

THE 45TH GULGONG



PRINCE OF WALES EISTEDDFOD 2026 SYLLABUS

MUSIC SECTION

PROPOSED DATES SUBJECT TO NUMBER OF ENTRANTS

Tues 26th May 2026 - Schools Day

Wed 27th May 2026 – piano & instrumental

Thurs 28th May 2026 - vocal

Fri 29th May 2026 – Music and Speech & Drama Gala Concert

GALA CONCERT

Friday 29th May 2026 ~ 6:30pm

Tickets available at the Door

\$10 Adults ~ \$5 Seniors ~ Children Free



THE 45TH GULGONG PRINCE OF WALES

MUSIC EISTEDDFOD 2026

Each May, Gulgong hosts the Gulgong Prince of Wales Eisteddfod. Gulgong is a New South Wales gold rush town which is located approximately 300km Northwest of Sydney and 30km from Mudgee.

The Gulgong Prince of Wales Eisteddfod was started by the Gulgong Musical and Dramatic Society (MADS) in 1980. Gulgong MADS are an active performing group who work together to maintain the historical Prince of Wales Opera House located in Mayne Street Gulgong. This building is the oldest operating Opera House in the southern hemisphere!

Gulgong MADS developed the Eisteddfod as a suitable event to be held in their beautiful, historic Gulgong Prince of Wales Opera House, to provide an opportunity, for young people especially, to delight in the creative and performing arts.

Over the decades, The Gulgong Prince of Wales Eisteddfod has expanded and become an important cultural event for Gulgong and the Central West. The Eisteddfod has grown so much it is now held at two locations: The Gulgong Prince of Wales Opera House and the Gulgong Memorial Hall.

The Eisteddfod is a subsidiary of Gulgong MADS. Our main aim is to provide opportunities for students of Music, Dance and Speech & Drama to set themselves goals and perform in front of an audience and adjudicator. While most of the classes are aimed at school-age children, there are opportunities for adults to participate in Music choirs, bands, duets, open solos and as accompanists. There is also a non-competitive class open to professionals, to allow them too, to perform in a beautiful and acoustically phenomenal space. Profits from the Eisteddfod go towards maintaining the Gulgong Prince of Wales Opera House.

The Gulgong Prince of Wales Eisteddfod is run by a small sub-committee with Gulgong MADS continued support. The Eisteddfod Committee would like to thank MADS for supporting this annual showcase of young talent.



THE GULGONG PRINCE OF WALES EISTEDDFOD COMMITTEE IS PLEASED
TO PRESENT

THE 45th GULGONG PRINCE OF WALES MUSIC EISTEDDFOD 2026

PRINCE OF WALES OPERA HOUSE, MAYNE ST GULGONG – SOLOS, DUOS

GULGONG MEMORIAL HALL, HERBERT ST GULGONG – SCHOOL GROUPS

www.gulgongeisteddfod.com

music@gulgongeisteddfod.com

<https://www.facebook.com/gulgongeisteddfod>



PATRON Mrs Edyth Lewis **PRESIDENT** Peta Stanford

CONVENORS Rebecca Nielsen 0402 088 097 and
Rhonda Watt 0457 741 342

SCHOOLS' ENQUIRIES Nicole Nicholson 0428 090 400

GULGONG PRINCE OF WALES EISTEDDFOD MUSIC COMMITTEE

Rhonda Watt, Rebecca Nielsen, Michael O'Brien, Nicole Nicholson, Hannah Wilks,
Alita Fahey

ADJUDICATORS Vocal – Ms Hollie Hewett
Piano, Instrumental, Schools – Mr John Martin

Accompanists

Rhonda Watt 0457 741 342 Hannah Wilks 0466 308 718

Competitors are welcome to use their own accompanist.

MUSIC ENTRIES CLOSE

MUSIC – THURSDAY 23rd April 2026, 11:59 pm



ENTRY FEES & PRIZES FOR 2026 MUSIC SECTION

Music Section: Enter through Comps-online

[Gulgong Prince of Wales Eisteddfod Enter Online](#)



NOTE: Late entries will not be accepted unless approved by the Convenor. Late fees will apply.

Except where otherwise stated, fees & prizes for the Eisteddfod are:

ALL SOLO CLASSES

SECTION	ENTRY	FIRST	SECOND / THIRD, HC
12 yrs & under	\$8.00	Medal, Certificate	Certificates
13 yrs & over	\$10.00	\$15, Certificate	\$10/ \$5, Certificates
Open	\$10.00	\$20, Certificate	\$15/ \$10, Certificates

DUET CLASSES

SECTION	ENTRY	FIRST	SECOND / THIRD, HC
12 yrs & under	\$10.00	Medals, Certificates	Certificates
13 yrs & over	\$12.00	\$24.00, Certificates	\$18/\$12, Certificates
Open	\$12.00	\$30.00, Certificates	\$24/\$18, Certificates

First prize winners in a 13yrs and over section may purchase a medal for \$6.

