



Australian
Music
Examinations
Board

AMEB Victoria News

AMEB Victoria, 259 Auburn Road, Hawthorn, Victoria 3122 T 03 9882 3233 F 03 9882 9511
enquiries@ameb.unimelb.edu.au www.ameb.unimelb.edu.au

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AMEB Victoria Conferring of Diplomas ceremony

In 2017, the Conferring of Diplomas ceremony will be held on Tuesday 21 March, commencing at 6pm in Wilson Hall, University of Melbourne, Parkville. Diplomas will be conferred on approximately 150 Associate and Licentiate candidates, who were successful in 2016.

Double Diplomates 2016

The following musicians were each awarded two diplomas at the 2016 ceremony:

Michelle Chen, AMusA and LMusA, Violin

Kye Yim Loh, AMusA and LMusA, Violin

Caleb Murray, AMusA and LMusA with Distinction, Cello

Zacch Seah, AMusA, Violin and Piano

Christopher Street, AMusA, Clarinet and Flute.



In the 2016 ceremony, there were four double diplomates and pictured are (l-r): Caleb Murray, Zacch Seah and Christopher Street. We apologise to Zacch Seah, who was not named correctly in the previous newsletter.

AMEB Victoria's first Musical Theatre Licentiate

In 2016, Matthew Frampton became AMEB Victoria's first successful Musical Theatre Licentiate candidate following the introduction of the new syllabus in 2015. His Licentiate diploma will be conferred at the 2017 ceremony in March.

Matthew developed a passion for singing and performing in musicals at school. He went on to complete a Bachelor of Music at Monash University and is now studying for a Master of Teaching, with the aim of pursuing a career as a performer and secondary vocal specialist.

Matthew says he would have loved to follow the Musical Theatre syllabus when he was at school.

"Preparing for the Musical Theatre Licentiate exam helped me solidify everything I've developed over the years but also encouraged me to think critically and immerse myself in the repertoire," Matthew says.

"I was very pleased when the Musical Theatre syllabus came out because it promotes the development of good technique, which is needed to cope with the demands of performing. Musical theatre is about songs that tell a story and the syllabus also does that really well."

Matthew also enjoyed the General Knowledge component, because it involved research into why songs were written and the social climate at the time, showing how society influences art.

He concluded: "The Licentiate was hard work but very rewarding, and I'm looking forward to using the syllabus to teach future Musical Theatre students."

*Matthew Frampton,
AMEB Victoria's first Musical Theatre Licentiate*



New Brass Repertoire

Revised versions of the Trumpet, Trombone and Euphonium syllabuses appear for the first time in the 2017 *Manual of Syllabuses*.

Works in the Manual Lists that are no longer in print, or infrequently used, have been replaced. In addition, references to widely-used pedagogical volumes, such as the Method for Trumpet/Trombone by Jean-Baptiste Arban have been updated so that page numbers and exercise numbers correlate to current editions.

Orchestral Excerpts have been removed from Level 3 (Associate and Licentiate) examinations.

However, 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 that appeared in the 2016 *Manual of Syllabuses* for two years.



New Performance Evaluation Program

AMEB Victoria is delighted to announce a new Performance Evaluation Program, offering an expanded range of instrumental and vocal evaluations, customised to the needs of specific students, teachers or schools.

Our research has shown that, while many students relish the challenge of traditional AMEB exams, others simply want to find out if they are progressing and receive objective feedback on how to improve and develop their performance skills.

In response, AMEB Victoria is introducing the new Performance Evaluation Program to expand on AMEB's current evaluation service, and complement the traditional range of examinations. This will be driven by Jeremy Fletcher, recently appointed to the role of Client Relations Manager, who will be consulting with teachers, parents and schools in the coming months to find out what should be included in the program. You can find out more about Jeremy below.

As an example, repertoire for a customised Performance Evaluation could be selected by the teacher to include work

such as band or orchestral excerpts, and technical work could be included or excluded, as required. The program of work for evaluation would be provided to the assessor at the beginning of the Evaluation.

Each candidate for a Performance Evaluation will receive a personal report containing comments on the work presented. While it is envisaged there will be no letter grade result, it would be possible for the assessor to give a numerical mark or letter grade to suit a teacher or school's particular requirements, on request.

AMEB Victoria aims continuously to improve the promotion and recognition of musical achievement, and we look forward to working with teachers to develop a Performance Evaluation Program that will fulfil the needs of a greater number of Victorian students.



