities to participate in a variety of Music Performances experiences.

<b>Programme</b>	<b>Ensemble</b>	<b>Achievement Standard</b> <b>Participation Criteria</b>
Orchestra and String Programme	<b>Junior Strings</b>	Preliminary Level Tutor recommendation
Orchestra and String Programme	<b>Preparatory String Orchestra</b>	AMEB or equivalent Grade 1- Grade 3
Orchestra and String Programme	<b>Macarthur School Orchestra</b>	AMEB or equivalent Grade 4 and/or above

Orchestra and String Programme	<b>Senior Chamber String Orchestra</b>	AMEB or equivalent Grade 5
Band and Jazz Programme	<b>Swing Band</b>	AMEB or equivalent Grade 1- Grade 3
Band and Jazz Programme	<b>Macarthur Concert Band</b>	AMEB or equivalent Grade 2 and/or above
Band and Jazz Programme	<b>Performance Stage Band</b>	AMEB or equivalent Grade 5/ Selection Process
Band and Jazz Programme	<b>Dixieland Jazz Band</b>	Selection Process
Band and Jazz Programme	<b>House Chapel Bands</b>	Open
Choral Programme	<b>Junior Voices</b>	Open Years 1-2
Choral Programme	<b>Junior Choir</b>	Open Years 3-4
Choral Programme	<b>Girls Chamber Choir</b>	Open Years 5-12
Choral Programme	<b>Boys Vocal Ensemble</b>	Open Years 2-12
Choral Programme	<b>Performance Choir</b>	Open Years 5-12
Choral Programme	<b>Macarthur Voices</b>	Selection Process Years 10-12
Drum Corps Programme	<b>Drum Line</b>	Open
Drum Corps Programme	<b>Macarthur Drum Corps</b>	Selection Process

Music participation fosters creativity, collaboration and improves cognitive function. Students who learn an instrument at school are encouraged to participate in the appropriate ensemble and perform at a variety of concerts and recitals throughout the year. Students also have a variety of opportunities to participate and perform at local community events.

## Exploration Programme

An exciting opportunity is commencing in 2021 for our Junior School students years in Years 3-4. A new initiative known as the Exploration Programme which will run for each term of the year to provide a commencement point for students to learn guitar, Harp, Drum Corps, Keyboard and Flute. The lessons will run for a seven week period each. Parents will have the opportunity to enrol students at the beginning of the year selecting the preferred term for participation.

The Programme is designed to be a catalyst for students who excel and enjoy the instrument to enrol and continue with Peripatetic lessons. It is through the Peripatetic programme that students can develop specific skills to play an instrument with success and the move to a variety of co-curricular small groups ensembles

Early stages of playing an instrument explored with key target repertoire and pedagogy suitable to the commencement stages of an instrument. In a small group context with no more than eight students per group.

### **JUNIOR SCHOOL Exploration (Years 3-4) Summer, Autumn, Winter and Spring Terms**

<u>INSTRUMENT</u>	<u>DAY</u>
Guitar	MONDAY
Harp 'Colours of the Milky Way'	TUESDAY
Drum Corps	TUESDAY
Keyboard Starters	WEDNESDAY
Flute	THURSDAY

### **MIDDLE SCHOOL Exploration (Years 5-6) Groups to commence Winter (Term 3) and Spring Term (Term 4)**

<u>INSTRUMENT</u>	<u>DAY</u>
Tuned Percussion	TUESDAY
Low Brass	WEDNESDAY
Vocal 'Disney Classics'	THURSDAY
Low Strings	FRIDAY

- SEVEN week after school Co-Curricular Programme to run each Term
- 2.45- 3.45pm with afternoon tea factored in and tutor supervised
- Group size limited to eight students
- Summer Term groups to commence Week 3
- Autumn, Winter and Spring Term groups to commence Week 2
- Google Classroom used as an avenue of delivery with tutorial component
- HIRE of Instruments is available for all groups and instruments offered at the cost of \$40 per instrument (not required for Drum Corps)

Students have the option to enrol for a specific term of choice at the start of the year. Once the group is full second term preference will be given. In exceptional circumstances the third preference may be allocated due to high demand. Priority will be given to the first instrument of choice by a student. Second instrument or subsequent instrument involvement will be dependent on availability of placements within the groups each term.

## **Years 4, 5 and 6 Band, Drum Corps and String Programmes**

At Macarthur, we believe that music is an integral part of education and of life. We believe that every student should have access to a range of music performance opportunities.