ALL OTHER GROUP CLASSES

ENTRY	FIRST	SECOND / THIRD, HC
\$12.00	Certificates	Certificates

CHAMPIONSHIPS & GRADES

Please see specific classes for entry fees and prizes (throughout syllabus).

School Shields and Perpetual Trophies are retained by the Eisteddfod Committee and are held at the Opera House. Winners will be given a small replica to keep.

Solo & Duet Maximum Time limits – except where otherwise stated

Age Groups		Grades	
12 yrs & under	3 minutes	Prelim - Grade 3	3 minutes
13-17 yrs	5 minutes	Grades 4 - 6	5 minutes
Open	8 minutes	Grade 7 & above	8 minutes



APPROXIMATE TIMETABLE 2026 MUSIC SECTION

This timetable will be followed as closely as possible but is offered as a guide only - it may be subject to change as the Eisteddfod Committee deems appropriate & according to the number of entries received.

Please note: the dates for each section may vary slightly each year to accommodate various factors and other eisteddfods.

MUSIC SECTION: PROPOSED DATES SUBJECT TO NUMBER OF ENTRANTS

Commencing at The Gulgong Memorial Hall
Tuesday 26th May 2026 –
Schools Day – with school choirs & school instrumental groups

Continuing at The Gulgong Prince of Wales Opera House
Wednesday 27th May 2026 – piano & instrumental
Thursday 28th May 2026 – vocal solos & duets

MUSIC and SPEECH & DRAMA GALA CONCERT:
Friday Evening 29th May 2026 from 6:30pm

PLEASE NOTE:

Confirmation of entries **will not** be sent out prior to the start of competition.

All information is contained in the **45th Gulgong Prince of Wales Eisteddfod Music Program**, available on our official website www.gulgongeisteddfod.com in mid to late May for you to save onto your smart device or print at home. All competitors will receive an emailed program once finalised. Printed programs will also be available in person at a cost of \$5 at the door during competition sessions.

Copies of the rules are in this 2026 Music Syllabus and will not be reprinted in the programs.

Entry is via comps-online.com.au.

No entries will be taken by phone, email or any other means. Keep an eye on our Facebook page to find out when entries open.



AUDIENCE ADMISSION FOR MUSIC SECTION

payable by CASH or EFT

Single Session	Adult	\$ 5.00	Senior	\$3.00
Day Pass	Adult	\$10.00	Senior	\$5.00
Concert	Adult	\$10.00	Senior	\$5.00

Children 18yrs & under are free to all sessions.
Ticket sales at the door only. Bookings cannot be taken.

ACCOMMODATION IN GULGONG

Accommodation is available in Gulgong for those from out of the area.

<https://www.visitnsw.com/destinations/country-nsw/mudgee-area/gulgong/accommodation>



Please Support our Eisteddfod in 2026

All our major sponsors will be printed in our 2026 Program as well as on the Gulgong Eisteddfod website.

Your business will receive great coverage throughout the Mid-Western Region & beyond!

For more information please email:
gulgongeisteddfodmusic@gmail.com

Please register your interest by Friday 17th April 2026



RULES GOVERNING COMPETITION FOR MUSIC SECTION

Failure to comply with any of the following rules and conditions may involve disqualification and withholding of prizes. The decision of the Eisteddfod Committee on all questions of dispute arising out of, or not provided for, by these Rules and Conditions shall be final. All entries are received subject to this decision, which shall not be subject to any appeals by law, as such could be contrary to the spirit of friendly competition upon which the Eisteddfod is based.

Bad language and bad sportsmanship by entrants, their relatives or friends will not be tolerated, and offenders will be asked to leave the venue. Entrants related to, or associated with, offenders may be disqualified.

1. Acceptance of Rules & Conditions

All entries are received according to the conditions and rules of the Eisteddfod Committee. Please read the rules carefully and check all entries as no alterations can be made once the program has been printed. We recommend you print a copy of your entry to verify the details are correct. If you realise you have made an error in your entry, contact the Music Convenor as soon as possible.

2. Accompaniment

There is a list of accompanists on page 3; however, competitors may provide their own. The accompaniment must be of a different instrument family. **There are to be NO VOCALS ON BACKING TRACKS in any solo, ensemble or choir item in Vocal classes.**

3. Adjudicators

The Adjudicator reserves the right to terminate a performance at any stage. The Adjudicator's decision is final unless a protest is lodged under Rule 29, in which case the Eisteddfod Committee's decision is final. The Adjudicator also reserves the right to vary the allocation of prizes within a class, or if a satisfactory standard is not reached, to reduce or withdraw prizes. No competitor, teacher, parent or relative of a competitor may approach the adjudicator; any communication **must** be through the Session Convenor or Scribe.

