



Basil Jones

Basil Jones was appointed as Senior Teacher of Violin at the newly-founded Queensland Conservatorium of Music in 1957. After serving as Acting Director of the Conservatorium in 1959, he was appointed as Director in 1960 and held this position until his retirement in 1980.

As Director, Basil Jones was responsible for the implementation and development of new academic courses and a general restructuring of the entire educational program. In 1968, he submitted a proposal to the Education Department for the development and implementation of a course for the training of music specialists in State Schools. The Fellowship Diploma of School Music course, introduced in 1969, was a significant milestone in the Conservatorium's history, dramatically increasing student numbers and opening up many career opportunities for young Queenslanders which had not existed up to this point. The course was eventually accredited in 1974 by the Queensland Board of Advanced Education as a specialist strand, alongside

performance and composition, within the new degree course – Bachelor of Arts in Music. The Conservatorium became a College of Advanced Education in 1971 and these courses were the first music degrees to be accredited for institutions outside the university sector at the time.

As Director of the Conservatorium for over 20 years, Basil Jones opened a new vista in music education in this state. Under his leadership, the Conservatorium became the second largest music school in Australia and achieved national and international recognition for the high standard of its courses and the quality of its students. The purpose-built new campus at Gardens Point, which was opened in 1975, was also a major highlight of his tenure.

In recognition of Basil Jones' distinguished contributions, the University named the Orchestral Hall of the Queensland Conservatorium "The Basil Jones Orchestral Hall".