

MusicNotes

CHURCHLANDS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

MUSIC PARENTS' COMMITTEE

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

TERM 1 2024



Fancy Fretwork

Photo: Naki Kursunlu

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**CHURCHLANDS
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL**

Coordinator's Cadenza

Vivienne Travlos, Music Parents Committee Coordinator



How lucky are we?!

I am writing this all energised and inspired after the term one Senior Concert!

My 15 year old is still singing through the house as I write. A few weeks ago, she came home from rehearsal super excited: "I can't wait for Senior Concert! Can we invite our friends from other schools?"

We did invite our private school friends and we all enjoyed the whole package of a concert night: the cheerful, welcoming chatter in the entrance hall, the relaxed yet disciplined vibe, the nerves that precede the thrill of performing to an audience, the applause and above all, the shared beauty of the music.

I asked my children HOW they managed to get together these performances in less than 7 weeks of term? They explained that the Symphony ensemble, for example, rehearse by sight reading and decides a few weeks prior which pieces to perform. As a non-musician parent, I'm impressed!

Little did we know when deciding on high school choices for our eldest back in her Year 6 (spoilt for choice amongst our local top notch schools) how MUCH the CSHS Music Program would shape our children. We thank our lucky stars for landing in the most supportive, warm, joyous group of teachers, and students whose development from Year 7 to Year 12 is a privilege to witness.

Our children are heavily involved in sports outside of school and I sometimes worry about their music practice and academics. Seemingly infinite opportunities are

offered to get more involved in music, from busking to community bands and orchestras, until the kids might need Hermione Granger's Time Turner! 🙄

But we don't need to worry - nights like the Senior Concert can reassure us that finely tuned balance and wholesome growth of our youngsters is certainly possible.

So much happens in the background, not always visible in these pages, that enables us be part of the joy and energy of our children's performances. I am sincerely grateful for the volunteer efforts of all parents supporting the Music Parents Committee (MPC) endeavours. Our hard workers who somewhere find many hours of time to contribute. THANK YOU to Fatos for advocacy, treasury, representation; Yana for picking up perfectly after handover; Anna, Alina, Anghi, Jenny and team for the kiosk entertainment; Tomoko for ensuring there is always enough stock; Natalia and team for our welcoming entry; Gavin and team for slick stage set up; Naki and Matt for photos; Shree, Meera, Magda, Kelly and team for all the background admin; Sefton & Shirin for jumping in right from the get-go Year 7 onwards and all I have not yet named. And especially to Matt Stack, our tireless Music Notes editor, no doubt creating this edition through the holidays for us to enjoy memories for the years to come.

Deepest thanks go to the terrific Tracey Gralton, who tapped me on the shoulder to take on the coordinator's role - my feet will never fill the BIG shoes of your many years' experience, insights and wisdoms and we thank you sincerely for the comprehensive handover for our little MPC team. We'll certainly endeavour to maintain the MPC contributions to the Music Program.

Term 2 meetings Monday 22nd April and Monday 20th May, 7.30pm in the Chorale Studio (green room) - All hands on deck, new and old, always welcome!

Save the Dates! - Term Two 2024

| | | | |
|--------------|--|---------------|---|
| Mon 15 April | Students return to school | Fri 10 May | Intermediate Concert 7pm TICKETS HERE |
| Mon 22 April | MPC Meeting 7:30pm in Choral Studio | Thu 16 May | CSHS/UWA/WAAPA Concert |
| Thu 25 April | Anzac Day March | Mon 20 May | MPC Meeting 7:30pm in Choral Studio |
| 2-4 May | School Production - Charlie and the Chocolate Factory TICKETS HERE | Thu 23 May | Junior Concert |
| Fri 10 May | ATAR Music Practical Examinations | 31 May-2 June | P & C Art Exhibition |
| | | Thu 28 June | End of Term 2 |

From the Director's Desk

Glenn Robinson, Director of Music

I'd like to highlight some of the remarkable achievements of the Class of '23 and some other recent Alumni of the Churchland School of Music.

ATAR 2023 Subject Award and scholarship winners



Harry Hopwood was awarded the Subject Exhibition for ATAR Music. This is awarded to the student obtaining the highest examination mark. Harry also received a Certificate of Excellence for ATAR English. Congratulations Harry, we are all very proud of you! All the best for your future studies and we hope music may continue to be part of your bright future.



