



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

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 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](http://www.openacademy.sydney.edu.au)

**RISING STARS CONCERT CALENDAR**

**Semester 1, 2026**

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](http://www.openacademy.sydney.edu.au)

Nicholas Ng

Marcus Hodgson

Tony Lee

Ben Haire

(02) 9351 1400

[nicholas.ng@sydney.edu.au](mailto:nicholas.ng@sydney.edu.au)

[marcus.hodgson@sydney.edu.au](mailto:marcus.hodgson@sydney.edu.au)

[tonydongyi.lee@sydney.edu.au](mailto:tonydongyi.lee@sydney.edu.au)

[ben.haire@sydney.edu.au](mailto:ben.haire@sydney.edu.au)



'Open Academy at the Con'

11am – Recital Hall East, Level 1  
Unaccompanied Concert

**Sharon Zhao**  
Violin, 17 years

**Johann Sebastian Bach** – Violin Sonata No.1 BWV 1001  
*I. Adagio*  
*II. Fuga*

**Johan Halvorsen**

Passacaglia for Violin and Viola (Cello)

**Sienna Kim**  
Violin, 15 years

**Alicia Kim**  
Cello, 17 years

**Kingsley Cheung**  
Piano, 12 years

**Moritz Moszkowski** – 20 Petites Etudes Op.91  
*XVI. Allegro energico*  
**Franz Liszt** – Étude en douze exercices S.136  
*IV. Allegretto*

**Harper Hu**  
Piano, 9 years

**Frédéric Chopin** – Waltz in E minor Op. Posth.

**Oscar Peng**  
Piano, 15 years

**Maurice Ravel** – Miroirs M.43  
*IV. Alborada del gracioso*

**Andy Wang**  
Violin, 15 years

**Johann Sebastian Bach** – Violin Sonata No.1 BWV 1001  
*I. Adagio*

**The Vths Quartet**

**Robert Schumann** – Piano Quartet in E-flat major Op.47  
*IV. Finale Vivace*

**Cheryl Zhang**  
Piano, 13 years

**Luna Yueting Ji**  
Violin, 13 years

**Christina Bhang**  
Viola, 14 years

**Audrey Chan**  
Cello, 13 years

The filming or recording of concerts is strictly prohibited.

---

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

**Aaron Dong**  
Cello, 12 years

**Gaspar Cassadó** – Requiebros

**Connie Huang**  
Clarinet, 13 years

**Carl Maria von Weber** – Clarinet Concerto Op.74 No.2  
*I. Allegro*

**Mia Wang**  
Flute, 12 years

**François Borne** – Fantasie Brillante on Themes from Bizet's Carmen

**Elizabeth Luiskandl**  
Violin, 13 years

**Edouard Lalo** – Symphonie Espagnole Op.21  
*IV. Andante*  
*V. Rondo. Allegro*

The filming or recording of concerts is strictly prohibited.

---

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

**Mia Wang**  
Flute, 12 years

**Philippe Gaubert** – Notturmo et Allegro Scherzando

**Constance Gus**  
Violin, 11 years

**Jean-Marie Leclair** – Violin Sonata Op.9 No.3 'Tombeau'  
*I. Un poco Andante*  
*II. Allegro - Adagio*  
*III. Sarabanda: Largo*  
*IV. Tambourin: Presto*

**Felicia Zhang**  
Violin, 16 years

**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart** – Violin Concerto No.3 K.216  
*III. Rondeau*

**Alexander Wan**  
Flute, 17 years

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

**Christina Bhang**  
Violin, 14 years

**Henryk Wieniawski** – Variations on Original Themes Op.15

**The filming or recording of concerts is strictly prohibited.**

---

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

**Naomi Nogawa-Lewy**  
Violin, 16 years

**Johann Sebastian Bach** – Sonata No.2 BWV 1003  
*I. Grave*

**Megan Cheung**  
Clarinet, 15 years

**Leó Weiner** – Peregi Verbunk Op.40

**Jason Wang**  
Violin, 15 years

**César Franck** – Sonata for Piano and Violin  
*III. Recitativo-Fantasia. Ben moderato – Molto lento*  
*IV. Allegro poco mosso*

**Leo Wu**  
Violin, 17 years

**Aaron Copland** – Violin Sonata  
*I. Andante semplice*  
*II. Lento*  
*III. Allegretto Giusto*

**The filming or recording of concerts is strictly prohibited.**

---

**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](http://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!

**2026 RISING STARS CONCERTO COMPETITION WITH MEASTRO BENJAMIN NORTHEY**

The Rising Stars Inaugural Concerto Competition will be held on May 30. Three winners will be selected - one pianist, one violinist, and one student representing another instrument, to perform a full concerto movement with the Rising Stars String Orchestra, conducted by Benjamin Northey at the Semester 2 Rising Stars Gala Concert on October 8.

All students, parents, and audience members are welcome to attend and support our brightest Rising Stars in the 2pm and 3pm concerts next weekend.

## FOUNDATION GALA CONCERTS – MAY 30 AND JUNE 13

On May 30 and June 13, students in the Rising Stars Foundation Program will be performing in the Foundation Gala concert where we celebrate the achievements of some of our newest Rising Stars.

Here at the Rising Stars Program, we understand that musical talent and success is not an overnight achievement. It is developed carefully over several years through dedication and support by parents, teachers, and most importantly, students. The Foundation program is where our newest Rising Stars begin their journey which culminates in our Foundation Gala Concerts each semester. These provide our students an opportunity to showcase the wonderful music they have been rehearsing with their tutors to a welcoming audience. Parents of Foundation students are encouraged to mark this date down in their diaries now, as this will be the only opportunity to hear your child perform this semester.

Please come along and show your support for music, and the next generation of Rising Stars!

## TERESA YANG - RISING STARS ALUMNUS IN CONCERT

Teresa Yang (RS 2024) will be performing Mendelssohn Violin Concerto with the NSW Doctor's Orchestra in the Verbrugghen Hall on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May at 230pm. Teresa, a former Rising Stars student of Janet Davies, is the recipient of the NSWDO Instrumental Scholarship and currently studies at the Juilliard School in New York on a full scholarship. This concert will feature works by Bizet, Likhutas, Elgar, and the virtuosic Mendelssohn Violin concerto. To purchase tickets, please use this link - [https://boxoffice-music.sydney.edu.au/tiny/NSWDO\\_MendelssohnMagic\\_2026](https://boxoffice-music.sydney.edu.au/tiny/NSWDO_MendelssohnMagic_2026)

## KPO FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

On Sunday June 28, the Ku-ring-gai Philharmonic Orchestra will host the Finals of the Secondary Schools Competition at the Concourse in Chatswood, conducted by Dr. Paul Terracini. This year, several Rising Stars students have been chosen as finalists; Christina Bhang (Violin, student of Dr Evgeny Sorkin) will perform the Korngold Violin Concerto, Connie Liu (Violin, student of Dr Evgeny Sorkin) will be performing the Sibelius Violin Concerto, Jeffrey Dong (Piano, student of Dr Paul Rickard-Ford) will be performing Chopin, and Jaemin Yoo (Viola, student of Peter Garrity) will be performing Bartok's Viola Concerto. Elizabeth Luiskandl (Violin, student of Fox Chan) was highly commended for her performance of Lalo's Concerto.

For more information on this competition and to secure tickets to the finals, please visit the KPO website here - <https://www.kpo.org.au/current/concertocomp>

## GOOD LUCK TO ALL STUDENTS AND THEIR TEACHERS

## HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?

Our program officer, Ben Haire – [ben.haire@sydney.edu.au](mailto: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!

## 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