

Newsletter Term 4 October 2024





Term 4 news from the Executive Director



Hello to the Mitchell Conservatorium Community. I cannot believe we are here in term 4 of 2024. Where did that year go? As we come to the final part of the year, I wish to thank the staff, students, parents and community supporters of Mitchell Conservatorium for their hard work and commitment to our organisation. In term 3, we produced the Swing Factor Black Tie Ball, the Winter Strings concert and the Bright Seraphim staff recital, and teachers prepared students for Eisteddfod performances and HSC recital programs. I hope all students, teachers and audience members achieved musical growth because of these performance experiences.

Term 4 will be packed with musical performances from our soloists and ensembles. The 2025 scholarship auditions will take place on Saturday 26th October, the same weekend as the Bathurst Gardeners' Club Spring Spectacular, where our scholarship holders, ensembles and other community music groups will be performing in the open gardens around Bathurst. Our 2024 scholarship recipients' concert will be held Saturday 9th November. We will round out the year with our traditional final event, the Reliance Bank Carols by Candlelight in Machattie Park. There are so many opportunities to hear quality music!

Our Early Childhood music programs for the under-fives is the ideal place for a student to begin their musical journey. We offer classes on Wednesdays and Fridays. Give your child the gift of music and they will thrive in all aspects of their future lives. Enrol them today!

Mitchell Conservatorium Ensemble programs offer a wide variety of musical opportunities for musicians of any age, musical experience or skill level. We have string ensembles, a jazz orchestra, concert band, vocal ensemble, junior rock band and even a ukulele group. We have highly accomplished, educated and experienced teachers who can offer expert instruction to help you begin or continue your musical journey. If you are interested in beginning to learn, or even revisit a once-learned instrument which has been sitting in the cupboard for many years, why not talk to us about tailoring a program to suit your needs. We will help you invigorate your passion for music! I hope Term 4 2024 is one of music and happiness. **Andrew Smith**.

Alexander Technique Workshop

Experience the transformative power of the Alexander Technique at this 3-hour workshop on 20th October from 1 to 4pm at Mitchell Conservatorium, 130 Havannah St. Learn to eliminate stress or pain, enhance performance, and move with ease. Discover the impact of



mindful movement on balance, coordination, and well-being. Bring any activity, question or skill you wish to improve. Workshop leader Greg Holdaway's 30+ years of experience, supported by local assistants, make this a unique opportunity. Join us to improve your life through the Alexander Technique. The cost of the session is \$50. Tickets from Humanitix:

https://events.humanitix.com/alexander-technique-workshop

Early Chldhood Music classes resume

Our Early Childhood Classes return with Elissa Jones guiding children and parents through the world of music in a welcoming and fun environment. It's also a great time to meet other young families and socialise each week. This term, Mitchell Conservatorium is offering four classes:

Early Childhood Music class for children aged 3-5 years, Wednesdays 9:30-10am

Early Childhood Music class for children aged 18 months to 3 years, Wednesdays, 10:30-11am Early Childhood Music Babies' class for babies aged

under 18 months, Wednesdays, 11.15-11.45am Family Fun Friday for children aged 0 to 5 years

and their families/carers, 9:30-10.15am Fridays.





More details and bookings: https://mitchellconservatorium.edu.au/children-andbabies/

2024 Scholarship Recipients' Concert

Come and hear our wonderful singers and instrumentalists who have been the recipients of Conservatorium 2024 scholarships. Hear a great range of music and see first hand how music lessons through the Conservatorium can develop the technical and musical skills of its students.

The concert is at Walshaw Hall (Church St, Bathurst) on Saturday 9th November starting at 12.30pm, with entry by gold coin donation.





Carols by Candlelight back in Machattie Park!

Yes, Bathurst's premier community event is back in Machattie Park ... with a great line-up of guest performers and the opportunity for the whole family to join in the much-loved carol singalong. Hosted by B-Rock legend Toby Gough, the event will bring together the Bathurst City and RSL Concert Band and Youth Band with Mitchell Conservatorium's CONnections Big Band in bringing Christmas Carol cheer to the occasion. And

enjoy dance performances by ensembles from Pure Imagination Performing Arts School. Free entry, Sunday 8th December, 7pm start.

How many can you hear?

Enjoy this year's Bathurst Gardeners' Club Spring
Spectacular on the weekend of 26-27th October and see
how many Mitchell Conservatorium ensembles you can
hear! MitCon groups include the Concert Band,
CONnections Big Band, The Lost Alley Cats, Stringendo
and Bella Forte. And listen out for performances by MitCon
students Paris Masters, Charles Croaker and Caitlyn Thew.



Bright Seraphim Concert

Organist and pianist Mel Waters was joined by soprano Bethany Carter–Sherlock and trumpeter and tenor David Hood on Saturday 24th August in an afternoon's concert at All Saints' Cathedral of musical favourites by Mozart, Handel and others.

Bethany was in top form and sparkling voice in her Mozart and Handel arias, and her leading from the microphone of the audience hymn Jerusalem, along with a stirring trumpet descant, filled the Cathedral with sound and delighted the audience. The delicacy of the Cathedral organ shone throughout the classical and baroque vocal accompaniments as concert goers enjoyed the grandeur of Elgar and Bach, Bethany and David's vocal solos, and the sounds of the trumpet ringing throughout the wonderful acoustic of the venue.











Winter Strings Concert

About 70 people came along to the Winter Strings
Concert at All Saints' Cathedral on 11th August, where
they were treated to a spirited and elegant performance
of Haydn's Piano Concerto in D major by soloist Elena
Day-Hakker and the Bathurst Chamber Orchestra.
Mitchell Conservatorium string ensembles Stringendo
conducted by Frances McLeod and Bella Forte led by
Nicholas Newell played classical favourites by Mozart and
others, as well as surprises by Morricone, John Denver,
and even The Beatles! The concert finished with
performances by the Bathurst Chamber Orchestra of
selections from Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite and the
first movement of Mendelssohn's String Symphony No 9.





Swing Factor Black Tie Ball

The Swing Factor Black Tie Ball at BMEC on 9th August was a raging success, packing the room with guests who all took to their feet and danced the night away. MitCon's CONnections Big Band and Denison College's Swing Factor took to the stage for a massive four-hour performance at BMEC. The big band played a number of jazz classics followed by a whole vocal and dance set which got everyone up and dancing after the delicious three-course dinner provided. Events like these are a fabulous way to showcase the talents of our staff and students alike.

Welcome to our new singing teacher, Antonia Fish

Antonia began her singing journey at the age of 12 with vocal lessons from Maureen Lewis. Under Maureen's guidance and then Julia Romano, Antonia gained confidence in her performances and became actively involved in school and Bathurst community theatre. Over two years, she performed in productions such as 'Beauty and the Beast', 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', 'The Addams Family' and 'West Side Story'.



Antonia enjoys exploring a variety of musical styles, from modern pop to classical opera. With a degree in Creative Arts, Antonia is excited to join the team at Mitchell Conservatorium, where she looks forward to sharing her passion and expertise with the next generation of performers.



Term 4 dates

Please note that Term 4 is a nine-week term. Dates:

Monday 14th October to Saturday 19th December 2024

Check out all enrolment information at our website:

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Mitchell Conservatorium acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the many lands where we work and live. We celebrate the diversity of Aboriginal people, the ongoing cultures and connections with the lands and water of the country. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and acknowledge contributions of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians to the inclusion and empowerment of all people in a country we live in and share together.