

AMEB News

Newsletter from the Australian Music Examinations Board in Tasmania | February 2007



Winners all!

The 2006 winners of the \$100 Musicians' Union of Australia Awards (sponsored by the PPCA Performer's Trust Foundation) in Brass, Woodwind and Strings were (from left) Laura Hurd (Euphonium), Andrew Gaskell (Flute), William Clark (Viola) and Thibaud Hobba (Violin).

Laura, a mature-age Bachelor of Music Studies student at the Conservatorium of Music, gained Honours for Sixth Grade under the guidance of teacher, Joe Cook. Andrew, 16, a student of Douglas Mackie, attends Clarence High and gained a High Distinction for Seventh Grade. William and Thibaud have much in common – both are 16 years old, attend The Hutchins School, and gained a Pass with Distinction for their AMusA Diplomas. William is a pupil of Elinor Levy, and Thibaud learns from Peter Tanfield. Congratulations to all!

Message from the State Chairperson

I am pleased to tell you that, at the request of Professor Douglas Knehans, I have recently commenced in the role of Chairperson of the AMEB in Tasmania. Due to his increasing commitments at the Conservatorium of Music, Professor Knehans has decided to step down as Chair, but will maintain his interest in the AMEB as a member of the State Committee. I look forward to representing your views on the AMEB Federal Board.

Following the launch of our new written syllabus – Music Craft – last year and the release of comprehensive resource materials (Teacher's Guides and Student Workbooks), we will be presenting workshops in Hobart and Launceston on Sat 21 and 28 April respectively. The workshops will be designed to guide teachers in implementing this innovative syllabus. Details of time, venues and registration options will be provided by the AMEB State Office.

The first examinations in Music Craft will be available this year in the May and August written sessions. Some of the many features which distinguish Music Craft from Theory of Music and Musicianship are that it is available from Preliminary Grade, every grade has an aural component, and both aural and written sections are assessed on the same day.

With the introduction of Music Craft, the Board has revised the additional written requirements needed to complete practical examinations from Sixth Grade onwards. For example, for Sixth



Photo courtesy of The Mercury

Grade practical the written requirement has been reduced from Third Grade to Second Grade. Please refer to Regulation 19 in the 2007 Manual of Syllabuses for full details.

Another 'first' for 2007 will be the release later this month of Viola Grade Books - Series 1 (Preliminary-Fourth Grade). These, together with a revised Technical Work Book, will apply to the new Viola Syllabus in the 2007 Manual of Syllabuses.

I am also pleased to let you know that on Sunday 20 May we will be holding an AMEB Family Open Day at the Conservatorium of Music. This will be a great opportunity for students from Preliminary Grade to participate in a concert and/or master class setting, and for teachers and parents to talk to examiners and administrative staff. We will keep you posted on the many activities we have planned for the Day.

I hope to meet you on 20 May and in the meantime, wish you all the best for 2007.

Jody Heald

Graduation Ceremony

Successful AMEB diploma students may receive their awards at the University of Tasmania's Graduation Ceremonies held in Hobart and Launceston each year. Pictured holding her Associate Teacher of Music Australia certificate is Lenka Valta, who participated in the Hobart Ceremony in August last year. To gain her ATMusA Diploma, Lenka sat for a written exam focusing on aspects of child development, a practical exam showing her performance ability and familiarity with a broad range of teaching strategies, as well as presenting a teaching folio and demonstration lesson.



Awards sponsored by TMTA

(Tasmanian Music Teachers' Association)



Winner of the \$100 AMEB *Seventh Grade Pianoforte Award* was 18 year old Andrew Jones (pupil of Robert Deavin) who completed four AMEB exams in 2006 while in Year 12 at Launceston Church Grammar – Piano Grades 6 and 7, and Piano for Leisure Grade 8 for which he gained a High Distinction, as well as Theory of Music Grade 4. A jazz enthusiast, Andrew has already gained High Distinctions for CPM Keyboard Steps 3 and 4 (Grades 7 and 8) under the tutelage of Nic Parker. Keen to improve his improvisation skills, this year Andrew will study in the jazz program at the Victorian College of the Arts.

