MONTE SANT’ ANGELO
MERCY COLLEGE

2017
PERFORMING ARTS
CO-CURRICULAR
MUSIC AND DRAMA
INFORMATION
CO-CURRICULAR DRAMA

YEAR 7 & 8 DRAMA CLUB
Year 7 Drama Club is held after school on Wednesdays in Term 1 from 3.30-4.30pm, and Year 8 in Term 2. The Club runs for 6 consecutive weeks, led by Ms Sheridan. Students are engaged in a variety of Drama activities to assist in the development of collaboration skills, creativity, leadership and organisational skills, discipline and the ability to adapt to situations in a safe and enjoyable environment. They learn about improvisation, group work, performance, vocal work and will then present performances of their work for their peers and teacher feedback. Students who are interested in enrolling should watch out for further information in ACTA. Please note that girls need to enrol as soon as this information is published as the group will be strictly limited to 30 students.

THEATRESPORTS & NSW COMPETITION
Theatresports is held on Wednesdays, at lunchtimes for Intermediate (Years 9-10), and from 3.30-4.30pm for Seniors (Years 11-12 and selected Year 10), led by Ms Karen Partington. Students work in teams to devise instant characters and settings and then improvise a short scene, based on a variety of scenarios. Theatresports begins with easy improvisational exercises, slowly becoming more demanding as individual confidence and teamwork skills develop. Beginning midway through Term 1, Intermediate and Senior teams from Years 9-12 work towards participating in the Theatresports Schools Challenge early in Term 2. Year 8 Theatresports is held in Term 3 in preparation for the Junior division of the Theatresports Schools Challenge.

MONTE SHORTCUTS FILM FESTIVAL
Each year, Monte holds a short film competition, which is open to all students in Years 7-12. Each film must between 4-6 minutes in length, must be original and be based on the year's theme. For non-elective Drama students, films need to be submitted to the Performing Arts Department before the end of Term 3. Drama students are given their due date by their teachers. Films are shortlisted and the best in each category is selected for entry into the finals, to be shown at the Shortcuts Festival late in October at Monte. More details are given in ACTA and Monte Matters.
CO-CURRICULAR MUSIC
INSTRUMENTAL PROGRAM

The College Instrumental and Vocal Program aims to contribute to each student’s development musically, academically and socially. Monte’s Performing Arts Department also offers a wide variety of musical ensembles in which students may participate. These ensembles are open to ALL members of the school community who play instruments or sing.

OUR MUSIC PROGRAM AIMS ARE:

♦ To give all students, regardless of their previous musical experience, the opportunity to play an instrument or sing
♦ To give all students who already play an instrument or sing the opportunity to develop their individual and ensemble performance skills
♦ To give all students who play an instrument or sing the opportunity to be in ensembles which correspond with their own level of musical development
♦ To develop students’ appreciation of a wide range of musical styles
♦ To develop students’ ability to express themselves musically and emotionally
♦ To share musical talent with the community through provision of music for school liturgies and masses, various community events and school functions or concerts

NUMEROUS STUDIES HAVE SHOWN THAT PLAYING A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT DIRECTLY AFFECTS A STUDENT’S DEVELOPMENT OF:

♦ Self-discipline and responsibility
♦ Self-esteem and confidence
♦ Social interaction
♦ Coordination
♦ Creative problem solving
♦ Team, school and community spirit

It has also been found that students who play a musical instrument are likely to achieve more highly in other school subject areas.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Instrumental and vocal tuition is available to all students through the Music Academy at Monte Sant’ Angelo Mercy College. Many girls in the school are already taking part in private tuition in voice and/or the wide range of instruments offered by the school.

WHICH INSTRUMENTS CAN YOUR DAUGHTER LEARN AT MONTE?

