

## WestPhil Chamber Orchestra Project Elite String Orchestra Training Program – April 2024

*Talented high school string musicians participate in a unique and exclusive training program, meticulously crafted under the direction of the esteemed violinist, Peter Clark, together with professional mentors of the highest calibre. This initiative offers an intensive, rigorous, and enriching experience, encompassing in-depth workshops, personalised mentorship, and ensemble rehearsals.*

*Participants will have the unique opportunity to hone their technical skills, delve into sophisticated musical interpretations, and collaborate with peers under the guidance of our distinguished faculty. The program is designed to culminate in a thrilling public concert, showcasing the talents and collective achievement of the participants as they perform alongside their mentors.*

*There are only 18 places, which are allotted on a first qualified expression of interest/first served basis. So don't wait to register your [expression of interest here](#).*

You will find information on the following:

- Program and Mentors
- Dates & Timetable
- Venue
- Participation Fee
- Repertoire & Music
- What to Bring
- Concert

### PROGRAM AND MENTORS

- Peter Clark – Violin 1 and Director
- Zoe Freisberg – Violin 2
- Alexander McFarlane – Viola
- Paul Stender – Cello
- Will Hansen – Bass

Peter Clark



*Splitting his time between New York City and Australia, violinist Peter Clark is widely celebrated for the unique breadth and scope of his leadership across the arts sector.*

*As concertmaster, Peter has appeared with New Zealand Opera, Queensland Symphony Orchestra, Sydney Chamber Opera, Victoria Opera, Royal New Zealand Ballet, Darwin Symphony, and Orchestra Wellington. He has also appeared as Guest Principal Second of the RTÉ Concert Orchestra, Dublin, and has toured with the Australian World Orchestra.*

*Peter's commitment to arts access has led him to perform in more than 130 regional towns and cities across Australia, as well as to develop a beloved music program at Melbourne's Royal Children's Hospital, through his extensive work with the Australian Chamber Orchestra.*

*In the field of public speaking and advocacy, Peter has developed a reputation as one of Australia's most sought-after speakers, presenting for orchestras around the world. His audiences range from young school students, through to Australian Prime Ministers, as he communicates and passionately advocates for the central role of music in society. His recent work includes delivering the late Richard Gill's 2023 Voyage of Musical Discovery series.*

*Peter's doctoral research on social innovation and cohesion through music is generously supported by Judith Neilson AM, and the General Sir John Monash Foundation. He is also completing an MBA in Arts Innovation, with the generous support of the American Australian Association.*

*Peter first played in Carnegie Hall with the Australian Chamber Orchestra at the age of twenty. He plays a fine 1936 AE Smith violin, and is Principal Violin of Omega Ensemble.*

### Zoe Freisberg



*Zoe commenced her violin studies under the direction of her mother, Helena Freisberg. She completed her Bachelor of Music at Queensland Conservatorium with Michele Walsh where she was awarded the Matilda Jane Aplin Prize and the Varda Jefferies Prize. During her studies in Queensland, Zoe played as a soloist with Redlands Symphony Orchestra, Corda Spiritus Orchestra and the Brisbane Philharmonic Orchestra. In 2014, Zoe commenced studies at the Australian National Academy of Music under the tutelage of Robin Wilson. The same year, Zoe joined the Australian Chamber Orchestra's ACO2 on four tours as an Emerging Artist under the mentorship of Principal ACO Violinist, Helena Rathbone. Zoe was also one of six finalists in the 2014 ABC Young Performers Award as well as a finalist in the ANAM Concerto Competition. Zoe is very honoured to be the recipient of the Australian Youth Orchestra's Richard Pollett Memorial Award. In 2015, Zoe won the Australian Youth Classical Music Competition's Overseas Travel Scholarship and was a finalist in the ABC Young Performers Award.*

### Alexander McFarlane



*New Zealand violist Alexander McFarlane is Associate Principal Viola with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, with which he has also performed as a soloist. Equally at home in a solo, chamber, or orchestral idiom, he has performed internationally in venues including the Wigmore Hall, the Barbican Hall, the Musikverein in Vienna and the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam. As a chamber musician, he has collaborated with such artists as Janine Jansen, Anthony Marwood, and the Doric String Quartet, and performed at festivals including Yellow Barn, "At the World's Edge" Festival, the "Mendelssohn on Mull"*

*Festival, and "Musique à Marsac" in France. Competition success includes winning the 2018 Lorna Viol Memorial Prize and ROSL Trophy for the most Outstanding Musician from Overseas at the ROSL Annual Music Competition,*

and in 2017 the First Prize and the Bach Prize at the Gisborne International Music Competition. Alex received his Master's degree and Artist Diploma under the tutelage of Professor David Takeno at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, and has also played in masterclasses to artists including Tabea Zimmermann, Kim Kashkashian, and Lars Anders Tomter. In addition to playing with the NZSO, Alex has performed with the London Symphony Orchestra, the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, and the Australian Chamber Orchestra.