4. Adjudicators' Reports

These will be available free of charge after the adjudication of the class and may be obtained from the clerk's desk. They will not be forwarded afterward. Please be patient with Eisteddfod volunteers whilst awaiting your report/s.



5. Admission

Competitors and accompanists will be admitted free to the hall only in sessions where they are competing. Please see admission fees for other sessions.

6. Age/Grade Limit

The competitor's age or grade level is recognised as on the 1st May each year. Where competitors of different ages compete in duets or groups, **the age limit for entry to that class will be based on the age of the oldest competitor**. The Eisteddfod Committee reserves the right to call upon any competitor or their teacher to provide proof of age, and to withhold any prizes until such proof has been obtained.

7. Amateurs

All competitions are intended for amateurs only, except for those listed in the syllabus as being open to professionals as well. Where group classes are open to professionals, no more than 50% of the group may be professionals. **An amateur is one who** does not, or has not, obtained his or her living by performing or teaching that branch which is subject to competition.

8. Audio Files

Instructions on uploading audio files will be emailed to competitors with the release of the program. They will be played by the theatre technician through the sound system at both the Opera House and Memorial Hall. **Competitors are to use live accompaniment or digital backing tracks, NOT CD's.**

9. Backing Tracks

A digital backing track may be used. Backing tracks must be sent to the Eisteddfod Committee prior to the commencement of competition. Competitors who answer 'yes' to the question regarding backing tracks when entering, will be notified on what is expected at least two weeks prior or once program is released, whichever comes first.

10. Cancellations / Alterations

The Eisteddfod Committee reserves the right to cancel a class or to combine it with the next age group if there are fewer than three entries in that section. Prize money in any class may be lowered or not awarded if there are fewer than four entries, or if the standard of performance is not adequate (see Rule 25). The number of places awarded in a class may also be reduced according to the number of entrants. The Eisteddfod Committee has the right to amend the program at any time, to appoint a substitute adjudicator, to divide or couple any class or award, and/or to alter competition times.

11. Choir Numbers

The number of children in school choirs (at the Memorial Hall) is 10- 50 singers. At the Opera House, choirs should consist of 10-30 singers.



12. Copyright Requirements

The Law of Copyright applies to all sections of the Music Eisteddfod. It is the responsibility of each competitor, teacher & school to adhere to the Act. Competitors are responsible for all royalty and copyright payments and liabilities (if any). Any music copied from copyright is the responsibility of the competitor and not the Eisteddfod.



All competitors are to use original or a licensed copy of their music. The [ONE MUSIC APRA/AMCOS](#) form is on the website for you to print out and complete prior to the event day. **Only ONE form is required per competitor/family/school.** All photocopies of music will be destroyed at the conclusion of the session.

13. Duets

If duets are to be accompanied, please specify on Adjudicator's copy of music, which instrument is the accompaniment. The names of all competitors in duets must be listed.

NEW: A competitor may perform twice in a duet class, with different partners.

14. Entrants

All entrants (including competitors and accompanists) must make themselves available for the full session (morning, afternoon or night) to allow for any necessary changes. Entrants must be ready to perform at least 15 minutes before class entered is due to commence.

15. Entries

Entries close on the closing dates and times listed. **Competitors should enter online at <http://www.comps-online.com.au>. An Administration Fee of \$5.00 will apply to each invoice issued from Comps-Online.** No entry will be accepted by any person who is or was, during the six months preceding the end of the Eisteddfod, taught or coached by the Adjudicator for that Section. A breach of this rule will result in **disqualification**. Entry fees are inclusive of copyright.

16. Gala Concert Selection

The Eisteddfod Committee selects competitors to perform at the Music and Speech & Drama Gala Concert at their own discretion with preference given to those who have placed in several classes. Performers will be selected in collaboration with the Gulgong Eisteddfod Speech & Drama Committee.

17. Item Choice

- i. Competitors must submit, to the session clerk, a copy of the sheet music to be performed for the Adjudicator. Competitors may be disqualified if they do not comply with this rule. The **exception** is the pop/ country Vocal class, where a chord chart & lyrics will be accepted.



