

# Parent Involvement at Willoughby Girls



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## WGHS Music Ensembles 2018

There is a long and proud tradition of musical excellence at Willoughby. Our nine ensembles represent over 150 students, creating great music throughout the year and lasting friendships for years to come.



Just under 12 months ago we toured California, where 58 lucky students in Years 7-11 visited eight schools and colleges in San Francisco and Los Angeles, performing at a range of exciting venues including Disneyland! We have also enjoyed many other great gigs throughout the year, performing at the Opera House, Town Hall, Chatswood Concourse, University of NSW, Chatswood RSL, Willoughby Spring Festival and lots of other venues both at school and in the community. We have great plans for 2018 too, including a regional tour open to students in Years 7 to 10.

### School Music Ensembles

Three vocal groups are organised and conducted by the Music teachers, with weekly rehearsals at lunch or after school. The Combined Choir is open to all singers, and each year in May we perform at the Sydney Town Hall. Entry to the Junior and Senior Vocal Ensembles is by audition. Come to the **Singers Meeting** at the start of next year if you are interested in joining. (There is also a major school musical production every second year – next scheduled for early 2019 – so look out for audition information towards the end of next year.)

### P&C Music Ensembles Program

Six instrumental ensembles are organised by the P&C Music Committee and directed by experienced professional conductors. For a flat fee girls may belong to as many ensembles as they wish, providing they meet the entry requirements (see below). These ensembles rehearse once a week before/after school:

<b>Accelerate Ensemble</b> ( <i>New in 2018!</i> )	Tuesday 7:15am	Mr Jason Isaac
<b>Jazz Ensemble</b>	Wednesday 7:30am	Mr Gerald Steinmann
<b>Year 7/8 Wind Ensemble</b>	Thursday 7:15am	Mr Gerald Steinmann
<b>Senior Wind Ensemble</b>	Friday 7:15am	Mr Jason Isaac
<b>Chamber Ensemble</b> (strings)	Friday 7:30am	Ms Lucy East
<b>Percussion Ensemble</b>	Friday 3:30pm	Mr Jason Isaac



## Entry Requirements

There are NO entry requirements to the program, because there is an ensemble available for any level of experience. All Year 7 students who already play an instrument are welcome to join the **Year 7/8 Wind Ensemble** or the **Chamber Ensemble**.

If you decide to start a new instrument, you will join our brand new **Accelerate Ensemble** until you are ready to join another ensemble. We are particularly looking for students who are interested in switching to a new, 'targeted' instrument (see **Accelerate Scholarships** information below).

For Year 7/8 students, entry to the **Senior Wind Ensemble** is by invitation only. Students who are invited to join the Senior Ensemble are also expected to stay in the 7/8 Ensemble until the end of Year 8.

**Jazz Ensemble** members must also play in one of the other Wind Ensembles. (The only exceptions are guitar, piano and vocals, which are not included in the other ensembles.)

The **Percussion Ensemble** is open to all interested students – no experience necessary!

## Fees & Instrument Hire

For the instrumental ensembles there is a flat membership fee of \$700 for the year, due in term 1. This fee covers all six P&C ensembles, including conductors' fees, music, the annual Intensive Workshop, buses where required, and much more... We try to avoid collecting any extra money throughout the year!

*Please note: Fees for Year 7 students are not due until early March, so your daughter is welcome to 'try out' the ensembles before committing for the whole year.*

Ensemble members can hire from a range of school instruments for \$250 per year (plus \$100 bond).

## Accelerate Scholarships

Our scholarship program is focused on 'targeted' instruments (the instruments most needed in our ensembles), which tend to be more unusual and often more expensive. The aim of the program is to encourage new players to take up the instruments we need the most, and to give existing players the opportunity to switch to a more specialised instrument. The scholarship covers the cost of hiring the instrument for the first two years. Targeted instruments for next year are:

- |  |                                     |                                |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Baritone Saxophone | <input type="radio"/> Electric Bass | <input type="radio"/> Trombone |
| <input type="radio"/> Bass Clarinet      | <input type="radio"/> Euphonium     | <input type="radio"/> Trumpet  |
| <input type="radio"/> Bassoon            | <input type="radio"/> French Horn   | <input type="radio"/> Tuba     |
| <input type="radio"/> Double Bass        | <input type="radio"/> Oboe          | <input type="radio"/> Viola    |

## Meet-the-Conductor Afternoons

If possible, our wind and string conductors like to meet you before the end of this year. This gives you the chance to put a face to their name, and show them how good you are! This is **NOT** an audition, it's just for the conductors to get an idea of who is coming into their ensembles next year. When you register your interest (via email below) we will contact you to arrange a suitable time.

## What Next?

If you are interested in joining the P&C Music Ensembles Program next year, please **email** us as soon as possible with the following information:

- Your daughter's name
- Any instruments she plays (and how long for)
- If you need to hire an instrument
- If you are interested in an Accelerate Scholarship
- Parents' names
- TWO mobile phone contacts (if possible)
- TWO parent email contacts (if possible)

**Email:** [clem.burgmann1@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:clem.burgmann1@det.nsw.edu.au)

**Subject:** Ensemble Membership

*(Note, if you have indicated your Expression of Interest via the Eventbrite link that's fine too).*

That's all you need to do at this stage. You will then be included on an email list for updates and other information.

## Key Contact

Ms Fran Cumming	P&C Committee Convenor	musicwghs@gmail.com
Mr Clem Burgmann	WGHS Music Teacher	<a href="mailto:clem.burgmann1@det.nsw.edu.au">clem.burgmann1@det.nsw.edu.au</a>
Mr Jason Isaac	Accelerate & SWE Conductor	hms@ihug.com.au
Mr Gerald Steinmann	7/8 Wind & Jazz Conductor	monkeyboymusic@bigpond.com
Ms Lucy East	Chamber Conductor	theeast@bigpond.net.au

