



# Mount Alvernia College



## *Music Department* *Co-Curricular Music Handbook* *2022*

# Welcome

Lorella Masci • Learning Area Advisor: The Arts

Welcome to Mount Alvernia College Co-Curricular Music for 2022.

Our Music program encourages *all* students at Mount Alvernia College to participate in musical activities. We are proud of our musical culture within the school – a culture that has a positive impact on our students' lives. Our singers and instrumentalists enjoy personal and musical development through sharing their musical experiences throughout the College year. At the College there are evidently many opportunities for the students under our care to succeed in the Arts and in particular through the wide range of activities on offer to them.

The **Choral Program** has grown significantly and is highly successful with our choirs regularly achieving GOLD at the Queensland Catholic Colleges Music Festival and high placing at the Queensland Youth Music Awards. The choirs have toured to America on three occasions, Malaysia and Singapore.

The **Franciscan Colleges Instrumental Program** is one of the finest in Queensland offering a wide range of instrumental tuition. Students have the opportunity to perform in one of the many ensembles including; Senior Concert Band, Senior Big Band, Senior Strings, Intermediate Concert Band, Wind Ensemble, Intermediate Big Band, Jazz Band and Intermediate Strings. Each group attends camps regularly within the state, while the Senior Ensembles work towards a tour every second year. These ensembles have completed successful tours of New Zealand, Melbourne, Perth and Japan.

The College also offers **Private Music Tuition** in Voice and Piano with Vocal tutor – Ms Hayley Marsh and piano specialist and accompanist – Ms Peta Wilson. Both bring their tremendous wealth of expertise to the College Program. Additional tuition in Guitar and Drums is available through Padua College.

Please take the time to look over the many opportunities and should you have any queries about Music at the College please do not hesitate to contact me.

I look forward to working with you and your child at the College.

Lorella Masci

**Learning Area Advisor: The Arts**

# Music Department Personnel

## Important Contacts:

### Academic Music Teacher

#### Choral Director

Ms Amanda Holley

[holla@staff.mta.qld.edu.au](mailto:holla@staff.mta.qld.edu.au)

### Voice Teacher

#### Choral Conductor

Ms Hayley Marsh

[marsc@staff.mta.qld.edu.au](mailto:marsc@staff.mta.qld.edu.au)

### Director of the Franciscan Colleges Instrumental Program

Mr Chris Dodemont

[cdodemont@padua.qld.edu.au](mailto:cdodemont@padua.qld.edu.au)

### Head of Strings

Mr Richard Tweddell

[twedr@staff.mta.qld.edu.au](mailto:twedr@staff.mta.qld.edu.au)

### Head of Junior/ Middle School Instrumental Music

Mr Trevor Beyer

[tbeyer@padua.qld.edu.au](mailto:tbeyer@padua.qld.edu.au)

### Specialist Staff

#### Piano Teacher

Ms Peta Wilson

### Learning Area Advisor: The Arts

Ms Lorella Masci

[mascl@staff.mta.qld.edu.au](mailto:mascl@staff.mta.qld.edu.au)

# Mount Alvernia Co-Curricular Music Ensembles

The School has a comprehensive co-curricular ensemble program. The instrumental arm of the music program is shared with Padua College under the banner of the Franciscan Colleges Instrumental Program (FCIP). In addition, the school facilitates tuition by a number of specialist teachers.

All students are eligible to apply for ensemble membership. For some ensembles, an audition is required.

Members of all ensembles are expected to adhere to the information included in this brochure regarding attendance, music, equipment, rehearsals and the departmental policy for notice for performances.

## Music Ensembles

- **Choral** — Franciscan Voices, College Choir, Performance Chorale & Showcase Chorale
- **Strings** — Intermediate Strings, Senior Strings, Chamber Strings, Symphony Orchestra
- **Bands** — Intermediate Concert Band, Wind Ensemble, Intermediate Big Band, Senior Concert Band, Senior Big Band, FCIP Rock Band



# Ensemble Obligations

Members of all ensembles are expected to be courteous, punctual, reliable, responsible and self-disciplined. It is expected that students commit themselves to membership of an ensemble for the whole year. **Inability to attend rehearsals or performances must be negotiated with the conductor.** Regardless of the reasons for your absence you may be excluded from a performance if you have been absent from rehearsals, especially those close to a performance. The consequence of not fulfilling our expectations may include being excluded from a performance or being excluded from the ensembles. Parent support of these expectations is essential.

**No position in an ensemble is held permanently and membership is for one year only.**

## REHEARSAL ATTENDANCE

Rehearsals are about performing in a group. The musical skills involved are:

- Balance
- Blend
- Intonation
- Articulation
- Consistent interpretation

**These are skills that can be learned only in rehearsal with all ensemble members present – they cannot be learned at home.**

## REHEARSAL PREPARATION

Parts should be rehearsed at home once learnt in rehearsal. It is expected regular practice is completed to maintain the high standard of ensemble.

## PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE

Ensembles are teams where all members are dependent on each other. Your absence could ruin a performance or place undue pressure on the rest of the ensemble. If you are unable to attend a performance for a very good reason, you must inform your conductor in writing as soon as possible prior to the event.

## WHEN CO-CURRICULAR COMMITMENTS CLASH

If students participate in two or more activities that rehearse/ practise at the same time, attendance at each group will be on an alternating basis negotiated by the Directors/ Coaches of each activity.