Tuition is currently offered in the following areas. AMEB/Trinity Examinations and preparation are offered for all:

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<th>STRING</th>
<th>WOODWIND</th>
<th>BRASS</th>
<th>OTHER</th>
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<tr>
<td>Violin</td>
<td>Flute</td>
<td>Trumpet</td>
<td>Piano &amp; Keyboard</td>
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<td>Viola</td>
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<td>Cello</td>
<td>Clarinet</td>
<td>Trombone</td>
<td>Guitar &amp; Bass Guitar</td>
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<td>Double Bass</td>
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<td>Bass Clarinet</td>
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<td>Bassoon</td>
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<td>Composition</td>
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WHICH INSTRUMENT SHOULD YOUR DAUGHTER LEARN?
Several factors should be considered when choosing an instrument:

♦ Some students may not have the physical attributes needed to play certain instruments: the height of the student, the size of her hands and the lengths of her arms and legs, may all influence the type of instrument a student can learn. For example, double bass players need to be reasonably tall with a considerable hand span.

♦ All ensembles need various numbers and different types of instruments to make up the group and each instrument plays a special role. In many ways it is like a sporting team. For example, not all players in a netball team can be the goal shooter and the coach picks the team so that each position is covered. In a band or orchestra, the conductor acts as a coach and ensures that every instrumental part is covered. A band cannot sound well balanced with too many saxophones or flutes and no clarinets or French horns.

♦ If a student has always yearned to play a particular instrument, then that is often a good indicator that this instrument should be chosen. However, care must be taken that the student is not just following a trend because "a friend also learns the instrument" or because "the instrument is considered to be cool at the moment". Trends change rapidly. Therefore, choices made on this basis can be costly in terms of tuition fees, instruments and time. Please ensure that your daughter has looked at all of the instruments available as poor decisions can be made due to the lack of knowledge about the alternatives.

MUSICIANSHIP and THEORY
This subject is recommended for any student who wishes to gain more knowledge about music and her chosen instrument. Students studying at higher levels of instrumental performance are required to complete accompanying levels of Musicianship or Theory in order to obtain the advanced AMEB and Trinity grades. It is offered as an option in the Music Academy and is organised in the same way as instrumental lessons. Group lessons are also available.

COMPOSITION
Composition classes are specifically designed for students in Years 9-12 who wish to develop their composition skills. In Years 11 and 12 lessons are individual, and in Years 9 and 10 small group sessions can be organised. Composition lessons are often taken by students for only 20-30 minutes per fortnight, in addition to the study of the chosen instrument. Costs vary due to the number of girls in each group and/or amount of time per session. The fees also cover unlimited email contact with the tutor, so that ideas can be discussed and advice given online between face to face sessions. For further information please contact the Head of Performing Arts.
HOW CAN YOU OBTAIN AN INSTRUMENT FOR YOUR DAUGHTER?

School Hire

A limited number of costly and more specialised instruments such as bassoons, French horns, saxophones, double basses and lower brass instruments are available for hire from the school at the cost of $300.00 per year. These instruments are mostly hired for a maximum of one year to a student. After this time, it is expected that the student should try to purchase her own instrument. Parents will be billed $150.00 for the hire of the instrument at the beginning of each semester. Please note that this fee is non-refundable and that the College does not hire smaller instruments such as flutes and clarinets or guitars and percussion instruments.

LESSON DETAILS

♦ Private lessons are given once a week for eight weeks of each term
♦ Music lessons are forty minutes in length
♦ The lessons take place during the school day and operate on a rotating basis through the daily timetable
♦ Students generally do not miss the same classroom subject more than twice a term
♦ All students should be in the classroom for at least ten minutes of every school lesson and should never miss an entire class
♦ It is the student’s responsibility to catch up on missed work, supported by the classroom teacher
♦ The tutor will stamp the student’s diary at the end of each lesson as proof of her attendance
♦ If the student knows she is going to be absent from her lesson due to a school exam or excursion, she must contact the tutor at least one week in advance to reschedule her lesson time
♦ If the student cannot attend the lesson due to illness, the tutor should be contacted directly no later than 7.00am on the day of the lesson
♦ Please note that absence from a music lesson without advance notice will result in the full amount for that lesson being charged
♦ Students are to join a co-curricular Music ensemble when sufficiently proficient on an instrument.

