



Upper Hunter  
Conservatorium  
*of Music*

2012  
Student Handbook

**Muswellbrook Studios**

"The Convent"  
Cnr Brook and Sowerby Sts  
MUSWELLBROOK

**Singleton Studios**

First Floor "Grail Offices"  
Cnr Pitt and John Sts  
SINGLETON

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# Message from the Director

Adam Wills

Welcome to the Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music in 2012. The Conservatorium is dedicated to providing the best music tuition, services and opportunities for its students, as well as music performance experiences for residents in the Upper Hunter region.

We aim to provide a wide range of music programs and services to enhance the talents of our students, including the very youngest with our Early Childhood Music classes, through to instrumental lessons, exam preparation and performance opportunities for students of all ages.

Our flagship ensembles program offers students and residents an opportunity to take music beyond their home and school, by providing opportunities to perform regionally, nationally and even all over the world.

I thank you for offering your child (or yourself) the wonderful gift of music; and I hope it is the start of a lifelong journey and appreciation.



## 2012 Term Dates

1st Term	Monday 30th January	–	Thursday 5th April
2nd Term	Monday 23rd April	–	Friday 29th June
3rd Term	Monday 16th July	–	Friday 21st September
4th Term	Monday 8th October	–	Friday 14th December

NOTE: Terms run in conjunction with the NSW public schools, with classes conducted on all days except public holidays.

# About the Conservatorium

Established in 1997, the Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music has established itself as a strong component of the musical and cultural life of the Upper Hunter Region.

The Conservatorium is a non-profit organisation funded partly by the NSW government. In addition to providing music education to most areas of the Upper Hunter, the Conservatorium also provides a means for students of all ages and levels to achieve their goals and aspirations.

Lessons are conducted by experienced, qualified teachers from various locations throughout the region, ranging from Murrurundi and Blandford in the North, to Singleton and Nulkaba in the South and Merriwa in the West.

The main aims and objectives of the Conservatorium are to provide quality music and drama tuition to residents of the Upper Hunter, foster music as a form of social interaction, expression and creativity, whilst enhancing the cultural life of the community.

Since the formation of the Conservatorium in 1997, hundreds of students of all ages have enrolled for lessons, courses and workshops. Some have progressed to become professional performers and teachers and most have achieved the level of training desired to be involved in music-making and performance for the rest of their lives.

## MANAGEMENT

The Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music is governed by a Board of Directors, which consists of representatives from the community with a variety of expertise and knowledge. The Board meets bimonthly to discuss legal, strategic, financial, education and administrative matters relating to the Conservatorium.

### UHCM Board

Chair: Mr. Bruce MacFarlane

Secretary: Mr. Steve McDonald

Mrs. Gillian Miles (Staff Rep)

Mr. Murray Kershaw

Mrs. Bronwen Smith

Mr. Allan Jones

Vice Chair: Mr. Russell Byers

Treasurer: Mrs. Jennifer Lecky

Mrs. Vicki French

Mr. Stephen Curtis

Mr. Michael Saunders





# Conditions of Enrolment

information for parents and students

## 1. Fees

All tuition fees are to be paid by the term in advance, unless other arrangements have been made. Students with overdue fees will incur a late fee and may have their lessons cancelled.

## 2. Payment of Fees

Fees may be paid in person at the Conservatorium office, Hunter Mutual, via the post or internet. Further information is available on the back of all invoices and statements. Conservatorium teaching staff may not accept fee payments.

## 3. Refund Policy

Lessons missed by the teacher will be made up or credited to your account. Teacher times are booked for each term, therefore lessons missed by students (for any reason) do not qualify for a refund or make-up lesson.

## 4. Discontinued Lessons

Both the teacher and office must be notified of a student's intention to withdraw from lessons in writing. Withdrawals can only be made at half term or at the end of term. In consultation with the student's parent or guardian, Conservatorium teachers reserve the right to discontinue lessons where a student's behavior or attitude is deemed inappropriate.

## 5. Welfare of Students

The Conservatorium's responsibility for the child's welfare begins and ends at the door of the classroom or studio.

