The winner of the 2012 Musicians’ Union Award (through the PPCA Performer’s Trust Foundation) for the best performance in AMEB Brass was Darcy O’Malley of Trevallyn. Darcy, who turned 15 in December last year, gained Honours for his Seventh Grade Trumpet exam under the guidance of teacher, Matthew Dudfield. Brass Examiner, Peter Quigley said that Darcy “demonstrated a mature approach and understanding of his pieces, as well as a high level of musicality and technical expertise”. These comments were echoed by Piano Examiner, Petr Divis, who awarded Darcy a High Distinction for Fifth Grade Piano for Leisure and reported to teacher, Angela Crothers: “A beautifully presented program that demonstrated great poise, musicality and maturity with a wonderful talent evident.”

In addition to his success on trumpet and piano, Darcy also gained Honours for Fourth Grade Classical Guitar with teacher Gareth Koch, and to round off an extremely busy year, he was also accepted into the Australian Youth Orchestra’s Young Symphonists’ Program for 2013.

The Riverside High School student has his future all laid out, planning to move to Hobart after college to study at the Conservatorium of Music before hopefully going overseas to do his Masters.

In Tasmania, 2013 will see the introduction of four terms into schools. This will necessitate a minor adjustment to the mid-June/mid-July practical examination session as holidays will now commence in the second week of July. As a result the session will now be June/early-July. The end of the year practical session will remain as October/November with exams commencing as at present in the latter half of October and continuing into November. We will ensure that AMEB grade exams are not held in school holidays. In the light of our experience with the new term arrangements this year, further adjustments to sessions may be made in 2014.

This year our annual concert for students of Sixth Grade and above will be held on Friday 23 August from 1.10 pm-2.00 pm in the Conservatorium Recital Hall. I encourage you all to attend this concert not only to support the students but to enjoy a pleasant lunch break listening to a high quality and diverse programme by our enthusiastic young performers.

Best Wishes for 2013.

Associate Professor Andrew Legg
State Chair TAS AMEB
Director, Conservatorium of Music
Tasmanian College of the Arts
University of Tasmania
Gaining your Associate in Music Australia Diploma (AMusA) is always a thrill, but doing so with Distinction is even more exciting – and rare! Especially when you are only 13 years old! However, it was no problem for Joanne Li of Moonah who at 3 years of age started copying older sister Sharnna at the piano and then at 4, commenced having lessons herself. By the time she was 5, Joanne had already completed Preliminary and First Grade, and then progressed through the rest of the grades at an equally rapid rate. For her AMusA, Joanne played pieces by Bach, Mozart, Chopin and Bartók – all entirely from memory! Examiners, Annette Stilwell and Tonya Rebikov reported that Joanne’s work was presented with performer’s flair and played with technical authority, and that the various styles were well understood and conveyed with confidence. A most outstanding candidate and well-deserving of the McCann’s Music Award.

Joanne is a pupil of Jody Heald and has recently completed Year 8 at St. Mary’s College.

Successful AMEB diploma students may receive their awards at the University of Tasmania’s Graduation Ceremonies held in Hobart and Launceston each year. Pictured wearing their Associate in Music Australia (AMusA) Diploma stoles are three pianists who participated in the Hobart Ceremony in August 2012: Matthew de Hoog, a student of Greta Lanchbery of Kingston Beach, and Sharnna Li and Eleanor Nicklason, who were both taught by Jody Heald of New Town.

Twenty year old Matthew, having completed his BA degree, is now studying for his Master of Teaching at the University of Tasmania; eighteen year old Sharnna, who has just completed Year 12 at The Friends’ School, hopes to study Medicine, while nineteen year old Eleanor is studying for a Biomedical Science degree and a Diploma in Languages at the University of Melbourne.