FEES

Lesson fees are $420.00 per term exclusive of GST (one 40 minute lesson per week for eight weeks per term). The fees are payable each term direct to your daughter’s tutor no later than Week 3. No refunds will be given for missed lessons if, for example, a student forgets to attend or goes to another appointment without suitable notice, which is to be agreed with the tutor. Please note that some tuition fees may also attract a GST surcharge.
COMMITMENT TO TUITION
It is expected that students starting an instrument will continue for at least one school year unless the tutor advises otherwise. If a student decides to withdraw from lessons, **one full term’s notice** must be given in writing to the tutor and to Head of Music Performance. Failure to do so will result in a term’s fees being payable.

Beginning students will need to practise regularly (twenty minutes daily) in order to get the most from their private lessons. Advanced students will, of course, need to practise for considerably longer periods. All students should have access to a full-length mirror, a metronome and a music stand for home practice.

MUSIC TUITION AND ELECTIVE MUSIC CLASSES
Students who study an instrument or voice are strongly encouraged to choose elective music in Years 9 and 10, with the view to continuing music in Years 11 and 12 in the HSC or the IB Diploma Programme. In these lessons students study musical performance, composition and aural awareness combined with theory and music history. The study of these musical areas will enable students to progress much more quickly in their practical studies.
CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES IN MUSIC

To support the wonderful instrumental, vocal and classroom tuition at Monte, there are many co-curricular musical ensembles. These groups provide an enjoyable opportunity for students to put into practice and to enhance the skills they have learnt in their lessons. The ensembles develop important performance techniques that cannot always be provided in private lessons and classes.

Membership of an ensemble is strongly recommended for all students having private lessons in the Monte Music Academy. Students are advised to join a group when their tutor or member of the Music staff feels they are sufficiently advanced. Piano students may choose a choir or band, and more advanced students may opt to accompany choral groups. Often pianists are also well suited to roles as percussionists across a variety of musical styles. Ensemble membership is not limited to music students; we encourage all students at Monte to join one of our musical ensembles.

These groups are great fun and highly educational. Workshops and the compulsory annual Music Camp enable ensemble members to be immersed in intense learning and performance opportunities as they arise. In 2013, a Band group had a highly successful tour to California; in 2015 a combined Band/Orchestra/Choir group travelled to Japan; in December 2016, Concert Band, Orchestra, Stage Band, and Wind Ensemble embark on a tour through Mittagong and Bowral.

Students studying elective Music in Years 9 to 12 and students in the Year 7 and 8 Enrichment Music classes must be fully committed members of at least one major ensemble (marked * below).

Students should take care that their choice of ensemble does not conflict with other co-curricular activities. Sometimes this cannot be avoided as there is so much on offer at Monte, but students are expected to maintain their commitment to their musical “team”. Students are required to contact their Ensemble Director or Head of Music Performance if they cannot attend a rehearsal.

CONCERT BAND *

This ensemble is available to all Year 7-8 students, following a meeting with Ms Catherine Walmsley. The Concert Band is made up of woodwind, brass, percussion and keyboard instruments and performs many upbeat styles of music including traditional marches, film music and jazz. This ensemble serves as a stepping-stone into the Wind Ensemble. Rehearsals are conducted by our Band Director, Ms Catherine Walmsley on Mondays from 3.30-5.00 pm in OR201.

WIND ENSEMBLE *

This ensemble is available to all students by audition and is made up of more advanced woodwind, brass, percussion and keyboard players. The Wind Ensemble performs at a variety of College and community events and takes part in a variety of band festivals and competitions. Rehearsals are conducted by Ms Walmsley on Thursdays from 3.30-5.00 pm in OR201.

STAGE BAND

This smaller ensemble is made up of more experienced saxophone, trumpet, trombone, guitar, bass guitar, drum, percussion and piano players. It is open to students by audition only and generally play jazz and popular music. They are accompanied by selected vocalists. Rehearsals are conducted by Ms Walmsley, on Fridays from 7.30-8.15 am in OR201. Instrumental members of the Senior
Stage Band must also be fully committed members of the Concert Band or Wind Ensemble.

