

WA MASSED CHOIR FESTIVAL

23rd September
CHOIR 8

- **7.25pm – Students walk on stage.**

Back stage announcement

Choir remains standing and sings the National Anthem.
Straight into... 'Sing'.

BOTH COMPERES TO COME TO MICROPHONE

Compere 1:

Good evening ladies and gentlemen, parents and friends. Welcome to the 2021 WA Massed Choir Festival in this fantastic venue – the Perth Concert Hall. Tonight is our EIGHTH concert in a concert series of nine performances.

We are **very** excited and privileged to be able to perform this year, after missing out last year, due to COVID disruptions.

(Pause...)

Sing!....What a great way to start our concert tonight! Made famous by the acapella group 'Pentatonix' in 2015, this positive, uplifting song promotes the benefits of singing – it is good for the mind, body and soul! This energetic song sets the tone for the fantastic concert to follow.

What an amazing job **GIA BUI** from **WARRIAPENDI** Primary School did as our opening soloist. Please join me in giving her a round of applause.

My name is **GEORGIA SPOWART** from **PALMYRA** Primary School.

Compere 2:

..... And I am **JAMES TYRIE** from **GREENWOOD** Primary School.

(Pause)

We respectfully acknowledge the past and present traditional custodians of this land on which we are meeting, the Whadjuk Noongar people. We also acknowledge the contributions of Aboriginal Australians and non-Aboriginal Australians to the education of all children and people in this country.

Please take a minute to observe the emergency exits in the Concert Hall. In the event of an emergency, the front of house staff will direct the evacuation of the audience.

We would like to welcome our special guests to tonight's concert.....

.....

Compere 1:

Our instrumentalists for tonight's concert are...Alison Conroy on Piano, Daniel Susnjar and Marcus Perrozzi on Percussion.... and Karl Florisson on Bass. Our string players are the wonderful CHURCHLANDS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL String Quartet and our conductors for this evening are Mary-Anne Goyder and Mirelle Hopwood. (lead applause)

Tutafanya! (Toota - far - ya)

Our next song.....'We Will', by Jim Papoulis,.....is a compelling piece which uses both English and Swahili to convey a message that we must send the best part of ourselves into the future through our children.

This song again features our soloist for this evening,
HANNAH GAVANZO from **BALCATT**A Primary School.

We welcome our conductor and the Massed Choir.

Both Comperes to sit

(Sing 'We Will'.)

Both Comperes to the microphone

COMPERE 2:

With performances held over nine nights, the Massed Choir Festival showcases excellence in choral music in our public primary schools. It provides the students and teachers with the opportunity to work with experienced choral conductors and gives the students the rare and exciting experience of performing in a massed choir of 450 voices.

Compere 1:

This year 87 schools, and nearly 5000 students, will be singing as part of the festival. Tonight, you are being entertained by the following fabulous schools.

(Wait for each school to stand and take applause... Compere 2 to sit the last school down with an indication of their arm)

- Rostrata Primary School...
- Jolimont Primary School...
- Palmyra Primary School...
- Bannister Creek Primary School...
- Warriapendi Primary School
- Alinjarra Primary School...
- Balcatta Primary School...
- Greenwood Primary School...
- and
- Marmion Primary School...

Compere 2:

Each year we choose to highlight Australian music and composers in the festival. Bush ballads are a folk music and poetry tradition passed down from generation to generation. They bring to life stories of living in the wide-open countryside of Australia. Our next song, 'The Wild Colonial Boy' has been arranged by Australian composer Ian Jefferson. It is an exciting adaptation of a well-known story about bushranger Jack Doolan... who terrorized the Victorian countryside before facing a dramatic standoff with three troopers.

Please welcome our conductor and the Massed Choir.

Both Comperees to sit

(Sing 'The Wild Colonial Boy'.)

COMPERE 1 ONLY TO COME TO MICROPHONE (GUEST CHOIR INTRODUCTION:)

Compere 1:

Our first guest choir for this evening is the wonderful MADJITIL MOORNA!

