



PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL

12 March 2024

Dear Principals and PAF Coordinators

The purpose of this communication is to, firstly, thank you for your significant support for the Catholic Arts during 2023 and secondly, to provide the 2024 Updates of the Performing Arts Festival for your information.

In 2024, we celebrate the 35th year of the Performing Arts Festival. The Festival commences with a Praise & Worship Celebration which will be held at St Mary's Cathedral on Thursday, 18 July. All sections of the Performing Arts Festival takes place from 19 July through until 30 August.

The Angelico Art Exhibition takes place from 5–23 August. Further information on the exhibition will be provided soon.

PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL

- Live Performances and Electronic Recordings will be offered in 2024.
- Electronic Recordings will be viewed by Adjudicators and feedback provided. Due to schools' capacity to record and the nature of electronic recordings, these will not be eligible for Shields, however Awards may be presented based upon Adjudicator recommendations. Reduced entry fees apply. The Adjudication will take place the week following the Final Concert. Last year there were some glitches experienced by the Adjudicators, so this process has been refined to cater to their requests.
- Venue Admission Costs will be increased by \$1 for audience. Adult audience attendance at performances will be determined by the capacity and the regulations that apply at the venue.
- The Final Concert takes place at Newman College on Monday 9 September.
- 90% communication from the Catholic Arts Office is via emails and the website with fewer bulk school mail outs. Please check the website regularly for any updates on the Festival or contact the office if unsure, so you are kept up to date.

With, in excess of 20,000 students involved from 162 Catholic schools from across Western Australia, the overall coordination of the Festival is an onerous task which continues to grow in complexity. To assist the staff at the Catholic Arts Office, the Performing Arts Festival Committee has reviewed practices over the past few years and compiled the following information to assist both schools and the office in ensuring efficient operation and participation for all. **Please read the information** carefully and contact the Catholic Arts Office catholicarts@cewa.edu.au should you require any clarification.

Again, we thank you for your support during the 2023 Festival and look forward to continuing the Catholic Arts journey with you and your school community in 2024.

Yours sincerely

Darryl Winsor
Chair, Catholic Arts



2024 IMPORTANT POINTS TO NOTE

Please ensure you familiarise yourself with the following information

MUSICAL PRODUCTIONS – SECTION G

This rule has been reviewed and will be changed for the 2025 Festival. A staff member (*not parent*) will be permitted to have a cameo performance without penalty.

VOCAL SINGING – USE OF BACKING TRACKS – SECTION K

This rule has been reviewed and will be trialled for the 2025 Festival to permit instrumental backing only. As this is a popular section with many participants, entry numbers may be restricted in 2025.

ENTRY TO VENUES – TRY BOOKING ONLINE TICKETING – NO DOOR SALES

Entry to venues is via Try Booking. On the website, patrons will be able to click on the specific event/date/session they wish to attend and register with payment online. Patrons will not be permitted to select seating. Patrons will receive a confirmation and a bar code. This bar code is to be made available on your mobile phone to allow entry to the venue.

Catholic Arts Office will hold off the sale of tickets to general public until final seating capacity numbers are known from venues prior to the Festival commencing.

As PAF Coordinator of your school, the office will advise when tickets are open for sale. This information will also be published on the website. Please advertise this to your school community and advise parents to **book early** to avoid disappointment of missing out on seating. Seating capacity is dependent upon the venue, tickets will be sold on a first come basis until the maximum limit has been reached.

To accommodate any seating restrictions in place during Festival events, the audience will need to vacate the venue in between sessions and/or interval for evening performances – to allow the next group in.

Entry to venues will not be permitted without the purchased ticket.

Once Timetables are complete, changes cannot be made as this affects ticket sales within try booking.

DUE DATES

ONLINE ENTRIES FOR LIVE PERFORMANCES

Entries to the Festival are available via the Catholic Arts Website www.spiritofthearts.com.au. 'Instructions on How to enter online' are also included on the website. Please contact the Catholic Arts Office staff if you have any questions. As a PAF Coordinator, your login details remain unchanged. All new coordinators will receive a 'Welcome Email' with instructions.

CLOSING DATE OF ENTRIES FOR LIVE PERFORMANCES: SUNDAY 5 MAY 2024

Online Entries open on Tuesday 12 March.

N.B. Please ensure there are no entries sitting "In Progress" on your Home Screen after closing date.

It is advisable to log in early, so you are aware that your access is working correctly. Don't leave entering online to the last minute as late entries will not be accepted.

ELECTRONIC RECORDINGS

If you wish to submit an item via electronic recording, please enter your item online via the Catholic Arts Website www.spiritofthearts.com.au and select '**Recorded – Please ensure this is ticked otherwise the item will be timetabled as a live performance**'. Electronic Recordings are uploaded via streaming (a much more efficient process). Tips on how to submit electronic recordings will be provided to schools. Adjudication feedback will be provided along with awards (if nominated by the Adjudicator). Shields will not be awarded.

CLOSING DATE OF REGISTERING ELECTRONIC RECORDINGS: SUNDAY 5 MAY 2024

Please register your entry by this date. The office will not accept any late entries.

CLOSING DATE FOR UPLOADING THE URL FOR ELECTRONIC RECORDINGS: WEDS 31 JULY 2024

Please upload your electronic recordings to Microsoft Stream prior to this date and provide the URL on the online entry. The office will not accept any late submissions.

