

# 2021 STUDENT HANDBOOK



Upper Hunter  
Conservatorium  
*of Music*

## Our Mission

To nurture enjoyment in and education of the performing arts in Upper Hunter communities.



The Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music is partially funded by the Department of Education through the Regional Conservatorium's Grant Program.



The Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music is a member of the Association of NSW Regional Conservatoriums.



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# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Welcome to the Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music in 2021.

The Conservatorium's vision is enriching lives through performing arts. We seek to cultivate performing arts in the Upper Hunter through inclusive and accessible education and performance programs in a wide variety of genres.

Performing arts touches the human soul, expresses the inexpressible, defines the indefinite. Economies come and go; the arts are eternal. Multitudes of emerging neuroscientific research confirm the centuries old anecdotal knowledge that performing arts express humanity, defines our species, develops and enhances deeper cognition and brain function, and even manages pain.

I welcome you to the extraordinary journey that is the performing arts. Revel in the personal reward of learning, experience the joy of performance with our outstanding resident and visiting artists, share the wonder of group arts performance, master something old, create something new, understand something borrowed, play something blues.

Artistically yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alun'.

# ABOUT THE CONSERVATORIUM

Established in 1997, the Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music is a not-for-profit organisation that is partially funded by the NSW Department of Education. It provides music education and performance opportunities and experiences for students of all ages.

Lessons are conducted by experienced, qualified teachers across various locations throughout the region, ranging from Murrurundi and Blandford in the North, to Singleton, Broke and Nulkaba in the South and Merriwa in the West.

The main aims and objectives of the Conservatorium are to provide quality music and drama tuition to residents of the Upper Hunter; and to foster music as a form of social interaction, expression and creativity, whilst enhancing the cultural life of the community.

## **Management**

The Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music Inc. is governed by a management committee which meets monthly. Committee members are representatives from the community with expertise from the fields of government, business, finance, education and the arts.

President: .....Rev Scott Dulley  
Secretary: .....Ashleigh Garland  
Treasurer .....Matthew Pereira  
Committee Members:.....Mr Jason Buckley  
.....Daryl Egan  
.....Claire Quigley  
.....Max Morris

## **Administration Staff**

Director: .....Andrew French-Northam  
Administrators.....Rebecca Keegan  
.....Chrystal Ellis

# TEACHING STAFF

Emily Bailey .....	Drama
Tristan Bradley .....	Guitar, Keyboard
Michael Chilcott.....	Drums
Samantha Cobcroft.....	Voice,Ukulele Group
Katrina Constable .....	Violin, Piano, Theory
Shaun Danger .....	Guitar
Janelle French .....	Woodwind
Andrew Fench- Northam.....	
Guitar	
David Harvey .....	Guitar
Jennifer Kershaw .....	Piano, Violin, Theory
Verna Lee .....	Harp
Gillian Miles .....	Piano, Cello, Musicianship
Vincent Parmeter .....	Piano, Accompanying
Aaron Rothmund .....	Woodwind, Theory
Isaac Smith.....	Pre-Instrument, Guitar, Percussion, Keyboard
Elliot Styche.....	Voice, Piano, Performance Craft
Joshua Vadas .....	Drums and Percussion



# MUSIC TUITION

The Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music provides music tuition at various locations throughout the region. We have studios operating in Singleton and Muswellbrook and also teach at 20 schools across the district. Lessons are provided across an area ranging from Murrurundi and Blandford in the north, to Nulkaba in the south and Merriwa in the west. Since its inception, thousands of students of all ages have enrolled and benefited from the lessons, courses, ensembles and workshops provided by UHCM. Some students have progressed to become professional performers and teachers, and most have achieved a level of training enabling enjoyable music-making experiences.

## **Individual Tuition**

Individual lessons are the core business of the Upper Hunter Conservatorium. Lessons are conducted with one of our experienced staff members. Lessons are available after school at the Conservatorium buildings in Muswellbrook and Singleton. The Conservatorium also provides lessons during school hours at various schools throughout the region. Lessons are available in 20, 30, 45 and 60 minute durations, depending upon the teacher's availability. Shared lessons are also available for groups of up to four students.

