FACT SHEET

Information on each section of the Upper Hunter Shire and Kia-Ora Youth Music Camp

Each year the mix of opportunities is slightly different – so read on and find out what will inspire you. Join us for three days with some amazing musicians and dancers!

All venues for the camp are in Scone. The central registration point is St Luke’s Church Hall, Liverpool Street, Scone. The students are under constant teacher supervision and are escorted to each venue.

Concert Band & Big Band (Section 1)

Concert Band and Big Band are for students learning Concert Band instruments from Year 3 to Year 12. Check with your instrumental teacher if you are eligible to attend. Those that are not advanced enough for the Big Band will be able to choose an elective. Tutors will be available for flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, lower brass and percussion.

Musical Director and Concert Band Conductor

Dr Ian Cook has recently retired from the University of Newcastle (Australia). His current positions include Artistic Director and Chief Conductor of Newcastle Youth Orchestra. He has been the Conductor of the University Wind Orchestra since 1980 and has been actively involved with wind ensembles for many decades. Ian was a founding member of the Kia-Ora Music camp and looks forward to working with young musicians from the Upper Hunter Shire at the 2019 camp. In 2000 Ian gained his MMus majoring in conducting and later his PhD in 2009 in opera/music theatre. His thesis was entitled: *Tempo Indications of Mozart: An Analytical Study of Performance Practice in the Twentieth Century as it relates to The Magic Flute and The Marriage of Figaro*. In 2013 Ian was awarded a SAR Fellowship (Scholars and Artist in Residence) at the National Film and Sound Archives in Canberra researching Mozart performances in Australia from the 20th century. In 2014 Ian was awarded a further SAR Fellowship researching Australian media icon Hector Crawford’s contribution to Australia’s cultural history in the middle of the twentieth century.

String Ensemble (Section 2)

includes violin, viola, cello and double bass. This section will be led by Peter Coombes. Choose this section to advance your string playing. A chamber group will be the extension for advanced students and electives can be chosen for an experience in other areas for the less advanced on enrolment.

Peter Coombes has a career of professional orchestral and string quartet playing including the Sydney Symphony and Queensland Symphony Orchestras, the Mayne String Quartet, the Modern String Quartet, as well as various chamber groups. He has wide experience with youth orchestras and school ensembles. Peter was the conductor for the third Queensland Youth Orchestra for some years and tutored for that organization across their ensembles. After returning to Newcastle he taught at the Conservatorium of Music and was orchestra manager for the University Orchestra and Hunter Symphony Orchestra. He has also played for operas and was Concertmaster for the Lake Macquarie Philharmonic. The Kia-Ora Music Camp has been a favourite involvement over a number of years and Peter is pleased to return for another exciting few days working with the local talent!

Choir (Section 3)

Katy Raucher is a young singer, teacher and songwriter specialising in a range of contemporary genres from jazz and soul to musical theatre and pop. Originally from Boulder, Colorado in the USA, she is currently based out of Hobart. Katy continues to work and perform and regularly throughout Hobart. As well as her own material, Katy is also involved with a wide variety of musicians and bands both in Tasmania and internationally. Katy performs as a featured soloist with The Southern Gospel Choir, as well as a lead vocalist for Katy Raucher and the Spectrums, Soultruck, and Mangus. Katy also currently performs in several jazz and pop ensembles including an Ella and Pass inspired set with Mark Schmalfuss, a wedding and function band Something Borrowed, and has worked alongside many notable artists including Darren Percival, Khristian Dently of Take 6, Idea of North, Steven Schwartz, Elly Hoyt, Maria Lurighi, Andrew Legg, Kristen Beradi, Dean Stevenson, Nick Haywood, and Christine Anu.
Advanced Vocals (Section 4)

This section is for students Year 8 – Year 12. For individual and small group vocal coaching and stage presentation with Francine Bell, an international entertainer. This is a very popular section and places will be limited. This year the competition will not be running, allowing the students to focus on more advanced techniques and concepts.

Rock Ensemble (Section 5)

Alicia Charleston is an entertainer, guitarist, songwriter, producer, vocalist and educator. Alicia has toured extensively in the UK, North America and Europe. She has played at numerous festivals including the prodigious Edge of the World Music Festival (Canada), Woodford Folk Festival (QLD) and Frankston International Guitar Festival (VIC). Some of Alicia’s recording credits include releases by Manuhiri (AUS/NZ), Emaline Delapaix (AUS/CAN), The Anoushka (AUS) and Alicia-C project. Her songwriting commission credits for film include Evelyn Everyone (2009) and On Her Shoulders (2011). Some highlights in Australia include sharing the stage with Australia’s top most: Sally Dastey, Marie Wilson, Bobby Valentine, Josie Jason and Julie Walter. She has been interviewed and published by Guitarist Australia Magazine and winner of the North Coast Dolphin Award ‘Best Rock Song’ in 2000.

Alicia is the Guitar lecturer at Southern Cross University and the Head of Academy Music at Northern Rivers Conservatorium.

Kawai Piano (Section 6)

Dr Jordan Wett has completed his PhD, Master and Bachelor’s degree in music under the tutelage of Dr Gian-Franco Ricci, and is currently undergoing another Master degree in specialist teaching. He has performed around Australia and abroad including performances in South Korea, Japan, New Zealand, the UK, Germany and Norway. Some of Jordan’s notable accolades include winning the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama concerto medal, the Post-Graduate Award for his PhD, the UON Faculty medal in performance, the John Sinclair Cormack prize for study in the UK as well as an invitation to perform for the retiring Supreme Court Justice of Norway in 2015. KAWAI piano will be offered as a section for preliminary to grade 4 students and as a masterclass for students of grade 5 level and above.

Electives – check the enrolment form on how to choose these

Taiko Drumming

Returning in 2019, the Taiko Experience provides the opportunity for students to learn Japanese drumming in a fun workshop. If you enjoy drumming and making a lot of noise, then this elective is for you! In each workshop you will be an active participant as well as an observer.

Marimba

In this tutorial students will have the opportunity to be actively involved – ‘hands on’ – in performing on marimbas. The workshop will be led by Danny Spillane from Kentucky, NSW. Danny is well known for the successful groups he leads at Kentucky Primary School performing all over the North West and the Sydney Opera House. What is a Marimba? These are xylophone type instruments based on traditional African designs. Up to four children can play each marimba with the keys large and easy to hit for even the younger players.

Dance Electives

Once again the camp has been fortunate in securing dance staff from the National College of Dance Academy from Newcastle. The two dance sections (Jazz Dance and Hip Hop Dance) are a very high standard for the camp and are always popular. The standard of dance tuition is of the highest, from one of Australia’s leading dance studios. If you have been to Kia-Ora before, remember to try something new even if you love the dance sections.