

MUSE

NORTH EASTERN VICTORIA REGION MUSIC NEWSLETTER

December 2023

NEVR CONCERT IN 2024

Wednesday May 29

NEVR Music is excited to announce that we will be back at Hamer Hall in 2024! From next year this exciting event will occur only every second year. Production of the 2024 concert of the annual youth concert has already begun and will showcase musical excellence from students across the region, giving instrumental music students of all levels an opportunity to perform at Hamer Hall. The theme of the concert will be *'Sonic Canvas'*.

Apart from the massed ensemble items, NEVR Music is looking for both small ensemble items and solo items from senior students to perform at this concert.

This is your chance to showcase the amazing musical talent from your school!

Information about the concert will be sent to schools early in Term 1 and applications are due on or before March 20.

COMBINED ENSEMBLE REHEARSALS

Thursday 9 May
Friday 24 May
9am-3pm

**ENROL YOUR STUDENTS
IN FEBRUARY 2024!**

Information packs will be
sent to schools in February

NEVR CONCERT IN 2023

Monday May 29

It was a pleasure this year to present the 2023 NEVR Concert 'Fire + Rain' at Hamer Hall, Art Centre Melbourne, featuring musical excellence in government schools across the region. It was wonderful to see the live music rehearsals and performances back on stage!

The concert was a great opportunity for students to perform at one of Melbourne's prestigious performance venues and to give them an opportunity to hear the musical excellence that is happening in schools around them. In addition, student art works were featured in the concert program, as well as on the screen on stage between items.

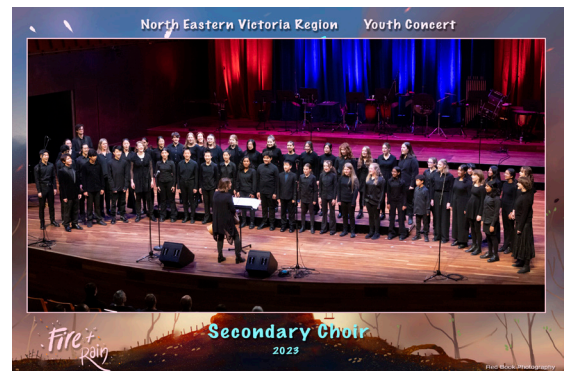
Thank you to all the staff from schools involved!

Secondary schools

Alexandra SC, Ashwood HS, Balwyn HS, Blackburn HS, Camberwell HS, Canterbury Girl's SC, Cobram SC, Doncaster SC, East Doncaster SC, Fairhills HS, Glen Waverley SC, Greater Shepparton SC, Healesville HS, Highvale SC, John Monash SS, Lilydale HS, Monbulk College, Mount Waverley SC, Mullauna College, Norwood SC, Ringwood SC, Vermont SC, Wantirna College, Wodonga Middle Years College, Yarra Hills SC.

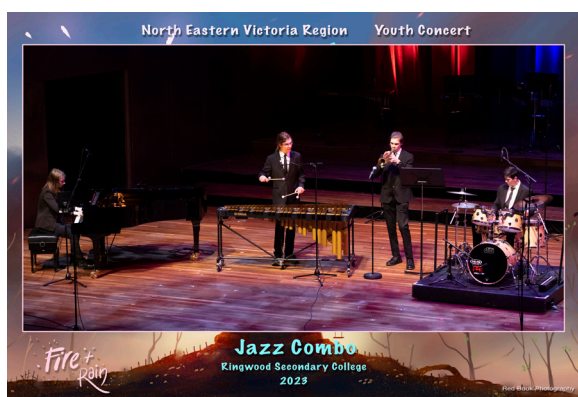
Primary schools

Camberwell South PS, Chatham PS, Glendal PS, Jells Park PS, Mont Albert PS, Parkhill PS, Tecoma PS, The Basin PS, The Patch PS, Upwey South PS, Vermont PS, Yarra Junction PS.



