



# Symphonia Jubilate Annual Report 2013



### **Orchestra Context**

Symphonia Jubilate is a newly formed orchestra operating in the Burwood/Strathfield area. Its membership is open to local public school students aged 8-18 years and invited parents and music tutors.

The orchestra is non-profit and volunteer-based. The major aim of the orchestra is **to promote musical performance through community involvement.** 

The orchestra was formed in late February 2013 as a Strathfield community of schools initiative. At the first rehearsal, there were sixty enrolments. At the second rehearsal in early April, there were over eighty enrolments. At the third rehearsal in May there were almost one hundred enrolments and community support and recognition for the orchestra.



Symphonia Jubilate rehearsing in Concord West Public School hall.

Local conductors, Tracy Burjan and Luke Wallace volunteer their time and expertise to conduct this orchestra. They are also training a local tertiary student, Daniel Parkee, in the skills of conducting.

Tutors, parents and teachers volunteer their time and support at the monthly Saturday rehearsals.

Local school principals from Mortlake Public School, Belmore South Public School, Burwood Public School, Concord West Public School, Strathfield Girls and Homebush Boys High Schools and Homebush West Public School support the orchestra by:

donating an affiliation fee;

- by attending the monthly Saturday rehearsals as supervisors;
- by allowing the orchestra to use Concord West PS hall; and
- by publicising the orchestra within their schools.

The orchestra is supported by the Strathfield Education Area School Education Director, Veronica Kapsimali.

The orchestra's aim for 2013 is to perform at the Department of Education and Communities (DEC) Director's Choice Awards and at the local schools' spectacular at the Opera House. It has a broader aim to perform at community events which involve local schools, local councils and community organisations and charities.

Symphonia Jubilate's orchestra committee has established a website, and a Facebook page to facilitate communication with parents and students.

The orchestra committee, principals, teachers and parents are proud to see young children being assisted by the more experienced teenagers and supported by parents and tutors to achieve performance excellence.





# Conductors' message

As conductors and founders we are thrilled with the progress of Symphonia Jubilate. When we started the orchestra we thought we might have 40 students and community members. At the first rehearsal we had 60 members and by the end of 2013 we had about 120 wonderful students all making great music together.

Our goal is to create a community-based orchestra in a non-stressful situation where anyone with varied abilities can come and play music and enjoy the process of rehearsals and performance. We like to perform for events for the broader community and promote a social conscience amongst our younger players.

Considering the number of young musicians involved and the relatively limited rehearsal time we had together, we are both incredibly proud of the high quality of our end of year performances.

### We would like to thank:

- the school principals and teachers for their support and guidance during this year;
- the members of the sub-committee, Jeff Mallia, Minh Tran-Ha and Margaret Coote who have managed the general running of the orchestra;
- the parents and mentors of the orchestra; and
- Judy Holland, the school administrative manager of our host school, Homebush West Public School, who has managed Symphonia Jubilate's finances.

We look forward to another great year of music making in 2014!





Conductors Luke Wallace and Tracy Burjan with Estelle Southall, patron principal.



Trainee conductor Daniel Parkee conducting Symphonia Jubilate at the High Tea concert.

### **Financial summary**

The host school for the financial management of the orchestra is Homebush West Public School. The principal, Estelle Southall, is the orchestra's patron principal. The school holds the orchestra's funds in a trust account. Funds in and out of this account can be easily tracked and are bound by the strict accounting and auditing policies of the DEC.

Please note, the income and expenditure shown in this report are from the 1st January 2013 to the 30th November 2013. (This is in accordance with the DEC financial management procedures).

There were funds received in December 2013, particularly the generous grant of \$3000 from Strathfield Rotary Club. (See below).

# 2013 Sponsorship

The Mayor of Canada Bay, Angelo Tsirekas donated \$200 for the purchase of uniform shirts for each member of the orchestra. The shirts enhanced the cohesion and professional appearance of the orchestra.

Symphonia Jubilate was successful in gaining \$1000 as a Category 2 NSW Clubs Grant from Burwood RSL Club.

Strathfield Rotary Club donated \$3000 for the purchase of a timpani. This generous gift will elevate the orchestra's performance standard.



Anthie, Mona, Carolyn and Jonathan with the new timpani.

