

# VILLANOVA COLLEGE MUSIC



## WELCOME TO VILLA MUSIC

From Year 5 to Year 12, students eagerly participate in the successful Music Program of Villanova College.

Whether it be performing in bands and orchestras, singing in the various vocal ensembles or learning to compose and record music in our digital recording studio, boys find music to be an integral part of their daily activities at Villanova College.

#### JUNIOR SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

In Year 5, all Villanova boys learn an instrument as part of our immersion program. This begins with a careful process of introduction and learning about the instruments, followed by surveys of the boys and parents and some tests designed to get boys on the instrument that is most suited to their physical attributes. Students will be provided with an instrument by the College for the duration of the year. All Year 5 students at Villanova are required to rehearse in their appropriate band or orchestra one morning a week from early Term 1. Small group instruction occurs during school time, as it is part of the curriculum, so boys do not miss any academic class time when they come to Music. Individual instruction is available for your son whilst he is in Year 5 as part of our Performance Music Program. This runs concurrently with the Junior School



Instrumental Music Immersion Program and is recommended for those students who currently play an instrument.

In **Year 6**, our students have the opportunity to continue participating in our vibrant Music Program. Students enrolled in our Year 6 program continue to receive a 30-minute group lesson and will participate in our wonderful band and string ensembles. These lessons are included as part of your son's tuition and occur on a 30-minute rotational timetable during class time, as per Instrumental Music Programs in most schools across Queensland. Continuing this strand will best prepare your son for entry into the Music Performance Program in Year 7.

All Junior School boys are also invited to be involved with the exciting College Choir which rehearses one afternoon a week, and often performs with our Senior Ensembles as part of our comprehensive performance program.

#### MUSIC PERFORMANCE PROGRAM

Boys who wish to continue learning an instrument and performing in College ensembles are encouraged to enter the Music Performance Program.

This comprehensive program provides tuition with many of the state's finest musicians and educators and offers participation in the many ensembles described on the following pages. Many students find enrolling in classroom music electives as part of their academic program strengthens their understanding of music and greatly complements their abilities developed through the performance program.

At Villanova College we have Music Stage Crew and Technical Crew, offering students training and experience in backstage and technical, lighting and sound recording and production. There is a place for every boy in the Music Department to be part of something very successful and rewarding in a supportive environment.



Most of our Senior boys are also actively involved in sport, debating, ministry and other co-curricular activities with little or no conflict. At Villanova College, we pride ourselves on having a great system of support and conflict management between teaching, coaching, conducting and other staff should clashes of co-curricular activities occur.

#### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVOLVEMENT**

The College now has approximately 30 performing ensembles including Symphony Orchestras, String Orchestras, Concert Bands, Vocal Ensembles, Guitar Ensembles, Percussion Ensembles, Jazz Ensembles, Contemporary and Rock Bands, Irish Ensembles and a variety of smaller chamber String, Woodwind and Brass Ensembles.

#### MUSICAL THEATRE PRODUCTIONS

Our students are also involved in all aspects of stage performance in the biennial musical theatre production by Villanova College and Loreto College. We have a great working relationship with the students and staff of Loreto, and we organise many combined music events. Our senior musicians go on a music camp every year with the Loreto students; another opportunity where bonds are built that last through the school year and beyond.

#### **MUSIC TOURS**

All of our musicians at Villanova College have the opportunity to participate in our fantastic tour rotation. Recent tours have taken our musicians to Cairns, Sydney, Perth, Melbourne, Tasmania and the USA.

The tours are a great experience that the boys work hard for and look forward to, and they create memories they'll never forget.

#### WORKSHOPS AND WORLD-CLASS PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

We believe that our students learn best when given opportunities to work with world-class performers and clinicians. Over our recent history, our students have had the wonderful opportunity to work with artists including James Morrison, Slava Grigoryan, Aldo Rodriguez Delgado, Professor Donald Peterson and the Brigham Young Wind Symphony, and Professor Annette-Barbara Vogel. On each occasion, these fantastic musicians came to Villanova and performed with our students in our professionally appointed Hanrahan Theatre. These occasions provide an in-house exemplar for our students; an opportunity to experience fine performance at close quarters and interaction with fine musicians on a personal level.

#### **MUSIC PARENTS**

We are very proud of our amazing Music Support Group (MSG) comprising wonderful parents from Year 5 - 12 who take an active interest in their son's music by helping at concerts, assisting with fundraising and volunteering to help with the annual Queensland Catholic Schools and Colleges Music Festival (QCMF). This is a great way for parents to be involved, meet others and support the boys.



QCMF is an enormous event we host each year in August. It is an amazing community effort as we welcome over 100 schools, bringing with them 530 bands, choirs and orchestras totalling over 15,000 student performances in one long weekend. We must warn you though, it's very addictive.





### **MUSIC DEPARTMENT CONTACTS**

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