

# State Honours Ensemble Program Darling Downs 2024 (SHEP)

## Program Summary

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| Program Name                         | SHEP Darling Downs  |
| Program Code                         | DD  |
| Program suited to                    | <b>String/Band:</b> Students at AMEB or equivalent of between 4 to 7<br><b>Choir:</b> Mid - High Level Choral experience<br><b>Year level:</b> Years 6 - 12   |
| Fee                                  | \$290   |
| Dates: (Incl rehearsals and concert) | March 8 - 10  |
| Venue                                | Centenary Heights State High School 60 Ramsay St Toowoomba  |
| Rehearsal times                      | Friday 4 – 8pm; Saturday 8am – 4pm  |
| Sunday Rehearsal and Concert         | Arrive at 8am, concert at 11am finish at 12.30pm  |
| Accommodation & Travel               | Students/Families attending the program are required to organise their own transport and accommodation (if applicable) throughout.  |
| Food                                 | Friday: Pizza will be provided incl gluten and dairy free options, meat and vegetarian.<br>Sat/Sun - Participants to provide their own food for the day   |
| What to bring                        | <b>String and Band Students</b> need to bring their instrument and a collapsible music stand.<br><b>All students:</b> Food (see above) water bottle, lip balm, jacket or jumper   |
| What to wear                         | <b>Friday:</b> Participants wear appropriate clothing (same as a free dress at school) and covered flat footwear (no thongs or sandals). T-shirts will be handed out during the first rehearsal session. If coming straight from school then school uniform is fine.<br><b>Saturday:</b> Casual clothes, participants are encouraged to wear their SHEP T-shirt<br><b>Sunday Performance:</b> Students to wear their formal school/day uniform (not band uniform). Please refer to your school's uniform policy that you would wear to an official school event or school photo day |
| How to contact us                    | Email (preferred) – <a href="mailto:shep-conservatorium@griffith.edu.au">shep-conservatorium@griffith.edu.au</a><br>Phone: 3735 6375  |

## What is the Honours Program?

The State Honours Ensemble Program is an educational program for music students that helps extend and encourage their pursuit of musical excellence. Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University's State Honours Ensemble Program has grown from relatively modest beginnings in 2001. SHEP is now a firmly established aspect of music learning in Queensland, bringing together young people from all over the State, in regional centres and Brisbane to share their passion for making music.

Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University provides 4 programs in Brisbane and 11 regional programs.

**Regional Programs** in partnership with local schools are held at; Bundaberg, Cairns, Longreach, Mackay, Maryborough, Rockhampton, Sunshine Coast, Townsville, and Toowoomba.

**Brisbane programs** are held at the Queensland Conservatorium, at our South Bank Campus in South Brisbane and include; Australian Honours Ensemble Program (AHEP), SHEP Queensland (State-wide) SHEP South-East QLD, SHEP Brisbane and SHEP Primary.

Further information can be found on our website at: [State Honours Ensemble Program \(griffith.edu.au\)](https://www.griffith.edu.au/state-honours-ensemble-program)

### The Honours Program gives students the opportunity to:

- Work in an intensive environment of musical excellence with their peers offering a unique opportunity to extend and develop their musical skills
- Work with a team of eminent Conductors from Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University
- Represent their Schools (in full uniform) in a Finale Performance on the Sunday of the Program
- Receive a Certificate of Participation and Honours Program T-Shirt

### How selection is made:

The process commences with Open Conservatorium asking teachers to nominate students for specific programs that their students may be eligible. We honour the teachers nomination, as we acknowledge that the teacher has the best idea of the student's standard. We ask teachers to nominate students with their approximate AMEB grade and school year level. From the nominations, we place students into relevant instrument groups, and sort them from the highest AMEB, as nominated by teacher, and then year level within each AMEB group. Based upon the required number of instruments within each section of the ensemble (as we are required to maintain a specific ensemble balance), we select students from the highest AMEB down based on number of required instruments. At times there are students of the same AMEB within the cut-off range, at this point we allocate to older students as they may not have another opportunity to participate or be nominated again. We then select students as reserves, as they may be selected for the program depending upon whether other students decline and ensemble vacancies arise. Please be assured there is no preferential treatment given to any student, and unfortunately some instrument areas (violin, trumpet, flute, saxophone) are incredibly competitive as we receive numerous nominations, often in the multiple 100's, particularly for the Brisbane programs for very limited places.

Vocal students - Vocal students are selected in a similar way to instrumentalists (AMEB followed by Year Level), however, we also take into consideration teachers' recommendations of students, how many years of choral experience a student may have and the potential Year Level range of the ensemble. This also helps conductors with selecting appropriate repertoire for the age range of the ensemble.

### Attendance requirement

Participants are expected to make themselves available for all **rehearsals and the concert performance**. If you have an event (eg family, school, sporting, community, religious) that you know will preclude you from **any part** of the rehearsals or concert **you must decline the offer (if one is made)** to participate so we can extend the invitation to another student. **At no time during the event are participants permitted to leave the State Honours venue during the daily activities this includes asking to arrive late or leave early due to another commitment.**