

INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS: ACCOMPANIMENT ARRANGEMENTS



Organising rehearsals with your accompanist

Students or the student's parents are responsible for contacting their accompanist well in advance to organise a rehearsal time for every performance, including student concerts, eisteddfods and exams. Your instrument/vocal teacher will provide you with the contact details of your designated accompanist.

Accompanists have limited time available for rehearsals, so a student may not be able to find a suitable time for their rehearsal if they leave making contact too late. Accompanist are in very high demand for the Eisteddfod and for AMEB exams and their schedules will fill quickly for these events. Accompanists have the right to refuse to accompany a student if they are not contacted in a timely manner.

Students performing solo in the Eisteddfod or doing AMEB exams are strongly advised to perform in the Conservatorium's **Student Concerts** each term, starting in Term 1 and continuing in Term 2 and Term 3. This way the student will work through their pieces and have already had one rehearsal with their accompanist on most pieces, before eisteddfod or exam time. Your teacher will let you know the dates of Conservatorium student concerts, and your teacher decides if you are ready to play in a concert.

By playing in Conservatorium Student Concerts, the student will also be able to have a FREE accompaniment rehearsal for each concert – see details on next page. The Conservatorium will cover the cost of one rehearsal for a student playing in Conservatorium student concert as follows:

- Beginner/Preliminary/Grade 1-2 level: 10 min rehearsal
- Grade 3-4 level: 15 min rehearsal
- Grade 5-6 level: 20 min rehearsal
- Grade 7 and higher: 20-30 min rehearsal

The student may arrange for their rehearsal to be longer at their own expense.

When you should contact your accompanist to organise a day and time for rehearsals:

- Student concerts: Contact the accompanist 2-3 weeks prior to the student concert date
- Eisteddfod: Contact the accompanist 4 weeks prior to the start date of the Eisteddfod
- AMEB exam: Several rehearsals are needed. At least one rehearsal of all exam pieces must have occurred by the end of Term 2, with only limited accompanist time available for a final rehearsal in the first 2 weeks of Term 3. Contact the accompanist early in Term 2 for a first rehearsal, if you have not already rehearsed in Term 1, and then contact them no later than the last week of Term 2 to organise a rehearsal in the first 2 weeks of Term 3.
- Scholarship Auditions: Contact the accompanist 3 weeks prior to audition date to set up a rehearsal.

Providing music to accompanist:

Students/Parents must provide the accompanist with their music well in advance of rehearsal.

Music can be given directly to your accompanist or provided to the office/your teacher to pass on.

- Preliminary – Grade 4 AMEB (or equivalent): provide music 2 weeks before rehearsal
- Grade 5 AMEB and above (or equivalent): provide music in Term 1 and/or 3 weeks before first rehearsal.
- HSC: provide music as soon as possible, when your program has been set; minimum of 3 weeks before any performance/assessment.

Payment of accompanists:

Please see next page for the student/parent's responsibility for payment of the accompanist for rehearsals and performances.

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Payment of Accompanists

Macquarie Conservatorium provides students with some accompaniment free of charge for the following:

- Accompaniment at Macquarie Conservatorium student concerts or other events as approved by the Director, plus one rehearsal for each such concert, for an amount of time designated by the Director and with the designated accompanist only. This does not include studio concerts arranged by individual teachers.
- Accompaniment at Macquarie Conservatorium scholarship auditions, plus one rehearsal for each such audition, for an amount of time designated by the Director and with the designated accompanist only.
- Accompaniment at AMEB exams held on site at the Macquarie Conservatorium.

Accompanists for the above events are assigned to students by the Director, in consultation with the student's teacher. The Conservatorium will only provide free accompaniment as above when student use the designated accompanist.

For all other rehearsals and performances, students make their own private arrangements with accompanists and pay them directly themselves, with the accompanist providing the student with an invoice for payment. This includes:

- rehearsals and performances for eisteddfods
- extra or longer rehearsals for Conservatorium concerts and scholarship auditions beyond the one provided by the Conservatorium
- rehearsals for AMEB exams
- rehearsals and performances at any event not approved as a Conservatorium concert

Recommended rates for accompaniment at rehearsals:

60 mins	\$60
45 mins	\$45
30 mins	\$30
20 mins	\$20
15 mins	\$15
10 mins	\$10

These are recommended rates only. Macquarie Conservatorium takes no responsibility for the rates charged to students by individual accompanists. Accompanists may set their own rates.

Rates for attendance and performance at events such as eisteddfods vary and should be negotiated in advance with the accompanist.