Keyboard ..... Piano, Electronic Keyboard  
Guitar ..... Acoustic, Electric and Bass Guitar, and Ukulele  
Voice ..... All voice types and vocal styles  
Percussion ..... Drum Kit and Orchestral Percussion  
Strings ..... Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass  
Woodwind..Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Recorder, Bassoon & Oboe  
Brass.....Trumpet, Trombone, Euphonium, French Horn and Tuba  
Drama .....Elocution, dramatic arts and public speaking

# PRE-INSTRUMENT CLASSES

This Pre-Instrument Program (PIP) will introduce the key fundamental elements of music to students before they enrol for individual instrument tuition.

This program will prepare each student for learning the fundamental elements of music, Pitch, Rhythm and Dynamic before they enrol for individual instrument tuition - The 20 minute individual Pre- Instrument classes will lay the foundations for the student to learn any instrument and will assist them to make a more informed decision in which instrument they decide to study.

PIP will give your child a head start in their music education !





# GROUP CLASSES

## **Musicianship and Theory**

The Conservatorium offers Musicianship and Theory classes for students who wish to supplement their practical studies with a theory component. Preparation for AMEB exams is optional.

## **Speech and Drama**

The Conservatorium's Drama Curriculum is designed to promote and enhance the development of imagination and natural creativity, problem-solving and critical thinking skills, language, articulation, reading and comprehension, social skills and co-operative behaviour, confidence and self-esteem.

The Conservatorium provides both individual and ensemble drama lessons.

Drama Groups meet on a **Tuesday** afternoon.



# ORCHESTRA + ENSEMBLE PROGRAMS

## **Upper Hunter Orchestra**

The Upper Hunter Orchestra comprises string, wind, brass and percussion instruments. Performances include exciting and challenging repertoire. Participants will be expected to have attained a minimum of 3rd grade AMEB or equivalent. Entry to the Upper Hunter Orchestra is open to musicians of all ages who learn at the Conservatorium, as well as the wider community.

**Thursday 5:30pm – 6:45pm**

Directed by Janelle French

## **Upper Hunter String Orchestra**

The UHCM String Orchestra is a two-tiered ensemble-based program for students of all ages and experiences. Students begin with Junior Strings, which offers training in the rudiments of ensemble playing and musicianship of Preliminary to 2nd grade level. Upon graduation from Junior Strings, students enter the Senior String Orchestra which offers more advanced aspects of ensemble playing and repertoire choice for intermediate and advanced players.

### **Junior Strings**

Thursday 4:15pm – 5:00pm

Directed by Katrina Constable

### **Senior Strings**

Thursday 4:15pm – 5:00pm

Directed by Jennifer kershaw

### **Cello Ensemble**

Thursday 5:00pm - 5:30pm

Directed by Gillian Miles

# ORCHESTRA + ENSEMBLE PROGRAMS

## Upper Hunter Concert Band

The Upper Hunter Concert Band is made up of woodwind, brass and percussion players from the Scone and Muswellbrook areas. UHCB performs repertoire ranging from traditional concert band works to popular, modern music. More advanced students are invited to play in the Jazz Band, which plays standard big band jazz music. Students wishing to play in this ensemble must be of at least grade 3 AMEB standard.

### Wednesday 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Directed by Janelle French



# ORCHESTRA + ENSEMBLE PROGRAMS

## **Conservatorium Choir**

A community choir, open to all ages and singing experience. It is not necessary to read music to be part of the choir.

**Tuesday 7:00pm – 8:30pm** Directed by Elliott Styche

## **Guitar Ensemble**

Including classical and contemporary repertoire, the guitar ensemble is the ideal opportunity for guitarists to make music in a group.

## **Guitar Orchestra**

Guitar Orchestra provides group music training for guitarists of all ages who want to learn world music and the Spanish finger style.

Nulkaba Public School -

Wednesday 6:00pm -7:00pm. Directed by Tristan Bradley



# ORCHESTRA + ENSEMBLE PROGRAMS



## **Beginner Band**

The Beginner Band offers an introduction to ensemble playing for instrumentalists in a safe, enjoyable environment.

