



**OPEN ACADEMY RISING STARS & CONSERVATORIUM HIGH SCHOOL
PERFORMANCE PLATFORM
A PROFESSIONAL MUSIC PROGRAM FOR PRE-TERTIARY MUSICIANS**

Saturday 28th March 2026

The Rising Stars at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music is a program for pre-tertiary lovers of music. Here at the Sydney Conservatorium, our focus is on educating young musicians for a profession in music and a lifetime of musical appreciation. We aim to educate and develop inspiring artists who will bring enrichment to the listening audience.

The Rising Stars is a dynamic performance and education-based music program supported by the Conservatorium faculty. The Rising Stars strives to identify and accelerate talent from an early age with an aim to establish a constructive foundation for a lifetime of musical enrichment and enjoyment.

Individual instrumental lessons, group music skills classes, and regular performance opportunities are the basis of the Rising Stars program. These components facilitate our students to become well-educated and confident musicians.

To provide opportunities for steady development there are three categories starting with the Foundation program, developing to the Emerging program, and culminating in the demanding Premier Rising Stars. Chamber music and composition classes are also offered as crucial scholastic electives, accelerating learning and personal relationships.

The Rising Stars program is a 14-week semester, with 2 semesters each year and entry is by audition. For more information, please refer to the Rising Stars web page. www.openacademy.sydney.edu.au

RISING STARS CONCERT CALENDAR

Semester 1, 2026

28 March

School Holidays

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 May

13, 20 June*

*No concerts June 6

Semester 2, 2026

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 August

5, 12, 19 September

School Holidays

17, 24, 31 October

7, 14, 21 November

CONSERVATORIUM OPEN ACADEMY RISING STARS - CONTACTS

Music Skills Coordinator

Open Academy Manager

Rising Stars Artistic Advisor

Program Officer

www.openacademy.sydney.edu.au

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'Open Academy at the Con'

11am – Recital Hall East, Level 1
Unaccompanied Concert

Vivian Zhang
Piano, 13 years

Frédéric Chopin – 12 Études Op.25
VI. Etude in G-sharp minor, 'Thirds'

Luna Yueting Ji
Violin, 13 years

Fritz Kreisler – Recitativo and Scherzo-Caprice Op.6

Kingsley Cheung
Piano, 12 years

Domenico Scarlatti – Sonata in F-sharp minor K.25 L.481
Frédéric Chopin – Waltz in E minor op.posth.

William Qing
Piano, 11 years

Frédéric Chopin – Berceuse in D-flat Major Op.57

Harper Hu
Piano, 9 years

Béla Bartók – Romanian Folk Dances for Piano Sz.56

Rebecca Wu
Cello, 13 years

Gaspar Cassadó – Suite for Solo Cello
I. Preludio Fantasia

Clara Moloney
Cello, 16 years

Johann Sebastian Bach – Cello Suite No.4 BWV 1010
I. Prélude
II. Allemande

The filming or recording of concerts is strictly prohibited.

11am – Recital Hall West, Level 1
Hye-Lim Lee – Associate Artist

Jessica Chen
Piano, 11 years

Edward MacDowell – 12 Etudes Op.39
XII. Ungarisch (Hungarian)

Alexander Wan
Flute, 17 years

Eldin Burton – Sonata
I. Allegretto grazioso
III. Allegro giocoso: quasi fandango

Aiden Curran
Double Bass, 12 years

Giovanni Bottesini – Tarantella

Hannah Tsai
Viola, 13 years

Frank Bridge – Allegro Appassionato H.82

Gabrielle Wikstrom
Violin, 14 years

Dmitri Kabalevsky – Violin Concerto Op.48
II. Andantino cantabile

Cielle Kim
Violin, 12 years

Pablo de Sarasate – Spanish Dances Op.21
I. Malagueña

Andy Wang
Piano, 15 years

Johann Sebastian Bach – French Suite No.5
I. Allemande
II. Courante
III. Sarabande
IV. Gavotte
V. Bourree
VI. Loure
VII. Gigue

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2pm – Recital Hall East, Level 1
Young Kwon Choi – Associate Artist

Juliet Brunson
Bassoon, 15 years old

Gabriel Grovlez – Sicilienne et Allegro Giocoso

Eisen Chan
Piano, 10 years

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart – Sonata No.3 in B Major KV.281
I. Allegro