## Paul Stender



Since returning to Australia in 2009, Paul has established a diverse performing career, working regularly with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and Australian Chamber Orchestra as well as guest principal cello engagements with Opera Australia Orchestra, Sydney Philharmonia and ACO Collective. A keen chamber musician, Paul has appeared with numerous smaller ensembles including Australia Ensemble and Sydney Art Quartet. Paul is currently principal cellist with Omega Ensemble with which he maintains a busy performing, touring and recording schedule. Paul completed his Bachelor of Music with David Pereira at the Canberra School of Music before moving to Austria to continue his studies with Vienna Philharmonic principal Wolfgang Herzer at the Universität für Musik und Darstellende Kunst Wien.

## Will Hansen



Will Hansen (BMus., Performance) is a Sydney-based double bassist, composer and teacher. His works extends across many disciplines; from Historical performance to Contemporary Classical, and Orchestral to Musical Theatre. Will has worked with a variety of groups and ensembles, including Omega Ensemble, Ensemble Offspring, Living Room Theatre, the Brett Whiteley Gallery, Legs on the Wall, Willoughby Symphony Orchestra, Sydney Philharmonia Choirs and Victorian Opera. Will was selected as a finalist in the 2021 Freedman Classical Fellowship, and was Ensemble Offspring's 2020-21 Hatched Academy Associate Artist. Will plays on "Kashtan", a specially commissioned double bass built from 2021-22 from Australian woods by Sydney luthier Matthew Tucker.

Notable performances and appearances include: Double bass and bass guitarist of "Mary Poppins" at the Sydney Lyric Theatre 2022, Ensemble Offspring's "Mesmerism" at Sydney Opera House, multiple national tours with Omega Ensemble, Sydney Conservatorium tours to both China and Spain, and the 2023 ABC Australia Day Concert with John Foreman's Australian Pops Orchestra live from the Sydney Opera House Forecourt. He was also recently interviewed about his double bass "Kashtan" on ABC Classic for their 2023 classic 100 countdown.

Will is the head of strings at Mowbray Public school, and conducts several other groups including Middle Harbour Public School and The Symphony for Life Foundation. Will also teaches double bass at Barker College, The King's School, and Sydney Girls High School.



## Dates & Timetable

A brief timetable is below. A more detailed timetable will be sent along with the parts to confirmed participants.

<b>Monday 22 April</b> <b>(At WSU, Parramatta Sth)</b> 13:30-16:00 Rehearsal	<b>Tuesday 23 April</b> <b>(At WSU, Parramatta Sth)</b> 10am - 12:30 Rehearsal 12:30-13:30 Lunch (catered) 13:30-16:00 Rehearsal	<b>Wednesday 24 April</b> <b>(At WSU, Parramatta Sth)</b> 10am-12:30 Rehearsal 12:30-13:30 Lunch (catered) 13:30-16:00 Rehearsal	<b>Thursday 25 April</b> <b>(At St. Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta)</b> 16:00-18:00 Balance Call 19:00-20:30 Concert
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## VENUES

Monday 22 April – Wednesday 24 April  
 Western Sydney University (WSU)  
 Parramatta South Campus  
**Sir Ian Turbott Auditorium**

**Parramatta campus**

← Parramatta North

Free Parking

Entrance (Victoria Rd)

Sir Ian Turbott Auditorium

Equipment drop-off point Disabled access

Parramatta South →

VICTORIA ROAD

JAMES RUSE DRIVE

PARRAMATTA RIVER

WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY

- ATM
- Accessible Lift
- Accessible Parking
- Baby Change Room
- Bike Rack
- Campus Safety & Security Office
- Emergency Contact Point
- Emergency Phone
- EV Charging Station
- Filtered Water Refill Station
- First Aid
- Food Outlets
- Gender Neutral Toilet
- Kitchenette
- Learning Commons
- Library
- Lift
- Lockers
- Multi Faith Centre
- NRMA Meeting Point
- Outdoor Gym
- Parent Room
- Parking Ticket Machine
- Public Bus Stop
- Public Toilet
- Queer Room
- Shuttle Bus Stop
- Student Central
- Taxi Pickup Point
- Women's Room
- Shuttle Bus Route
- Walking Path