(Compere 1 to sit)

COMPERE 2 ONLY TO COME TO THE MICROPHONE

Compere 2:

Thank you, **MADJITIL MOORNA**. Can you please join me in giving them another round of applause.

Our next song.... 'Shackleton'....by Australian composer Paul Jarman.... is one of the greatest stories of survival in the history of exploration. It is considered to be the last great polar journey of the "Heroic Age of Exploration". Whilst circumnavigating Antarctica, 28 men on the ship 'Endurance' were trapped in the ice. Due to the heroic efforts of Captain Ernest Shackleton, the crew were finally rescued 21 months after they began their journey. Not one member of the crew was lost! After their enormous hardship, they sadly returned to a world engulfed in war.

Our soloist for this song is: **JESS BOURGAULT** from **MARMION** Primary School.

We welcome back our conductor and the Massed Choir.

Compere 2 to sit
(Sing 'Shackleton'.)

BOTH COMPERES TO COME TO THE MICROPHONE

Compere 1:

Our commissioned work for this year is 'Against the Odds' by Australian composer Mark Puddy. In March 1907, at Bonnievale,.... near Coolgardie in Western Australia,.... Modesto Varischetti, a miner, was trapped in a mine which had flooded due to heavy rain. After nine days he was rescued thanks to the heroic efforts of the mining community. In this incredible race against time;.... ingenuity, bravery, doggedness and sheer desperation from many different people combined to save a man's life.

Compere 2:

Mines inspector Josiah Crabb was responsible for not giving up on the possibility that Varischetti might be alive. His seven year old son, Frank, suggested that a diver could get down into the watery depths to save him. A special train from Fremantle brought the required air hoses and two divers, Frank Hughes and Tom Hearn, who were able to effect the rescue. Varischetti's heroic tale was truly 'Against the Odds'.

Please welcome back our conductor and the massed choir!

Both Comperes sit

(Sing 'Against the Odds'.)

Var (rhymes with bar) i-sket-ti

BOTH COMPERES TO COME TO MICROPHONE

Compere 1:

A reminder that we have organized for tonight's concert to be professionally photographed and videoed. Details regarding online ordering of these photos and recordings are provided in the program and on your seats. These provide a lovely memento of the festival for the students on stage, their family and friends.

Compere 2:

Indigenous songwriter Archie Roach composed 'The Colour of Your Jumper' in 1993. The song was inspired by AFL legend Nicky Winmar, a young West Australian, who is proud of his heritage and people, and who made it as an elite sportsman. His statue stands proudly outside OPTUS stadium.

The message is strong – be proud and true to who you are and what you can achieve.

It features our soloist **GIA BUI** from **WARRIAPENDI** Primary School.

Compere 1:

'Enjoy the Storm' by Australian composer Ian Jefferson is a descriptive piece from the set, 'Between the Wind and Water'. It is a magical performance of Mother Nature's display during a storm. The constant rhythmic changes drive the momentum as the storm builds. Let us take you from a field of tranquil green, to nature's battle scene!

We welcome back our conductors and the Massed Choir.

Both COMPERES to be seated

(Sing 'Colour of Your Jumper' and 'Enjoy the Storm'.)

COMPERE 2 only TO COME TO MICROPHONE
(GUEST CHOIR INTRODUCTION)

Compere 2:

Our next guest choir for this evening's concert is STRIKE A CHORD.

Tonight they will sing....

(Compere 2 to sit)

BOTH COMPERES TO COME TO MICROPHONE

(after Guest Choir)

Compere 1:

Thank you STRIKE A CHORD for being part of our concert tonight. Please give them another round of applause. (lead applause)

We would like to thank and acknowledge the Department of Education for providing this festival with sponsorship. We are very grateful for the ongoing support and financial assistance, which has been invaluable to the day-to-day running and organization of this festival. It also enables us to commission works by Australian composers. These songs not only support the Western Australian Curriculum but are also chosen specifically to engage our students in unique and timely Western Australian historical events.

