



## Welcome back for Term 3!

Dear Parents, Students and Friends of Gunnedah Conservatorium

It is always lovely when a new term starts and the Conservatorium is once again filled with people and music after the lull of the school holidays.

We are looking forward to another busy term and hope all will embrace their music studies and work hard in their lessons and at home between times.

As a parent I know the struggle of trying to get children to practice. I sometimes too feel that it is not worth the battle. But the 30 minutes in the weekly lessons is a relatively small part in your child's development as a musician. They really need to be supporting their weekly studies with a regular practice at home, involvement in school ensembles where possible and working towards performances (and these could be short performances for families and friends).

I don't have all the answers so here's some advice from Dr Anita Collin's who featured in the ABC series, Don't Stop the Music. This was based on a beginner 5-year-old student ... most students should be doing at least 15 minutes and building up to longer times especially if preparing for exams or assessments.

### 1. **Five minutes of practice, no more!**

*Tell your child that they have 5 minutes MAXIMUM a day to practise. See how this changes the psychology of their practice routine. Suddenly they'll want to practise more — but don't let them!*

### 2. **Establish a routine**

*Get used to a particular time of day being practice time, whether it be before dinner or before shower and bed time. Stick to it religiously.*

### 3. **A practice space**

*Make sure your child has a space to practise. It doesn't have to be a room — it can just be a corner. A good tip is to have a little rug that defines the space. It should become the special space that is reserved for this part of your child's life.*

### 4. **Bribery**

*Well who hasn't tried this with their kids? It really works with practising a musical instrument. The bribe can be something simple and basic. Stickers work really well!*

I have also found that it helps to be active in your children's practice. My children love practicing with my husband Rory because he also learned piano as a kid and he can help problem solve. I find if I can ask them to play me something new or what they are working on that also helps.

We have some great events coming up this term and I encourage you to check out the events listed in this newsletter. Please also share with friends and colleagues who may not be directly linked to the Conservatorium.

Also the Gunnedah Conservatorium Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday 13 September so please save that date. If you would like more information on the management committee of the Conservatorium and being involved at this level please contact the Conservatorium and we can put you in contact with the executive officers.

This term students will sit AMEB Exams for Musical Theatre, Piano, Violin and HSC Music Performance

Exams. I wish those students every success and encourage them to keep working hard and maintain practice regime.

I wish you all the best for the coming term, ours musically,

Rebecca Ryan

Director

## Upcoming Events



Come along to our and watch our amazing students perform at our fundraising concert for 'Beyond Blue' on August 1st at 6.30pm in the Smithurst Theatre. Tickets are \$10 per person, or \$20 for a family. Pop into the Conservatorium to purchase your ticket. All proceeds from the evening will be donated directly to 'Beyond Blue'.

### About 'Beyond Blue'

Currently there are 3 million people living with anxiety or depression. Beyond Blue provides information and support to help everyone in Australia achieve their best possible mental health, whatever their age and wherever they live.

### Kenny Broberg Recital Tour

Wednesday 28th August @ 7.30pm.



A native of Minneapolis, 23-year-old pianist Kenny Broberg was a top prize winner at the Sydney International Piano Competition and most recently won the silver medal at the 2017 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition in the US.

The first musician in his family, Kenny started piano lessons at age six, when he was first fascinated by his mother's upright—a wedding gift from her parents. He studied for nine years with Dr. Joseph Zins

before entering the University of Houston's Moores School of Music, where he earned a Bachelor of Music degree with Nancy Weems in 2016.

Kenny has previously performed as soloist with the Royal Philharmonic, Minnesota, Sydney Symphony, Seattle Symphony, Dallas Chamber, Fort Worth Symphony, and the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestras, among others, working with conductors Ludovic Morlot, Carlos Miguel Prieto, Leonard Slatkin, Nicholas Milton, and Nicholas McGegan. His solo, chamber, and concerto performances have been broadcast on NPR and ABC Classic FM radio, and several of his performances at the 2016 Sydney International Piano Competition were included on CDs released on the Universal Music Australia label.

