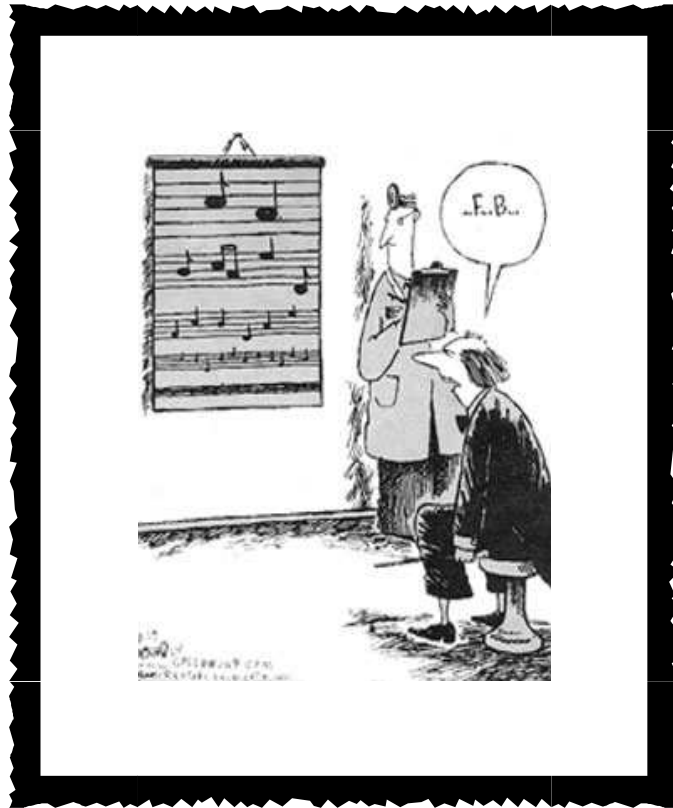




Manly Selective Campus

Band Program 2010

Information Handbook



Welcome

The Manly Selective Campus Band Program is a highly successful ensembles program that enjoys an enviable reputation throughout Sydney and New South Wales.

The various ensembles enjoy performing at music festivals, eisteddfods, school events, band camps, regional and overseas tours.

The Manly Selective Campus program is successful because it emphasizes three important things: commitment, dedication and above all, the pursuit of musical excellence.

This information booklet provides an overview of the program. General inquiries from parents regarding prospective new band members may be directed to:

bands@manlypandc.org.au

Program Structure

The ensembles program employs professional musical directors to instruct our students in the many varied ensemble types. The diversity of skill amongst our students is evident in the program's structure, currently comprising 10 separate ensembles covering the styles of concert band, stage band, strings and improvisation.

The cornerstone of the program is the Concert Stream where students learn the fundamentals of musical development. All students in the program must play in this stream's ensembles - Concert Band, Wind Ensemble or Symphonic Wind Orchestra. Subsequently, students may also join the Stage and Improvisation ensembles. The two exceptions to this policy are the String Ensemble and the Improvisation Workshop that is open to any student interested in learning and exploring the fundamentals of improvisation.

The Program Principal is Mark Brown who is responsible for the overall shape and breadth of the program. Under Mark we have introduced the Premier Performance Night with the intent of playing venues such as St Patrick's chapel in Manly; combined items at the Big Band Bash where all concert, stage and string players perform collectively; integrated performances with the Performing Arts Unit bands.

Each year there is a 4-5 day band camp or tour for each ensemble. The intent is to give each student who progresses through the program the opportunity to be part of an overseas band tour. MSC bands have played in Austria and Japan.

In 2009 we ended the year in Trackdown and John Morrison's studios recording tunes for a national music publisher.

Working with Mark to provide the multi-stream program are:

- Craig Driscoll as Stage Stream Director
- Colin Bright as Improvisation Stream Director
- Strings Director to be advised
- David Tomlin, the school Principal
- Parents volunteers.

Craig Driscoll plays saxophones, clarinets and flutes professionally for musicals such as *Wicked*, *Chicago* when they entertain Sydney audiences. Craig has been a professional musician for the past 20 years, having graduated from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music with a Diploma in Jazz Studies and a Bachelor of Music.

Colin Bright was awarded a Composer Fellowship from the Music Board of the Australia Council in 2003. Townsville City Council commissioned Colin to compose the opening for their Writer Festival. In 2007 as the Trans-Tasman exchange composer he worked with the Auckland Philharmonic Orchestra. Contrary to Australia's other leading composers, Colin Bright is essentially self-taught.

At Manly Selective the band program is co-circular to the music subjects taught by the teachers. The band ensembles are a regular feature in school events. They also get asked to represent the school within the broader community eg. Remembrance Day, events run by the Vietnam Veterans and the Department of Education for district awards.

