

# YOUNG CON NEWS

Newsletter 2 - July 2010

## YOUNG CONSERVATORIUM

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## HEAD OF OPEN CONSERVATORIUM

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## Message from the Head of Open Conservatorium

Dear Students, Parents and Young Con Family,

Welcome back! Here we go again! Another semester of fine music making and learning. There have been some wonderful moments to celebrate from last semester and some students we need to congratulate publicly. We are pleased to share the success of you all so be sure to let us know when you reach a significant milestone in your musical development.



## Student Achievement

Harry Rawson, Sophie Shanks, Kirsten Allendorf, Imogen Scott-Parker and Courtney Oxenford have all had great success in first semester and we congratulate them and celebrate with them too. Read their news inside.

## Ensemble Achievement

I was thrilled with the performances I experienced at the end of Semester events. There were some first class presentations and the growth in some of the ensembles was outstanding. Congratulations to you all on your contributions. Let's not forget the conductors; without your quality leadership we would be lost - thank you!

## Contemporary Voices

We can't forget the terrific performance activity of the Contemporary Voice studio. The fine young musicians there contributed wonderfully to the end of semester performance program in the Southern Cross International Music Festival. No doubt there is high quality teaching taking place there too.

## Southern Cross International Music Festival

Once again Young Conservatorium musicians featured heavily in the weekend performances of the Southern Cross International Music Festival with fine young musicians from Grace Lutheran College and the wonderful musicians from Victoria School in Singapore. The program of public events, workshops and masterclasses was topped off by the magnificent playing of the Australian Army Band Brisbane, under the baton of Major Peter Thomas.

## PHEP

News about PHEP is inside but I take this chance to congratulate all who auditioned. The standard was the highest it has ever been.

## TPW

We had over 100 "Con students for a week" attend the Tertiary Preparation Workshop this year. It seems the highlight for some was the chance to call me "Ralph". Back to normal now Michael!

I finish with a reminder of your commitment to Young Con lessons and ensembles. We cannot produce the finest outcomes without the finest commitment and each week and at each performance. I look forward to a semester of growth and musical satisfaction.

Best wishes to you all.



Ralph Hultgren  
Head of Open Conservatorium



## YOUNG CON STUDENTS SHINE!

### Harry Rawson - Wind Orchestra

Wind Orchestra's own Harry Rawson was chosen to travel to the prestigious International Tuba and Euphonium Competition and Conference in Arizona, USA in May this year. He spent his 17th birthday competing as a semi-finalist in the Tuba Young Artist Division and was fortunate enough to attend masterclasses and workshops with some of the world's best tuba players.



### Courtney Oxenford - Symphony Orchestra / Wind Orchestra / Brass Ensemble

It's been a busy year for Courtney Oxenford. She was awarded the highly-contested Cultural Award at the Somerset Regional Council Australia Day Awards which celebrates significant contributions to the local community and achievement of exceptional results in cultural endeavours. Courtney also was fortunate enough to be awarded a bursary by the Queensland Country Women's Association for the second year in a row. The Audrey J Hoskin Music bursary are offered annually to students who are dedicated to the pursuit of a music career - well done Courtney!



### Sophie Shanks, Imogen Scott-Parker and Kirsten Allendorf

17 year old Young Con contemporary voice student Sophie Shanks has been secured a professional singing and dancing role in the Asia/Pacific touring company of the musical "Cats". Congratulations Sophie on such an incredible achievement! A special mention also goes to Imogen Scott-Parker who won the Moreton Bay Regional Council Australia Day Cultural Award earlier this year and to Kirsten Allendorf who has been nominated as a finalist in the 2010 Q Song Awards for her original song "Dangerous". Well done girls!

## SEATTLE BOUND

The Pacific Honours Ensemble Program (PHEP) forms part of the Western International Band Clinic held in Seattle, Washington, USA and involves rehearsals and performances with six different guest conductors - Lowell Graham USA, Mike Bankhead (USA), Tim Lautzenheiser (USA) James Swearingen, Tim Rhea USA, and Marianne Gedigian, Flute Soloist - Professor of Flute, University of Texas (USA). This year's audition process was extremely competitive and due to the high level and volume of applicants we have been allocated an additional two places taking our student entourage numbers to ten participants.