James Brunson
French Horn, 13 years

Richard Strauss – Horn Concerto No.1 Op.11
I. Allegro

Cheryl Zhang
Piano, 13 years

Felix Mendelssohn – Piano Concerto Op.25 No.1
III. Presto – Molto allegro e vivace
Frédéric Chopin – Études Op.25
V. Etude in E minor, 'Wrong Note'

Veronica Feng
Flute, 15 years

Carl Nielsen – Concerto for Flute and Orchestra FS.119
I. Allegro Moderato

Charles Lefebvre

Ballade for Flute, Cello, and Piano Op.37

Vivian Zhang
Piano 13 years

Mia Wang
Flute, 13 years

Rebecca Wu
Cello, 13 years

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3pm – Recital Hall West, Level 1
Paul Cheung – Associate Artist

Bennett So
Piano, 13 years

Frédéric Chopin – Concerto No.1
I. Allegro maestoso

Elsa Li
Piano, 14 years

Frédéric Chopin – Impromptu in F-sharp minor Op.51

Audrey Chan
Cello, 13 years

Sergei Prokofiev – Cello Sonata in C major Op.119
II. Moderato – Andante dolce – Moderato primo
III. Allegro, ma non troppo

Irene Hu
Violin, 11 years

Josef Suk – Four Pieces for Violin and Piano Op.17
II. Appassionato

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JOIN OUR MAILING LIST AND NEVER MISS A CONCERT!

If you'd like to take a sneak peek at our weekly concert programs, join our e-mailing list to receive the programs a day in advance – visit our website, openacademy.sydney.edu.au/enrol/mail. The program is also uploaded to our Facebook page on Fridays, so make sure to find '[Open Academy at the Con](#)' on Facebook, check in and give us a like!

HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?

Our program officer, Ben Haire – ben.haire@sydney.edu.au, is contactable at the Sydney Conservatorium during the week from Tuesday-Friday. If you have any questions regarding our programs, please don't hesitate to get in touch!

RISING STARS STRING ORCHESTRA WITH PROFESSOR BENJAMIN NORTHEY

We are pleased to announce that Professor Benjamin Northey has agreed to conduct the inaugural Rising Stars String Orchestra in the Rising Stars Gala Concert on October 8! Benjamin Northey is the Resident conductor of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, and Principal conductor of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra. This promises to be an inspiring and rewarding musical collaboration!

Parents and teachers of Premier students are welcome to sign their student up until March 27.

The Rising Stars String Orchestra has been created to give our Premier students further opportunities to perform and refine their musicianship. Working from within the orchestra offers valuable perspective on how a concerto is rehearsed and shaped - an experience that also greatly enriches a student's development as a soloist.

Orchestral positions available:

12 Violin, 4 Viola, 4 Cello, 2 Double Bass

NB: Concerto soloists applying on these instruments are required to perform in the String Orchestra.

Rehearsals will be held on Saturdays from 3:30-5:30 pm throughout August and September, leading up to the Semester 2 Gala Concert.

Fox Chan and Ben Tjoa will be the Rising Stars String Orchestra Directors and will be rehearsing & performing alongside the students.

2026 RISING STARS CONCERTO COMPETITION

Teachers can nominate eligible soloists and repertoire up until March 27.

Three winners will be selected - one pianist, one violinist, and one student representing another instrument, to perform the full concerto movement with the Rising Stars String Orchestra at the Semester 2 Rising Stars Gala Concert in September.

Key Dates

- March 27: RS String Orchestra and Concerto Soloists applications close
- May 30: Concerto Soloist Auditions
- Term 3: Six rehearsals on Saturday 3:30-5:30 pm
- October 7: Final rehearsal with Ben Northey (TBC)
- October 8: Rising Stars Gala Concert, featuring the winners of the Concerto Competition performing alongside the Rising Stars String Orchestra

SUPPORT A RISING STAR?

Financial assistance for Rising Stars is limited, and fees for a year of \$7900 or \$280 a week can be a challenge for parents to find. We are very grateful to our present sponsors, but there are opportunities for others to help our talented students. Any amount, large or small, can make an enormous difference to a young player's musical future. If you would like to make a contribution, please [CLICK HERE](#) to download the Rising Stars Gift form, or contact Marcus Hodgson.

We are grateful to our major supporters for 2026:

Victor Cromack and Melba Alma Harris Cromack Memorial Scholarship
Kathleen Holmes McCrea Pianoforte Scholarship
Richard & Doreen Wilson Organ Scholarship fund
Professor Jack C Richards