Students are expected to attend their regular scheduled rehearsals rather than extra rehearsals or other activities organised on an ad hoc basis.

# *Franciscan Voices—Choral Program*

The choral program is run in collaboration with Padua College and facilitates a Core Ensemble (Franciscan Voices) for all students, and extension ensemble with entry by audition. All students must participate in the Core Ensemble to be eligible to be part of the extension ensembles.

## *Core Ensemble:*

**Franciscan Voices** —Years 7—12

Conductors—Ms Amanda Holly (Mount Alvernia) and Mr Daniel Allen (Padua)

Rehearsal Time—Friday 3.15—4.30pm

Rehearsal Venue—Room S103—Music Room

The commitment is year-round with one rehearsal per week.

This ensemble performs regularly at College events, liturgies and School Concerts. In recent years this ensemble has achieved a GOLD medal at the Catholic Colleges Music Festival.

## *Extension Ensembles:*

**Performance & Showcase Chorale**—Years 7—9 (Membership is by audition)

Conductor— Ms Hayley Marsh

Rehearsal Time—(TBA)

Rehearsal Venue—Room S103—Music Room

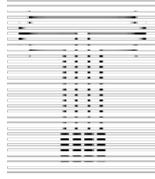
Cost—\$115per semester

The commitment is year-round with one rehearsal per week.

This ensemble is an extension ensemble, therefore to be eligible to audition you must be a member of the Core Ensemble – Franciscan Voices

## *Choir Uniform:*

A choir uniform is available to purchase from the College uniform shop. This is to be used for all formal choir performances.



## Franciscan Colleges Instrumental Program

The Franciscan Colleges Instrumental Program (*FCIP*) is designed to give students of Mount Alvernia, Padua and St Anthony's the opportunity of learning a musical instrument and of performing in one of the bands and orchestras run as part of the program.

A limited number of instruments are available for hire at a low charge so that parents and music teachers have a chance to determine a student's ability and interest before purchasing any instrument needs to be considered. The Music Department runs on a non-profit basis and tuition is subsidised by Padua and Mount Alvernia College, thus enabling costs to be kept to a minimum for parents.

This is an excellent opportunity for you to give your child a wonderful skill and to add a special dimension to her life. Remember, music can and does enrich lives and lasts a whole lifetime. Over many years, students who have taken part in the *FCIP* have shown remarkable enthusiasm and success. Because a good musical education has been shown to enhance academic success and to improve self-esteem, self-discipline and time management skills, this is an opportunity not to be missed. Music lessons are programmed using a rotating timetable so that students do not repeatedly miss the same school subject lessons. Under this system, many of our music students have achieved remarkable success both in their schoolwork and on their instrument. Indeed, a large and growing number of *FCIP* graduates now work either as professional musicians or are studying at tertiary institutions.

Tuition is available in the following instruments:

**Strings**—Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass **Woodwind** - Flute, Clarinet, Oboe, Bassoon, Saxophone  
**Brass**—Trumpet, Trombone, French Horn, Euphonium, Tuba **Percussion**—Tuned and Untuned  
**Individual & Group Lessons**—Guitar and Drum Kit

*FCIP* tuition is given by professional musicians, is co-educational, via group tuition and operate on a rotating timetable. Both lessons and rehearsals for ensembles are held on different campuses (Mount Alvernia, Padua and St Anthony's),

Enrolment in the *FCIP* is through the Director of the program Mr Chris Dodemont.



# Private Music Tuition Program

The College offers private music tuition in Voice and Piano. In addition to this private tuition in guitar and drums is offered through Padua College and the Franciscan Colleges Instrumental Program. Students rotate through lessons each week.

## Voice Lessons

The vocal tutor at the college is **Ms Hayley Marsh**, a Brisbane based music director, vocal clinician, and performing arts teacher. She has performed with and conducted choirs across Australia and is the current director of the Queensland Young Voices, the flagship youth choir of Queensland Show Choir. In 2018 she was nominated twice for Best Musical Director of a Community Theatre Musical by the Gold Palm Theatre Awards for her work on *Carrie* and *Shrek*, respectively. Hayley is passionate about supporting the performing careers of young people and enjoys teaching healthy vocal production both in private instruction and as part of choral rehearsal.

If your child wishes, **group lessons** can be organised for vocal students (usually between 2 and 4 students per group). These are cheaper than individual lessons and students are grouped according to ability. (**Group lessons are subject to availability**).

Students studying voice are encouraged to complete AMEB exams. In particular, we have had significant success with students completing the AMEB Contemporary Voice strand.

It is expected students who study voice participate in one of the College vocal ensembles.

## Piano Lessons

Piano tuition is available from **Ms Peta Wilson**. Peta holds a Masters of Music and has been active in the Brisbane music scene for the past 13 years. With a major in jazz piano, Peta is in high demand as a performer and accompanist. Peta has toured on behalf of the QLD Arts Council and performed at several music festivals including the Woodford Folk Festival and Parklife. She has written and played on a number of recordings that have received Triple J airplay.

Piano tuition is available in a variety of styles including contemporary, classical and jazz. She can also prepare students for AMEB exams.

# *Applications for Co-Curricular Music*

Applications for both the Private Music Tuition Program and Co-Curricular Music Program are available through Student Services.

Any further queries please contact:

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**KEDRON Q 4013**

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