- ii. **Competitors must clearly mark their copy of music with class number, competitor number and the title, if applicable, on the top right corner. Copy must be on A4 paper. Do not write your name. NEW: If the work is original, please add a note with “NOT SUBJECT TO COPYRIGHT”.**
- iii. Entry slips will not be sent out. The Eisteddfod Committee accepts no responsibility for loss of papers. It is the responsibility of the competitor to collect original music and reports at the conclusion of the session. Photocopies of music will not be returned.
- iv. All items are OWN CHOICE; that is, there are no set works.
- v. **There are new time limits this year (see page 4).** If no time limit is stated, a **10-minute time limit** applies. **Significant overtime may be penalised.**
- vi. **Duplication of items** - No competitor may compete more than once in any solo class. The exception is where the Eisteddfod Committee has combined two classes that a particular competitor has entered. No competitor may render the same item in more than one class, except where otherwise stated. No solo or duet competitor may render the same item with which he or she has won 1st prize in the Gulgong Prince of Wales Eisteddfod in the previous year.

18. Microphones

The use of microphones is not permitted, including in the vocal section.

19. Minimum Props

Only those props required to enhance the performance are permitted. These must be able to be carried on stage quickly. Props must not obstruct passageways and must be removed from the backstage area as soon as possible after the performance. **Bands** are to bring their own equipment including music stands.

20. Novice

A novice competitor has been learning that instrument for less than 18 months, OR this is their first eisteddfod.

21. Open

Open classes have no age restriction.

22. Order of Competition

Competitors shall compete in the order in which their names appear on the official program, subject to any variation the Eisteddfod Committee may deem necessary. In **exceptional** circumstances, out of class performance may be permitted, at the discretion of the Session Convenor and the Adjudicator. The competitor may not be eligible for a place or prize at the adjudicator's discretion but will receive an adjudication report.



23. Own Risk

All competitors perform at their own risk, and the Eisteddfod Committee is unable to accept any responsibility for performers, their equipment and/or personal belongings.

24. Performance Etiquette

Good sportsmanship is expected from competitors and audience members at all times. There must be no applause, whistling, stamping of feet etc. before or during a performance. Applause and encouragement are to be reserved for the end of a performance.

25. Performance Standard

The Gulgong Eisteddfod aims for a high standard of dress, program material and presentation. Adjudicators may take these aspects into account when making their decisions.

26. Private Video Recording and Photography

It is the policy of the Gulgong Prince of Wales Eisteddfod that there is no private still photography or image recording of any performance, except by a parent in solo classes in the Music section.

27. Prizes

Senior prizes and **all** Championships will be awarded on the following scale:

One to three entries in class	1 st prize
Four to five entries in class	1 st & 2 nd prize
Six or more entries in class	1 st , 2 nd & 3 rd prize

Where classes are combined, the prizes given are those applicable for the class of the oldest competitor or highest grade. If a particular person is the sole competitor in several classes, a certificate may be the only prize awarded.

28. Prompting

No prompt or assistance of any kind may be given to any competitor, except by the Adjudicator. This includes adult conductors singing with children's choirs. No teacher or parent shall be allowed on the stage area with a competitor, other than a conductor or accompanist during a performance, unless instructed by the Adjudicator. Special Needs groups are exempt. **Disregarding this rule will result in disqualification of the competitor.**

29. Protests

Any protests must be lodged verbally to the Session Convenor within ten minutes of the Adjudicator's decision. A written explanation outlining the reasons for the protest must be submitted before the end of the Session, accompanied by a deposit of \$30.



The protest will be decided by an *ad hoc* Protest Committee of a minimum of three, comprising the Session Convenor and two or more Eisteddfod Committee members depending on availability. Their decision will be final. Should the protest be upheld, the deposit will be refunded. Verbal grievances or complaints to individual Eisteddfod Committee members or Eisteddfod volunteers are not in the spirit of Eisteddfod competition. They will not be tolerated and could lead to exclusion from any further participation in the Eisteddfod.

30. Rehearsals

Once a section has commenced, no rehearsals may be held in the Prince of Wales Opera House or the Memorial Hall. A rehearsal is defined as any form of conducted performance, or planned performance, or any part of performance that exceeds one minute. Bands are allowed one minute for tuning and sound check.

31. Responsibility of Syllabus and Program

While every care is taken in compiling the syllabus and programs, the Eisteddfod Committee will not be responsible for any omissions, alterations or errors that may occur. The entrant is responsible for ensuring their entry is correct.

32. Restricted

Restricted refers to a competitor having not won a first place in that discipline at any eisteddfod in the previous **two** years up until the closing date of entries.

33. Royalties

Entrants are responsible for any royalty payments.

34. Small School

For the purpose of the Gulgong Eisteddfod a 'small school' is defined as having a school population of up to 160 students.

35. Time Limits – See page 4

36. Upon Arrival

ALL competitors must report to the session clerk on arrival and hand in relevant Adjudicator copies of sheet music. Copies of music items are also to be handed in where numerous competitors are playing from the same book. See Rule 12 – Copyright Requirements and Rule 17 – Item Choice.

37. Venues

Music will be held at the Prince of Wales Opera House, Mayne Street, Gulgong. School Day performances, including school choirs and instrumental groups will be held at the Memorial Hall, Herbert Street, Gulgong.



