



# Symphonia Jubilate 2019 Annual Report







## From the SJ Committee

2019 has seen some changes to the SJ team. We welcomed Dr Sada Muramatsu as guest conductor. Sada comes with a wealth of experience. He conducts Strathfield Symphony Orchestra (SSO) and many other ensembles and choirs.



Unfortunately, we also had to farewell one of our artistic directors and founding conductors, Luke Wallace at the end of the year. Luke is taking time out to raise his new daughter, Nora. Luke's expertise, wisdom and skills have been invaluable to SJ. We thank him for all the sacrifices and time he has spent making SJ into something wonderful in partnership with Tracy Burjan. We are leaving the door open for him, in case he decides to return in a few years' time.

Dr Sada Muramatsu, with Artistic Directors, Tracy Burjan and Luke Wallace

We welcomed Flora Benson, who is our new Program Coordinator. Flora is a violinist and music teacher who brings not only musical expertise but a knowledge of policy writing. She is setting up the much-needed business structure of our organisation.

2019 has been another big year for Symphonia Jubilate. We toured Dubbo, Orange and Warren in April for our "We Meet in the Music" tour. We had wonderful experiences in each town, performing with local music students and making great contacts.



The SJ orchestra was warmly welcomed to Warren with an Aboriginal smoking ceremony and a sheep shearing demonstration.

The orchestra received a standing ovation from the Warren community after the concert. We became determined to strengthen our musical contacts with local teachers, Nick and Francis Evans and students from the Central West.



SJ received a 2019 grant from the Arts Council which has enabled us to pay nine tutors to enhance the musicianship of SJ students.

SJ conductor Luke Wallace and Steve Bartlett performed Handel's Messiah for the fourth year running. The SJ string ensemble accompanied the community choir admirably. It was an amazing performance of Handel's Messiah held at the Baptist church in Epping on Good Friday.

We held our annual Breakfast Point fund raising concert in July. Some SJ students performed solos and some performed in small ensembles. Breakfast Point Rotary Club donated \$1000 towards SJ programs as a result of this concert. We thank the club for its strong support of SJ over seven years.

SJ Secondo orchestra played at the Sydney Opera House in the "Our Spectacular" concert in August.

In November, we launched **Symphonia Jubilate Outback**, (SJO) our new project in collaboration with Frances and Nic Evans from Warren. Following our Central West tour, we decided that we could help students who lived in this area and who were suffering from a debilitating drought. Frances and Nic are wonderful musicians who already have programs running in their area so SJ is giving them a boost with funds and support to run camps and to supply music and bi-annual tours to the area. Warren students will visit us every second year. SJ Outback has one grant in place for \$10,000 from the Community Impact Foundation which will fund the start-up of this project.

In conjunction with our SJO launch, we launched **Friends of Symphonia Jubilate**, (FOSJ) our community association which will fundraise and receive grants for SJ. We held our first two FOSJ meetings, elected a management committee and received generous donations from community members.

Throughout 2019, SJ has received strong support from our local school principals, who assist us to manage SJ. The principals have given up their precious time to attend meetings, concerts and some rehearsals. We thank them for their support and invaluable advice. The SJ team would particularly like to thank the president of the SJ committee, Estelle Southall, for her leadership and vision. We also thank our patrons, Lyn Williams and Professor Dame Marie Bashir who keep in touch and attend our concerts when they are able.

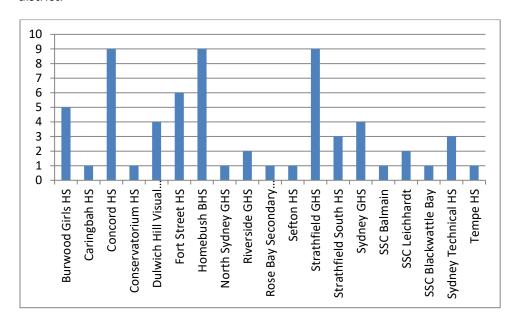




### THE 2019 SJ ORCHESTRAS

## SJ Primo

*SJ Primo* is made up of high school students from Sydney's Inner West areas, schools in the Ultimo district.