The music doesn’t stop in the Wain household – with Mum, Nara Dennis teaching Strings, Dad, Gary Wain, Principal Percussionist in the TSO and daughter, Arabella studying at the Conservatorium. Then there are the boys, Vivian and Monty, who had a highly successful year: both gained Honours for Fourth Grade Theory of Music as well as High Distinctions for their Piano exams - Monty for Sixth Grade and Vivian for Seventh Grade – the latter thereby winning the Tasmanian Music Teachers’ Association Award. In addition, Vivian was awarded Honours for Seventh Grade Bassoon, while Monty so excelled in his Sixth Grade Double Bass exam that he became co-winner, with Eliza Coombes, of the Musicians’ Union Award for Strings. Teachers were: Piano – Jody Heald; Double Bass – Michael Fortescue; Bassoon - John Panckridge; Theory - Mum. 2013 will be even busier with both Vivian and Monty having been accepted into the Australian Youth Orchestra’s Young Symphonists’ Program.

From left: Monty and Vivian Wain
Musicians’ Union Award through the PPCA Performer’s Trust Foundation: Samara Richardson (Clarinet), Eliza Coombes (Cello)

Jennifer Filby Memorial (TMTA) Award in AMEB Fifth Grade Theory: Amy Wiles

Australian String Association (AUSTA) Award for Violin: Alice Pickering

Hobart Guitar Society Award: Patrick Reid

Barratt’s Music Award: Katrina Wong

Geoff Long Music Awards for Piano for Leisure: Thomas Donegan (Preliminary), Alex Buktenica (First Grade), Sarah Eddleston (Second Grade), Emily Evans (Third Grade)

MacFie Music Awards for Violin: Isabella Cawthorn (First Grade), Adelle Massom (Second Grade), Shenara Perera (Third Grade)

North-West Winner

Thirteen year old Julia Parker of Stanley was the winner of the 2012 Foster’s Music Award for the most outstanding candidate in north-west Tasmania. Since sitting for her first Violin exam at the age of 10, Julia has consistently gained Honours – and this year gained a High Distinction for her Seventh Grade exam. Examiner, Nara Dennis reported that Julia performed with great facility and technical assurance and commended her on playing her entire program from memory. Julia has had equal success in her Theory of Music exams, gaining High Distinctions for First, Second and Third Grades. A student at Smithton High School, Julia learns violin from Lily Doherty of Stanley and theory from Petrina Johnz of Forth.

Conservatorium - Here I come!

Phoebe Dunbabin may be only eleven, but already she knows what she wants to do when she leaves school - attend the Conservatorium of Music. With this in mind, last year she sat for six AMEB exams: Singing for Leisure Preliminary, Viola Preliminary and Grade 1, Piano Grade 1, Clarinet Grade 2 and Theory of Music Grade 1. Passionate about her music-making, Phoebe says that sitting for exams makes her practise and gives her a goal to strive for. She loves playing viola in the Tasmanian Youth Orchestra Academy String Group and this year is the second time she has attended the Residential Summer String Camp at Camp Clayton. And would you believe that the Year 6 student at The Friends’ School still finds time for her other passion – horse riding!

Online Exams

Online exams in Theory of Music (Grades 1-4), Musicianship (Grades 1-3) and Music Craft (Preliminary-Grade 3) can be taken at any time and come with unlimited practice exams. Candidates receive their results instantly for lower-grade exams and within 3 to 4 business days for higher-grade exams. Successful candidates will receive their certificate in the mail after completing their exam. Higher-grade exams will be released throughout the year. Online examinations are available from www.amebexams.edu.au.
New Syllabus
AMEB is proud to announce the launch of its new Flute syllabus, available for examination in all States from 2013. As well as the comprehensive review of the technical work requirements culminating in *Flute Technical work* (2012), this syllabus features new Grade Books that now begin at Preliminary and extend up to Sixth Grade. The Grade Books include exciting and challenging repertoire in a range of styles, and the syllabus also features wholly revised Manual Lists that draw on some of the most attractive recent publications for the Flute. A new sight-reading book, *Flute Sight-reading* (2012), following specially designed sight-reading parameters, has also been produced to accompany the new syllabus. This syllabus includes two new examinations, Preliminary at the beginning of the syllabus and the Certificate of Performance to cap Level 2 examinations.