## 6. Group Lessons

Fees for group lessons such as Early Childhood Music or one of the Conservatorium ensembles are payable by the full term only. No refunds can be given on group lessons or workshops unless these courses are cancelled by the Conservatorium.

## 7. Music Tuition Terms

The Conservatorium operates within a four term system, which is the same as those of NSW public schools. No lessons are held on public holidays and during school holidays.

## 8. No Eating and Drinking

Please respect our policy of no eating, drinking or smoking in any rooms used for lessons or within the Conservatorium building. Smoking is not permitted within school or Conservatorium grounds.





## Conservatorium Teaching Staff

<b>Tristan Bradley</b>	<i>Guitar</i>
<b>Learna Christie</b>	<i>Drama</i>
<b>Andrew Chubb</b>	<i>Piano, Violin, Viola, Music Craft</i>
<b>Katrina Constable</b>	<i>Violin, Piano</i>
<b>Sue Davis</b>	<i>Voice, Choir</i>
<b>Michael Fitzgerald</b>	<i>Guitar</i>
<b>Janelle French</b>	<i>Woodwind, Brass, School Band Program</i>
<b>Elizabeth Glenday</b>	<i>Piano</i>
<b>Rowena Harris</b>	<i>Clarinet, Saxophone, Piano</i>
<b>David Harvey</b>	<i>Guitar</i>
<b>Jennifer Kershaw</b>	<i>Piano, Theory, Orchestra, Head of Strings</i>
<b>Lynne Llewelyn</b>	<i>Piano, Music Therapy</i>
<b>Charlotte McCauley</b>	<i>Clarinet, Saxophone</i>
<b>Leanne Mears</b>	<i>Piano</i>
<b>Gillian Miles</b>	<i>Piano, Cello, Musicianship</i>
<b>Alison Murphy</b>	<i>Flute, Recorder, Pre Instrument</i>
<b>Aaron Passfield</b>	<i>Brass</i>
<b>Aaron Rothemund</b>	<i>Flute</i>
<b>Heila Snyman</b>	<i>Piano, Pipe Organ, Musicianship, Theory</i>
<b>Robert Thompson</b>	<i>Brass, UH Concert Band</i>
<b>Joshua Vadas</b>	<i>Drums</i>
<b>Jordan Wett</b>	<i>Piano</i>
<b>Adam Wills</b>	<i>Percussion, Upper Hunter Show band</i>
<b>David Wyatt</b>	<i>Drums</i>



# Instrumental Tuition

Lessons are available in the following instruments:

- Keyboard** – Piano, Pipe Organ and Electronic Keyboard
- Guitar** – Acoustic, Electric and Bass
- Voice** – All voice types and vocal styles
- Percussion** – Drum Kit and Orchestral Percussion
- Strings** – Violin, Viola, Cello and Double Bass
- Woodwind** – Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone and Recorder
- Brass** – Trumpet, Trombone, Euphonium, French Horn and Tuba

Individual lessons are the core business of the Upper Hunter Conservatorium. Lessons are conducted with one of our experienced staff members.

Lessons are available after school at the Conservatorium buildings in Muswellbrook and Singleton. The Conservatorium provides lessons during school hours at several schools throughout the Upper Hunter region.

Lessons are available in 20, 30, 45 and 60 minute durations, depending upon the teacher's availability. Lessons are also available in small groups of up to four students.

Highlights of the Conservatorium calendar are student concerts. All students enrolled are given the opportunity to perform at one of our end of semester student concerts.

Concerts are held in June and November/ December and are an ideal opportunity for students to gain valuable experience and confidence in performance practice.

For those students who do not have access to an instrument the Conservatorium has a number of instruments available for hire. For further information please refer to Page 14.





# Orchestra & Ensembles Program

## **Upper Hunter Orchestra**

The Upper Hunter Orchestra comprises string, wind, brass and percussion instruments. Students are given the opportunity to develop ensemble skills in a supportive and enjoyable environment.

Performances include exciting and challenging repertoire. Participants will be expected to have attained a minimum of 3rd grade AMEB or equivalent. Entry to the Upper Hunter Orchestra is open to musicians of all ages who learn at the Conservatorium, as well as the wider community.

