

Performing Arts news

Rising Stars program

Congratulations to Emma Rose Koeswandy, Year 8, who has been awarded the Kathleen Holmes McCrea Piano Scholarship as part of the Rising Stars program at the Sydney Conservatorium.

Congratulations also to Year 10 saxophonist, Zoe Leon, who has been accepted into the Rising Stars jazz program. She is the first Meriden girl accepted into this program.

It is wonderful to see Meriden girls embracing opportunities in all musical styles.



Emma Rose Koeswandy, Year 8,

Zoe Leon, Year 10

Amadeus Recital

The first Amadeus Recital for the year is fast approaching, and the girls are excited to perform for you. Join us in Week 6 on Wednesday 6 March at 6:00pm in Wallis Auditorium for an evening of outstanding music.

This recital will feature a variety of outstanding solo repertoire from Eva Gao, Emma Rose Koeswandy, Connie Liu, Chanelle Tiranatvitayakul, Symphony Shi, Gabriella Wu, Teresa Yang and Sharon Zhao, and a piano trio including Zoe Chan, Erin Du and Ms Bethany Cook.

Students, staff, parents and friends are all welcome.

Amadeus students hear from former Associate Concertmaster

Last week, Meriden welcomed Associate Professor Dr Goetz Richter from the Sydney Conservatorium to speak to Amadeus students.

Dr Richter was previously an Associate Concertmaster with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, and earlier in his career, he was the Associate Principal Violin II with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra.



Amadeus students with Dr Goetz Richter

Dr Richter's research at the Conservatorium aligns music and philosophy, and how the two disciplines are connected. An interesting perspective he provided was the fact that musicians "play" in performance rather than merely manufacturing music. Aspects of "play" are also connected to sport where the rules of the game are known but the skill of anticipation is above most of the aspects of the game.

The girls learned about silent practice, the anticipation of playing a single note and the anticipation of performance in general. Using the theme of “play”, Dr Richter spoke about music as not a production, but as an ongoing process of “doing”. There is organisation of imagination and movement in time, but the goal is in seeking a direct connection between an expressive ear, hands and movement.

Dr Richter highlighted aspects of attention in perception – “what has happened” in a temporal dimension and in anticipation, and “what is about to happen” and the balance of these two in performing. It was an invaluable session for the girls, assisting in their preparations for the upcoming recital and their year of progress in music. We hope to invite Dr Richter to speak with all our musicians at Meriden in the future.

Ms Jodie Spooner-Ryan

Director of Music