**Monday 5:30 – 6:30pm.**

Directed by Janelle French

## **Saxophone Ensemble**

This ensemble provides an opportunity for saxophonists of varying abilities to explore a range of music both composed and arranged for their instruments.

**Wednesday 6:30pm - 7:00pm**

Directed by Janelle French

# CONCERTS AND PERFORMANCES

Throughout the year the Conservatorium presents an extensive array of concerts and recitals which provide tremendous performance opportunities for students and ensemble members.

More formal, large-scale concerts take place at the end of Terms 1, 2 and 3. Less formal performances include the Student Recitals at the end of Terms 2 and 4.

Workshops and masterclasses are also scheduled during the year. Ensembles frequently receive performance invitations for local community events.





# MUSIC IN SCHOOLS

Individual and group instrumental and vocal lessons are available at several schools across the Upper Hunter.

Our qualified staff can also provide group programs such as choir, percussion, violin, guitar, drama and general classroom music. The Conservatorium also offers music teaching for Special Education classes, and professional development for school staff. To tailor a program to suit your school's needs please contact the Director.

## **School Band Program**

The Conservatorium offers a school band program that provides an ideal option for students to begin learning a musical instrument. The students enrolled in the program attend a band rehearsal each week, along with shared or individual lessons. Additional activities such as school and public performances and workshops with visiting bands are also provided as part of the program. The program strives to add to the culture of the school in an affordable and inclusive manner.

## **School Choral Program**

The Conservatorium offers choral programs within primary schools, and provides opportunities for participation in combined schools choirs.

## **Pre-School Drama Group**

The conservatorium offers drama classes for pre-schoolers. Classes are conducted at Muswellbrook studios, as well as in local Early Learning Centres.

**Tuesday 2:15pm to 3:00pm**



# INSTRUMENTS

## **Musical Instrument Hire**

The Conservatorium has a number of instruments for hire, including strings, woodwind, acoustic guitar and brass instruments. Check with the office about instrument availability, as instruments are a limited resource.

Instrument hire is from \$60 per term, with a \$51 refundable deposit payable in advance with any musical instrument hire application. The deposit is refunded on return of the instrument in the same condition in which it was originally hired, with all accessories included.

For further information on instrument hire please contact the administration staff.

## **Hire to Buy Instruments**

For those interested in purchasing their own instrument, the Conservatorium offers a “Hire to Buy” program for string, woodwind and brass instruments. Under this scheme an instrument is able to be paid for in interest-free instalments, over a period of two years. We have new instruments for sale and at times second hand instruments at discounted prices.

For more information on “Hire to Buy” instruments please contact the administration staff.



# SCHOLARSHIPS + BURSARIES

The Upper Hunter Conservatorium offers a number of scholarships each year to music students undertaking tuition at the Conservatorium or Upper Hunter residents who wish to pursue music tuition with the Conservatorium.

Scholarships are awarded based on merit, demonstrated by the applicant in an audition. Auditions normally take place in Term 3.

Bursary assistance is also available to students of the Conservatorium to help with the financial burden of tuition. Bursaries are awarded to students who may not be able to afford to continue music lessons without some financial support.

Financial assistance is also available to families by way of a family discount offered to families with more than one child enrolled in music lessons or a student learning more than one instrument.



# OUR SPONSORS + DONORS

The Conservatorium of Music community would like to extend our sincere thanks to our sponsors for their most generous donation towards our 2021 Scholarship program. The sponsorship of the scholarship program has the potential to foster and enrich the musical journey of individual students who may be talented, disadvantaged, ordinary or extraordinary.



GLENCORE Liddell Coal

# FEES + CHARGES

- Enrolment is continuous until notice of withdrawal. Enrolment carries into the following year unless the UHCM administration is notified of the student's intention to not continue lessons in the following year.
- A \$30.50 administration fee is payable once a year by every family enrolled.
- An invoice for fees will be raised at the beginning of each term. Fees are paid in advance within 3 weeks of the date of invoice unless a payment plan has been approved by the director. All accounts are required to be fully paid by the end of each term. Late fees will be applied to unpaid invoices in Week 6 of the term. Late fee's are not reversible.
- Any student with outstanding fees from a previous term will be automatically withdrawn. Students may only re-enrol if accounts are paid in full or an approved payment schedule implemented.
- Outstanding accounts will be referred for debt collection. In such cases, the client will be liable for the collection fee and any associated charges.