The \$100 *Jennifer Filby Memorial Award* for the best candidate in AMEB Fifth Grade Theory or Musicianship was shared between William Clark, 16, of Hobart and Frances Cameron, 18, of Launceston. Frances, a pupil of Meg Blackley at Launceston Church Grammar, also gained her AMusA Diploma in piano last year. She will be studying pharmacy in Melbourne

next year, but plans to maintain her interest in music by tutoring piano students.

William Clark (pictured on front page) learns theory from Karen Clark of Hobart. This year William will undertake Year 11 at The Hutchins School as well as participating in the Prelude Program – an extension program for exceptional music students – at the Conservatorium of Music.

North-West Winners

The inaugural Foster's Music Award (\$100 gift voucher) was shared between Levi Lawrie, 15, who gained a High Distinction for Grade 4 Piano and Daniel Elkington, 12, who was awarded a High Distinction for Grade 5 Piano. Examiner, Don Colgrave, reported that both Levi and Daniel had well developed technical skills which enabled each of them to present a musical performance of a very high artistic level. Levi is a student of Suzanne Berry of Somerset, while Daniel learns from Eva Zappner of Burnie.



Dates for your diary

- Sat 21 April: Music Craft Workshop – Hobart
- Sat 28 April: Music Craft Workshop – Launceston
- Sun 20 May: AMEB Family Open Day - Hobart

Northern Star



Courtesy of Tasmanian Life Magazine

Winning the AMEB/TYO Mini Concerto Competition in 2001 set 13 year old Third Grade flautist Amanda Gale on course for a career as a soloist. During the next four year she consistently gained Honours or High Distinctions for her flute grade exams and was awarded here AMusA diploma in 2004. In 2005 Amanda undertook her practical LMusA exam and last year completed that diploma by gaining a Credit for Musicianship Grade 6. To top it off, Amanda was awarded a five-year \$300,000 music scholarship at Bard College in upstate New York where she is now studying for a double degree in arts and music, majoring in flute. All this makes Amanda a worthy recipient of Barratt's Music Award for the most outstanding candidate in Northern Tasmania in 2006. Congratulations also to her long-time teacher Jennifer MacDonald of Launceston.

New Award for 2007

North West Music - \$100 (gift voucher) for most promising candidate in North-West Tasmania.

Other Award Winners

AUSTA Award for Violin Fifth Grade: Joseph Phillips

Hobart Guitar Society Award: Ignatius Mackey (First Grade)

Geoff Long Music Awards for Piano for Leisure: Thomas Evans (Preliminary), Odessa Mykytowycz (First Grade), Ella Roper (Second Grade) and Lachlan Smith (Third Grade)

MacFie Music Awards for Violin: Ririka Tambara (First Grade), Alice Coombes (Second Grade) and Aki Nakagawa (Third Grade)

McCann's Music Award: Amelia Short and Tully Brookes (AMusA Piano with Distinction)

Drama & Performance

Hannah Tivendale commenced Speech & Drama exams as an 8 year old with teacher Lindy Hingston, undertaking an exam each year until gaining her Certificate in Drama & Performance (CDPA) last year at 17 years of age. In the same period Hannah passed Singing Grade 5, achieved a Credit for Piano Grade 6, Theory of Music Grade 5 and Speech & Performance Theory Grade 6. Not content with that, Hannah gained Honours for Violin Grade 7 as well as Piano for Leisure

Grade 7. Having completed Year 12 at Devonport's Don College last year, Hannah plans to combine her music and drama interests in a Bachelor of Arts (Music Theatre) course at the University of Ballarat.



Syllabus Information

Music Craft

Following three consultations with stakeholders and field testing, Music Craft Level 1 (Preliminary to Grade 4) has been developed and will be offered from 2007.

