



Barratt's Music Award Winner

"A very fine and capable musician" were the words that Examiner, Nara Dennis used to describe 18 year old Sidney Triffitt of Irishtown when she reported on his Eighth Grade Violin exam last year. A boarder at Launceston Church Grammar, Sidney took up the violin and viola only 5 years ago when in Year 7 with teacher, Daniel Wahl, and has sat for examinations on both instruments. Although he is now preparing to sit for his AMusA diploma on violin, Sidney continues to play viola in the Launceston Philharmonic Orchestra.

The Barratt's Music Award is presented to the most outstanding AMEB candidate in Northern Tasmania and as Sidney says: "You've got to be able to perform your pieces not just technically correct, but with passion and musicality". Sidney has just completed Year 12 and plans to attend university. In the meantime he is enjoying his other interests - photography, athletics and swimming.



Courtesy of The Examiner

Message from the State Chairperson

In 2017 the AMEB will launch an exciting trial into a new examination that will run alongside the traditional grade exams: the *Recital* examination. It will be available this year in Violin, Trumpet and Flute and Drama & Communication.

The *Recital* examination will comprise repertoire only and will feature material from the current AMEB syllabuses with an Own Choice option. Teachers and candidates will be able to select a balanced and interesting programme using the syllabus lists as a guide. The *Recital* examination will be ideal for busy students who love performing and want an annual goal to aim for, as well as external feedback on their progress. Depending on the response, the uptake and the value, the Board will make a decision to roll out the *Recital* examinations for other instrument/syllabus areas in following years.

To obtain a free copy of the Recital examination syllabuses contact the AMEB State Office on 6226 7317 or download from www.ameb.edu.au

Brass teachers will be pleased to learn that the Trumpet, Trombone and Euphonium syllabuses have been revised and

refreshed, while Piano teachers will be able to look forward to the release of a new series of *Piano for Leisure* Grade Books at the end of 2017.

Another resource for teachers, students and parents, that I would like to draw to your attention, is our bi-monthly email newsletter. This contains a feature article on a topic of interest, a focus on a particular syllabus and celebrations of the achievements of AMEB students. In addition, it includes an interview with a prominent musician, promotional offers and an opportunity for Theory questions to be answered. To receive this email newsletter you will need to register at www.ameb.edu.au

With best wishes for 2017

Associate Professor Andrew Legg
State Chair TAS, AMEB
Director, Conservatorium of Music
Deputy Head, Tasmanian College of the Arts
University of Tasmania

Hobart Guitar Society *Award*



Sixteen-year-old Isaac Shipp of Ulverstone commenced classical guitar lessons when he was eleven with local teacher, David Wood. For his Fifth Grade exam, Isaac received a High Distinction and an outstanding report from Examiner, Edrick Corban Banks. Edrick described Isaac as “A very sensitive player with a sweet tone, who performed with confidence and understanding, and whose performance was enhanced by thorough preparation and excellent technical skills.”

Having completed Year 10 at Ulverstone High, Isaac will be starting Year 11 at Don College this year where music will be part of his studies. While he intends to go on to university, at this stage he is keeping his career options open. Apart from music, Isaac’s hobbies include sailing and soccer.

McCann's Music Award

Vittoria von Caemmerer gave such an outstanding performance for her 6th Grade Flute examination that she not only gained a High Distinction, but also the McCann’s Music Award.

Fifteen year old Vittoria is in Year 9 at Ogilvie High School and learns the flute from Jillian Norton of North Hobart. AMEB Examiner, Derek Grice, reported that Vittoria gave an excellent and very mature performance and that it was a pleasure to listen to her playing.

Vittoria has recently been accepted into the Tasmanian Youth Orchestra and, as one of the top-scoring auditionees, has been invited to participate in the TYO Chamber Music Program. In addition, she has been a member of the Hobart Wind Symphony for two years and also plays in the combined Ogilvy/New Town High band.

When she is not playing music, Vittoria enjoys studying Japanese.



Foster's *Music Award*

Eighteen year old, Ben Ivory of Devonport sat for his first music exam at age eleven in 2009 under the guidance of his teacher, Angela Polden. Each year Ben has progressed through the grades culminating in the completion of his Certificate of Performance - the final exam for *Piano for Leisure*.

2016 was a successful year for Ben, having completed Year 12 at St Brendan Shaw College and gained the Foster's Music Award for his excellent piano exam performance. In 2017, Ben will be studying engineering at the University of Tasmania, but he says that he hopes to continue to play music and have a piano in his life for many years to come.