Compere 2:

We would also like to thank the Instrumental Music School Services and Principal Bruce Herriman who continues to support our festival.....

'Take to the Sky' is our second song this evening by Australian composer Paul Jarman. It is the finale to the song cycle... 'Flight'; a piece that captures the romance, history and spirit of flight. It also honours aviation pioneers from around the world, culminating in a journey into space itself.

Our soloists for this song will be **SARAH HALL** from Bannister Creek Primary School and **JESS BOURGAULT** from Marmion Primary School.

Compere 1:

'Edge of the Kimberley' is another of our Australian songs tonight, and how much more Australian could it be when it is written by Colin Buchanan. It depicts the contrasts of the vast Kimberley region of Western Australia. Wander out yonder with us... 'a couple of hours and you're going to be on the edge of the Kimberley!'

Please welcome back our conductors and the Massed Choir.

Both comperes to sit

(Sing 'Take to the Sky' and 'Edge of the Kimberley'.)

Compere 1 and 2 come to the microphone

Compere 2:

Do **you** remember when rock was young? ...

Written by Elton John and Bernie Taupin in 1972... 'Crocodile Rock' takes a nostalgic look at Rock and Roll, dating, and the youthful independence of that era. The title is a play on two Bill Haley songs – See You Later Alligator and Rock Around the Clock and contains flavours of Sir Elton's favourite early music rock songs.

We are sure you are familiar with this song and we would love you to join in with us.

COMPERE 1:

Our final song for this evening is a song dear to our hearts. During the uncertain times in 2020, Telethon gave us an amazing opportunity to be a part of a 'virtual choir' uniting primary school children across Western Australia. 'Times Like These', by the Foo Fighters, is an uplifting song that encourages us to never give up, and reminds us that we make it better together, we make a better life. What a fantastic way to end our concert tonight.

It will feature the following soloists...

ELISE TAN from Rostrata Primary School, INDIGO FRASER from Palmyra Primary School, SARAH HALL from Bannister Creek Primary School, HANNAH GAVANZO from Balcatta Primary School and JESS BOURGAULT from Marmion Primary School.

Please welcome back for the final time our conductors and the Massed Choir.

Both COMPERES to sit

(Sing 'Crocodile Rock' and 'Times Like These'.)

FINAL BOW

Conductors, Mary-Anne Goyder and Mirelle Hopwood, lead final bow.

All committee members, instrumentalists, comperes and soloists to join 'chorus line' for a bow!

(BOTH COMPERES TO COME TO MICROPHONE)

Compere 2:

This performance has united choirs from different public schools. We couldn't have come this far without our teachers who are the heart and soul of our education system. It is their dedication and encouragement that ensures the continued success of the Massed Choir Festival. We would like to acknowledge and thank everyone who has contributed in any way, great or small, on stage or behind the scenes, to this performance. Please give them a round of applause.

(Lead applause)

Last, but not least...we must acknowledge the fantastic effort put in by all students in our massed choir. (Lead applause)

Compere 1:

Students from _____ Primary schools, can be collected from the St Georges Terrace side exit doors on the terrace level. All other students can be collected from the balcony exit doors on the river side.

In order to access these doors, you will need to exit the Concert Hall foyer and walk up the ramp or stairs to get to the St Georges terrace level. Continue on, around the sides of the hall to access the balcony doors.

Doors will be clearly marked with school names. Due to safety reasons, choirs will not be brought to their collection points until the hall is empty. To make this process run smoothly and quickly, we ask that only one parent or caregiver, per child, goes to the collection point.

Compere 2:

Music has the power to bring laughter or tears to us all, no matter what age or stage we are in our lives. We hope tonight has left you with a smile on your face. We thank you for attending and supporting the students who have performed in the 2021 **WA Massed Choir Festival**.

The Massed Choir would like to leave you with one more reminder from tonight's concert ...

(Comperes together)

“We look forward to seeing you again in 2022!”

(2022 – Two thousand and 22)