From 01/01/13 to 30/11/13		
INCOME	Date	Amount
Student SJ enrolments	26/2/13	\$2,400.00
SJ students	26/2/13	\$450.00
Mortlake PS	26/3/13	\$300.00
Student SJ enrolments	9/4/13	
Homebush Boys HS	16/5/13	\$300.00
Homebush West PS	16/5/13	\$300.00
Mortlake PS/Canada Bay council	16/5/13	\$200.00
Strathfield Girls HS	21/5/13	\$300.00
Burwood PS	23/5/13	\$300.00
Belmore South PS		\$300.00
	30/5/13	
Student SJ enrolments	30/5/13	\$770.00
Student SJ enrolments	25/6/13	\$2,601.00
Spectacular Tickets	12/8/13	\$2,195.00
Burwood PS	29/8/13	\$40.00
Burwood PS	29/8/13	\$40.00
Burwood RSL Club	29/8/13	\$1,000.00
SJ students	5/9/13	\$935.00
SJ students	16/10/13	
SJ students	6/11/13	\$183.00
TOTAL		\$13,814.00
EXPENDITURE		
display books	26/3/13	\$35.60
Sheet music	27/3/13	\$178.19
music	27/3/13	\$76.95
website	27/3/13	\$599.00
domain name	27/3/13	\$50.00
display books	27/3/13	\$148.52
business cards	9/4/13	\$59.95
SJ T shirts	9/4/13	\$3,713.50
ink	9/4/13	\$64.99
display books	9/4/13	\$36.60
string parts	3/5/13	\$76.46
music - magic flute	3/5/13	\$67.23
music - aragonaise	3/5/13	\$72.00
Granville Spec Fee	29/7/13	\$150.00
Spectacular Tickets	13/8/13	\$2,100.00
paper	14/8/13	\$19.40
bass drum	20/8/13	\$549.00
bass drum cradle	20/8/13	\$49.00
music	11/9/13	\$223.00
shipping	11/9/13	\$20.99
glockenspiel	11/9/13	\$299.90
music	11/9/13	\$49.95
string set	11/9/13	\$63.96
tambourine	11/9/13	\$259.00
pro triangle	11/9/13	\$119.00
triangle beater	11/9/13	\$39.95
guiro	11/9/13	\$19.95
Spectacular Tshirts	17/9/13	\$730.00
timpani mallets	17/9/13	\$54.95
swizzle stick	17/9/13	\$29.95
maracas	17/9/13	\$46.99
mike green	17/10/13	\$35.50
first aid kit	30/10/13	\$105.00
certificate printing	11/11/13	\$317.40
TOTAL	11/11/13	\$10,461.88
TOTAL	<u> </u>	\$10,401.88

# **Orchestra's performance 2013**

### **Our Repertoire**

Symphonia Jubilate performed the following pieces of music in 2013:

- Aragonaise from Carmen (Bizet arr. Meyer)
- The Magic Flute Overture (Mozart arr. Meyer)
- Lieto (Tracy Burjan)
- Prince Ivan (Tracy Burjan)
- You're The Voice (Wunta, Reid, Ryder & Thompson arr. Burjan & Robertson)
- Stand Together (Papoulis arr. Burjan)
- I Still Call Australia Home (Allen arr. Burjan)
- Nocturne From A Midsummer Night's Dream (Mendelssohn arr. Meyer)

### **Our Spectacular - Opera House**

An initiative of the Granville School Education Area of the NSW Department of Education and Communities (DEC) in 2001, 'Our Spectacular' was held at the Sydney Opera House on Monday, 2nd September 2013. The combined schools' concert featured music and dance from students K—12 in the former Granville, Strathfield and Bankstown Area schools.

The theme of the concert was "Electrifying Eighties". Symphonia Jubilate's performance of "You're the Voice" was in keeping with this theme.

This was the orchestra's first major performance.



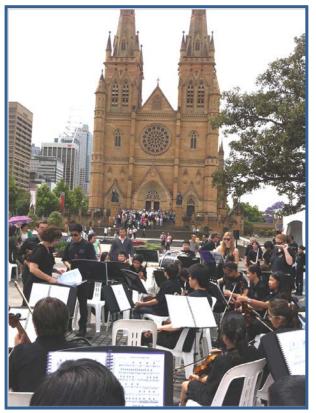
Symphonia Jubilate on the stage of the Opera House with conductor, Luke Wallace.

### Harmony Walk - St Mary's Square

Symphonia Jubilate took part in "Harmony Walk 2013" in the heart of Sydney in St Mary's Square, on Sunday, 27th October.

Harmony Walk seeks to bring together Australians from diverse national, ethnic and religious backgrounds to help build an inclusive society, and to acknowledge and celebrate the enduring principles of fairness, harmony and respect.

The day was a great success with more than 600 people participating in the 1km walk. Although Symphonia Jubilate members didn't do the 1km walk, they performed a selection of music for the crowd following the walk. It was a great opportunity to perform in public.