**The Upper Hunter Orchestra rehearses Thursday afternoons in Muswellbrook under the direction of Adam Wills and Jennifer Kershaw.**

## **Upper Hunter String Orchestra**

The UHCM String Orchestra is a two-tiered ensemble based-program for students of all ages and differing experience.

Students begin with Junior Strings, which offers training in the rudiments of playing and musicianship. Junior Strings is designed for younger students who have been learning for a limited amount of time.

Upon graduation from Junior Strings, students enter the Senior String Orchestra which offers more advanced aspects of ensemble playing and repertoire choice for intermediate and advanced players.

The String Orchestra is open to students of the Conservatorium as well as those learning outside the Conservatorium.

**Senior Strings & Junior Strings rehearse Thursday afternoons in Muswellbrook under the direction of Jennifer Kershaw and Gillian Miles.**



## **Upper Hunter Percussion Ensemble**

This ensemble provides a unique opportunity to play and learn in an all percussion environment. Access to performance experiences, developing rhythmic awareness and the opportunity to work with both untuned and tuned percussion are invaluable for the percussionist in training.

**The Upper Hunter Percussion Ensemble rehearses Thursday afternoons in Muswellbrook under the direction of Adam Wills.**

## **Conservatorium Choir**

Come together and share your love of singing with other like-minded people. Led by Sue Davis, the Conservatorium Choir is a great opportunity for singers of any age to perform. Recent highlights for the choir include performances of Messiah and in 2010 a performance of Hydrology, a work commissioned especially for the choir. 2012 will see a number of performance opportunities, including joining with the Conservatorium Orchestra in November. Membership of the choir is open to all students of the Conservatorium and members of the Upper Hunter community.

**The Upper Hunter Conservatorium Choir rehearses Tuesday evenings in Muswellbrook under the direction of Sue Davis.**

## **Upper Hunter Wind Quintet**

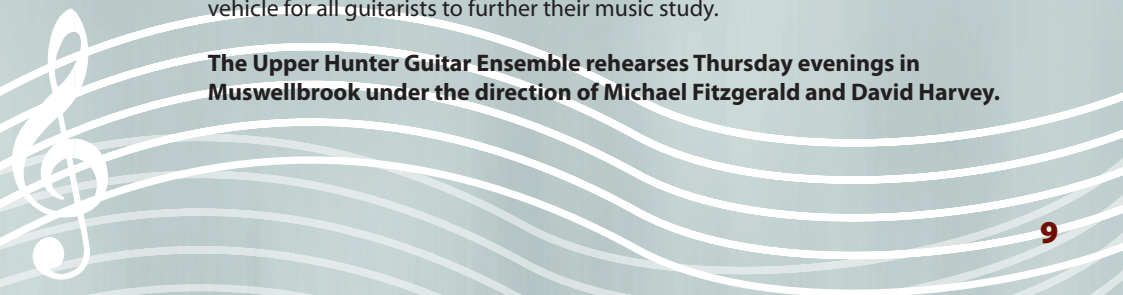
A wind quintet consists of Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon and French Horn. The Wind Quintet is possibly one of the oldest musical ensembles with the earliest wind quintets appearing from 1811. The Upper Hunter Wind Quintet performs regularly at Conservatorium concerts and events such as the Muswellbrook and Upper Hunter Eisteddfod.

**The Upper Hunter Wind Quintet rehearses Thursday evenings in Muswellbrook under the direction of Janelle French.**

## **Guitar Ensemble**

Focussing on several different styles of music the Guitar Ensemble is the perfect vehicle for all guitarists to further their music study.

**The Upper Hunter Guitar Ensemble rehearses Thursday evenings in Muswellbrook under the direction of Michael Fitzgerald and David Harvey.**



## Upper Hunter Show Band

Formed in 2006, the Upper Hunter Show Band is a marching band that performs at events both locally and nationally.

International touring also forms a part of the Upper Hunter Show Band, having performed overseas on three separate occasions, at events such as 2007 Rose Parade, 2009 Calgary Stampede Parade, 2011 New Year's Day Parade in Rome, and at Disneyland in California, Florida and Paris.