## **Repertoire**

- New World Symphony ~ Antonin Dvorak arranged by Richard Meyer
- Peer Gynt Selections ~ Edvard Grieg arranged by Richard Meyer
- Jupiter Symphony ~ W.A Mozart arranged by Merle J. Issac
- Trumpet Concerto in Eb major 1st Movement ~ Joseph Haydn featuring Trumpet soloist Liam McRae
- Overture from Carmen ~ Georges Bizet
- Bacchanale ~ Camille Saint Saens arranged by Merle J Issac
- Pirates of the Caribbean ~ Klaus Badelt arranged by Ted Ricketts
- Two South American Tangos A.G. Villoldo and Matos Rodriguez

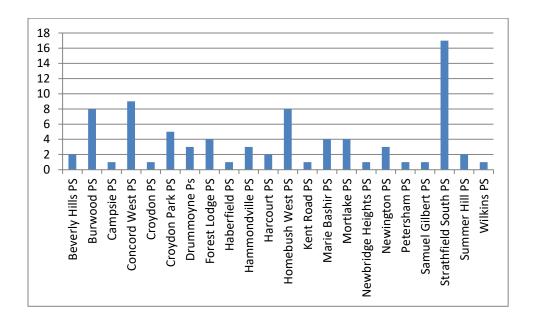
#### **SJ String Ensemble Repertoire**

- Send in the Clowns ~ Words and Music Stephen Sondheim, arranged by Mac Duff, strings arranged by Tracy Burjan
- When I am Old ~ Ben van Tienen
- Sit Down You're Rockin' the Boat ~ words and music Frank Loesser, arranged by Mark Brymer
- Winter ~ Antonio Vivaldi featuring soloist Felix Chan



# **SJ Secondo**

*SJ Secondo* is made up of primary school students in the Strathfield/ Burwood areas and outlying districts. SJ is lucky to have so many talented young students playing in this very large orchestra.



## **Repertoire**

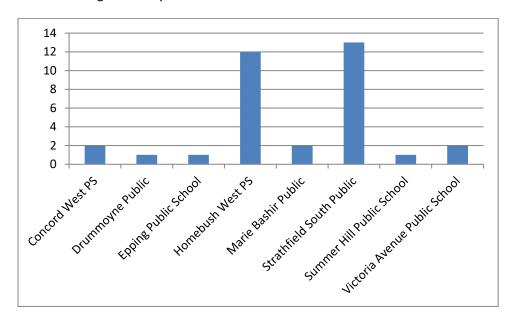
- Radetzky March ~ Johann Strauss Sr. arranged by Richard Meyer
- Sleepers Wake ~ JS Bach arranged by Jerry Brubaker
- The Moldau ~ Bedrich Smetana arranged by Richard Meyer
- Hungarian Dance No 5 ~ Johannes Brahms edited by William Ryden
- Jupiter Bringer of Jollity ~ Gustave Holst arranged by Leidig





# **SJ Pizzicato**

*SJ Pizzicato* was started three years ago and has now tripled in size with young string players from the Strathfield area. Led by assistant conductor Nadia Burjan and tutors Gabrielle Powell-Thomas and Jianne Parisi, this is a dynamic group of beginning string players, who progress in leaps and bounds throughout the year.



## **Repertoire**

- Frog in a Tree ~ Edmund J. Siennicki
- Bolero de Strings
- Two Minuets ~ J.S.Bach arranged by Ben Clinesmith
- La Confession ~ Michel Corrette arranged by Ben Clinesmith
- String Shredder ~ Kevin Mixon



# **FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2019**

YEAR TO DATE !	Statement of	Account	2019
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Open Balance as at 01/01/2019	\$ 27,061
INCOME	
Enrolment Fees	\$ 23,940
Affiliation Fees	\$ 3,550
Uniform Items	\$ 2,613
SJ Tour	\$ 12,500
Fundraising - Canteen sales & program sales	\$ 3,470
Trybooking.com 2018	\$ 2,569
Trybooking.com June & November 2019	\$ 6,213
Breakfast Pt Performance Donation	\$ 1,000
Arts Grant	\$ 8,100
INCOME 2019	\$ 63,955
Total Income	\$ 91,016

