

AMPAG Companies

Arts in education initiatives and programs 2007

Australian Chamber Orchestra Emerging Artists Program

The ACO Emerging Artists Program helps to keep the chamber music artform alive. The program supports the best of Australia's young string players in their transition from tertiary student to professional musician, by providing them with a unique level of access to musicians from the ACO through a dedicated mentor.

The program is tailored to suit the particular strengths and needs of the individual and includes elements such as private lessons, audition preparation, observation of ACO rehearsals and participation in an intensive week of rehearsals with members of the ACO.

Talented string players who undertake an audition in the Australian Youth Orchestra's national audition process are eligible to apply for the program. The Emerging Artists Program is made possible through a partnership with the Australian Youth Orchestra and support from the Australia Council for the Arts.

Adelaide Symphony Orchestra

ETSA utilities Education Program 2007

The May performances of *Miss Lily & the ASO* were in high demand sold out quickly. A shy potoroo who believes she is the only one left in Australia, Miss Lily, is the colourful character in a new orchestral production for children by **Adelaide Symphony Orchestra** in association with Penguin Australia which premiered as part of the 2007 Come Out Festival.

Bell Shakespeare Company

Bell Shakespeare's education programmes reach at least 60,000 students each year with more than 500 performances and activities focussed around four main areas:

- **Actors At Work**, an in-school performance program which tours to every state and territory with two teams of young, professional actors presenting fun and accessible programs for secondary students.
- **Student Workshops** and **Teacher Workshops** providing a more interactive program for smaller groups to support classroom study and help educators unlock Shakespeare's language and wisdom through performance.
- **The Scholarship for Dramatic Performance** attracting more than 100 budding actors to audition for the chance to spend time working with the Ensemble in Bell Shakespeare's rehearsal room.
- The **Shakespeare In Action** program working specifically with marginalised youth at risk of falling through the education system.

Recent education initiatives included interactive broadcast of Actors At Work through the Interactive Distance satellite-teaching facility in the Northern Territory. Reaching 90 remote families and 76 small schools, many of the students who participated had their first Shakespeare experience through this program. The Company also toured Actors At Work into far northwest New South Wales by chartering a plane to deliver performances for 1,500 students in 10 schools for the first in-school touring performances into this region for some years.

Black Swan Theatre Company Operation Pilbara 2006

One of Black Swan Theatre Company's most significant education projects is the annual residential theatre skills camp for upper secondary students in the Pilbara, conducted in partnership with the Australian Theatre for Young People (atyp) and supported by Pilbara Iron. In 2006, 14 talented young people were selected from auditions held at high schools in Karratha, Port Hedland, Tom Price and Newman. They were offered a free residential camp during which they received professional tutoring to develop their dramatic, comic, physical and vocal skills. The week concluded with a public showing of their skills to an appreciative audience of parents and teachers in Karratha's Walkington Theatre.

Circus Oz

Arts in Education projects

Circus Oz offers a range of circus skills from beginners to advanced, children to adults. Teaching Flying Trapeze, Static Trapeze, Tissus, Corde Lisse, Web-Spinning, Tumbling, Handstands, Acro-Balance, Juggling, Hula Hoops and Manipulation, the Open Training Program attempts to offer something to suit everyone.

In addition to their general public classes, Circus Oz is involved in the Arts Centre's Arts Education program and is involved in children and family based projects offered at the City of Melbourne's venue ArtPlay.

Working with DHS (Department of Human Services) and JCAAA (Joint Councils Access for All Abilities), Circus Oz has an ongoing program for teenagers with disabilities helping them to build upon their physical skills as well as building their confidence.

More recently Circus Oz trainers have been working with the Royal Children's Hospital, Murdoch Children's Research Institute, Brain Research Institute La Trobe University and YMCA to deliver circus skills training to children with Congenital Hemiplegia as an intensive rehabilitation program.

Company B

Priority Funded Schools Program

With the support of Education Partner Freehills, Company B runs a **Priority Funded Schools** program. This program provides free tickets to their school matinee performances for students who would otherwise not be able to attend due to their socio-economic circumstances or the distance they live from Sydney. In 2006, 1011 students from 22 different high schools attended a Company B matinee under our Priority Funded Schools Program or with the support of a travel subsidy. Funding from the NSW Ministry for the Arts made it possible to offer travel subsidies and, where necessary, additional tickets to schools in regional NSW.

Malthouse Theatre

Malthouse Theatre, in collaboration with the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art (ACCA) and Chunky Move, offers **Arts Immersion – Starting Points** as an arts access program for Years 9-11 students in government metropolitan and regional schools. This program is free of charge and includes transport costs from the generous funding of the Ian Potter Foundation.

3DFest is a theatre festival for students across Victorian campuses of all tertiary institutes. It's about writing, making and performing theatre with the chance to showcase work to industry professionals and closes with a Showcase evening in the Merlyn Theatre at The CUB Malthouse. The Showcase performances are selected by an Industry Panel comprising playwrights, directors and theatre educators.

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra

The MSO Schools Program reaches over 22,500 students of all ages in metropolitan and regional Victoria each year and artist development programs include the *MSO Cybec 21st Century Australian Composers Program* and the *Snare Drum Award*.

MSO's Community Outreach projects in 2007 include the MSO ArtPlay Ensemble – a creative Ensemble for young musicians and members of the MSO; *Hunger*, a collaboration with Rawcus, a theatre group of performers with and without disabilities; and a research project with music therapists in the Neo Natal Unit at the Royal Children's Hospital.