Participation is open to brass, wind and percussion players in Year 6 and above. An important part of the Show Band is the Drill Section – adding colour and movement through the use of flags and dance.

## Upper Hunter Concert Band & Jazz Band

The Upper Hunter Concert Band is made up of woodwind, brass and percussion players from the Scone and Muswellbrook areas. Participants in this ensemble perform repertoire ranging from traditional concert band works to popular, modern music.

More advanced students are invited to take part in the Jazz Band, which plays standard big band jazz music. Students wishing to play in this ensemble must be of at least grade 3 AMEB standard.

## School Band Program

In selected schools the Conservatorium offers a school band program. The band program provides an ideal option for students to begin learning a musical instrument.

The students enrolled in the program attend a band rehearsal each week, along with shared or individual lessons. Additional activities such as school and public performances and workshops with visiting bands are also provided as part of the program.

The program strives to encourage a vibrant and enthusiastic atmosphere amongst students and add to the culture of the school in an affordable and inclusive manner.

### Schools participating in the program include:

Aberdeen Public School  
Muswellbrook South Public School  
Nulkaba Public School  
Scone Grammar School  
Scone High School  
Scone Public School  
Singleton Public School  
St. Joseph's Merriwa  
St. Mary's Scone



## **Early Childhood Music**

Give your child a head start in simple musical concepts such as rhythm, pitch, dynamics and instrumentation in a friendly, nurturing and fun environment.

The formative years of childhood are crucial for intellectual, social and emotional development. Access to developmental music programs during these early years encourages and, indeed, assists in the development of good listening and comprehension skills, along with enhanced concentration.

The Early Childhood Music course provides a program of sequenced musical experiences commencing at eighteen months and continuing until age five. The program introduces children to music through a variety of fun and engaging activities, including listening, dance, singing, rhymes and playing percussion instruments.

**Classes are held in Muswellbrook and Scone.**

## **Pre-Instrument Program**

The transition from Early Childhood Music to more formalised individual private tuition is often a time when children lose interest and may not continue with musical education. Here at the Conservatorium, Early Childhood Music graduates can enrol in our Pre-Instrument Program.

Pre-instrument courses teach students the fundamentals of music, with the use of basic tuned and un-tuned percussion instruments.

Students will progress through a sequentially designed program, developing knowledge of sight reading, memorisation skills and aural perception. Students are given the opportunity of performance experience through Student Recitals.



In 2012 the Conservatorium will offer a range of courses in performance for young people from Kinder through to Year 10.

### **1. Kinder—Year 2**

The course covers a range of performance skills, including developing young children's imagination through movement and chant work. The children will work towards a final performance.

### **2. Primary**

Warm up your imagination in a fantasy world of crime. Practical and fun sessions that develop confidence and stage presence. Role play includes detectives, spies and secret agents.

### **3. Young Teens Class (Years 6, 7, 8)**

Combine voice, movement and characterisation skills to do stand up improvisational performances. Learn about yielding and making offers to other actors to develop a scene.

### **4. School Certificate Preparation (Years 9, 10)**

Develop skills to rehearse and perform monologues and duologues.

### **5. Private Drama**

Individual character development lessons, particularly focusing on monologue performances.

# Musicianship, Music Craft & Theory

The Conservatorium has a number of weekly Musicianship, Music Craft and Theory classes for students who wish to supplement their practical studies with a theory component and sit for AMEB exams.

In musicianship and theory classes students learn the theoretical aspects of music from learning note names, Italian terms and keys in the early grades to melody, harmony and two-part writing in the later grades. Learning about musicology or the history of music is also an important component of the classes. Students may choose to sit for an exam.

## School-Based Programs

In addition to the school programs offered, the Conservatorium also currently provides classroom music in several schools.

Schools can choose from programs such as choir training, percussion group, violin, guitar and general classroom music.

To tailor a program to suit your school's needs, please contact the Conservatorium office.



# Musical Instrument Hire

The Conservatorium has a number of instruments for hire, including strings, woodwind, acoustic guitar and brass instruments. Check with the office about instrument availability, as instruments are a limited resource.