*Jeremy Fletcher,
new Client Relations
Manager, AMEB Victoria.*

Jeremy Fletcher recently joined AMEB Victoria as Client Relations Manager. Jeremy has a background in music and arts administration, having worked as an organist, teacher and administrator in a number of schools, and most recently as Director of the Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music. Jeremy's chief role will be liaising with schools and teachers, to find the best way to expand the range of services offered by AMEB Victoria, and working with the AMEB General Manager and Exam Administrators to improve service delivery.

The initial focus of Jeremy's work will be in collaboration with the Director of Music/Music Co-ordinator of major schools. We hope that teachers will enter into open and frank dialogue with Jeremy, and that, together, we can further develop and enhance the range and quality of AMEB Victoria services.

Jeremy will also be co-ordinating our teacher support programs; and will be happy to hear of your requests/suggestions. Any comments, feedback or suggestions can be made via the *Contact* link on the AMEB Victoria website. If you ensure your email is marked for Jeremy's attention and includes a phone number, he will respond by phone or email.

New Recital exam trial in Violin, Flute, Trumpet and Drama



In 2017, AMEB will offer a new type of Recital examination that will run alongside the traditional Grade exams. Recital examinations in Violin, Flute, Trumpet and Drama & Communication will be trialled in 2017.

The Recital examinations will assess repertoire only for instrumental music syllabuses, and Performance and Discussion components only for Drama & Communication.

Recital exam syllabuses are available in digital PDF format only, and can be downloaded from the AMEB Victoria website free of charge.

For more information, including answers to Frequently Asked Questions, go to: www.ameb.unimelb.edu.au/new-ameb-recital-exams/

AMEB Piano Scholarships for 2018

AMEB is delighted to announce that a program of scholarships will be offered in 2018 to encourage the development of Piano students who:

1. Live in regional and rural Victoria (3-6 scholarships).
OR
2. Identify as being from Indigenous backgrounds (3-6 scholarships).

The scholarship program aims to advance the knowledge and skills of students and their teachers in relation to technical and artistic aspects of music performance at AMEB Level 2.

The scholarships will fund travel and accommodation for selected students, each accompanied by a chaperone and a teacher, to participate in a weekend masterclass and workshop led by specialist teachers, to be held in April 2018 in Melbourne.

For more information and to make an application, go to www.ameb.unimelb.edu.au The closing date for applications will be 16 December 2017.



Scholarship applications 2017

- a. Applicants must have achieved the result of 'A' or 'A+' in an AMEB examination in a Piano exam or Piano for Leisure exam at Grade 5 or a higher Grade (including Certificate of Performance) in 2017.
- b. Applicants must be aged 18 years or under as at 31 December 2017.
- c. Three to six scholarships will be awarded to students who identify as being Indigenous.
- d. Three to six scholarships will be awarded to students from 'regional and rural' Victoria who are normally resident more than 60km from the Melbourne GPO.
- e. Applications for the 2018 Program close on 16 December 2017 and the Masterclass will take place in April 2018.

Applicants will be asked to provide a statement of their goals in music performance, together with a summary of their qualifications (exam results); participation in ensembles, eisteddfods or competitions; and details of any prizes, awards, scholarships or bursaries received. Selection for the 2018 Program will be made by a committee appointed by the AMEB Victoria Board.

Last chance to sit Electronic Organ and Accordion Classical Free Bass

From 1 January 2018, the Electronic Organ and Accordion Classical Free Bass syllabuses will no longer be available for examination. Neither syllabus will be replaced, so 2017 is the final year that candidates may sit for an AMEB practical examination in these instruments. AMEB will continue to offer examinations in Accordion Stradella.

Remember to book your place at the Musical Theatre workshop on 26 February

On 26 February 2017, AMEB Victoria will present a one-day intensive *Acting Through Song* workshop for Musical Theatre syllabus teachers and students, presented by Dr Zachary Dunbar, Senior Lecturer in Theatre at the Victorian College of the Arts.

The workshop will aim to increase understanding of how acting techniques can work *through* singing and will be tailored to the particular needs of teachers and students of AMEB's Musical Theatre syllabus.

To register, go to: www.ameb.unimelb.edu.au

For more information about workshops and scholarships, go to:
www.ameb.unimelb.edu.au
or call 9882 3233



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AMEB (Vic) Ltd ABN 59 050 464 634
259 Auburn Road, Hawthorn, Victoria 3122
T 03 9882 3233 F 03 9882 9511
enquiries@ameb.unimelb.edu.au
www.ameb.unimelb.edu.au