

A Musical Family

Winner of the AUSTA Trophy for the most outstanding AMEB candidate in Strings in Tasmania in 2017 was 17 year old Grace Thorpe of South Hobart (pictured at left).

Grace gained a High Distinction for her Violin Associate in Music Australia (AMusA) Diploma examination. Examiners, Susan Collins and Jo St. Leon said that she gave a fine performance and had a mature and intelligent approach to the interpretation of her pieces. Grace is a student of Christopher Kimber of Howrah.

Music runs in the Thorpe household with 15 year old sister, Kara gaining Honours for her Eighth Grade Flute exam and 13 year old brother William gaining Honours for his Eighth Grade Cello exam. In addition all three children are talented pianists, with both Grace and Kara having previously been awarded their AMusA Diplomas on Piano, and William gaining a High Distinction for Sixth Grade Piano for Leisure.

Grace summed up their success as follows: "Hard work every day – it slowly adds up. There's nothing particularly special about us, it's just putting effort in every day, having good teachers and a good support network."



Message from the State Chairperson

In 2018 the AMEB will celebrate its centenary as a national organisation. To mark this occasion, a series of centenary events and projects are planned to celebrate the history of achievement of the AMEB in successfully supporting music education in Australia for the past 100 years – details are provided at our centenary website: www.centenary.ameb.edu.au Many of the events are interactive and we are hoping you will join in to ensure their success. Celebrations in Tasmania will include a special reception and concert to be held at Government House in August.

At the invitation of the Board, Dr Rita Crews - Examiner and member of the NSW AMEB State Committee - has written a book, "A Centenary Celebration: the Australian Music Examinations Board 1918 to 2018. An illustrated history." To obtain a copy and/or to attend its launch in May 2018, visit www.centenary.ameb.edu.au

Piano teachers will be pleased to learn that a new series of grade books for the ever-popular *Piano for Leisure* syllabus is now available. Series 4 features grade books from Preliminary to Grade 8, containing a total of 108

pieces in a variety of styles. These include a selection of appealing works by Australian composers. Also included are performance notes and creative teaching suggestions from Grade Book Consultant, Tim Topham.

To familiarize teachers with the new grade books, the AMEB in Tasmania, in conjunction with the Tasmanian Music Teachers' Association (TMTA), has organised a special workshop on Saturday 3 March this year, to be presented by Tim Topham. Tim is a creator of enterprising, innovative ideas for music educators. His passion is to help teachers maximise student engagement through creativity, technology and innovation. For details about this exciting workshop visit: ameb.utas.edu.au

With best wishes for 2018

Associate Professor Andrew Legg
State Chair TAS, AMEB
Director, The UTAS Hedberg Centre
Deputy Head, School of Creative Arts
University of Tasmania

Rockschool

The first Tasmanian candidate to sit for a Rockscool exam since it has been delivered by the AMEB in Australia, was 16 year old Kip Philips of Mt Nelson. Kip was examined by Rockscool Lead Examiner, Alyson Locke, and gained a Distinction for Piano Grade 7. Having completed AMEB Piano exams up to and including Grade 6, as well as two AMEB vocal exams, Kip decided to sit for the Rockscool exam because he loved the mix of current contemporary music styles in the syllabus books. Kip's teacher is Nathaniel Richardson of Snug.

Based in the UK, Rockscool is a vibrant contemporary music program offering globally recognised qualifications from beginner to diploma level in guitar, bass, drums, vocals, and piano/ keyboard, as well as ukulele and music production. For more details, visit: www.rockscool.ameb.edu.au



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 at the Hobart Ceremony in August 2017 is 12 year old Sheng-Yuan Lynch of Kingston, who gained his Associate in Music (AMusA) Diploma with Distinction in Piano in 2016. Under the continued guidance of Piano teacher, Shan Deng, Sheng-Yuan at only 12 years of age, gained his Licentiate in Music Australia (LMusA) Diploma with Distinction last year – making him one of the youngest candidates in Australia to achieve this award.



Geoff Long Music Awards

Winners of two of these awards for Piano for Leisure for 2017 were 7 year old Erich Mumford (Preliminary) and 9 year old Cianne Head (First Grade). Both candidates are pupils of Karen Clark of Kingston Beach.



Piano for Leisure Workshop

AMEB Consultant, Tim Topham, will provide an insight into the new Series 4 Piano for Leisure grade books at an AMEB/TMTA Workshop on Sat 3 March 2018 (10.30 am-12 noon) at Hodgkin Hall, The Friends School, Commercial Rd, North Hobart. Register by Wed 21 February at the special rate of \$130.00 by emailing: treasurer@tmta.com.au

Recital Examinations

The Recital examination trial will continue in 2018, allowing a full year of data to be collected and reviewed before a decision is made about the future of this exam. Therefore in 2018 you will still be able to undertake a Recital exam in Violin, Flute, Trumpet and Drama and Communication. The Recital exam comprises repertoire only and features material from the AMEB syllabuses along with an own choice option.

For more information on this trial, go to www.ameb.edu.au



Barratt's Music Award

2017 was a successful year for 18 year old Angus Deeth of Weetah, having completed Year 12 through home-schooling and being awarded the Barratt's Music Award for his impressive Grade 8 Clarinet exam. Examiner, Margaret Reid, reported that Angus performed with maturity and poise, and that he understood and executed the technical and musical demands of his repertoire.