The band program is a parent initiative. It is run by band parents on behalf of the P&C, Their time and efforts are totally voluntary. It offers parents a way to get to know the school and meet other parents. All help is appreciated, particularly those one off tasks such as transporting equipment and events logistics. Parents can join the Band Committee at any time during the year.



Our Ensembles

The majority of students in year 7 and 8 are placed in Concert Band, Chamber Strings, Wind Ensemble and/or Stage Band. Exceptions are only made where students demonstrate exceptional skill.

Concert Stream

The concert ensemble stream incorporates all instruments except strings. There are however only limited places for pianists and bass guitarists. Expected minimum standards for members of these ensembles are:

Concert Band

Comprised of students between Years 7 and 10 who have been playing for 1 or more year

Wind Ensemble

Comprised of students, predominantly from Years 8 to 10, who are performing at a more advanced standard

Symphonic Wind Orchestra

Comprised of musicians from Years 9 to 12 who are of the highest calibre in the program

Stage Band Stream

Instrumentation for the stage bands includes trumpets, saxophones, trombones and one each of drums, bass guitar, keyboard, rhythm guitar and vocals. Students must be a member of one of the concert bands to be offered a position in one of the stage bands (vocals excepted).

Stage Band

Comprised of students from Years 7 to 10 who have played for 1 or more year

Big Band

Comprised of students, predominantly from Years 8 to 10, who are performing at a more advanced standard

Jazz Orchestra

Comprised of musicians from Years 9 to 12 who are of the highest calibre in the program

String Ensemble

The Chamber String Ensemble accepts students from all years who have a minimum of 1 to 2 years playing experience. The instrumentation includes violins, violas, cellos and double bass. Each year a position is available for one or two pianists with above average sight-reading skills.

Improvisation Stream

While the other streams will challenge students in the world of structured music, the focus of this stream is to understand what you need to know and consider when you want to deviate from the written score. Playing by ear and learning to play jazz standards will feature. Interested students are encouraged to join the Improvisation Workshop.

Impro Ensembles – SJazz and IJazz

Students who have reached a sufficient level of proficiency in improvisation and wish to get out there in front of an audience may be invited to join one of the impro performance ensembles. SJazz is for the more advanced players, and IJazz for intermediate.

Improvisation Workshop

The workshop is open to any student in the school who would like to learn the fundamentals of improvisation. No audition is required, as this program caters for a wide range of musical expertise, ranging from students who have been playing an instrument for a minimum of 1 year right up to accomplished musicians. Its aim is to give students a thorough grounding in the theory and practice of improvisation

Membership

Membership is open to all interested students from years 7 to 12 with a minimum of one year's instrumental playing experience. All applicants undertake an audition to help determine placement in the most suitable ensemble.

In December/January an audition package will be mailed or emailed to all students who have completed an 'Expression of Interest' form, available at the back of this handbook. Existing members will automatically receive the information.

It is imperative that students attend all rehearsals, performances and annual tours or camps. The directors place students according to ability and strive to produce quality and balanced ensembles across the program.

By accepting a position, both the parents and the student are committing to being punctual and attending all rehearsals, associated concerts, competitions, tours and camps throughout the year. Tours and band camps are not optional events, but essential to ensuring a quality ensemble.

If a band member withdraws from the band program either permanently or for a temporary period, parents are expected to provide written notification to the band president in advance. If notice is not received full fees are payable even if the member has not been attending.

Rehearsals

Rehearsals for each ensemble occur once per week. Please notify the band director either directly or via the band parent rep of any issue attending a rehearsal as the band has a duty of care for students to the school. Rehearsal times for 2009 will be as follows, at locations to be advised.

Symphonic Wind Orchestra	Fri 7:20 - 8:50am
Wind Ensemble	Thur 7:20- 8:50am
Concert Band	Mon 7:20 - 8:50am
Jazz Orchestra	Wed 7:20 - 8:50am
Big Band	Tues 7:20 - 8:50am
Stage Band	Fri 7:20 - 8:50am
Chamber String Ensemble	Wed 7:30 - 8:30am
S-Jazz	Mon 3.20 - 4.30pm
I-Jazz	Thur 3.20 - 4.30pm
ImproShop	Wed 2:30 - 3:30pm

Annual Tours & Band Camps

A highlight for each ensemble is an annual tour or band camp. Typically both are of 4 or 5 days duration. The tours travel to regional NSW, where the students perform at other schools and community centres. The band camp involves guest tutors and evening activities. The cost varies from \$350-\$500 depending on the destination and duration.