MAJOR PRIZES FOR MUSIC SECTION

Please note: Some awards are dependent on number of entries

Scholarships (for tuition)

supported by ACEN Renewables

Vocal: \$200

Piano/ Instrumental: \$200

Roger Woodward Prize

supported by Roger Woodward AC, OBE

Winner:

Audience Selection:

Perpetual Trophy + Certificate + \$400

Perpetual Trophy + Certificate + \$200

To be awarded to *'the finest or most beautiful performance by an entrant of any age, vocal or instrumental'*. Solo performers are selected by the Adjudicator throughout the Eisteddfod to perform in the playoff in the Gala Concert for this award.

The Frank Halloran Memorial Prize: Sonata-Concerto

supported by Roger Woodward AC, OBE

1st Perpetual Trophy, Certificate + \$100 2nd Certificate + \$50 3rd Certificate + \$25

Encouragement Award for a Mid-Western Region Musician

supported by Hi -Tech ITworX Mudgee

Trophy + Certificate + \$100

Zvi Booth Memorial Instrumental Championship

supported by Gulgong Community Singers

1st Perpetual Trophy, Certificate + \$50 2nd Certificate 3rd Certificate

Instrumental Championship (Excluding Piano)

supported by Gulgong Pensioners & Superannuants

1st Perpetual Trophy + Certificate + \$50 2nd Certificate + \$30 3rd Certificate + \$20

The Mick Kelly Memorial Award

supported by the Friends of Mick Kelly

Perpetual Trophy, Certificate + \$50

To be awarded for the best performance of a popular piece of music in any class in the Instrumental & Vocal Section of the Eisteddfod, selected by the Adjudicator.

Rhonda Watt Piano Championship

supported by Rhonda Watt

1st Perpetual Trophy + Certificate + \$50 2nd Certificate + \$30 3rd Certificate + \$20



OTHER PRIZES FOR MUSIC SECTION

Most Promising Pianist

These selections are judged over two or more solo or duet classes.

12yrs & under: Trophy, Certificate + \$30	Encouragement: Trophy, Certificate + \$10
13 – 18yrs: Trophy, Certificate + \$40	Encouragement: Trophy, Certificate + \$20

Most Promising Instrumentalist (Includes Strings, Winds & Brass)

This selection is judged over two or more solo or duet classes. If sufficient entries, an encouragement award will be awarded as well.

Winner: Trophy, Certificate + \$40	Encouragement: Certificate + \$10
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Most Promising Vocalist

This selection is made over two or more solo or duet classes.

12yrs & under: Trophy, Certificate + \$30	Encouragement: Trophy, Certificate + \$10
13-18 yrs: Trophy, Certificate + \$40	Encouragement: Trophy, Certificate + \$20

Vocal Championships

supported by Richard Morpew

Senior – 13 – 25 yrs

1st Perpetual Trophy + Certificate + \$50	2nd Certificate + \$30	3rd Certificate + \$20
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Junior 12 years and under

1st Perpetual Trophy + Certificate + \$40	2nd Certificate + \$20	3rd Certificate + \$10
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INSTRUMENTAL GROUPS / DUETS

Best Recorder Group

Perpetual Shield + Certificate

Best School Percussion Group

Perpetual Shield + Certificate

Best Instrumental Group

\$100 + Certificate

Best Piano Duet

\$30 + Certificates

Best Instrumental Duet

\$30 + Certificates

Choirs

A shield and a certificate is given to the winner in each of the following categories:
Infants / Junior Primary / Senior Primary / Secondary / Small School.



MATURE PERFORMERS (NON-COMPETITIVE)

MATURE PERFORMER		Time Limit: Max 5 minutes
Open to amateurs and professionals – an opportunity to perform in a beautiful space.		
319	Mature Performers - Solo - 30 years & over - Instrumental or Vocal.	

INSTRUMENTAL SECTION

PIANO – CLASSES 320-344

Please read the rules governing competition, particularly Rule 17 - Item Choice.

- i) Competitors must submit, to the session clerk, a copy of the sheet music to be performed for the Adjudicator.
- iv) All items are OWN CHOICE; that is, there are no set works.
- v) There is a 10-minute time limit in every class except where otherwise stated.