We are very proud of **Shreeya Naroth** who won a prestigious UWA Fogarty Foundation Scholarship 2023 and **Madita Groescho** who was the recipient of the Murdoch University Ngala Kwop Bidhi Brighter Futures Scholarship 2023.



Shreeya and Madita both follow a history of other high achieving music students including Jo Armstrong - John Curtin Undergraduate Scholarship (JCUS) 2013, Kimberley Clifton - Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award 2018 and Guy Archibald - ANU Tuckwell Scholarship 2021.

"As a student who is passionate about music with keen interest in academics, community service, leadership and extracurricular activities, the Gifted & Talented Entry (GATE) Music Program at Churchlands provided me with education and life skills that go beyond classroom learning. The GATE Music Program enabled me to learn saxophone on a one-on-one basis and I was able to become a successful ATAR Music student under the tutelage of the state's most experienced, talented and passionate teachers.

While my peers and I all share a passion and love for music, we will all be pursuing different careers such as medicine, engineering, law, science, architecture, arts, music and more. However, through a supportive environment that fosters creativity, my peers and I have been able to develop soft skills that are highly valued in tertiary education institutions and the workforce, such as time-management, communication, teamwork and problem-solving - all of which are developed naturally over the course of being a GATE Music student." - **Shreeya Naroth**

Ariel Postmus (2016)



After graduating from CSHS, Ariel went on to study a Bachelor of Music: Classical Performance degree at WAAPA, and Australian National Academy of Music (2021-23). Whilst Ariel studied at ANAM she played with the Auckland Philharmonic Orchestra, Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra Victoria, Victorian Opera, and the West Australian Symphony Orchestra. Amongst other highlights, she was awarded the Ursula Hoff Award for the Most Outstanding Chamber Music Performance - alongside CSHS Alumni Adrian Biemmi. She is currently playing with Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra (TSO) 2024 and we are very proud of you Ari!

ANAM trains the most exceptional young classical musicians from Australia and New Zealand, its annual intake is up to 50 of the most promising young musicians from Australia and New Zealand. In 2023, only seven West Australians were successful, of whom six are CSHS Music graduates, the largest contribution from a single school program.

Andrew Crothers (2015)



Andrew was recently announced as one of seven Emerging Artist with the Australian Chamber Orchestra. Following a nationwide rigorous and competitive audition process, Andrew will spend the year working closely with Australian Chamber Orchestra musicians and rehearsing and performing as a member of the ACO Collective, the education and regional touring ensemble. Congratulations Andrew!

Congratulations go to the **2024 Composition Project** successful participants, **Amy Skellern** (2022), **Joonwoo Kim** (2022) and **Sahil Sidhu** (2020). Under the mentorship of James Ledger, these young composers have the opportunity to create a new work for a 14-piece chamber ensemble, performed live by WASO musicians. The free concert will be on 13th June in the Perth Concert Hall!



Senior Concert

Photos: Naki Kursunlu and Matt Stack

The senior ensembles set the standard for 2024 concert series. Wind Orchestra One energised the room with equal parts volume and precision, followed by the sumptuous strings of Chamber Orchestra, under the new management of Kristel Hawksworth.

Chorale enthusiastically showcased intricate vocal work, featuring Yugoslav folk songs. Birdland set out some jazz vibes under the direction of Andre Bourgault Du Coudray.

After the interval the Symphony Orchestra exploded with *Thunder and Lightning Polka* followed by the Galahs and Fretwork One.

Senior Choir brought the night to a close with an arrangement of Electric Light Orchestra's *Mr Blue Sky*.

As always, a marvellous show to a rapt audience of families and friends.