#### **EXPENSES**

Catering Expenses (rehearsals & concerts)	\$ 693
Concert Expenses	\$ 2,656
Equipment (music stands)	\$ 737
First Aid Supplies EPIpens	\$ 214
Hire of Marie Bashir PS Hall	\$ 550
Misc (flowers/display banner)	\$ 966
Prior year adjustment (City Extra)	\$ 170
Salaries (Administration days x 4)	\$ 1,150
Salaries (Conductors/Tutors/Management)	\$ 39,773
SJ Tour, Bus, accommodation, food	\$ 18,746
Teaching Resources & Office supplies	\$ 1,607
Transport instruments to Opera House	\$ 825
Uniform Items - School Spec Tshirts	\$ 1,296
Uniform Items - SJ Tour Tshirts	\$ 1,936
Web Hosting	\$ 317
EXPENSE 2019	\$ 71,636

BALANCE AS AT 16/12/19 \$ 19,380

The SJ funds are held in the Strathfield South Public School account. Our funds are managed by Elaine Pensabene (administrative manager of Strathfield South PS) and overseen by the SJ committee. These funds are audited under the Department of Education procedures. Our thanks and appreciation are extended to Elaine, who donates considerable time to SJ.

#### SJ'S GOALS FOR 2019

The SJ committee set the following goals for 2019:

- Symphonia Jubilate (involving students in Years 5—12) will take a tour to Dubbo, Orange and Warren.
- SJ will strengthen its links with rural and regional NSW.
- There are performances planned including the Festival of Instrumental Music, Cantabile Festival and Our Spectacular at the Opera House.
- Handel's Messiah will be on again in 2019 for choir and string players on Good Friday led by Luke Wallace and conducted by Steve Bartlett.
- Dr Sadaharu Muramatsu will be invited to SJ as a guest conductor for the next two years. Sada comes with a long list of experience, is the conductor of Strathfield Symphony Orchestra (SSO) and will be invaluable to SJ.
- SJ will establish "Friends of SJ" to support the funding of the orchestra.

#### In addition SJ will need to;

- Trial a paid administrator 1x day per week remainder 2019
- Evaluate current programs, and practices
- Create and submit to SJ executive team (Principals, and office bearers) a 3-year plan
- Relocate rehearsals to a venue with more 'break out' spaces
- Seek to continue accessing MBPS for performances and meetings
- Trial/purchase software to manage admin and communications
- Increase membership fees by \$50 per annum
- Develop a support/mentoring team and program for SJ Outback
- Encourage founding/member schools to engage both Principals and an executive or teacher representative.







SJ Soloist Felix Chan

# **EVALUATION OF SJ'S PERFORMANCE**

The SJ committee asked students to complete a survey about SJ.

# Students - Online and Paper Surveys

How enjoyable?	Very 38% Quite 45% Somewhat 8.5% Not 0
Favourite part of SJ?	Playing fun music 39% Playing in an orchestra 34% Performing in concerts 33% Making new friends 17% Something else 1%
Did you meet and make friends from different schools?	I made friends from different schools 51% I met people from different schools 30% I didn't meet anyone 4%
To what extent were you helped by your adults tutor? (Q not on paper survey)	Very helpful 15 (40%) Somewhat helpful 15 (40%) Didn't notice them 6 (16%) Not helpful 1 (2%)
How could we improve for next year?	More rehearsals 35 responses More concerts/performing opportunities 12 responses More varied repertoire 10 responses More rehearsals but shorter Longer rehearsals/shorter rehearsals/too easy/too hard/less random rehearsals/more tours
Any other comments?	Thank you to all the teachers and people who helped out. The experience was enriching Too good already It is perfect No, just it's good to be here. The tour was fantastic and hopefully, more like it are soon to come! Sj is very enjoyable and a fun experience Tutors are very helpful Symphonia Jubilate was a enriching experience for me I enjoy SJ SJ is good.

Parents were also invited to complete a survey.