Solo & Duet Maximum Time limits – except where otherwise stated			
Age Groups		Grades	
12 yrs & under	3 minutes	Prelim- Grade 3	3 minutes
13-17 yrs	5 minutes	Grades 4-6	5 minutes
Open	8 minutes	Grade 7 & above	8 minutes

Pianists will perform on the Steinway Grand Piano

PIANO SOLO – Baroque or Classical Period (approx. 1600-1820)			
Competitors must enter grade they are currently studying. Please state grade on entry form. From Grade 4, prizes are awarded as for 13 years and over.			
Entry Fee:		3rd Grade & under \$8.00	4th Grade & above \$10.00
320	Preliminary & 1 st Grade	321	2 nd & 3 rd Grade
322	4 th - 6 th Grade	323	7 th Grade & over
PIANO SOLO – Age			
324	8 yrs & under	325	9 & 10 yrs
326	11 & 12 yrs	327	13 - 15 yrs
328	Open		
PIANO SOLO – Beginners – Those currently at or below Preliminary Level			
One piece from a primer or tutor book 1 or 2, P Plate Piano 1, 2 or 3 or Prelim book. Accompaniment accepted (CD or an acoustic instrument including piano).			
329	10 yrs & under	330	11 & 12 yrs



PIANO SOLO – Grade Own Choice - See also Class 370 for entrants in 333 & 334 Competitors must enter grade they are currently studying and perform a piece applicable to that grade. From Grade 6 prizes are awarded as for 13 years and over.			
Entry Fee: 5th Grade & under \$8.00 6th Grade & above \$10.00			
331	Preliminary & 1 st Grade	332	2 nd & 3 rd Grade
333	4 th - 5 th Grade	334	6 th - 8 th Grade
PIANO SOLO – Popular e.g. Film/ TV/ Musical Theatre/ Pop – costume optional.			
335	10 yrs & under	336	11 - 13 yrs
337	14 yrs & over		
PIANO SOLO – Restricted – See Rule 32			
338	10 yrs & under	339	11 - 13 yrs
340	14 yrs & over		
PIANO DUET A competitor may perform twice in a duet class, with different partners. Class 343 is open to professionals as well as amateurs. See Rule 7.			
341	12yrs & under	342	16yrs & under
343	Open		
RHONDA WATT PIANO CHAMPIONSHIP Time limit: 12 minutes total. Competitors must be studying Grade 5 AMEB (or equivalent) or above and perform two contrasting pieces, one of which must be by an Australian composer. One piece may have been played in another class. Competitors must compete in at least two other non-championship solo piano classes.			
344	Rhonda Watt Piano Championship	Entry Fee: \$12.00	

GULGONG EISTEDDFOD

MUSIC, SPEECH & DRAMA GALA CONCERT

Come along to the Gulgong Prince of Wales Opera House to enjoy the showcase of talent on display at our 2026 Concert.

Friday 29th May 2026 ~ 6:30pm

Tickets available at the Door
\$10 Adults ~ \$5 Seniors ~ Children Free



STRING – CLASSES 345-352

These classes are suitable for the Violin, Viola, Cello, Harp and Double Bass. Competitors are encouraged to play with accompaniment where one has been written for the music. The accompaniment must be of a different instrument family – See Rule 2.

See also Classes 359 – 370: Instrumental solo

STRING SOLO			
345	12 yrs & under	346	13 - 18 yrs
STRING SOLO – Baroque or Classical Period (approx. 1600 – 1820) Competitors must enter grade they are currently studying. Please state grade on entry form. From Grade 4 prizes are awarded as for 13 years and over.			
Entry Fee:		3rd Grade & under \$8.00	
		4th Grade & above \$10.00	
347	3 rd Grade & below	348	4 th - 6 th Grade
349	7 th Grade & over		
GUITAR or UKULELE SOLO			
350	10 yrs & under	351	11 - 14yrs
352	15 yrs & over		

WOODWIND/BRASS CLASSES (including Recorder) **CLASSES 353-358**

These classes are suitable for any woodwind or brass instrument and recorder. Competitors are encouraged to play with accompaniment where one has been written for the music. The accompaniment must be of a different instrument family. See Rule 2.

See also Classes 359 – 370: Instrumental solo

WOODWIND/BRASS SOLO (including Recorder)			
353	10 yrs & under	354	11- 14 yrs
355	15 yrs & over		
WOODWIND/BRASS SOLO (including Recorder) - Baroque or Classical Period (approx. 1600 – 1820)			
Competitors must enter grade they are currently studying. Please state grade on entry form. From Grade 4 prizes are awarded as for 13 years and over.			
Entry Fee:		3 rd Grade & under \$8.00 4 th Grade & above \$10.00	
356	3 rd Grade & below	357	4 th - 6 th Grade
358	7 th Grade & over		



