



# MERCY COLLEGE MACKAY

PO Box 5646 MACKAY MAIL CENTRE QLD 4741  
Ph 4969 4199 • Fax 4969 4189  
email - office@mercymackay.qld.edu.au

14 May 2018

Parent/Guardian

Congratulations, your child has been nominated for SHEP (State Honours Ensemble Program).

## WHAT IS SHEP?

SHEP is an educational program for music students that helps to extend and encourage their pursuit of musical excellence.

Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University's State Honours Ensemble Program has grown from relatively modest beginnings in 2001 to now include more than 3000 participants in twelve Programs throughout Queensland. SHEP is now a firmly established aspect of music learning in Queensland, bringing together young people from all over the State, in regional centres and Brisbane to share their passion for making music.

Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University, in partnership with local schools, presents five Secondary School (Years 7 to 12) Programs - SHEP Capricornia (Rockhampton), SHEP North Queensland (Cairns), SHEP Darling Downs (Toowoomba), SHEP Queensland (State wide) and the Australian Honours Ensemble Program (Brisbane); six Middle School (Years 5 to 9) Programs in Bundaberg, Cairns, Mackay, Rockhampton, Brisbane (South East Queensland) and Townsville and one primary Program (Years 3-6) in Brisbane.

## WHO IS NOMINATED?

Instrumental Music/Vocal teachers are asked to nominate their most outstanding young musicians for this Program. Placements are available as follows:

- **String Ensemble:** *violin, viola, cello, double bass*
- **Winds Ensemble:** *flute, oboe, clarinet, bass clarinet, bassoon, saxophone, trumpet, french horn, trombone, euphonium, tuba, percussion*
- **Vocal Ensemble:** *soprano, alto, tenor*

## SHEP GIVES STUDENTS THE OPPORTUNITY TO

- work in an intensive environment of musical excellence with their peers, offering a unique opportunity to extend and develop their musical skills
- work with a team of eminent conductors from Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University
- represent their school (in full uniform) in a Grand Finale Concert on the last day of the Program
- receive a Certificate of Participation
- receive a SHEP T-Shirt

## **NOMINATION OUTCOME**

All students who are nominated for this program will receive the outcome of nomination via email from Open Conservatorium Griffith University.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

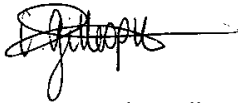
**Rehearsal Times** - participating in the State Honours Ensemble Program is a major commitment and students are required to attend all rehearsals. Rehearsal times are advised at time of offer and will occur from Friday 24 - Sunday 26 August.

**Attendance** - participants are expected to make themselves available for all rehearsals and the Concert performance. If they have an event (eg family, school, sporting, community, religious) that they know will preclude them from any part of the rehearsals or concert, they must decline the offer to participate, so we can extend the invitation to another student. At no time during the event are participants permitted to leave the State Honours venue during the daily activities.

The cost to participate is \$280.00 and information regarding this cost will be forwarded with details of Program.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding any of the following please don't hesitate to email [Cassandra.Gillespie@mercymackay.qld.edu.au](mailto:Cassandra.Gillespie@mercymackay.qld.edu.au) or phone 0749694199.

Regards



Miss Cassandra Gillespie  
Cultural Leader



Mr Jim Ford  
Principal