International Tours

The band program anticipates that every 3 years the senior concert and stage bands will tour overseas. The intent is that each student who progresses through the MSC program has the opportunity to experience a different culture and performance setting. MSC bands have toured Austria and Japan.

Auditions

Both new and existing students in the program are required to attend an audition. The audition is a friendly and informal 10-minute session with the musical directors.

It is important to keep in mind that the audition process is not about "passing" or "failing". Its purpose is to place students in ensembles and parts commensurate with their skill levels, ensuring we best meet the needs of the students and balance the sections within the ensembles. Parents and students are reminded that there are various levels of competence within the sections of each ensemble as well as the between the ensembles themselves.

Typically auditions are held early in Term 1 and audition packages emailed out late January. The results are posted on the Band Notice Board outside the Band room shortly thereafter.

Audition Requirements

- One Solo Piece. A piece that best demonstrates your musical and technical ability (accompaniment is not necessary)
- Sight Reading. To be given on the day
- Scales. Chromatic scale (full range where possible)
Major or minor scale (own choice)

Students auditioning for advanced ensembles must also be prepared to play any major or minor scale commensurate to their grade.

Band Program Fees

The band program at Manly Selective Campus operates on a non-profit basis and is funded primarily through band fees paid by participating students. Finances are also assisted by fundraising activities and some grants and donations during the year.

Fees are used to cover the running costs of the program. These include payments for the services of our Band Directors, new music, non-musical equipment, guest conductors and competition entry fees. Instrument purchases are paid for through fundraising activities. Payment for tours and workshops is covered by contributions directly from the participants.

Fees per semester for last year were as follows. There may be minor adjustments next year.

Program Membership Fee	\$170
Ensemble Fees:	
Symphonic Wind Orchestra	\$60
Wind Ensemble	\$60
Concert Band	\$60
Jazz Orchestra	\$80
Big Band	\$80
Stage Band	\$80
Chamber String Ensemble	\$110
S-Jazz Performance	\$95
I-Jazz Performance	\$95
ImproShop	\$95

Band fees are made up of two components: a program membership (aka. administration) fee, and a fee for each ensemble to which the student belongs.

For example, the per semester fees for a student in both the Wind Ensemble plus the Stage Band would be \$170 (program fee) plus \$60 (Wind Ensemble) plus \$95 (Stage Band) giving a total of \$325 each semester (ie. \$650 for the year).

Fees are payable on invoice at the beginning of the year for Semester 1 (Terms 1 and 2) and again at the beginning of Term 3 for Semester 2.

Payment may be by cheque, cash, credit card or the preferred method of payment of electronic transfer.

If a band member withdraws from the band program either permanently or for a temporary period, parents are expected to provide written notification to the band president in advance. If notice is not received full fees are payable even if the member has not been attending.

Tutorials

All students participating in the ensembles program are expected to have a private weekly tutorial on their instrument. It is highly recommended that, once reaching high school, students ensure that they are learning from an accredited instrumental teacher i.e. teachers with a tertiary music degree in the instrument they teach.

The purpose of professional tuition is to teach the students correct technique in breathing, musical notation, sight-reading and musicality. Please consider the qualifications and experience of the tutor before agreeing to lessons.

High school aged students should not be learning from high school aged tutors.

Instrument Hire

It is expected that students entering the MSC program already own an instrument. The Band Program hire out only those instruments that are less commonly played, or are more expensive to purchase yet essential to enhancing the quality of our bands. Instruments are allocated to students by the band directors.

Mainly Selective Instruments.

Instruments available for hire include tenor saxophones, baritone saxophones, French horns, bass clarinets, bass trombone, double bass and tuba.

PAU Instruments.

Some instruments that our bands lack may be hired from the Performing Arts Unit (aka. PAU) of the Department of Education. Talk to the directors during auditions for details.

Hire, Service, Insurance Fees

The hire and maintenance of the instruments is set by the Band Committee and reviewed annually. It is anticipated that in 2009, members will be invoiced a service fee rather than a hire charge, to maintain the quality of the instruments.

While these instruments are insured by the Band Program, it is the responsibility of the players to look after them, particularly if taken home or to performances.

Parent/Student Communication

The Band Program uses 2 main forms of communication with parents:

- The Weekly Pines' - the school newsletter that is published each Friday; the band program puts important details in this newsletter each week.
- Email - please supply an email address on the 'Expression of Interest' form

The following information will be distributed:

- Committee member and parent band rep names and phone numbers
- Performance and tour dates and times
- Requests for assistance

Certain times of the year are very busy, especially the end of term 2 / beginning of term 3 (competition season) and the end of term 4 with the numerous end-of-year and graduation ceremonies.