Our Year 4 String Programme provides all students with the opportunity to play and commence the acquisition of skills on a string instrument in a small- group tutorial context in class time. Students entering into Year 5 have the option to select one instrument from the following options:

- String Programme: Violin, Viola and Cello
- Band Programme: Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone and Percussion
- Drum Corps Programme: Side and Tenor Drums

The opportunity to learn an instrument, experience tutorial groups and be engaged in combined ensemble rehearsals throughout the year is an exciting component of the Music Programme in Year 5.

Students in Year 6 are encouraged to consolidate on the music experience that they have had in Year 5, in either the String, Band or Drum Corps Programmes. Accordingly the focus of the Year 6 programme options is ensemble performance. The Band, Drum Corps and String Programmes at this level are designed to accommodate students who have already developed different musical areas of interest and talent and to provide the guidance of acquiring skills to perform in small groups.

As a continuation to the Year 4 and Year 5 Music Programmes, students are encouraged to continue developing their musical skills on the instruments that they learnt through the classroom programmes. Students are encouraged to pursue Peripatetic lessons and involvement in various Music performance Co-curricular activities.

### **Instrument Lesson Opportunities**

Our extensive Peripatetic Music Programme (instrumental and vocal) offers individual tuition during the school day and a select number of tutors teach after school. An impressive number of our students across all year groups receive private music tuition at Macarthur as part of our Peripatetic Music Programme. The school has some of the finest instrumental and vocal teachers from Sydney and our surrounding local areas.

Our Music Performance avenues are open to all students and structured to meet their developmental needs, be that beginner or virtuoso. Lessons are 30, 45 minutes or 1 hour in length. It is recommended that students of higher grades take one hour lessons to cover syllabus requirements.

*Lessons are available in the following instruments and voices:*

#### **JUNIOR SCHOOL**

Peripatetic lessons: Years K-4 available on Piano, Violin, Cello, Harp, and Guitar

Discovery Programme: Years 1-2 have the opportunity to participate in a small group, five week Discovery programme in Harp, Cello and Violin which runs in Term 4 each calendar year.

Students who excel are encouraged to continue with Peripatetic Music lessons

#### **MIDDLE and SENIOR SCHOOL**

Woodwind: Flute, Clarinet, Bassoon and Saxophone

Brass: Trumpet, French Horn, Baritone, Euphonium, Trombone and Tuba

Percussion: All Orchestral Percussion instruments and Drum Kit

Keyboard: Piano, Jazz Piano

Strings: Harp, Violin, Viola, Cello and Double Bass

Guitar: Acoustic, Electric and Bass Guitar

Voice: Classical, Contemporary and Music Theatre for all voice types - Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass

### **Music Scholarships**

When students strive for excellence, their dedication deserves to be rewarded and celebrated. Partnership with our large number of Music Scholarship students Years 7-12 is a vital part of our school life. Across a broad range of musical genres and our variety of ensembles, students are given every opportunity to develop their musical artistry. At Macarthur, our music scholars are challenged and supported to realise their full potential, being encouraged to pursue their unique creative musical interests and grow in confidence and experience in their learning journey through to graduation. Music Scholarships are offered to students entering Year 7 (Level 1), Year 9 (Level 2) and Year 11 (Level 3).

### **Concerts and Performances**

Live music is an experience unlike any other. When it comes to music performance, for the performers and the audience alike, there is an energy, vitality and connection that often defies words. Through the raw power of music, the ability of giving thoughts and emotions free expression and communicating to an audience is truly a remarkable transaction.

Macarthur is renowned for the high calibre of presentation of our performances both at recitals, concerts and all our major performance events. Music students showcase their talent and musical prowess at annual concerts and recitals which are always a highlight on the School calendar. The Festival of Performing Arts, the Annual Benefit Concert held at Camden Civic Centre and Speech Night are our large audience events and feature outstanding performances from our large number of ensembles from Year 1 to Year 12. Our students bi-annually look forward to participation in HICES and IPSHA performances held at the Town Hall.

We seek to establish and nurture a lifelong love of music in our students. The shared ownership of the resources, rehearsal areas and music activities, together with support from peers and leadership opportunities in a range of ensembles, means that all students gain exceptional benefit by being actively involved in a diverse range of musical experiences.

In the year ahead we are looking forward to enjoying our school surroundings with several outdoor events including Sunday Jazz Sounds, Strings Under the Stars and Carols at Sunset.

Music has always been a much-loved part of our School's life and Macarthur has long had a reputation for the excellence of its music performance programmes. There is much research to support the many positive influences Music has on the development of the brain and the positive effect on academic outcomes. We look forward to introducing your child to the joys of our Music Performance Programme at Macarthur.

### **Mrs Inés Marrable**

Head of Music Performance