

2019 Year 12 Music 2 HSC Composition Link to Recordings

Celebrating Year 12 Composition Success

Please enjoy listening to the final recordings of our Year 12 HSC Music 2 compositions:

<https://1drv.ms/u/s!AlCtSsl6mgImg16mVo9iQmVofV23?e=OnQPnp>



“No one will know how long it took, but everyone will know how good it sounds.” G. Cochrane

Year 12 composers’ notes attached here:

2019 Year 12 Music 2 HSC Composition Program Notes



1. “Agassi Nye” by Daniel Mooney

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After discussing my strengths with Ms Waters, I decided to choose to complete a composition elective. Meaning, instead of doing an extra two performance pieces I would instead write one extra-long composition. I enjoy jazz and know it best compared to other styles. In fact I love jazz so much that I decided to write both my pieces in jazz styles. My mandatory composition is called “Agassi Nye”. This work is a fusing together of Klezmer and fast jazz music. I have tried to incorporate the style set by NESAs, “Music of the last 25 years with an Australian focus”. By using unconventional extended techniques as well as using techniques not common to fast jazz, such as bowing the string bass at points I was able to push the style of this work to be contemporary and art-like.



2. “Makin’ Pancakes” by Daniel Mooney

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Even though taking the most time and effort, my elective piece, “Makin’ Pancakes” was by far the most rewarding to compose. “Makin’ Pancakes” is a swing chart for a big band and reflective of the elective topic, Music 1945 – to 25 years ago. While time consuming I took a great deal of joy in creating this work. It was such a big work that we were not able to record this live, hence the Sibelius sounds we have in the recording. Finally I’d like to thank everyone who helped in music over the past year, Ms Waters, Mr Cummins and Mr and Mrs Talati. None of the things I have achieved would have been possible without these people and I am incredibly lucky to have them to support me through my musical ventures. I hope to pursue a career in Music.



3. "The 13" by Lachlan Donlevy

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"The 13" is a piece which tells the story of the Thai cave rescue, which took place in 2018. It uses four sections to convey the struggles faced by members of The Wild Boars Soccer Team. It is set to the text of Dylan Thomas' famous poem *Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night*. The opening section is a soundscape which shows the team journeying into the cave. Section A is the realisation that they are trapped in the cave. Section B is the journey to save the boys from the cave. The final section conveys the joy of being released from the cave. It is aimed to shock the audience like the first breath of fresh air one takes after emerging from water or a dank, confined space.



4. "Stoic Reflections" by Miguel Alvarez

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"Stoic Reflections" is a piano rhapsody that I composed to depict that narrative of life's journey. It portrays the key moments that we all face in life: tranquil, peaceful times and also dilemmas and stumbling blocks. On a personal note, I have found through music and composing that I have been able to express and let out emotion and process moments of trouble. At all times my aim was to integrate pure passion and a sense of spirituality into the piece's narrative. I hope that this work can be integrated to other peoples' lives. Through listening to this may others acknowledge the peaceful, motivational, dark and triumphant moments in their lives.

When I started this composition the Notre Dame Cathedral had just suffered its tragic fires. As I composed I tried to send my love to the people of Paris and the Sacred Heart Community. During the course of Year 12 my composition has also become an ode to the journey we have all been on. Despite life's challenges like the HSC, through faith, hard work and community we can all achieve great things together.



5. “Tango de la Vida” by Nicholas Bendall

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My composition takes on a modern Gypsy/Tango fusion style, taking influence from many of Astor Piazzolla’s works. The instruments I have used include Double Bass, 2 Violins, Piano and Clarinet. The title, ‘Tango de la Vida’ is Spanish for “Tango of Life”. I have been working on this composition since the start of the year. While I was originally struggling for ideas, I wrote one simple melody that resembled a tango. I then took this idea and expanded this theme in various way. With lots of listening to music and through the support of my teachers and classmates I was able to continue to develop my work. Finally, we invited professional musicians to record my composition. This gave me my first real opportunity to hear my work properly. I am really delighted with the final product.



6. “Ode to the Fallen” by Oliver Osborne

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My composition is written for a non-traditional Brass quintet that features Trumpet in C, Trumpet in Bb, Flugelhorn, Trombone and Tuba. A traditional brass quintet contains two trumpets in Bb and a Horn in F rather than a flugelhorn. The reasoning for the instrumental changes lies with the higher pitch required for the Trumpet in C part and the flugelhorn part.

The piece of music is written in a slow tempo, feature dove-tailing and subtle chords progression to showcase the reflective mood of the music. The name ‘Lament to the Fallen’ means sorrow for those lost. While I was writing the music I hoped to incorporate the emotions felt by a person when they lose someone in their life. I also had in mind that I would like to dedicate this to the Indigenous people of Australia, especially those of the stolen generation. My work is a small way of acknowledging their significant trauma and loss.