NEVR CONCERT IN 2023

Monday May 29



A spectacular array of music curated by the conductors to complement this year's theme, "*Fire and Rain*". Students hailing from across the North Eastern Victoria Region were treated to exceptional performances led by a lineup of talented conductors steering various ensembles.

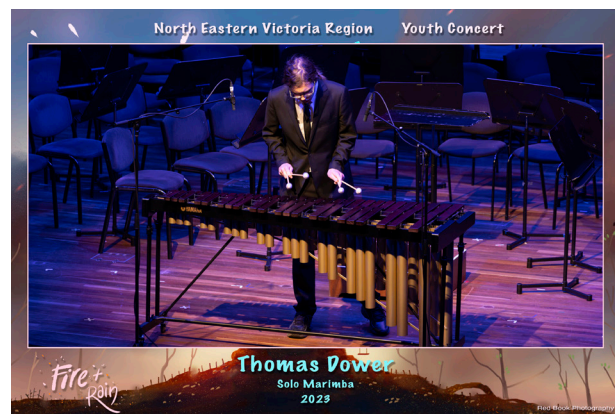
Adele Oppedisano, with Jane Farnan from Canterbury Girls' SC managing, conducted the String Orchestra, while the Concert Band had the privilege of being guided by special guest conductor Brian Hogg and efficiently managed by Ruth Barry from Norwood SC. Small ensembles, including the Canterbury Girls' SC Guitar Ensemble, The Ringwood Secondary Freeloaders Jazz Combo, the NEVR Vocal Ensemble, and the Mount Waverley SC Stage Band, captivating the audience with an impressive selection of charts.

For the Secondary Choir, guest conductor Lisa Young, under the management duo of Suzi Reid and Lam Nguyen, led a captivating performance. The ever-popular combined primary school choir, directed by Kerry Gerraty and skillfully managed by Colin Hartley from The Basin Primary School, delivered a delightful performance. The Symphonic Band, conducted by Danny van Bergen of Wantirna College and managed by Cathy Bruce, showcased a splendid array of pieces.

Additionally, the evening featured outstanding VCE soloist performances with Thomas Dower from Ringwood Secondary College on marimba and Suki Gui from Doncaster Secondary College on piano.

NEVR CONCERT IN 2023

Monday May 29



The “*Fire and Rain*” Concert reached its grand finale with the NEVR Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Amanda Morrison from Healesville High School. The orchestra treated the audience to a breathtaking suite, featuring Manuel de Falla’s “Ritual Fire Dance” and “Berceuse and Finale” from Igor Stravinsky’s *The Firebird* ballet.

Flora Cawte and Emily Kimpton, teachers from Blackburn High School, demonstrated exceptional proficiency in overseeing the rehearsals of the Symphony Orchestra.

Heartfelt appreciation goes to all the dedicated tutors who contributed to the numerous rehearsals leading up to this outstanding performance.

If you have an interest in tutoring for next year’s NEVR Youth Concert - “*Sonic Canvas*” for the Hamer Hall performance, please contact the NEVR Music Coordinators.

ROOKIE BAND WORKSHOP 2023

October 20

NEVR Music hosted its highly anticipated annual Rookie Band Workshop day and students had the privilege of being guided by the talented conductor, Emily Furlong. The day comprised intensive rehearsals, culminating in an impressive afternoon concert.

The workshop featured a rich selection of musical pieces, spanning different genres, such as “Bringer of War,” “Be Still My Soul,” and “Desert Storm.” Students immersed themselves in a day filled with learning from Emily’s guidance and the expertise of other music tutors. The camaraderie among the schools created an enriching environment for everyone involved.

In addition to the musical endeavors, participants savored a delectable lunch, highlighted by the presence of oversized Smartie cookies that captured everyone’s attention. The overall experience left students from all schools with fond memories and a wealth of newfound knowledge.

Many thanks to all involved and to Jacki Goode and staff from Lilydale High School for graciously hosting the event on the day.

As a tradition, the Rookie Band Workshop is an annual event. If you are interested in hosting or conducting for the 2024 workshop, please reach out to the NEVR Music Coordinators for more information.