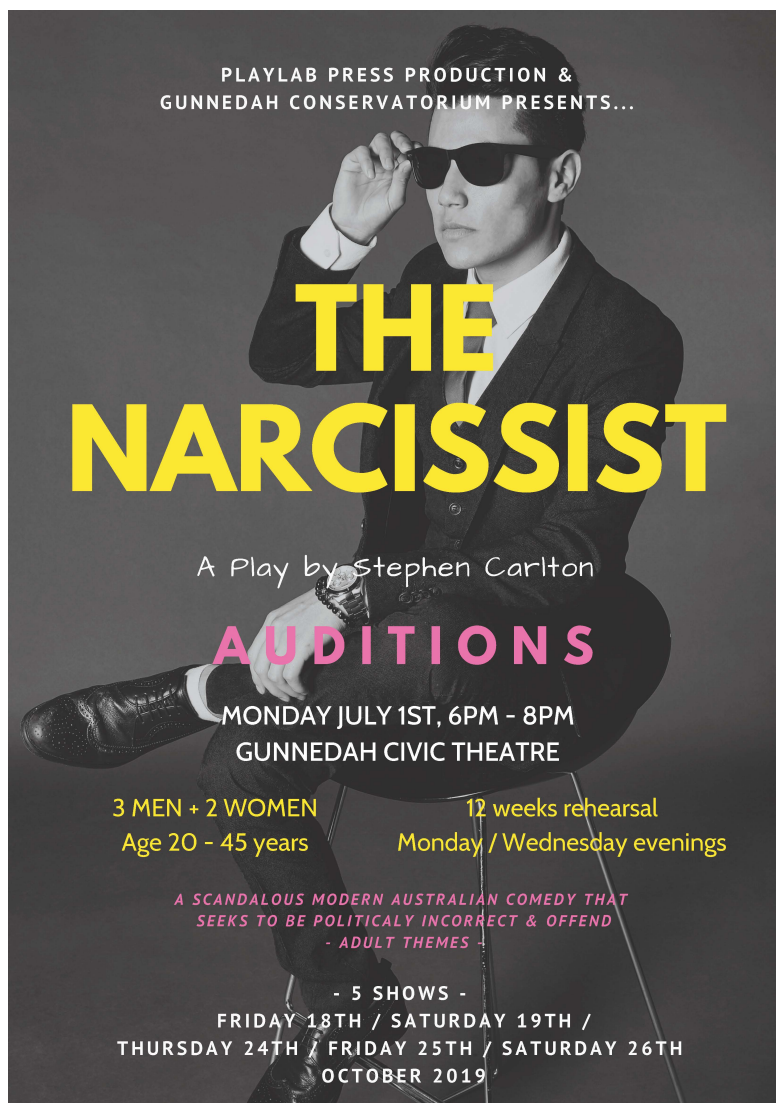
Gunnedah Conservatorium would also like to invite piano students to an afternoon with Kenny Broberg @ the The Civic, Gunnedah 4-5pm.

In this afternoon session, Kenny will talk to students about his piano career. He will introduce students to the music program that he will perform in Gunnedah that evening with a focus on Claude Debussy's Children's Corner.

This session is intended to give young pianists an insight into the life of a professional pianist and provide insight into the music program Broberg will play that evening. Students are encouraged to attend the evening concert.

**Tickets for both the afternoon session and the performance can be purchased at try booking [here](#).**

### The Narcissist



**PlayLab Press Production and Gunnedah Conservatorium presents A play by Stephen Carlton, A scandalous modern Australian comedy that seeks to be politically incorrect and offend.**

**Cast:**

Xavier Playfair	Ben Hennessy
Bronwyn Moyet	Alison Stuart
Satchel Strongbow	Jack Jaeger
Jesse Jardine	Joe Kelly
Y'Landah Scrivener	Grace Norris

**Show dates are Friday and Saturday 18 & 19 October, Thursday, Friday, Saturday 24, 25 and 26.**

**Tickets will be on sale late August.**

**Music Theory Class for Adults**

Gunnedah Con music teacher Sandy Clark will be running music theory classes for adult learners on Thursdays from 6pm-7pm. These classes will provide a background to the understanding of music for adults and will be an excellent opportunity to learn new skills or refresh old ones.

Please contact the conservatorium on 6742 3998 or [admin@gunnedahconservatorium.com](mailto:admin@gunnedahconservatorium.com) to register your interest.

**Festival of Summer Voices**

**Festival of Summer Voices 2020**

Australia's leading choral music event for singers, composers, and conductors

National Choral School  
**applications close 5 August**

APPLY NOW  
[gondwana.org.au](http://gondwana.org.au)

National Choral School Dates  
Tuesday 7 to Sunday 19 January 2020

National Auditions  
August – September 2019

 **UNSW** AUSTRALIA

 **NSW** GOVERNMENT

 **GONDWANA** CHOIRS  
Lyn Williams AM, Artistic Director

Festival of Summer Voices is Australia's leading choral music event for singers, composers, conductors and audiences. Incorporating the National Choral School, Composer School, Conductors Academy, the Choral Skills Lab, as well as a series of public concerts. Applications are now open! Please follow the [link](#) to apply.

### Talking to the Con

We have recently subscribed to the an SMS service which means we can quickly and easily send out messages to families if there is a change to program or a teacher is away.

Most of you should have received a text welcoming you back for the term.

You can respond to this by text but please don't use for urgent messages and you cannot ring this number ... normally we will send out a message like, "Mrs Xylophone is sick today and all classes have been cancelled, please call the Conservatorium on 6742 3998 if you have any questions"

Gunnedah is a small town and so we know many of you will have a mobile number for teachers, staff and even the Director ... if you need to get a message to a teacher or ask a question or let us know you will be missing a lessons can you please use the main number 6742 3998. If you get the message bank please leave a message. This is the best way to make sure we get your message and pass it on to the right person.