A member of the Launceston Youth and Community Orchestra – playing clarinet, violin, viola or cello as required – Angus is also an aspiring conductor, raising the baton not only for the LYCO but also for the Deloraine Big Band.

Currently a pupil of Karlin Love of East Launceston, this year Angus will be attending the Conservatorium of Music in Hobart.

Foster's Music Award

Eighteen year old Naomi Dickers of Ulverstone, won this Award on the basis of her performance in her Seventh Grade EE Flat Bass Tuba exam. Naomi is a home-schooled Year 12 student and along with her two younger siblings is a member of the Ulverstone Municipal Band. Already a veteran of state and national brass band competitions, Naomi and her sister Erin (Tenor Horn) delighted the audience with their exceptional performances in the AMEB Candidates' Concert held in Hobart last year. Naomi attributes her success to hard work and commitment to scheduled practice, as well as to her teachers, Ted Hicks and Peter Johnston. "Whilst technical work can be challenging, the hardest part is carrying [the tuba] to gigs!" Naomi said.



Courtesy of Cordell Richardson of The Advocate

Other Award Winners 2017

Jennifer Filby Memorial (TMTA) Award in AMEB Fifth Grade Theory/Musicianship: Maja Burggraaff
Tasmanian Music Teachers' Association (TMTA) Award for Seventh Grade Piano: Lucy Aras

McCann's Music Award: William Kuplis (Piano Grade 8)

Geoff Long Music Awards for Piano for Leisure:
Zachariah Vonk (Grade 2), Hwee-Lin Yee (Grade 3)

Hobart Guitar Society Award: Lachlan McKay (Grade 4)

Yamaha Music Award for Grade 4 Piano: Jack Connell



Musical Theatre Workshop

Our Musical Theatre syllabus continues to grow in popularity. Teachers and students are pictured participating in a workshop - "Acting through Song" - presented by Dr Zachary Dunbar, Senior Lecturer in Theatre, The University of Melbourne, that was held in Hobart on 9 April 2017.

Syllabus and Publications

New Syllabus

AMEB is proud to announce the launch of its new Oboe syllabus, available for examination in all States from 2018. As well as the comprehensive review of the Manual Lists and the technical work requirements, culminating in the release of *Oboe Technical work* (2017), for the first time ever this syllabus features grade books for Oboe (Series 1), from Preliminary to Grade 4. The grade books include a selection of appealing and pedagogically valuable repertoire in a range of styles. The new syllabus also includes two additional examinations, Preliminary at the beginning of the syllabus and Certificate of Performance, which serves both to cap the Level 2 examinations as well as prepare candidates for the requirements of the Level 3 examinations.

The following new publications may be used with the new syllabus:

Oboe Series 1 - Preliminary to Grade 4 (2017)

Oboe Technical work (2017)

Oboe Sight-reading (2017)

Oboe recorded accompaniments - Preliminary to Grade 3

Oboe Technical work (2000) may not be used with the new syllabus. This book may only be used with the Oboe syllabus that last appeared in the 2017 *Manual of Syllabuses*.

The new Oboe syllabus will be examined concurrently with the version of the Oboe syllabus that last appeared in the 2017 *Manual of Syllabuses* for two years after the release of the new syllabus.

From the start of 2020 the previous Oboe syllabus will no longer be available for examination.

New Releases

Piano for Leisure

AMEB is pleased to announce that the following publications are available for Piano for Leisure:

Piano for Leisure Series 4 - Preliminary to Grade 8 (2017)

Piano for Leisure Series 4 Recording and Handbooks - Preliminary to Grade 8 (2017)

Note: Piano for Leisure Series 1, Series 2 and Series 3 can all still be used with the current Piano for Leisure syllabus. No Grade Book series is being withdrawn.

Note: *Piano for Leisure Series 4 Recording and Handbooks - Preliminary to Grade 8* (2017) do not contain a CD, as was the case for previous series. These books now contain a code to download the tracks online.

Revised Syllabus

Tuba

A revised version of the Tuba Syllabus appears for the first time in the 2018 *Manual of Syllabuses*. There have been no changes to the grade books or technical work requirements for this syllabus.

The revised syllabuses will be examined concurrently with the version of the Tuba syllabus that appeared in the 2017 *Manual for Syllabuses* for two years after the release of the revised syllabus. From the start of 2020 the previous Tuba syllabus will no longer be available for examination.

Theory Syllabus Changes

Grade 3: Under 'Creative', Candidates are now required to complete BOTH a) and b). That is, they are now required to BOTH write a rhythmic pattern to a simple couplet AND write a melody of 4 bars (previously they chose either a) OR b)).

Grades 4, 5 and 6: Under 'Creative Work', option b) to complete a melody has been removed. Candidates are ALL now required to complete a) - that is to write a melody to a passage of text.

Publications

All AMEB publications and syllabuses (as digital downloads) can be purchased from the AMEB Online Music Shop at www.ameb.edu.au

Publications available from the AMEB State Office:

- > 2018 Manual of Syllabuses (Music): \$18.00 + postage
- > 2018 Manual of Syllabuses (Speech): \$12.00 + postage
- > 2018 Recital Exam Syllabus: No charge
- > Theory of Music, Musicianship, Music Craft and Speech Papers: \$3.00 + postage (minimum order for mailing - \$5.00)

*All prices quoted are GST inclusive

**AMEB
Enquiries**

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AMEB News

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