

Specialist Music Programme

Information and Course Booklet



Lixin Zhang, SMP Piano 2014-2018.

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Introduction and General SMP Information

The Specialist Music Programme provides the highest possible standard of education, training and musical opportunities for students of high musical ability. It offers a seamless and co-ordinated progression of learning from junior primary school through secondary school to university, offering students the opportunity to work with others of similarly high musical calibre. Entry to the SMP is gained solely through musical ability and/or potential. The Ministry of Education has granted a special dispensation, allowing students from outside of the Burnside High School zone to enter the school through the Specialist Music Programme *at any year level*.

Four institutions within Christchurch collaborate to provide this unique opportunity for musically talented students.

- Westburn Primary School
- Burnside High School
- The School of Music of the University of Canterbury
- The UC College of Education, Health and Human Development

A **Board of Studies** oversees the overall functioning of the Programme. Each individual establishment is responsible for the delivery of the programme within their facility.

Year 9 students admitted to the Programme will be enrolled within a Performance Music Class. All students are required to follow a course of study in line with the New Zealand Curriculum, therefore SMP and PMU students will study exactly the same subjects as other Burnside High School students. ***In addition*** to regular curriculum studies and musical activities, students admitted into the Specialist Music Programme will be required to:

- Receive regular lessons with a private teacher approved by the SMP Board of Studies at their own expense
- Attend a weekly workshop, held after school at Burnside, for their specialist instrument
- Take part in the school's Chamber Music programme (compulsory for all SMP instrumentalists from Year Ten onwards)
- Make a regular and committed contribution to a large ensemble e.g Orchestra, Big Band, Symphonic Band, Aurora Voices, Malestrom
- Study Music as an academic subject to the end of Year Twelve (NCEA Level Two)
- Make every effort to attend concerts and masterclasses, both inside and outside of school, as recommended by SMP tutors
- Pay the annual SMP fee, currently \$320. Families experiencing hardship may apply to the SMP Council for financial assistance if necessary.

I hope that you find this booklet informative and helpful in deciding whether SMP is right for your child. Read this in combination with the information contained in the SMP Application Pack, available from Burnside High School reception or online at: www.specialistmusicprogramme.co.nz. An SMP information evening for prospective students and parents will be held on Wednesday 1st May 2019 at 7.00pm in the staff room of Burnside High School. Access is from the Greers Road school car park.

On the following pages you will find a summary of the content of each SMP course.



Chris Petch
HOD Music, Director of Specialist Music Programme

SMP Strings

Tutors: Carlo Ballara, Sarah McCracken, Martin Risely, Mark Menzies

The SMP Strings programme runs on Tuesdays, usually from 3.00pm - 4.00pm. There are approximately 25 workshop sessions each year, delivered by a team of highly qualified and experienced professional performers. Workshop content includes:

- Solo Masterclasses
- Orchestral Repertoire Classes
- Technical Forum
- Ensemble Playing
- Audition Preparation
- Performance Practices e.g Baroque Music/Period Instruments

In addition to the SMP workshops, all SMP Strings students participate in Chamber Music from Year 10 onwards. This involves weekly rehearsals with a specialist tutor during term 1 and 2 of each year. All chamber music groups enter the Chamber Music New Zealand Contest, held in June.

All SMP Strings students are placed in the Burnside High School Orchestra and are required to attend rehearsals on Thursday each week, at lunchtime and after school until 4.30pm.

SMP Strings students will present both a mid-year and end-of-year recital. This may include solo work, duets and chamber music.

SMP Piano

Tutor: Michael Lawrence

The SMP Piano programme runs on Wednesdays from 2.45-3.45pm. There are approximately 25 workshop sessions each year. Workshop content includes:

- Solo Masterclasses
- Technical Forum
- Accompanying Skills
- Duet/Ensemble playing

In addition to the SMP workshops, all SMP Piano students participate in Chamber Music from Year 10 onwards. This involves weekly rehearsals with a specialist tutor during term 1 and 2 of each year. All chamber music groups enter the Chamber Music New Zealand Contest, held in June. All SMP pianists will be expected to take on accompanying work for one of the school's choirs when ready and required.