This syllabus will be examined concurrently with the Flute syllabus that last appeared in the 2012 *Manual of Syllabuses* for two years after the release of the new syllabus. During these two years the new syllabus will be evaluated and from the start of 2015 the previous Flute syllabus will no longer be available for examination.

The following publications may be used with the new syllabus:
- *Flute Series 3 Grade Books Preliminary – Sixth Grade* (2012)
- *Flute Series 1, Flute and Piccolo Technical Work* (revised 1998) and *Flute and Piccolo Orchestral Excerpts* (1998) may not be used with the new syllabus. *Flute Sight Reading* (2000), does not contain indicative examples of the standard of the sight reading in the new syllabus, but may be used as an extra resource for practice purposes. These books may only be used with the Flute syllabus that last appeared in the 2012 *Manual of Syllabuses*.

Withdrawals
From the beginning of 2013, the following syllabuses are no longer available for examination:
- Cello (last printed in 2009 *Manual of Syllabuses*)
- Clarinet (last printed in 2008 *Manual of Syllabuses*)
- Piano for Leisure* (last printed in 2010 *Manual of Syllabuses*)
- Saxophone (last printed in 2008 *Manual of Syllabuses*)
- Singing (last printed in 2010 *Manual of Syllabuses*)

From the beginning of 2014, the following syllabuses will no longer be available for examination:
- Bassoon (last printed in 2011 *Manual of Syllabuses*)
- Classical Guitar (last printed in 2011 *Manual of Syllabuses*)
- Violin (last printed in 2011 *Manual of Syllabuses*)

Once these syllabuses are withdrawn, only the form of these syllabuses printed in the most current *Manual of Syllabuses* will be able to be presented for examination.

*Please note, *Piano for Leisure Series 1* Grade Books are not being withdrawn and can still be used with the current Piano for Leisure syllabus.

General Syllabus News

Certificate of Performance - Additional Requirements
From 2013 candidates presenting for the Certificate of Performance examination are required to achieve a Pass in Fourth Grade Theory of Music, Musicianship or Music Craft in order to complete the requirements for the principal examination. Additional requirements do not apply to the Certificate of Performance examinations in Piano for Leisure, Saxophone for Leisure or Singing for Leisure.

For further information, see Regulation 19 in the ‘Regulations’ section in the front section of the *Manual of Syllabuses*.

Syllabus Reviews
The Percussion syllabus is under review during 2013. The revised Double Bass syllabus will be released at the end of 2013. The review of the Oboe syllabus has been deferred until further notice.

If you wish to participate in the syllabus review process, please visit the Federal Office website, [www.ameb.edu.au](http://www.ameb.edu.au).

Publications
New releases
The Board is pleased to announce the release of the following publications:
- Flute
  - *Flute Series 3 Grade Books Preliminary – Sixth Grade* (2012)

Recordings available from digital music outlets
A selection of AMEB recordings, including Violin Series 7 and 9 (Fifth to Seventh Grade only), Piano for Leisure Series 1 and 3, Piano Series 14, Clarinet Series 2, Flute Series 2 and Past Musicianship and Music Craft Aural exams are now available to download from digital music outlets such as iTunes.

Publications available from the AMEB State Office:
- 2013 *Manual of Syllabuses* (Music): $15.00 + postage
- 2013 *Manual of Syllabuses* (Speech): $11.00 + postage
- Theory of Music, Musicianship, Music Craft and Speech Papers $2.00 + postage (minimum order for mailing - $5.00)
- Music Craft CDs to 2012 - $3.00 + postage

*All prices quoted are GST inclusive*