**COLLEGE ORCHESTRA** *

The Orchestra is open to all string players with some experience and a few advanced woodwind and brass players and percussionists. This group plays a variety of styles from Baroque classics to popular and film pieces. Rehearsals are by our Director of Orchestra & Strings.

**CHAMBER STRINGS**

This is a small to medium sized group consisting of more experienced string players and is open to students by audition. The Chamber Strings perform at many functions throughout the year including wedding, school dinners, etc. All members must also be fully committed members of the College Orchestra.

**YEAR 7-12 STRING ENSEMBLES**

In 2016 we are offering girls the opportunity to play string quartet music. These small ensembles are overseen by the Director of Orchestra & Strings. It is hoped that performances at weddings and school functions will become a regular performance opportunity for some of these groups. All students must also be fully committed members of the College Orchestra.

**GIOCONDA FLUTES**

This is a small group of flute players and is open to students by audition. The Flute ensemble performs three and four part arrangements of popular songs, film and TV themes and classical music. Rehearsals are conducted by Ms Suellen Monaghan on Fridays during lunch 12.45-1.30 pm in OR301.

**CHAMBER WINDS**

This small advanced ensemble is open to experienced wind players by audition. The Chamber Winds perform regularly at College and community events, including weddings and other private functions. The repertoire is mostly a selection of more classical pieces with some jazz and popular tunes. Rehearsals are led by Mr Ian Sykes on Mondays at lunchtime in OR301. All members must also be fully committed members of the Wind Ensemble.

**JUNIOR CHOIR** *

The Junior Choir welcomes all girls in Years 7-8 who are interested in singing. The group caters for experienced singers and instrumentalists who want to develop their self esteem and teamwork in addition to their singing and aural skills, and girls who would like to try singing in a group for the first time. The Junior Choir performs at a variety of school events and, combined with the Senior Choir, has the opportunity to perform at eisteddfods. Rehearsals are led by Clare McFadden, and take place in OR201 on Wednesdays from 3.30-4.30 pm.

**SENIOR CHOIR** *

The Senior Choir welcomes all girls in Years 9-12 who are interested in singing. The group caters for experienced singers and instrumentalists in the Middle and Senior school who want to develop their self esteem and teamwork in addition to their singing and aural skills, and girls who would like to try singing in a group for the first time. The Senior Choir performs at a variety of school and community events and has the opportunity to perform at eisteddfods. Rehearsals are led by Clare McFadden, and take place in OR201 on Wednesdays from 3.30-4.30 pm.
**MONTE SINGERS**

Monte Singers is an extension vocal group that is open to advanced and highly committed singers from years 7-12. The repertoire worked on is more challenging and higher expectations are placed on the members of this group. This four-part vocal group has the opportunity to sing at weddings and community events as well as take part in school functions and eisteddfods. Rehearsals are led by Miss Naomi Cooper on Thursdays, 7.30–8.15 am. Extra rehearsals may be called in the lead up to special events.

**GUITAR ENSEMBLES** *

Guitar Ensemble cater for both beginners and more experienced players, who perform mostly contemporary music and play at a variety of community and College events. The ensemble is conducted by Mr Greg Arnold on Tuesdays 7.20-8.20 in OR301.

Other ensembles, such as a Rock Band, Percussion or Saxophone ensemble, may be formed during the year.

**ENSEMBLE FEES**

Ensemble fees cover the costs of sheet music, equipment such as music stands and amplifiers, competition and eisteddfod entry fees, bus hire and, in some cases, the hire of external conductors/directors and accompanists. The 201614 fee for each ensemble is $350.00. This amount will be billed to your College account. Girls joining an ensemble must complete the appropriate form, and have it signed by parents and the ensemble director. Fees are not refundable, as girls are expected to remain in their ensembles for the whole year.