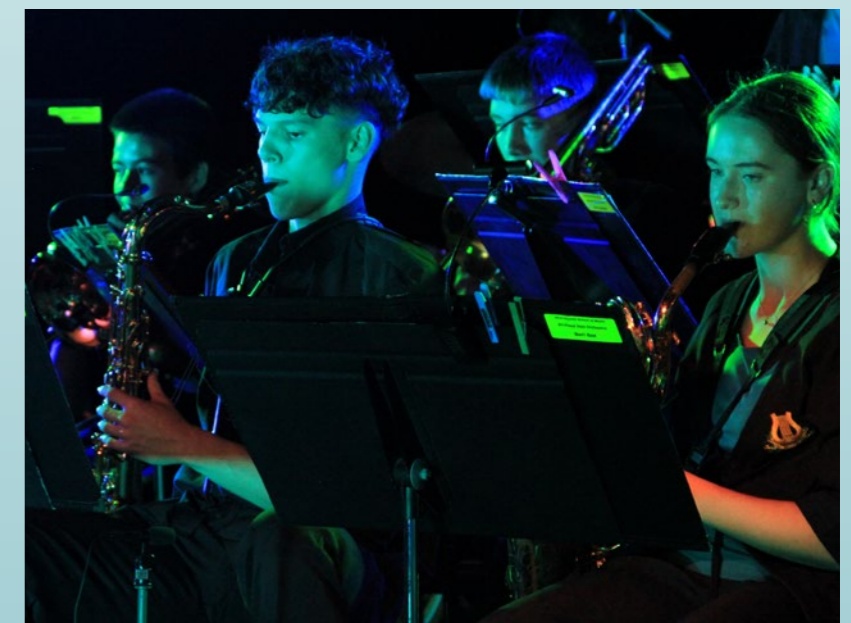


Twilight Jazz

Photos: Naki Kursunlu

Twilight Jazz once again saw the Churchlands Jazz community treated to an enjoyable night of Jazz performed by students from Year 8 – 12. Our three big bands, Ellingtons, BlueNotes and Birdland, year group combos and our alumni music students studying Jazz at WAAPA, entertained the crowd whilst they enjoyed their picnics and perfect weather.

The audience was definitely bigger than last year, which is encouraging, and it was great to see so many students, and staff, supporting the night and the fundraising efforts of the MPC. We look forward to seeing you there again next year!



WASO Excursion

Article: Tara Tricker, Sophia Bell, Elsie Bourgault and Tara Spark

On the 20th of March, a handful of year 11 & 12 music students went on an excursion to watch the set pieces for music ATAR be performed live by the West Australian Symphony Orchestra (WASO).

It started off with a cramped bus ride to Perth concert hall where the students disembarked the bus, wandered down then lurked outside the hall until it was time to enter. Eventually the tsunami of sleep-deprived students, scurried up the stairs to wait for the next two years' worth of repetitive repertoire to be performed. It all began in a galaxy far far away where Churchlands was the biggest planet, although the Bob Hawke meteors were blocking our view.

There were a few interactive questions from the host including who plays the viola, coupled with a few 'boos'. Then, the first piece they played was the overplayed and overrated *dadadaduuuummmmm* by Beethoven (also known as Beethoven's *Symphony No.5*) followed by a long analysis of each element, so much so that we could now explain it in our sleep! They then played Haydn's Trumpet concerto, with a wonderful soloist, which highlighted the great acoustics) and Amy Beach's Gaelic symphony, which came with a long (but still interesting) historical explanation.

The final piece was John Adams' post minimalism piece, *Short Ride in a Fast Machine* which was very well played and very enjoyable if you weren't trying to discern any kind of time signature (as the piece is intended, not by fault of WASO who did very well with the lack of any consistency of time). For this piece, the host told us to try to conduct in three and count in four, a task which seemed easy but one we all failed (do not try this at home!).



After the highly virtuosic performance (see we are picking up music words) we walked over to Milky Lane restaurant. We ate burgers took pictures, scoffed biscoff and had GIANT milkshakes! All of this staved off our growing hunger and was very enjoyable.

The evening was topped off with a lovely sunset which we enjoyed by photographing it from the window like the in-the-moment teenagers we are. Overall, it was a really fun night and (as much as we complain) we learned a lot and had a great time!



Jazz Camp 2024

Jazz Camp '24 was an incredible success which was enjoyed by everyone who went. From the fun team-building exercises that had us laughing together, to the amazing performances by former Churchlands students, the Jazz Camp was an absolute hit.

Our three big bands had the opportunity to go for a two-day jazz journey in the Swan Valley. It gave everyone some valuable extra rehearsal time, ahead of Twilight Jazz, to learn our parts and improve how we sound as an ensemble.

The camp wasn't just about rehearsals though. We enjoyed an amazing performance by Churchlands Alumni currently studying jazz at WAAPA, which included some Q+A time giving everyone the opportunity to find out what studying jazz after high school was like. There were also fun and engaging team building exercises which brought everyone closer together before an amazing 'Blues-Brothers' themed quiz night extravaganza gave us a chance to share our knowledge about jazz and all things music including our hard-working music staff.