Courtesy of Brodie Weeding of The Advocate

Timing *is everything!*

If 12 year old Liam Fassett had to break his arm, he chose the right time to do it – after his music exam! A pupil of Christopher Murray of Launceston, Liam has won the Yamaha Award for Grade 4 Piano. Liam also plays percussion with the Launceston College Concert Band and saxophone with the University of Tasmania's Community Music Program. A keen swimmer, Liam can't wait to get back in the water and into his music again!



Lots of *fun!*

Seven year old Simone Angel of Pitt Water, likes running, bike riding, looking after her rabbit, dog and guinea pig – and she especially loves playing her violin! She started lessons with Daniel Evans of Kingston Beach when she was only five, and has just completed her Preliminary Grade exam which she thoroughly enjoyed – “I love getting to know new pieces” she says. Simone is one of the youngest AMEB candidates, and at this rate she will have gained her diploma in no time!



Other Award Winners 2016

Jennifer Filby Memorial (TMTA) Award in AMEB Fifth Grade Theory/Musicianship: Kimvy Dong

Tasmanian Music Teachers' Association (TMTA) Award for Seventh Grade Piano: David Vonk

Australian Strings Association (AUSTA) Award for Violin: Charlotte Young

Geoff Long Music Awards for Piano for Leisure: Eva Vander Schoor (Preliminary), Lu Chen (First Grade), Jode Brewster-Jones (Second Grade), Rhiana Brewster (Third Grade)

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 2016 is 19 year old David Winkler of Kingston, who was presented with his Associate in Music Diploma (AMusA) in Piano. David sat for his first AMEB exam as a 9 year old in 2006 and has steadily progressed through the grades, gaining his Diploma under the tutelage of Victoria Burley. He has just completed his first year at the University of Tasmania studying for a Bachelor of Information, Communications and Technology.



Syllabus and Publications

Revised Syllabuses

Trumpet, Trombone and Euphonium

Revised versions of the Trumpet, Trombone and Euphonium Syllabuses appear for the first time in the 2017 *Manual of Syllabuses*. The main aims of these revisions are:

- to replace works in the Manual lists that are no longer in print.
- to replace works in the Manual lists that are infrequently used.
- to remove the Orchestral Excerpts from Level 3 (Associate and Licentiate).
- to update references made to widely-used pedagogical volumes such as the Method for Trumpet/Trombone by Jean-Baptiste Arban so that page numbers and exercise numbers correlate to the current edition of the volumes.

There have been no changes to the grade books or technical work requirements for these syllabuses.

The revised syllabuses will be examined concurrently with the versions of the Trumpet, Trombone and Euphonium syllabuses that appeared in the 2016 *Manual for Syllabuses* for two years after the release of the revised syllabuses. From the start of 2019 the previous Trumpet, Trombone and Euphonium syllabuses will no longer be available for examination.

Syllabus Developments

Piano for Leisure

AMEB plans to release *Piano for Leisure Series 4* at the end of 2017 as an additional resource to support the Piano for Leisure syllabus. *Piano for Leisure Series 4* will comprise grade books for Preliminary to Grade 8, featuring a wide range of repertoire suitable for examination at each grade level. The works featured in *Piano for Leisure Series 4* will be added to the Piano for Leisure syllabus and no grade book series will be withdrawn as a result of Series 4 being added.

Syllabus Reviews

The Oboe syllabus review will continue in 2017. If you wish to participate in the syllabus review process, please visit the Federal Office website: www.ameb.edu.au

Withdrawals

From 1 January 2018 the following syllabuses and awards will no longer be available for examination:

- Electronic Organ
- Free Bass Accordion
- Fellowship in Music, Australia and Fellowship in Speech & Drama, Australia

*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.

New Examinations

Recital Examinations (2017 Trial)

AMEB will launch a trial of Recital examinations for Violin, Flute and Trumpet, and Drama & Communication in 2017. The Recital examination will comprise repertoire only and will feature material from the AMEB syllabuses along with an own choice option.

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

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:

- 2017 Manual of Syllabuses (Music), \$17.00 + postage
- 2017 Manual of Syllabuses (Speech), \$12.00 + postage
- Theory of Music, Musicianship, Music Craft and Speech Papers \$2.00 + postage (minimum order for mailing - \$5.00)

**All prices quoted are GST inclusive*

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Enquiries

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AMEB News



Newsletter from the Australian Music Examinations Board in Tasmania