OTHER – CLASSES 359-372

INSTRUMENTAL SOLOS

INSTRUMENTAL SOLO – Grade - Any Instrument Except Piano			
Competitors must enter grade they are currently studying. Please state grade on entry form. From Grade 5 prizes are awarded as for 13 years and over.			
Entry Fee:		4th Grade & under \$8.00	5th Grade & above \$10.00
359	Beginners – up to & including Preliminary level	360	2 nd Grade & below
361	3 rd - 4 th Grade	362	5 th - 6 th Grade
363	7 th Grade & above		
INSTRUMENTAL SOLO – Popular - Any Instrument Except Piano			
e.g. Film/ TV/ Musical Theatre/ Pop – costume optional.			
364	10 yrs & under	365	11 - 13 yrs
366	14 yrs & over		
INSTRUMENTAL SOLO – Restricted - Any Instrument Except Piano - See Rule 32			
367	10 yrs & under	368	11 - 14 yrs
369	15 yrs & over		
INSTRUMENTAL SOLO – Open - Any Instrument Including Piano - See Rule 21			
370	Open		

OWN COMPOSITION

OWN COMPOSITION The competitor is responsible for the presentation of work of their own composition. The class will be judged on the composition, as well as the performance. The work may be solo or group, accompanied or unaccompanied. A copy of the work must be handed to the Convenor at the beginning of the music section for the Adjudicator to peruse prior to running of the class.			
371	12 yrs & under Max time limit: 2 mins	372	13-18 yrs Max time limit: 4 mins



INSTRUMENTAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

CLASSES 373-375

373. ZVI BOOTH MEMORIAL INSTRUMENTAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Any Instrument. Two movements of a Sonata or Sonatina, or two pieces of a contrasting nature. **ONE piece is allowed to have been played in another class. Time limit is 10 minutes.** Competitors must be studying at **Grade 3 to 5 AMEB** standard. Competitors must compete in at least two other non-championship solo classes on the same instrument. Please inform the Convenor which instrument you will perform on if you have entered classes on more than one instrument.

Entry Fee: \$10.00

374. FRANK HALLORAN MEMORIAL PRIZE – Sonata-Concerto

Any Instrument. Two or more contrasting movements of a Sonata, Sonatina or Concerto (excluding Piano Concerto). **ONE piece is allowed to have been played in another class. Time limit is 15 minutes. Performance piece not to be below Grade 5 AMEB standard.** Competitors must compete in at least two other non-championship solo classes on the same instrument. Please inform the Convenor on what instrument you will perform if you have entered classes on more than one instrument.

Entry Fee: \$12.00

375. INSTRUMENTAL CHAMPIONSHIP – Excluding Piano

Entrants must be studying **Grade 5 AMEB (or equivalent) or above** and perform two contrasting pieces, one of which must be a 20th / 21st century composition of **Grade 5 AMEB standard or above. ONE piece is allowed to have been played in another class. Time limit is 12 minutes total.** Competitors must compete in at least two other non-championship solo classes on the same instrument.

Entry Fee: \$12.00



DUETS & GROUPS – CLASSES 376-390

These classes include bands, recorders, percussion and chamber music groups.

PLEASE NOTE:

- Open entries may be combined with other instruments if insufficient entries are received.
- Time limit is 10 minutes excluding setting up time. Maximum of two items, except where otherwise stated.
- Open classes are open to professionals as well as amateurs (See Rule 7).
- If Duets are to be accompanied, please specify on Adjudicator's copy of music, the instrument which is the accompaniment. (See Rule 2). NEW: A competitor may perform twice in a duet class, with different partners.
- Groups are to bring their own equipment including music stands. (See Rule 19).
- Groups performing classical pieces which include a piano will perform at the Prince of Wales Opera House. Please contact the Convenor if you wish to use the Steinway Piano. Maximum number in a group at the Prince of Wales Opera House is 30. School and other groups which do not include classical piano will perform at the Gulgong Memorial Hall.

INSTRUMENTAL DUET

Any two instruments. Voice may be one instrument. Duets may be accompanied. See Rule 13. **NOTE: A competitor may perform twice in a duet class, with different partners.**

376	12 yrs & under	377	16 yrs & under
378	Open (See notes above)		

INSTRUMENTAL GROUP

Three or more players. May include some percussion.

379	12 yrs & under	380	16 yrs & under
381	Open		

RECORDER GROUP

May include some percussion.

382	Infants	383	Junior Primary
384	Senior Primary		

INSTRUMENTAL ORCHESTRA OR BAND

This includes rock bands. **Maximum of 2 pieces. 10-minute time limit**, excluding setting-up time.

385	Infants & Junior Primary	386	Primary
387	Open (See notes above)		



PERCUSSION GROUP Maximum of 2 pieces. Three or more players.			
388	Infants	389	Primary
SPECIAL EDUCATION INSTRUMENTAL OR VOCAL GROUP Maximum of two songs/pieces. May include percussion.			
390	Primary & Secondary		

GULGONG EISTEDDFOD MUSIC, SPEECH & DRAMA GALA CONCERT

Come along to the Gulgong Prince of Wales
Opera House to enjoy the showcase of talent on
display at our 2026 Concert.