SMP Piano students will present both a mid-year and end-of-year recital. This may include solo work, duets and chamber music.



"Music at Burnside has allowed me to develop transferable skills useful to all aspects of life"

- Alvin Li



SMP Voice

Tutors: Ravil Atlas, Amanda Atlas

The SMP Vocal programme runs on Wednesdays from 2.45-3.45pm. There are approximately 32 workshop sessions each year.

The SMP programme for singers is a five-year programme designed to develop all aspects of vocal performance and prepare the students for future opportunities in singing. The programme is divided into junior and senior workshop groups; each meets at the same time each week.

Areas covered include:

- Technique
- Vocal mechanics and anatomy
- Song preparation and interpretation
- History of vocal music (classical and contemporary commercial music)
- Acting for singers
- Languages for singers
- Notational reading and keyboard skills

Students are presented in recital twice each year and have many other performance opportunities in choirs, small ensembles, and productions.



"Music at Burnside has given me the opportunity to explore my passion for music and expand my technical ability"

- Olivia Leonard



SMP Brass

Tutors: Thomas Eves, Karl Margevka

The SMP Brass programme runs on Tuesdays from 3.00-4.00pm. There are approximately 25 workshop sessions each year, led by Thomas Eves and Karl Margevka. Workshop content includes:

- Solo Masterclasses
- Orchestral Repertoire Classes
- Technical Forum
- Ensemble Playing
- Audition Preparation
- Research and Presentation on a given topic

In addition to the SMP workshops, all SMP Brass students participate in Chamber Music from Year 10 onwards. This involves weekly rehearsals with a specialist tutor during term 1 and 2 of each year. All chamber music groups enter the Chamber Music New Zealand Contest, held in June.

All SMP Brass students are required to play in one of the school's large ensembles e.g Symphonic Band (un-auditioned group, rehearsals each Tuesday lunchtime), Big Band (auditioned group, rehearsals on Mondays after school until 4.00pm) and Orchestra (auditioned group, rehearsals on Thursdays at lunchtime and after school until 4.30pm).

SMP Brass students will present both a mid-year and end-of-year recital. This may include solo work, duets and chamber music.

SMP Woodwind

Tutor: John Robinson

The SMP Woodwind programme runs on Tuesdays from 3.00-4.00pm. There are approximately 25 workshop sessions each year, led by John Robinson. Workshop content includes:

- Solo Masterclasses
- Orchestral Repertoire Classes
- Technical Forum
- Ensemble Playing
- Audition Preparation
- Research and Presentation on a given topic

In addition to the SMP workshops, all SMP Woodwind students participate in Chamber Music from Year 10 onwards. This involves weekly rehearsals with a specialist tutor during term 1 and 2 of each year. All chamber music groups enter the Chamber Music New Zealand Contest, held in June.

All SMP Woodwind students are required to play in one of the school's large ensembles e.g Symphonic Band (un-auditioned group, rehearsals each Tuesday lunchtime), Big Band (auditioned group, rehearsals on Mondays after school until 4.00pm) and Orchestra (auditioned group, rehearsals on Thursdays at lunchtime and after school until 4.30pm).

SMP Woodwind students will present both a mid-year and end-of-year recital. This may include solo work, duets and chamber music.

SMP Jazz

Tutors: Cain Hood, Cameron Oswin, Neill Pickard, Heather Webb

The SMP Jazz programme runs on Wednesdays after school until 4.30pm. There are approximately 25 workshop sessions each year.

The SMP Jazz course covers:

- Performance - each student is placed in a small combo which rehearses each week
- Jazz Theory (Scales, Chords, Modes)
- Improvisation skills
- Jazz History
- Research and Presentation on a given topic

All SMP Jazz combos perform in a number of Music Department events each year e.g Jazz Café, and compete in the Jazz Quest competition organised by ARA.