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**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

If you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact the following staff:

**Music Academy Lessons & Instrument Hire/Purchase, Ensembles, Performance Enquiries:**

Head of Music Performance on 9409 6387

**General Performing Arts (Music & Drama) & Curriculum Enquiries:**

Nathanael Primrose-Heaney (Head of Performing Arts) on 9409 6385

or

npheaney@monte.nsw.edu.au

**Performing Arts Administration:**

9409 6391
Please complete the form, including the Ensemble/s which your daughter wishes to join. The form should then be returned to the Performing Arts Department for us to obtain the Director’s signature. Students should use ONE FORM for all ensembles. **No girl may continue in an ensemble until her form is received**

Student
Surname: ___________________________ Given name ___________________________

Student mobile: _______________ Student Email: ______________________________

Form: ______ Homeroom: _______________ Term of commencement: ______

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<tr>
<th>Ensemble Name</th>
<th>Instrument</th>
<th>Director signature</th>
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**This portion to be completed by parent/guardian:**

Parent/guardian name/s: ____________________________________________________________

Phone (h): __________ Mob: __________ Email: ________________

**PARENT:** One annual payment of $350.00 for each ensemble will be charged to your school account at the end of Term 1 or date of commencement, as listed in the information booklet. **Please note: this fee is non-refundable, as girls who commit to an ensemble must attend all rehearsals and performances for the full year.**

My daughter and I have read and agree to the terms set out in the Music Academy Instrumental Program booklet.

**Signed:** ___________________________ **Date:** ________________

(Parent/Guardian)

Return completed form to: 
Head of Music Performance
Monte Sant’ Angelo Mercy College,
PO Box 1064, North Sydney 2059

**OR to:** The Performing Arts Department Corridor
I wish to enrol my daughter for music lessons as follows:

Student
Surname: ________________________________________________
Given name: _____________________________________________

2017 Year level _____ Term of commencement: _______ Student Mobile: ____________________________

Student email: __________________________________________

Parent/guardian name/s: __________________________________

Phone: ___________________ Mob: ___________________ Email ____________________________

Instrument/voice: _________________________________________

☐ Continuing student Tutor in 2017 ____________________________

Do you wish to continue with this tutor? Yes ☐ No ☐

☐ New student Preferred music tutor, if known: ____________________________

Musical background including examination standard, group or solo performance:

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

PARENT: Payment of $420.00 per term (8 x 40 min lessons) will be billed direct to you by your daughter’s tutor. A GST charge of 10% may be applicable.

A full term’s notice (10 weeks in advance) is required of intention to discontinue lessons. Notice must be given direct to the tutor prior to 7.00 am if a student cannot attend a lesson. Missed lessons without notice must be paid for.

My daughter and I have read and agree to the terms set out in the Music Academy Instrumental Program booklet. This is available on the Monte Website. All Music Academy students need to join a co-curricular vocal or instrumental ensemble when sufficiently advanced.

Signed: ________________________________ Date: __________________________

(Parent/Guardian)

Please return this form to the Performing Arts Department
Monte Sant’ Angelo Mercy College, 128 Miller Street, North Sydney 2060.
Lessons cannot commence until forms have been received.
PERFORMING IN BOYS’ SCHOOLS
MUSICALS AND DRAMA PRODUCTIONS

Many boys’ schools invite our very talented Monte students to take part in their plays and musicals. Each separate invitation is considered carefully by the College Executive and Performing Arts Department against the Monte calendar, and while we are very happy for girls to take part, it is important that commitment to Monte should come first.

If any boys’ school performance clashes with a musical or dramatic production or other major event, such as examination periods, at Monte girls will not be permitted to audition. Similarly, should rehearsals clash with Monte co-curricular music rehearsals, drama, sport, or other practice, permission will be withheld. If approval is given, the production will be advertised in ACTA, in Monte Matters, and in posters in the Performing Arts Department.

A permission note specific to that production will be available, and girls and their parents must sign a commitment that all homework and assessments, and any co-curricular sport, performing arts or other commitments, must come first. This note is to be signed also by the girls’ Head of Year, and by Head of Performing Arts. If girls are given a role, they must let Head of Performing Arts know.

Any students who choose to audition without permission will be withdrawn from the production.