This new syllabus integrates music theory and aural acuity elements from the very beginning of music studies. The sequencing of its various musical elements is quite different from the other AMEB written syllabuses. A Music Craft Helpdesk, staffed by Federal Office, has been set up. Enquiries during office hours (AEST) can be directed to 1800 214 380. Alternatively, email: coordinator@ameb.net

Music Craft workshops will be held in Tasmania in April and examinations on Monday 14 May and Monday 27 August.

Viola

The Viola syllabus has been changed following a review, resulting in all new repertoire and syllabus requirements. In addition, publications (Preliminary to Grade 4) have been prepared to accompany this syllabus. From 2007, candidates may present for examination using either the Viola (2007) syllabus or the old syllabus from the 2006 Manual. The syllabus chosen for examination must be presented in its entirety. During the first years of use, this new Viola syllabus is under evaluation, prior to withdrawal of the old syllabus. At the completion of evaluation, any necessary adjustments will be made to the new syllabus and one year's notice will be given advising of the withdrawal of the old syllabus.

Fellowship in Music Australia

Changes have been made throughout various sections of this syllabus which is published in the 2007 Manual of Syllabuses. A copy of the amended syllabus is also available from the AMEB Federal Office website www.ameb.edu.au.

Please note that the sample programs have not been altered.

Violin Syllabus Series 6 Grade Books

Please note that the listing of Series 6 publications was omitted in error from the 2007 Manual of Syllabuses (Violin Syllabus). Teachers are advised that students are able to select works from the Series 6 Violin Grade Books for examination until further notice. Teachers should note however, that when selecting works from the Series 6 Violin Grade Books, some of the works have been re-listed to bring them into alignment with the listings in the syllabus. For details of listings, please contact this office on 6226 7317 or visit www.ameb.edu.au.

Regulation 19: Additional and Prerequisite Requirements

The Board has amended Regulation 19: Additional Requirements to incorporate Music Craft. Please refer to Table A in Regulation 19 on page xix of the 2007 Manual of Syllabuses for details.

Syllabus Withdrawal

Violin

At the end of 2006, the Violin Syllabus (1995) was withdrawn. From 2007 the Violin Syllabus (introduced in 2002) is the only Violin syllabus available for examination.

Reviews

Clarinet and Saxophone

These two syllabuses are under review during 2007. Regular updates will be posted on the AMEB Federal Office website as Federal Office progresses through the review process. Please check www.ameb.edu.au for the latest news on these reviews.

Publication News

New and Forthcoming Releases

Music Craft

Student Workbooks (Preliminary to Grade 4) have been released for use with the Music Craft Syllabus. Each Workbook is accompanied by two aural training CDs. A Teacher's Guide supports each Student Workbook. The Teacher's Guides explain the concepts encountered in the Student Workbook in easy-to-understand language. The Teacher's Guide contains a Thematic Outline and Concept Map for easy referencing of theoretical concepts, as well as all the answers to the questions in the Student Workbook. These publications are available from music retail outlets.

Viola

The following publications will be released with the new syllabus:

- *Viola Grade Books – Series 1*. These books will be offered from Preliminary to Grade 4 and will apply to the new Viola syllabus
- *Viola Technical Workbook*. This book will include all the technical work as required in the new Viola syllabus

These publications will be available in February 2007 from music retail outlets.

Violin Series 8 Handbooks and CDs

Handbooks with CD recordings were released in mid 2006. They include fully accompanied recording of the pieces in the Series 8 Grade books and accompaniment-only tracks for practice. The handbooks provide a comprehensive source of information for all the works contained in the grade books.

Syllabuses available as free downloads on the AMEB website

Drum Kit, Vocal, Guitar and Bass in CPM Manual
Revised CPM Keyboard
Accordion
Ensemble Performance
Percussion

Publications available from the AMEB State Office:

- 2007 Manual of Syllabuses (Music) - \$ 10.00 + postage
- 2007-2008 Manual of Syllabuses (Speech) - \$8.00 + postage
- Induction Tests: Strings and Keyboard - No charge
- Theory of Music, Musicianship and Speech Papers
\$2.00 + postage (minimum order for mailing - \$5.00)
- Musicianship Cassettes - Postage only

**All prices quoted are GST inclusive*

AMEB Enquiries

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