Combos may also travel to compete in jazz festivals within wider New Zealand e.g Wellington, Tauranga.

SMP Jazz students are also encouraged to audition for the school Big Band and/or Funk Band.



"Music at Burnside has given me the opportunity to travel and meet other musicians around New Zealand who are interested in the same music styles as me"

- Matt Howes



Where Are They Now?

Many SMP alumni are pursuing professional musical careers around the world whilst others have entered professions such as Law, Medicine and Teaching. Here are a few notable musical successes:

Chris Bruerton (SMP Voice) - Member of The King's Singers

Ben Morrison (SMP Strings) - Violinist in the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra

Tony Chen-Lin (SMP Piano) – International Concert Pianist

Todd Gibson-Cornish (SMP Woodwind) - Principal Bassoon, Sydney Symphony Orchestra

Salina Fisher (SMP Strings) - NZSO NYO Composer in Residence, now a Masters student in Composition at The Manhattan School of Music, New York

Hamish Smith (SMP Jazz) - Member of the World Youth Jazz Orchestra, Studying Jazz Bass in USA

Muse Ye (SMP Piano) - Scholarship to YST Conservatory, Singapore

Lixin Zhang (SMP Piano) – winner of Wallace National Piano Competition 2016, 2017

Han Sol Jeong (SMP Piano) - Scholarship to YST Conservatory, Singapore

Alice Morgan (SMP Woodwind) - Scholarship to Sydney Conservatory

Bina Jung (SMP Piano) - Scholarship to YST Conservatory, Singapore

Theo Moolenaar (SMP Voice) - Scholarship to YST Conservatory, Singapore

Dale Vail (SMP Brass) - Scholarship to Australian National Academy of Music

Brad Kang (SMP Jazz) - Scholarship to North Texas University, now working as a professional guitarist and tutor at ARA

Anna Whitaker (SMP Voice) - Scholarship to Manhattan School of Music, New York City

Emma Yoon (SMP Strings) - Professional Chamber Musician in The Lazarus String Quartet

Jonathan Tanner (SMP Strings) - Professional Violinist and Chamber Musician.

Naomi Deacon (SMP Strings) - Professional Cellist, CSO

Georgia Hoy (SMP Brass) - member of New Zealand Army Band

Serenity Thurlow (SMP Strings) – Principal Viola, CSO



Burnside High School Music Department Forthcoming Performances in 2018...

Sunday 19 May – The Dark Room, from 12.00pm

Tuesday 4 June - Chamber Music and Choral Showcase Concert, The Piano, Armagh St., 7.00pm

Tuesday 25-Thursday 27 June - North West Festival, Aurora Centre, 7.00pm

Tuesday 13 August - SMP Piano recital, The Piano, Armagh St., 1.10pm

Wednesday 14 August - SMP Strings recital, St Mary's Pro Cathedral, Manchester St. 1.10pm

Wednesday 21 August - SMP Wind and Brass recital, St Mary's Pro Cathedral, Manchester St. 1.10pm

Thursday 22 August - Orchestral Showcase, The Aurora Centre, 7.00pm

Sunday 25 August - Contemporary Café, The Tannery, Garlands Road, Woolston, from 12.00pm

Monday 26 August - "Sing South", Transitional Cathedral, 7.00pm

Saturday 7 September – Contemporary Music Showcase, Papa Hou Theatre, 7.00pm

Thursday 24 October - Choral Extravaganza, St. Mary's Pro Cathedral, Manchester St., 7.00pm

Saturday 2 November - SMP Gala Concert Day, UC Recital Room, from 11.00am (Piano, Woodwind, Strings , Brass) and Oxford Terrace Baptist Church from 1.00pm (Voice)

Please come and join us!

www.specialistmusicprogramme.co.nz