Friday 29th May 2026 ~ 6:30pm

Tickets available at the Door
\$10 Adults ~ \$5 Seniors ~ Children Free



VOCAL SECTION

Please read the rules governing competition, particularly:

Rule 8 – Audio Files

Instructions on uploading audio files will be emailed to competitors with the release of the program. They will be played by the theatre technician through the sound system at both the Opera House and Memorial Hall. **Competitors are to use live accompaniment or digital backing tracks, NOT CD's.**

Rule 9 – Backing Tracks

A digital backing track may be used. Backing tracks must be sent to the Eisteddfod Committee prior to the commencement of competition. Competitors who answer 'yes' to the question regarding backing tracks when entering, will be notified on what is expected at least two weeks prior or once program is released, whichever comes first.

Note: NO VOCALS ON BACKING TRACKS in any solo, ensemble or choir item.

Rule 11 - Choir Numbers

The number of children in school choirs (at the Memorial Hall) is 10- 50 singers. At the Opera House, choirs should consist of 10-30 singers.

Rule 17 - Item Choice

- i) Competitors must submit, to the session clerk, a copy of the sheet music to be performed for the Adjudicator.
- iv) All items are OWN CHOICE; that is, there are no set works.
- v) There is a 10-minute time limit in every class except where otherwise stated.

Rule 18 - Microphones

The use of microphones is not permitted, including in the vocal section.

Solo & Duet Maximum Time limits – except where otherwise stated			
Age Groups		Grades	
12 yrs & under	3 minutes	Prelim- Grade 3	3 minutes
13-17 yrs	5 minutes	Grades 4-6	5 minutes
Open	8 minutes	Grade 7 & above	8 minutes



SOLOS – CLASSES 400-418

One song only. Competitors' choices of songs will be taken into consideration when awarding places. Please choose age-appropriate songs.

****Classes will be split further if there are more younger entrants.**

See also classes 371-372, Own Composition.

VOCAL SOLO - Character Song or Musical Theatre in Costume			
400	6 yrs & under (nursery song accepted)	401	8 yrs & under (nursery song accepted)
402	9-12 yrs	403	13 -18 yrs
404	19 yrs & over		
VOCAL SOLO - Own Choice – Not Popular e.g. folk, AMEB Singing, non-pop selections from Singing for Leisure syllabus			
405	8yrs & under	406	9 -12 yrs
407	13-18yrs	408	Open
VOCAL SOLO – Popular or Country & Western			
409	8yrs & under	410	9 -12 yrs
411	13-18yrs	412	Open
SACRED SOLO			
413	12yrs & under	414	13-18 yrs
415	Open		
VOCAL SOLO – Own Accompaniment Accompanies themselves on any instrument			
416	12yrs & under	417	13-18 yrs
418	Open		

VOCAL CHAMPIONSHIPS – CLASSES 419-420

VOCAL CHAMPIONSHIPS TWO CONTRASTING SONGS representing different types of music styles i.e. classical, jazz, musical theatre, popular. Competitors must have competed in at least two other solo/duet vocal classes. ONE song may have been sung in another class.		
419	Junior Vocal Championship 12 yrs & under	Entry Fee: \$10.00
420	Senior Vocal Championship 13 - 25 yrs	Entry Fee: \$12.00



DUETS & GROUPS – CLASSES 421-437

The following performances are to be held in the
Gulgong Memorial Hall (See Rule 37).

Open ensemble and group classes are open to professionals as well as amateurs. See Rule 7.

VOCAL GROUP – Choir			
Two contrasting songs. Includes unison, harmony, songs sung together, rounds.			
421	Infants	422	Junior Primary
423	Senior Primary	424	Small School (See Rule 34)
425	Secondary		
VOCAL GROUP – Choir Harmony			
One song only. Two or more harmony parts. Rounds, canons and “songs sung together” are unacceptable.			
426	Primary	427	Secondary
VOCAL GROUP – Song in a language other than English (including Aboriginal Language). One song only. Includes unison, harmony, songs sung together, rounds.			
428	Primary	429	Secondary
PRESCHOOL VOCAL GROUP			
Maximum of two songs/pieces. Percussion allowed.			
430	Preschool		

The following performances are to be held in the
Gulgong Prince of Wales Opera House (See Rule 37).

VOCAL GROUP – Choir			
Two contrasting songs. Includes unison, harmony, songs sung together, rounds.			
431	Open		
SACRED GROUP			
Minimum four singers. One song only.			
May be held at Memorial Hall if this suits competitors better.			
432	12 yrs & under	433	18 yrs & under
SACRED GROUP			
Maximum of two songs.			
434	Open		
VOCAL DUET or ENSEMBLE			
2 to 8 singers. One song only.			
435	12 yrs & under	436	18 yrs & under
437	Open		

END OF MUSIC SECTION