We were also fortunate enough to have world class saxophonist Jamie Oehlers come in and perform for us with his All-Star trio. Their performance was very inspiring and his improvisation workshop gave us useful tips and techniques to improve our improvising. His trio ran rhythm section workshops that were equally impressive and provided insight into what to listen for in a jazz performance.

The camp finished up with a successful concert to parents showcasing the music we had learned over the camp. It was a roaring success, and you could hear that the bands had improved over the camp. None of this would have been possible without the incredible organisation and planning of Mr Bourgault and Mrs Chesney. Their hard work and dedication made the camp the special event that it was. So, if you missed out, start counting down the days till the next one! Jazz Camp 24' - where the music was hot, the vibes were cool, and memories were made.



Maslenitsa

In March 2024 Year 8 student Lisa Goncharova flew to Adelaide to participate in the Russian Pancake Festival *Maslenitsa* together with other students and teachers from the Cultural Learning Centre *Mosaica*.

Lisa was singing a song about the little girl representing Russia as a country. The beauty of this girl was demonstrated through the dresses which she was wearing. Four seasons of the year demonstrated through snow forests, autumn lakes and summer flowers, white and blue colours. The song is about how beautiful the country is in different seasons.

There were 21 songs and dances performed by students and teachers from Perth and Lisa participated in a few traditional dances and group songs.

Maslenitsa is one of the most popular and cheerful religious holidays in Russia. It originated from pagan times before Russia was converted to Christianity. At first, this holiday was a symbol of the spring solstice but nowadays it is considered a Christian holiday which goes right before the Great Lent. During Maslenitsa people enjoy almost any food, except meat. Usually Maslenitsa lasts for seven days and on the last day of this holiday people burn a doll which is made of branches and straw and dressed in bright clothes. This doll is called *Maslenitsa* and it symbolizes the cold and severe winter. By burning Maslenitsa people say goodbye to winter and greet a warm spring.



CSHS MUSIC PARENTS ON FACEBOOK!



To keep up to date with all the news, join the CSHS Music Parents' Facebook group.

www.facebook.com/groups/CSHSmusicparents/

CSHS SCHOOL OF MUSIC ON YOUTUBE!

The School of Music has its own YouTube channel! Use this QR Code or go to youtube.com and search for "Churchlands SHS School of Music".



It's a perfect way to share your child's musical achievements with friends and family.

MUSIC PARENTS

Do we have your preferred email address? Help us keep you in the loop with events and other MPC happenings!

mpc@churchlandspc.com.au

MUSIC RESOURCE

The School of Music has an ongoing subscription to an online music education resource for students' use. Check it out at

learning.e-lr.com.au

Student login: student.cshs.wa Password: cornet

JOIN THE MUSIC PARENTS COMMITTEE

All music parents are welcome and encouraged to join in and help the committee support the CSHS School of Music. It's a great way to connect with other music parents and get involved with your child's music school journey.

Please come along to the Term 2 MPC meetings on Monday 22 April (week 2) and 20 May (week 7) 7.30pm in the Choral Studio. Sign up for updates at mpc@churchlandspc.com.au

INSTRUMENTS WANTED

Unloved, spare or surplus musical brass, woodwind or string instruments for children at a disadvantaged school wanting to experience the magic of making music. Please drop playable or easily serviced instruments off to the Music Office marked:

"Attention Mr Robinson: Donation!"

YOUR MUSIC NOTES

Music Notes is a newsletter for parents, by parents! We would love to feature your contributions of short articles and photos

Please email hi-res photos to: mstack23@gmail.com

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK FUNDRAISER



Support Churchlands SHS School of Music while getting big discounts and great ideas for fun times with friends and family.

entertainment.com.au/orderbooks/83m352

or

cshs.entertainmentbook@gmail.com

CONCERT PHOTOGRAPHY

To avoid disturbing other concertgoers we ask that you do not take photos or videos during the school concerts.

Our dedicated volunteer photographers will take high quality images throughout the performances. Selected images will be published in the Music Notes newsletter, and all of the images are available to download at this QR Code.



Get your golden ticket to the Churchlands Senior High School Musical Production!

2nd / 3rd / 4th May 2024
Taryn Fiebig Concert Hall

<https://www.trybooking.com/CPUQX>