Schools Involved: Glen Waverley SC, Highvale SC, Lilydale HS, Mount Waverley SC, Norwood SC, Rowville SC, Vermont SC, Upper Yarra SC.



STRING WORKSHOP 2023

December 4-6

Just under 100 string players took part in this year's NEVR/Blackburn HS String Workshop at Blackburn High School under the direction of guest conductors Warwick Stengårds and Sonia Rogers.

After three full days of intensive rehearsal, the two string ensembles presented a concert to an appreciative audience of family and friends on the Wednesday afternoon.

Students in this year's workshop came from the following schools: Aquinas College, Blackburn High School, Brentwood Secondary College, Burwood Heights Primary School, Camberwell High School, Camberwell South Primary School, Canterbury Girls' Secondary College, Doncaster Gardens Primary School, East Doncaster Secondary College, Glen Waverley Secondary College, Heathmont East Primary School, Macleod College, Mont Albert Primary School, Mount View Primary School, Norwood Secondary College and Ringwood Secondary College.



STRING WORKSHOP 2023

December 4-6

Congratulations and huge 'Thank You' to our conductors, and the team of tutors including; Marianne Barrow, Tanya Bradley, Annette Eldridge, Stephanie Eldridge, Sean Hamilton, Jack Lam, Stephen Langley, Eun-ju Lee, Keryn Lientschnig, Tim O'Connor, Danielle Vita, Evelyn Wang and Carl Williams (East Doncaster SC).

We were also delighted to welcome back a number of tutors from the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra Pizzicato Effect program.

Thank you also to the schools that contributed staffing to the event: Blackburn High School, Box Hill High School, East Doncaster Secondary College, Glen Waverley Secondary College, Mount Waverley Secondary College, Ringwood Secondary College and Viewbank College, and to Blackburn High School for hosting again with the support of staff members Jason Ziino, Danielle Vita, Sandra Birze, Adrienne Gammune and Liam Whitbourn.



FAREWELL CARL WILLIAMS

With a mix of gratitude and fond farewell, we share the news of Carl Williams' departure from the role of NEVR Instrumental Coordinator, as he returns to full-time teaching at East Doncaster Secondary College.

Carl's exceptional dedication to the string program at the college has led to an increased demand for his expertise, requiring him to commit to five days of string teaching.

Carl became an integral part of the NEVR team in either 1996 or 1997 - it's been so long that even he can't recall the exact year!

Over many years, he has provided invaluable leadership to teachers, students, families, and school managers in the North Eastern Victorian Region. At NEVR Music his leadership, incredible IT skills, strong musical advocacy, ability to deliver projects with insane deadlines has been exceptional.

Carl's legacy includes the orchestration of numerous memorable NEVR Youth Concerts at Hamer Hall and the planning and execution of outstanding string workshops and Victorian Instrumental Music Teacher Conferences.

The NEVR Music team extends heartfelt thanks and congratulations to Carl for his exceptional contributions to music education spanning decades.

NEW STAFF AT NEVR MUSIC IN 2024

Cheryl Morrow will be taking a term of long service leave during term one of 2024. During this period, Patricia Baggs will be stepping into Cheryl's role in the NEVR office, and we express our gratitude to Patricia for taking on this responsibility.

Furthermore, we extend a warm welcome to Elizabeth Tunley, who will be joining the NEVR Coordinator Team in 2024. Welcome aboard, Lilly and Tricia!

As we bid farewell to Carl, we wish him the very best in his future endeavors, and we send our best wishes to Cheryl for a rejuvenating term of long service leave and safe travels.

NEVR MUSIC OFFICE 2024

The office will be staffed on
Wednesdays and Thursdays.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

We extend thanks to all NEVR Music teachers for your hard work throughout the year and wish you all an enjoyable and well- deserved summer break. Take time out to unwind with family and friends and have fun times with the season's festivities.

We look forward to an exciting new year of music across the NEVR in 2024.

Carl, Cheryl, Val & Sean
NEVR Instrumental Music Co-ordinators