Instrument hire is \$40 per term, with a \$20 refundable deposit payable in advance with any musical instrument hire application. The deposit is refunded on return of the instrument in the same condition in which it was originally hired, with all accessories included.

For further information on instrument hire please contact the Conservatorium office.

## **Hire to Buy Instruments**

For those interested in purchasing their own instrument, the Conservatorium offers a "Hire to Buy" program for woodwind and brass instruments. Under this scheme an instrument is able to be paid for in interest-free instalments, over a period of two years. We have new instruments for sale and at times second hand instruments at discounted prices.

For more information on "Hire to Buy" instruments please contact the Conservatorium office.

## **Scholarships & Bursaries**

The Upper Hunter Conservatorium offers a number of scholarships each year to music students undertaking tuition at the Conservatorium or Upper Hunter residents who wish to pursue music tuition with the Conservatorium. Scholarships are awarded based on merit, demonstrated by the applicant in an audition. Auditions normally take place in Term 4.

Bursary assistance is also available to students of the Conservatorium to help with the financial burden of tuition. Bursaries are awarded to students who may not be able to afford to continue music lessons without some financial support.

Financial assistance is also available to families by way of a family discount offered to families with more than one child enrolled in music lessons or a student learning more than one instrument .

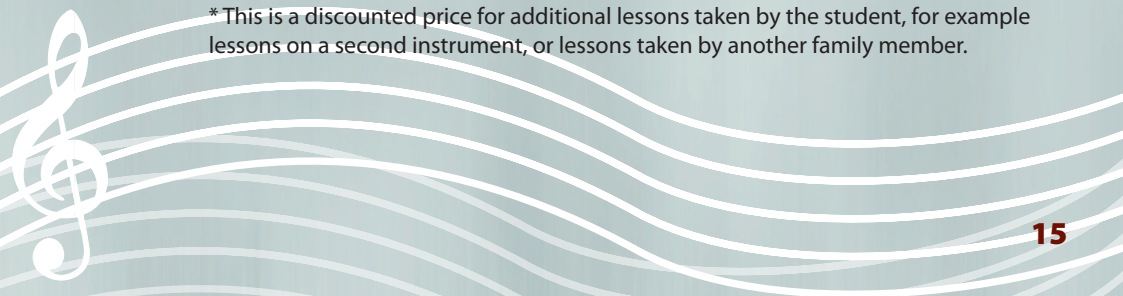
# Student Fees

<b>Lesson Type</b>	<b>Fees</b>
Individual 20 minutes each – 2nd & subsequent 20 minutes *	\$22.00 \$20.50
Individual 30 minutes each – 2nd & subsequent 30 minutes *	\$29.00 \$27.00
Shared 30 minutes (each student)	\$14.50
Individual 40 minutes each	\$36.00
Individual 45 minutes each	\$41.00
Individual 1 hour each	\$51.00

## **Groups & Ensembles**

Upper Hunter Orchestra & Ensembles	\$35/term
Percussion Ensemble	\$51/term
School Band Rehearsal	\$35/term
Early Childhood Music – 30 minutes	\$80/term
Drama Ensemble – 2nd subsequent family member	\$130/term \$100/term
Pre Instrument Group (3 or more students)	\$130/term
Musicianship/Theory/Music Craft	\$45/term
Annual Registration	\$15/year
Late Fee	\$12/term

\* This is a discounted price for additional lessons taken by the student, for example lessons on a second instrument, or lessons taken by another family member.





Upper Hunter  
Conservatorium  
of Music

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday  
9:00am–5:00pm

## OFFICE STAFF

Director: Adam Wills  
Administration Manager: Hollee Pittman  
Administration Officer: Rebecca Keegan  
Community Relations Officer: Rebecca Erskine

## 2012 Term Dates

1st Term	Monday 30th January	–	Thursday 5th April
2nd Term	Monday 23rd April	–	Friday 29th June
3rd Term	Monday 16th July	–	Friday 21st September
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NOTE: Terms run in conjunction with the NSW public schools, with classes conducted on all days except public holidays.

*All information is correct at the time of printing. Details are subject to change without notice.*

The Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music is generously supported by the State Government of NSW through the Department of Education and Communities.



Education &  
Communities