# Marie Bashir Public School Naming Ceremony

A new public school at Strathfield was officially named "Marie Bashir Public School" at a ceremony on Monday 21st October. Symphonia Jubilate was invited to perform at this occasion.

Premier Barry O'Farrell announced the school's name and said it would be a reminder that the long-serving Governor of NSW, Marie Bashir, was a product of public education, having graduated from Narrandera Public School and Sydney Girls High School.

The orchestra performed a selection of classical music as part of the program.

Professor Marie Bashir commended the orchestra and took the time to speak to many of the Symphonia Jubilate students.



SJ in the Marie Bashir PS hall, performing at the naming ceremony.

### **Forever Young Concert - Town Hall**

On 5th November, 2013, Symphonia Jubilate performed at Sydney Town Hall as part of the Forever Young Concert, a celebration of the arts with students from public schools in NSW.

The concert featured a combined primary school choir of 250 voices, the Sydney Public Schools Orchestra, Symphonia Jubilate and the Sydney Public School Concert Band. Joining these ensembles were individual items from DEC drama and dance ensembles. Guest star was Kamahl, a

Malaysian-born Australian singer and recording artist.



Symphonia Jubilate and Tracy Burjan.

### **Director's Choice Concert**

Symphonia Jubilate was invited to play in the Director's Choice concert on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November at the Sydney Olympic Park Sports Centre. The Director's Choice concert, held annually, is a celebration of student, staff and community achievements from schools in South Western Sydney.

Symphonia Jubilate performed for distinguished guests, family, friends and the wider school community.





### **High Tea Concert**

On 16th November, the orchestra held a high tea and concert night at Mortlake PS to celebrate its 2013 achievements.

Many students spoke to the large audience about their experiences in the orchestra and how these experiences were positive, happy and challenging.

This concert event was an affirmation of the success of the orchestra. It was also an opportunity to thank the committee and community members who had supported it throughout 2013.



The woodwind section at the High Tea concert.



Student Zaki Ousmand talks about his experiences as a member of SJ.



### 2013 Evaluation

Symphonia Jubilate has a management committee consisting of the principals of Mortlake Public School, Belmore South Public School, Burwood Public School, Concord West Public School, Homebush West Public School, Strathfield Girls and Homebush Boys High Schools. The manager and the two conductors are also on this committee.

This year, the committee has undertaken evaluations of:

- the membership of the orchestra;
- the rehearsal venue; and
- the orchestra's administrative structures.

### **Findings**

The success of the orchestra was outstanding. The concert performances were extremely successful and the public comments were positive.

Discussions with the secondary and primary students revealed that they really enjoyed being in the orchestra where they are mentored by adults. Students particularly enjoyed music camp. (Primary and secondary music camps were held at the beginning of the year as an introduction to performance music.) Students also enjoyed the repertoire of music chosen for them to play.

Discussions with the conductors highlighted the problems associated with such a large orchestra and the wide range of musical abilities within the orchestra.

The dramatic increase in the number of enrolments throughout the year took everyone by surprise. By the end of 2013, the size of the orchestra was too great for Concord West school hall to comfortably accommodate the seating of the musicians, let alone an audience.

The committee was concerned about the storage and management of instruments and other assets owned by Symphonia Jubilate.

The opportunities for concert performances are vital to the success of the orchestra. Performance opportunities need to be increased.

### **Future Directions**

The committee determined two strategies to make the orchestra more manageable.

- The orchestra will be divided into two groups. One orchestra will be secondary students plus invited primary students who are advanced musicians. The other orchestra will be primary school students and their teachers/mentors.
- A larger venue for the orchestra's rehearsals and concerts will be negotiated. Marie Bashir PS hall is the desired venue.

The committee will establish policies and procedures for managing the orchestra and its assets. All policies and procedures will be aligned to DEC policies.

A fundraising committee will be established to ensure there are funds for assets to be purchased, replaced and repaired when needed.

The number and quality of performance opportunities for students will be expanded by:

- offering places for students in a DEC orchestral tour of four cities in China:
- establishing a country link program so SJ students can perform with some country area students:
- expand the number of public concerts SJ gives to the community, to two per year.



### Orchestra Committee and Administration

Estelle Southall Principal Homebush West PS

Karen Mortimer Principal Belmore South PS

Kim Self Principal Concord West PS

Carolyn Wallace-Whelan Principal Burwood PS

Jacqui Attard Principal Mortlake PS

Angela Lyris Principal Strathfield Girls HS
Tim Jurd Principal Homebush Boys HS

Tracy Burjan Conductor
Luke Wallace Conductor

Judy Holland Administrative Manager

Margaret Coote SJ manager



### Orchestra contact information

Estelle Southall (Patron Principal)
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www.symphoniajubilate.com