### The following students have successfully auditioned for the

**PHEP 2010 program:** Emma Avey - Flute, Marion Carthew - Clarinet, Zacary Chambers - Trumpet, Nathaniel Griffiths - Euphonium, Alyssa Lee - Flute, Courtney Oxenford - Trumpet, Imogen Page - Clarinet, Michael Thrum - Clarinet, Claire Watt - Alto Saxophone, Chantel Wong - Oboe.

### Congratulations to our four PHEP Scholarship recipients:

Marion Carthew, Zacary Chambers, Michael Thrum and Chantel Wong.

## EARLY CHILDHOOD MUSIC

This week we talked to Early Childhood co-ordinator Judy Fromyhr about the importance of music in early childhood.

### What are some of the benefits of early exposure to sounds and music?

A love of music and the ability to participate in music making is a gift that a person takes with them through their whole life and so, music education today is aimed at creating musical learning environments that encourage and promote lifelong learning. Thankfully, the days of chalk and talk and the big stick are all but gone. In the early childhood years, music educators aim to create a relaxed and supportive atmosphere in which children can enjoy their innate creativity and develop skills in singing, moving and responding to music. If children are making music with others there are significant social benefits for both the children and the parents as well - Meeting new people, sharing, taking turns, being part of a group etc. Teachers and researchers will also tell you that there are numerous other benefits from music involvement that are wide ranging and sometimes don't have anything to do with music. Studies have shown that music can improve coordination, thinking skills, memory retention, spatial intelligence, patterning skills, self-esteem, creative abilities and the list goes on. Early music involvement is a joyful activity that can be fun for the whole family and it lays the foundation for many aspects of future learning.

### What kinds of music suits each developmental stage - babies, toddlers, preschoolers, and school aged?

Generally, children should be given the opportunity to listen to a wide variety of music. One exception is very loud music because prolonged exposure can damage children's hearing. Children absorb so much from their immediate environment and therefore, the richer the environment, the richer their learning. There have been research studies that show that different types of music have differing effects on peoples' physical and emotional wellbeing and academic achievement.



### How are language development and music linked?

Many educators have observed that through singing and *focused* listening children learn a range of pitch sounds that are necessary for the acquisition of language. Children's hearing is acute in the early childhood years and so this is the optimal time to focus on sounds and vocabulary. Through singing songs children also come into contact with unusual words that don't form part of our conversational language and therefore, the vocabulary is enhanced.

### What can parents who consider themselves "non-musical" do to encourage musical appreciation in their children?

Many parents who consider themselves to be "non-musical" may not actually be so. Often a lack of music skills in adults is a result of a lack of opportunity for music involvement as a child and many times parents discover a range of "new" music skills by accompanying their child to music classes. Contrary to popular belief, good musicianship is developed over a long period of time and generally, is not a result of being born with some special talent. Parents can help children to "find their voice" by making opportunities to listen to a wide variety of good quality music, talking about the quality of sounds in their environment eg. is that sound high or low/loud or soft?, singing, saying rhymes, playing games that relate to songs and rhymes etc. The emphasis should always be on enjoyment and fun.

## JOIN OUR FACEBOOK GROUP!

Did you know that Young Conservatorium now has a Facebook Group? Sign up to take part in discussions and share your experiences with our growing online community!

**Step 1:** Log in to Facebook

**Step 2:** Search: "Griffith University Young Conservatorium"

**Step 3:** Click "Join"

We look forward to seeing you there!



## MUMS & BUBS CAFE

Early Childhood mums and dads - have you heard about the new café on Stanley Street: "Mums & Bubs"? Catering especially for parents with small children, and located so conveniently to the Conservatorium - we thought it was worth a mention! Mums & Bubs caters for all dietary requirements and ages and they carry both breakfast and lunch menus.

You can find them at Shop R1 Abi Group Building, Stanley Street Plaza, on Little Stanley street, Southbank.