# Parents survey results

Which ensemble is your child in?	Pizzicato 6 (15%) Secondo 21 (52%) Primo 13 (32%)
How enjoyable did your child seem to find \$J?	4.2 / 5 average Fantastic 14 (38%) Very 17 (44%) Somewhat 7 (18%)
Do you think your child met and interacted with children from other schools?	Yes - many 9 (22%) Yes - some 30 (75%) No - none 1 (2.5%)
Good aspects of \$J?	The effort put in by the organisers. Margaret is very welcoming and passionate about the orchestra.  Well organised. Excellent concerts. Timing of rehearsals and number of rehearsals are great. The teachers are awesome - they love music and share their passion with the children. Lots of opportunities to perform at other venues and events.  The size of the ensemble - they make a really impressive sound. The fact that it's made up of students from lots of different schools. The relaxed nature is helpful from my understanding. Great, approachable conductors and staff.  experience of playing in a band and with other students. The concerts which give my daughter a larger sense of pride at being able to perform in them.  Very inclusive. Students feel respected, encouraged, acknowledged and valued.  Great like minded kids. Good discipline. High expectations Great supportive staff, well organised, fantastic sound  Sense of community, uplifing spirit, the generosity of those donating their time everybody is very friendly and it feels like a big family Kind, caring and nurturing community culture for musicians.  Organised but relaxed environment. Wonderful conductors who enjoy their musicit really does show. Camp had good feedback. Incredibly dedicated teachers, nourishing environment, great selection of instruments and skills
What could be improved?	Cost. Parents need to contribute more with food for the interval - and keep costs to a minimum, rather than fundraising. The cost is too much for non-member schools and will become prohibitive soon for us to participate.  While some students enjoy the social experience of being with friends who are their age, it might help enhance ensemble quality and the performance experience of the students by placing them in the orchestral group that best suits their skill level. That also allows students to be challenged and keeps them interested.

#### Goals for 2020

- Strengthen the SJ Outback program through an official launch, exchange visits, music camps, instrument procurements, tuition and combined concerts.
- Include the state recorder group under the SJ orchestra umbrella. It will be known as SJ Recorders.
- Complete the set-up of "Friends of SJ" to ensure it is registered as a non-profit organisation and has tax-deductible recipient status.
- Apply for grants to support SJ and SJ Outback.
- Develop students' musicianship and instrumental technique through sectional tutorials to be held each term. To enable this to occur, SJ needs a large number of withdrawal rooms which are not available at Marie Bashir PS. SJ intends to relocate rehearsals to Homebush West PS which has a large number of free spaces. (Concerts will continue to be held at Marie Bashir PS hall).
- Strengthen the ties with our local orchestra, Strathfield Symphony Orchestra.

#### The SJ TEAM 2019

Tutors	Conductors
Flora Benson	
Yvonne Brown	Luke Wallace (Artistic Director)
Paul Burjan	
Ruth Choong	Tracy Burjan (Artistic Director)
Jeff Debnam	Dr Sadaharu Muramatsu (Guest
Sherry Hsiao	Conductor)
Samantha Boston	Conductory
John Morabito	Susan Sukkar ((Conductor)
Beth Munsie	,
Jianne Parisi	Nadia Burjan (Assistant Conductor)
Anthie Papanikolaou	
Zenith Chae	
Mikaela Sukkar	Stage Hands, Sound and Lighting
Po-Shen Wang	
Guest accompanist	Paul Burjan, Pels Coombs, Harry
Phillip Eames	

#### School Principals of SJ's Affiliated Schools

Kevin Elgood, Homebush Boys HS; Angela Lyris, Strathfield Girls HS; Victor Newby, Concord HS; Simon Paterson, Strathfield South HS; Mia Kumar, Burwood Girls HS; Kim Self, Concord West PS; Karen Mortimer, Strathfield South PS; Carolyn Wallace-Whelan, Burwood PS; Estelle Southall, Homebush West PS; Stacey Furner, Victoria Avenue PS; Jacqueline Attard, Marie Bashir PS.

Manager	Treasurer	Fundraising Team
Margaret Coote	Elaine Pensabene	Margo Iredale, Murray Iredale, Fey Dane,
		Irene Papadopoulos.

#### **Program Coordinator**

Flora Benson