Date created : 01 February 2022

Advanced Materials Characterisation Facility	DH	Library	Whitlam Library EN	Mathematics Education Support Hub (MESB)	EO	School of Health Sciences	EHe	Student Campus Council	EF
Auditorium	IE	Margaret Whitlam Galleries	Female Orphan School E2	Office of the PVC (Research & Graduate Studies)	ED	School of Humanities & Communication Arts	ED	The Chancellor	EB
Australia-China Institute for Arts & Culture	EA	Multi Faith Centre / Chaplaincy	EA	Graduate Research School	ED	Rabbit Hole	EA	Unisuper Consultant	EA
Badminton Centre for Indigenous Education	EY	Muslim Prayer Rooms	EA	Office of University Secretary & General Counsel	EO	Writing & Society Research Centre	EO	Wellbeing Services	EO
Campus Life Office	EG	National Tertiary Education Industry Union	EA	PASS Program	EF	School of Law	EK, Moot Court EO	Western Sydney International	Drill Master's Cottage ES
Careers	EA	Office of Advancement	ET	Research Engagement, Development & Innovation	River Cottage EV	International Centre for Ocean Governance	EO	Western Sydney University Village	Parramatta North Campus
Childcare Centre	EL	Office of Estate & Commercial	EA	School of Built Environment	EA	School of Nursing & Midwifery	ED	Whitlam Institute	Female Orphan School E2
Computer Labs	EA	Office of the PVC (Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Education, Strategy & Consultation)	EA	School of Computer, Data & Mathematical Sciences	ER	School of Psychology	EH, EHe		
Institute for Culture & Society	EM	Office of the PVC (International)	EO	Centre for Research in Mathematics & Mathematical Sciences	EN	School of Science	EHe		
LEAD	EB	Office of the PVC (Learning Futures)	EO	School of Engineering	ED	School of Social Sciences	EHa, Est, E		

Security Assistance - 4736 2431 Internal Ext - 2431  
 Emergency Only - 1300 737 003 Internal Ext - 2300

For operational times and current locations of Shuttle Buses please go to [westernsydney.edu.au/shuttlebus](http://westernsydney.edu.au/shuttlebus)

For more information on this campus go to [maps.westernsydney.edu.au](http://maps.westernsydney.edu.au)

Car: Entry via Victoria Rd. Plenty of parking available on campus.

Walking: Approx. 15-minute walk from the Parramatta interchange.

Shuttle Bus: From the Parramatta Station transport hub there is a free Parramatta Shuttle Bus which runs from Parramatta Station and stops on O'Connell Street (near the Parramatta Leagues Club.)

Thursday 25 April

**St. Patrick's Cathedral,**

1 Marist Place, Parramatta.

Entry via Victoria Road.

### PARTICIPATION FEE

The program is heavily subsidised thanks to support from donors and sponsors; nevertheless, there is still a relatively modest \$150 participation fee.

### REPERTOIRE & MUSIC

Proposed repertoire:

- *Einojuhani Rautavaara: "The Fiddlers" (9 mins)*
- *Handel: Concerto Grosso No.1 in G Major, Opus 6, HWV319 (13 mins)*
- *Florence Price: "Adoration"*
- *Maria Grenfell: "Knitting Unicorns" (9 mins total)*
- *Mendelssohn: String Symphony No. 10 in B Minor (12 mins)*

We are in the process of preparing practice parts for the program and participants will be emailed their music in the weeks prior to the commencement of rehearsals.

### WHAT TO BRING

- Your instrument
- Your music
- Double bass players please BYO stool
- Pencil and eraser
- Lunch will be catered on Tuesday, Wednesday; however, please bring any snacks/refreshments you might like to have and a water bottle

Concert Attire: formal black dress or black top and pants

### CONCERT

The program culminates in a public concert commencing at 19:00 at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta.

Tickets are general admission and can be purchased via the WestPhil [website](#).

If you have any questions, feel free to contact us via email [hello@westphil.org.au](mailto:hello@westphil.org.au) .