Please help the directors out by asking your band members for notes and newsletters and checking your emails regularly.

Band Uniform

	GIRLS	BOYS
Formal	School blazer	School blazer
Uniform	School tie White shirt Winter skirt Black opaque stockings Black school shoes	School tie White shirt Grey long pants Black socks Black school shoes
Informal	Blue band t-shirt	Blue band t-shirt
Uniform	Black skirt or long pants Black stockings or socks (not leggings) Black shoes	Black long pants (not jeans) Black socks Black shoes

Band t-shirts and some second hand blazers will be on sale at the New Band Members Information Night early in Term 1.

Band Committee

The Band Committee is a sub committee of the Parents and Citizens Association and is responsible for managing the Band Program. It consists of band parents who actively support the musical directors with:

- implementing program strategy aligned to the school plan,
- financial management (budgeting, enrolments, accounting)
- communication (eg. Parent band representative, events calendar, school liaison)
- logistics for events (eg. tours, Big Band Bash),
- social events or fundraising (eg. Dinner Dance, City to Surf, overseas student billeting).

The AGM is held at the end of the year and the 9 or 10 committee meetings throughout the year are usually on a Monday evening. During these meetings, ideas and issues are discussed and voted on. This is the forum for parents who:

- like to know what makes the band program tick,
- have an idea or concern to put forward
- wish to know what their children aren't telling them!
- want to get to know some other parents and staff
- are aligned to the school's "giving back to the community" ethos.

Parents wishing to lend a hand are invited to attend meetings and/or contact your band representative to offer assistance. There are plenty of smaller tasks that the committee need help with so please volunteer when the opportunity presents itself.

Each ensemble has a Parent Representative who supports its director and assists in organising parent support for activities associated with it, such as performance logistics and transportation. Parent representatives will be elected at the start of the year, once auditions and ensemble allocations are complete. A list of these parent reps along with the names of the band committee are published in Pines, and on the P&C web site.

Key roles are: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Instrument hire, Newsletter, Blazers / t shirts, Website, Calendar, Enrolments, Publicity, Music Library, Band Parent Representatives, Big Band Bash co-ordinator, City to Surf co-ordinator, Dinner Dance co-ordinator.



Our Directors

Mr Mark Brown BMus(hons)

Mark was appointed the MSC Program Director in 2007. He conducts the concert stream ensembles, and has leadership responsibility for the cohesion across all musical streams.

Since arriving at MSC, Mark has introduced a variety of multi-stream innovations (eg. orchestral bands, combined all bands, choir/concert combinations), as well as performances at premier venues (eg. St Patrick's chapel, Manly).

Mark is a double graduate of the NSW State Conservatorium of Music, having gained both a Bachelor of Music (Honours) in Trombone Performance (1996) and a Certificate of Piano Tuning and Technology (1982). He studied trombone with Arthur Hubbard and Ron Prussing as well as conducting with Henryk Pisarek.

His professional trombone credits include Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra, English National Ballet, Sydney Philharmonia, Sydney Seasons of Phantom of the Opera, *Les Miserables*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Miss Saigon*, *Crazy for You*, *My Fair Lady*, *The Merry Widow*, *The Mikado*, Michael Crawford Australian Tour, N.S.W. Police Band, Tommy Tycho, Ed Wilson Big Band, three international contracts with P. & O. Cruises, club gigs backing variety artists and rock bands.

In 1994 Mark was awarded the Bellhouse Memorial Conducting Scholarship and in 1995 was selected for the Ku-ring-gai Philharmonic Orchestra Conductor in Training program under Maestro Henryk Pisarek. During this time he was also assistant conductor to Steve Williams with the Conservatorium Wind Orchestra. He later travelled to the Czech Republic and attended the Symphonic Workshops International School for Conducting studying under Maestros Kirk Trevor, Tsung Ye and Johannes Schafli.

From 1999-2005 Mark was director of the large band program at St. Patrick's College Sutherland where he also taught low brass and trombone. Mark also directed the stage band at Sydney Technical High School from 2000-2005, was Director of Music at Sutherland Shire Brass from 2001-2004 and conductor of both concert bands at Port Hacking High School from 2003-2005. In 2006 Mark was contracted to the N.S.W. Police Band for twelve months as guest Principal Euphonium and Trombone.

Mark has become highly sought after as a motivational guest conductor, especially with youth and community groups. Guest seasons include Sydney Youth Philharmonic Orchestra, Ku-ring-gai Philharmonic, Sutherland Shire Symphony, Lane Cove Youth Orchestra, Mosman Symphony, Verbruggen Orchestra, State Education Department Music Camps and many school groups. He is currently the Musical Director of the Lane Cove Youth Orchestra

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SECOND OCTAVE
THIRD OCTAVE

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Mr Craig Driscoll BMus ADJazzS

Craig is the director for the MSC Stage Stream, and has been with the MSC program since 2000.