ADJUDICATION OF ELECTRONIC RECORDINGS

Adjudication of electronic recordings will take place between 16 - 18 September with feedback provided to schools in Term 4.

MUSIC AND STAGE PLANS FOR LIVE PERFORMANCES - DUE FRIDAY 17 MAY 2024

MUSIC FOR ELECTRONIC RECORDINGS – DUE FRIDAY 17 MAY 2024 (Stage plans are not required for electronic recordings)

For those sections which require Music and/or Stage Plans, please use either Registered Post or the Courier Service for delivery of music/stage plans to the Catholic Arts Office once the online entry has been submitted. Please **DO NOT USE** the CEWA Internal Bulk Mail service as this mail is collected once a week and may not reach the office in time.

Remember to write on the first page of the music sheet only:

- Performer's Name
- School
- Section code

If music/stage plans are not submitted by the due date, the item will be ineligible for an Outstanding Award, Excellence Award, Merit Award or Perpetual Shield.

RULES OF THE FESTIVAL

- **It is vital to visit each Rule pertaining to the sections of the Festival that you have entered.** The Rules of the Festival are available on the Catholic Arts website (www.spiritofthearts.com.au).

VENUE CHANGES (All other venues as per the PAF Calendar)

- **Instrumental Solo/Duet Woodwind/Brass, Primary – Aquinas College**
- **Vocal Solo/Duet, Sec & Pri – Newman College**
- **Acoustic/Classical & Electric Guitar Solo/Duet – Newman College**
- **Primary Musical Excerpts – Venue to be confirmed, dependent on number of entries**

INSTRUMENTAL SOLO/DUETS – BACKING MUSIC

A reminder that students are to bring their own backing. For reliability on reproduction of sound – all students must bring their own mobile device & speakers – Ready to Play.

If using a mobile phone, please bring your own aux. cord and adaptor applicable for your phone.

CHRISTIAN DANCE

Rehearsals and performances will occur on the same date. Schools will be allocated a rehearsal time within a one-hour timeslot and students will be asked to remain in the Chapel until all schools in that time slot have rehearsed. Performances will then commence in the following hour. The Adjudicator will leave the Chapel whilst schools rehearse then re-enter for performances. Christian Dance takes place over 2 days.

REGIONAL SCHOOLS ENTERING CHRISTIAN DANCE (C1,C2) AND DANCE (P1, P2)

For those **REGIONAL** schools wishing to enter both Christian Dance and Dance, an opportunity exists to perform the Christian Dance item on Wednesday 28 August at Mercy College, 10.00am – 11.00am. You then have the option of entering Dance at Perth Convention Exhibition Centre that same week. Please ensure you insert a **special request** on your Christian Dance online entry. Please note however, there will be no rehearsals for Christian Dance on 28 August.

INDIGENOUS ITEMS

If you are entering items which contain indigenous music or content, please ensure the correct permissions have been approved and that appropriate cultural sensitivity is observed. Contact the CEWA Aboriginal Liaison Officer, for any clarification.

CONFLICTING DATES WITH SCHOOL CALENDARS

Please ensure that you have double checked your School's calendar so that Performance dates do not clash with PD days, Catholic Days, Pupil Free Days, Excursions, Camps, Sports Days etc. Once the timetabling is complete, the office will not be able to swap dates of performances. We ask for due consideration when entering your performances.

Please note that this year Creative Dance (P1/P2) conflicts with the Shield Playoffs.

SPECIAL REQUESTS

Special Requests are taken into consideration only in extenuating circumstances and in accordance with reasons stated in Appendix 4B (see website for further details), however, not all requests can be accommodated.

TIMETABLING

The Festival Committee has ruled that schools may not request changes to timetables and emphasises the need for schools to adhere to the allocated performance dates and times. The office will not be able to swap dates of performances once timetabling has been completed. Timetable changes also affects Try Booking ticketing. Schools will receive their timetable package in June.

PRINCIPALS' RESPONSIBILITY

Please ensure that your Principal has checked that items are appropriate and suitable in content of song, choreography and costume choices as this is their responsibility (e.g. no drug references, inappropriate language or dress, suicidal or sexual connotations.)

N.B. The Principal or their nominated representative must check the list of entries and tick the box on the online entry acknowledging the school's acceptance of the Festival Rules & Procedures.

PRIVACY INFORMATION FOR PARENTS & STUDENTS

Please refer to the Privacy Information Sheet for Group Performers and Solo/Duet Performers. This important information must be distributed to all parents/guardians of Festival participants paying particular attention to videoing and photographs for publicity purposes.

AUDIENCE VIDEO RECORDINGS OF FESTIVAL PERFORMANCES

The general public may video or photograph a Festival performance depending on Venue considerations, however, **uploading any images to social media is strictly prohibited**. Flash photography is not allowed as this distracts performers. Certain privacy restraints relating to entrants or schools may be in place, whereby videoing or photographing of those performances will not be allowed. The audience will be advised of these by the MC at the commencement of each section. **Filming at the Dance section at PCEC is not permitted**.

CERTIFICATES AWARDED

The marking criteria for Adjudicators is used as a guide only. Adjudicators are briefed on the criteria. Awards are not determined by the location or number of ticks received on an adjudication report. The Awards are at the adjudicator's discretion. Some Adjudicators award freely whilst others do not. The Office cannot overturn an Adjudicator's decision.

Thank you for participating in the 35th Annual Performing Arts Festival