\*\* A full list of fees and terms and conditions is provided with your enrolment package.



We LOVE Creative Kids vouchers!!

Apply for a voucher with a value of up to \$100 per calendar year for students enrolled in school on the Service NSW website.

Apply to voucher to your UHCM fee's by entering the voucher information on our website.

# FEES + CHARGES

## Lesson Fees per term (Including Online Delivery)

Lesson Type	1 <sup>st</sup> instrument	2 <sup>nd</sup> instrument*
Individual 20 minute lesson	\$254	\$239
Individual 30 minute lesson	\$366	\$345.50
Shared 30 minutes	\$183	-
Individual 45 minutes	\$498	\$478
Individual 60 minutes	\$650.50	\$630.50

\*This is a discounted price for lessons on a second instrument or lessons taken by another family member.

Extraordinary lessons	
Casual lesson rate (30 minutes)	\$50 per lesson
Harp lessons	\$40 per half hour

## Ensemble Fees

Fee Type (per term)	1 <sup>st</sup> Ens	2 <sup>nd</sup> Ens	3 <sup>rd</sup> Ens
Ensemble 60-90 minutes duration	\$66	\$35.50	\$10
Ensemble 30-45 minutes duration	\$61	\$30.50	\$10
Ensemble member not enrolled in lessons	\$74	\$38	\$10

## Group Fees

Fee Type	Amount
Musicianship/Theory/Music Craft (per term)	\$51
Drama Ensemble (per term)	\$132
Ukulele Group (per term)	\$70
School based Groups (per term)	\$42

# FEES + CHARGES

## Accompanying fees

<b>Rehearsal with accompanist</b>			
15 minutes	\$20	40 minutes	\$45
20 minutes	\$25	50 minutes	\$57.50
30 minutes	\$37.50	60 minutes	\$65
<b>Accompanying in examination</b>			
Prelim-Grade 1	\$45	Grades 2-4	\$60
Grades 5-7	\$75	Grade 7 +	\$100
<b>Accompanying in eisteddfods and concert performances</b>			
Per piece	1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> grade \$20	4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grade \$25	7 <sup>th</sup> and above \$30
<b>Accompanist travel rate</b> (for exams, rehearsals and performances outside of Muswellbrook)			
Singleton	\$60	Tamworth	\$180
Newcastle	\$180	Sydney	\$280

## Other fees and charges

Administration Fee (per family/per year)	\$30.50
Instrument Hire (per term)	From \$60
Instrument Deposit (refundable)	\$51
Late Fee (per term)*	\$20

Invoices are issued at the commencement of each term or lessons.  
Accounts are due three weeks from date of invoice.

\*Late fees will be charged in Week 6 of the term to unpaid accounts, where a payment program has not been implemented.

Outstanding accounts will be referred for debt collection. In such cases, the client will be liable for the collection fee and any associated charges.

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For the latest up-to-date information on events please go to our website and social media

[www.uhcm.com.au](http://www.uhcm.com.au)

<https://www.facebook.com/UHCMUS/>



Office Hours:

Monday to Friday –

9:00am- 1:00 pm

2:00pm - 5:00pm

Campbell's Corner, First Floor 80 Bridge St (PO Box 816)

Muswellbrook NSW 2333 (Entrance via Brook Street)

Ph: 6541 4888

[admin@uhcm.com.au](mailto:admin@uhcm.com.au) [www.uhcm.com.au](http://www.uhcm.com.au)

Singleton Studios Singleton TAFE Campus, Building N

York Street, Singleton NSW 2330



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[WWW.UHCM.COM.AU](http://WWW.UHCM.COM.AU)



[ADMIN@UHCM.COM.AU](mailto:ADMIN@UHCM.COM.AU)



02 65 414 888