Craig has been a professional musician for the past 19 years and graduated from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music with a Diploma in Jazz Studies and a Bachelor of Music. He also studied in New York with various performers including George Coleman from Miles Davis's band of the 50's.

Craig plays saxophones, clarinets and flutes professionally. He has toured Europe, America, South America, Asia and Australia with the Australian Wind Orchestra, the Brass Machine Big Band, *Miss Saigon*, *Oliver* and *Chicago* companies and the Belvoir St Theatre. He has also performed in the orchestras for *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Miss Saigon*, *Showboat*, *Crazy for You*, *West Side Story*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Annie*, *Porgy and Bess*, *The Merry Widow*, *The Sound of Music*, *Cats*, *The Producers*, *Titanic* and various other productions.

Craig appeared as a soloist with the Sydney Conservatorium Orchestra and plays as lead Alto in the John Morrison Big Band and regularly in the Jazz and commercial scene of Sydney.

Mr Colin Bright

Colin is the musical director for MSC's Improvisation Stream.

Colin Bright has since received Composer Fellowships, International Fellowships and commissions from most of Australia's leading ensembles and his music has been performed and broadcast in 27 countries around the world.

He was awarded a 2 year Composer Fellowship from the Music Board of the Australia Council, 2003-4. Recently, he was commissioned by Townsville City Council to compose Words On Water to open their Writer Festival. He was the Trans-Tasman exchange composer for 2007 and worked with the Auckland Philharmonic Orchestra, who commissioned a new work.

Contrary to Australia's other leading composers, Colin Bright is essentially self-taught. His early involvement in socio-political issues and his interest in Aboriginal music led to him to adopt Peter Sculthorpe as a mentor through the early seventies.

'The major influence on my musical thinking is PSYCHE OF PLACE (landscape, space, sun, etc.). There is nothing nationalistic in my music. It is about awareness of place - where you live and how you fit in.'

'My current preoccupation could generally be described as URBAN PSYCHOSCAPES more internal / psychological states. So far, these pieces involve finding something of the essence of a writer/poet (& sampling their voice), which, when integrated with the music adds a theatrical or meta-musical dimension.'

Colin's early work often includes didgeridoos (Earth Spirit 1982, Fire on the Lake 1989) or concentrates on creating a true Australian sound (Red Earth 1985) culminating in the opera The Sinking of the Rainbow Warrior (1993/94). More recently, a number of different works have emerged in which the focus gradually shifts towards what the composer calls 'urban psychoscapes'. His literary sources so far have included Jas Duke, Amanda Stewart and W. S. Burroughs.

Other composition highlights include:

- The Sinking of the Rainbow Warrior was performed as part of the Sydney Festival in 1997 and has since been released on CD (VAST028-2).
- The Wild Boys was awarded Best Composition of the Year at the Sounds Australian Awards in 1997 and was selected as the Australian entry for the 1997 Paris Rostrum.
- Black Years - Red Years won the NSW award for Best Composition at the 2000 Sounds Australian awards.

- Let the Storm Break Loose was short-listed for Best Composition at the 2005 Sounds Australian/APRA awards.
- The Last Whale (for voices, 4 players and electronics) was awarded Best Composition by an Australian Composer at the 2008 Classical Music Awards at the Sydney Opera House.





Bands of Manly Selective Campus

*Expressions of Interest for 2010
Please print clearly*

Student Details:

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____
Date of Birth: _____ Male _____ Female: _____
School Year 2010: _____
Previous Schools: _____

Please list instrument(s) *on which the student wishes to audition:*

	Instrument	No of Years Played	Grade or Level	Name and suburb of private tutor
1				
2				
3				

I may be interested in joining the Improvisation Workshop: Yes _____ No _____

Please indicate any previous musical experience: (bands involved in, eisteddfods completed, etc.) and any other instruments played:

Parent Contact Details:

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: (H) _____ (M) _____
*Parent Email(s): _____

*Please write clearly as audition packages will be emailed to these addresses

I give permission for my name, phone number, suburb and email to be published on the band address lists; please initial: Yes _____ No _____

This form can be returned:

- to the school during Orientation Day
- marked "Band Enrolment" and posted to 138 Abbott Road North Curl Curl 2099
- scanned and/or the details emailed to bands@manlypandc.org.au.

Please note that any band-related questions can be emailed to bands@manlypandc.org.au