Musica Viva Australia

Musica Viva is a world leader in developing exciting and inspiring performances for schools, given by exemplary musicians and supported by workshops and high quality resource materials for teachers. Musica Viva is also providing award winning programs through the web, including an interactive website for students <http://www.mva.org.au/2004/mvis/>

Musica Viva reaches more than 400,000 children every year in Australia and Singapore through programs funded by education departments, arts funding agencies, schools, sponsorship and philanthropy.

In each state, it builds a touring program with performance ensembles presenting a variety of musical styles at a professional level which cover a wide range of chamber music, including world music, Indigenous and popular styles. Often these bands present students with their first live music experience by professional performers.

Opera Australia

Opera Australia's presents a wide-range of educational programs in opera:

- **Oz Opera Primary Schools Tours** annually present live opera to over 80,000 students in NSW and Victoria
- **Oz Opera Regional Tour Secondary School Workshops** conducted as part of the Oz Opera Regional Tour which visits every Australian state and territory during its three year national touring cycle
- **Opera for Students** which provides tickets at reduced prices for students, free teachers' tickets and teacher information/activity packs for selected main-stage performances in Sydney and Melbourne
- **OperaEd** which gives secondary students who would otherwise be unlikely to attend an opera performance the opportunity to step behind the scenes to observe the dynamics of creating an opera and to see a main-stage Opera Australia production and
- the Company also presents a range of pre-performance talks, study days and opera insights evenings in association with its main-stage activities.

Opera Queensland

Exploring Opera! is Opera Queensland's multi-faceted opera education program for many ages.

In 2007 primary schools are offered an adaptation of Engelbert Humperdinck's *Hansel & Gretel*, an exciting 55 minute chamber opera which is a fantastic introduction to opera and theatrical storytelling through music and voice.

The Wombat Story, a two-day workshop for years 3 and 4, leads students in a variety of arts based activities including drama, dance, music, visual art and media.

The Storm and What Came of it, a two-day workshop for years 5 – 7, engages students in studies of other times, places and cultures through opera.

Secondary schools can participate in Moving Opera! an intensive, week-long workshop which focuses on the creative process of making opera. Towards *Madama Butterfly* is a program designed for students of Italian in Queensland secondary schools.

Orchestra Victoria

Orchestra Victoria's *mOve!* is an intensive two-day program of free workshops for instrumental music students, held in Traralgon, Hamilton, Shepparton, Mildura, Bendigo and the Western suburbs of Melbourne.

mOve! provides students with a unique opportunity to extend their ensemble playing and instrumental techniques under the baton of a professional conductor. Orchestra Victoria musicians play alongside students and mentor the smaller instrumental section tutorials. The *mOve!* workshops also include professional development opportunities for teachers, led by a professional conductor.

Queensland Theatre Company

In 2007 the Queensland Theatre Company developed an education performance season for schools. Its first production, *An Exploration of the Caucasian Chalk Circle* by Bertolt Brecht, included a question and answer section and optional, hour-long workshop. The second play of the year is *A Property of the Clan* by Nick Enright.

The Company assists some school's access to the productions with the Coca-Cola Theatre Bus. It subsidises the travel costs for selected regional schools to attend Brisbane performances.

In 2007 the Company will tour another education production around the state, send artists into a number of schools and host a week-long theatre residency week, to which it offers two scholarships a year.

Queensland Theatre Company's latest initiative is 'Theatre Space'. Theatre Space is an online portal where schools can access billboards, conduct pre-arranged online chats with artists, watch video resources and undergo video conferencing workshops with Queensland Theatre Company artists.

Sydney Symphony

The Sydney Symphony has a long-held belief in the life enriching benefits of music for every individual and the power of music to inspire and empower our communities. The award-winning Sydney Symphony Education Program is one of the nation's most innovative education initiatives and provides a tool for developing both the musicians and the audiences of today and the future.

State Theatre Company of South Australia

State Theatre Company of South Australia's Education Program includes School Shows, a Young Guns Playwrights' Competition, work experience and student and teacher workshops. School shows for the recent production of *Hamlet* sold out soon after the 2007 Season launch, school groups who were not able to attend the school shows have attended weekday matinees and evening performances.

The Queensland Orchestra

The Queensland Orchestra's large scale education concert program wowed audiences of over 12,000 young Queenslanders in 2006 through 25 performances featuring age and curriculum appropriate structure and themes.

Educational groundwork was also laid at eight middle and primary school concerts, playing to 4,026 students. Middle school concert *A Look At Water* was a timely opportunity to build children's water awareness through its depiction in orchestral sound. In another education program first, the concert featured projection of visual displays behind the orchestra to accompany commentary by Channel 7 personality Talitha Cummins. Meanwhile the theme of primary school concert *Imagine That!* was supported with commentary from children's book illustrator Gregory Rogers, who judged a drawing competition entered by students in the concert's lead up.

West Australian Symphony Orchestra

The West Australian Symphony Orchestra Youth, Education and Development Program provides a range of performances suitable for primary and secondary students designed to excite and captivate as well as help them to achieve arts learning outcomes.

Primary school students can attend an intimate and interactive encounter with the Education Chamber Orchestra (EChO), consisting of 15 players from the WASO and representing the various instrumental families of the orchestra through demonstrations, discussions and ensemble performance. In addition to this, students can attend the unique aural experience of a concert with the full orchestra. In 2007 they can meet the Orchestra with Graham Abbot in *Introducing...* or experience the excitement as classical composers from the 17th century through to the modern day compete for the ultimate title of *Composer Idol*.

Secondary students can choose from a range of in school and out of school hour excursions including Open Rehearsals, Morning Symphonies and Fabulous Fridays incorporating the Masters, Great Classics and Contempo programs. Pre concert talks, the opportunity to meet members of the orchestra as well as behind the scenes look at how the orchestra works all provide interesting perspectives.

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