## 2011 AUDITION AND CLOSING DATES

### Saturday 18 September 2010

Closing date for Instrumental and Choral applications and receipt of \$30.00 application fee

### Monday 27 September 2010

Closing date for late applications (additional late fee of \$25.00 applies)

### Monday 27 September 2010

Final date for receipt of recorded auditions from rural or interstate applicants

### 16- 24 October 2010

Instrumental and Choral Audition dates

### 15 November 2010

Instrumental and Choral Audition results posted to applicants this week

### Monday 6 December 2010

Final date for acceptance of Instrumental and Choral

### Monday 17 January 2011

Final date for payment of annual Young Conservatorium fees

**...and don't forget Monday 14 February 2011**  
Young Conservatorium 2011 commences.



## QUEENSLAND CONSERVATORIUM PERFORMERS AGENCY

Queensland Conservatorium Performers Agency (QCPA) represents the very best musicians from Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University, one of the leading Australian tertiary music institutions. As a result QCPA enjoys a reputation for providing the highest quality musicians for any event. For more information about Queensland Conservatorium Performers Agency and associated fees phone 3735 6375 or email [qcpa@griffith.edu.au](mailto:qcpa@griffith.edu.au).

## VOLUNTEERS, ANYONE?

In Young Conservatorium we value our parent volunteers who assist with a variety of duties from taking rolls, music issue, administrative support, database entry, filing, mail outs etc. If you would like to volunteer to assist with an ensemble, or in the general office, please phone us on 3735 6247 or just drop in. We can guarantee you will be welcomed with open arms and fresh coffee!



## SECURITY AND LOST PROPERTY

We urge all Young Conservatorium students, parents and caregivers to be security conscious. Never leave bags or instruments unattended anywhere in the Queensland Conservatorium building, this includes the café and rest rooms. If you have left equipment behind after a lesson or rehearsal please phone QCGU Security on 3735 6363. Security is responsible for all lost property.

## YOUNG CON PARKING

Parking rates for 2010 (correct at time of print)

### Secure Parking @ SW1 Car Park

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

32 Cordelia Street, South Brisbane

Week-days after 4pm \$5.00

Saturday & Sunday \$5.00 all day

### QPAC/Art Gallery/Museum Car Park:

[www.qpac.com.au/getting\\_here/parking](http://www.qpac.com.au/getting_here/parking)

Monday to Sunday \$15 per entry

### South Bank Parklands:

[www.visitsouthbank.com.au/visitor\\_information/parking](http://www.visitsouthbank.com.au/visitor_information/parking)

Monday to Friday \$6p/h

Night Rate (after 6pm) \$15

Weekend Rate \$15



## 2010 PERFORMANCE CALENDAR OVERVIEW – SEMESTER TWO

### DATE CLAIMERS AND PROPOSED PERFORMANCE CALENDAR

<b>ENSEMBLE / DIVISION</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>
<b>Big Band</b>	Saturday 21 August Friday 20 October	Broadbeach Jazz & Food Festival Jazz in the Pocket
<b>Brass Ensemble</b>	Saturday 13 November	End of Year Showcase
<b>Chamber Choir</b>	Saturday 13 November	End of Year Showcase
<b>Children's Chorus</b>	Saturday 13 November	End of Year Showcase
<b>Contemporary Voice Division</b>	Saturday 6 November	Contemporary Voice Showcase Concert
<b>Early Childhood Music</b>	Saturday 20 November	Early Childhood Music Showcase
<b>Flute Ensemble</b>	Saturday 13 November	End of Year Showcase
<b>Jazz Ensemble 1</b>	Friday 21 October	Jazz in the Pocket
<b>Jazz Ensemble 2</b>	Friday 21 October	Jazz in the Pocket
<b>Melodic Minors</b>	Saturday 13 November Sunday 12 September	End of Year Showcase Young Voices Festival
<b>Percussion ensemble</b>	Saturday 13 November	End of Year Showcase
<b>String Ensemble</b>	Saturday 13 November	End of Year Showcase
<b>String Orchestra</b>	Saturday 13 November	End of Year Showcase
<b>Symphonic Wind Ensemble</b>	Saturday 13 November	End of Year Showcase
<b>Symphony Orchestra</b>	Saturday 21 August Saturday 13 November	Community Concert (Kedron SHS) End of Year Showcase
<b>Wind Ensemble</b>	Saturday 13 November	End of Year Showcase
<b>Wind Orchestra</b>	Saturday 21 August Saturday 13 November	Community Concert (Kedron SHS) End of Year Showcase
<b>Young Beginner Programs</b>	Sunday 14 November	Young Beginner Piano Recital
<b>Young Con Singers</b>	Saturday 13 November	End of Year Showcase