



**PAST
PRESENT
FUTURE**

**Supporting
Live Local Music**



1926 to 2026

Patron: Dr Geoffrey Lancaster AO

President: Tommy Seah

rsmc@rsmc.info • www.rsmc.info • Tel: 0419 930 624



COMMITTEE 2026

Patron: Dr Geoffrey Lancaster AM

President: Tommy Seah
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Honorary Treasurer: Mark Lim
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Hugh Lydon Veronica Moylan OAM
Marilyn Phillips OAM Margaret Pride OAM
Ashley William Smith Paul Wright

RSMC (Inc) Awards

ROYAL OVER-SEAS LEAGUE SINGING AWARD

(Annual, established 1997)

RSMC CENTENARY SCHOLARSHIP

(Biennial, established 2006)

GEOFFREY LANCASTER KEYBOARD PRIZE

Best performance – 18thC or 19thC work
(Biennial, established 2019)

MAX AND LORRAINE KOUSINS WIND and BRASS AWARD

(Biennial, established 2020)

WINIFRED HURFORD AWARDS for SINGER and ASSOCIATE ARTIST (PIANO)

(Annual, established 2022)

MICHAELA COLLINGWOOD CHORAL AWARD

(Centenary, established 2025)

These awards to young musicians are made possible by the generosity of donors to the RSMC (Inc.)

Further donations to the above awards are welcome.



Meetings are held once a month starting in March, when members and lovers of music gather to enjoy **live, local music**, performed by professional and amateur musicians in a soirée setting. Refreshments and programme included in the ticket price

2026 – VENUES

CMA = Callaway Music Auditorium

EJS = Eileen Joyce Studio

GHB = Government House Ballroom

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7 MARCH, 6.30pm CMA – Saturday <i>Les Préludes</i> Presented by Tommy Seah and Anna Sleptsova	4
12 APRIL, 5pm CMA – Sunday <i>Songs Without Silence – Voice, Clarinet and Piano</i> Presented by Lisa Harper-Brown, Cecilia Sun, Ashley Smith	5
10 MAY, 2.30pm CMA – Sunday <i>RSMC Centenary Scholarship Performances</i>	6
7 JUNE, 2.30pm CMA – Sunday <i>Michaela Collingwood Choral Award Finalists</i> Presented by six selected choirs	7
18 JULY, 2.30pm CMA – Saturday <i>Celebrating Young Musicians</i>	8
9 AUGUST, 2.30pm CMA – Sunday <i>Excellence Awards – ROSL/Hurford</i>	9
5 SEPTEMBER, 2.30pm CMA – Saturday <i>Max and Lorraine Kousins Wind and Brass Awards</i>	10
10 OCTOBER, 6pm GHB Government House Ballroom – Saturday <i>100th Birthday Concert and Dinner</i> Gala Event: see www.rsmc.info for details	11
8 NOVEMBER, 2.30pm EJS – AGM – Sunday <i>Echoes of Antiquity</i> Presented by Jango Chapkhana	12
5 DECEMBER, 5pm CMA – Saturday <i>Celebratory Seasonal Selections</i> Presented by the recipient of the MCC Award	13

First meeting of the LAB Club (name changed in 1935 to Royal Schools Music Club) was on 30 September 1926. First public concert was held on 10 November 1926.



CENTENARY OPENING CONCERT

LES PRÉLUDES



Presented
by
Tommy Seah
and
Anna Sleptsova



Pianists Anna Sleptsova and Tommy Seah will present the opening concert of our centenary year with a recital program for four hands. The duo will perform a selection of works by Schubert, Brahms, and Liszt, along with several solo pieces. Coming to Australia from Ukraine in 1995, Anna Sleptsova has had a long concert career and for many years was Head of Piano at WAAPA. She is an honorary life member of the club, and our president Tommy Seah was one of her pupils. Tommy is a Singapore-born pianist based in Perth, and he also teaches at WAAPA.



Pre-concert refreshments

DATE/TIME: Saturday 7 March 2026
@ 6.30pm
VENUE: Callaway Music
Auditorium
COST: \$35
Full-time students \$5



Trybooking: <https://www.trybooking.com/DJDSZ>



SONGS WITHOUT SILENCE – VOICE, CLARINET, PIANO

Presented by
Lisa Harper-Brown
(voice),
Cecilia Sun (piano),
Ashley William Smith,
(clarinet)

Join UWA Conservatorium colleagues for an intimate concert celebrating women's musical voices of the nineteenth century. Ashley Smith and Cecilia Sun with UWA's newly appointed Chair of Classical Voice, Lisa Harper-Brown will perform alongside outstanding UWA students in a programme including works by Clara Schumann and Josephine Lang.



DATE/TIME: Sunday 12 April
2026 @ 5pm

VENUE: Callaway Music
Auditorium

COST: \$35
Full-time students \$5



Trybooking: <https://www.trybooking.com/DJDTC>



CENTENARY SCHOLARSHIPS

Exciting Scholarship Performances

This concert is a performance by the applicants for the *RSMC Centenary Scholarships*, previously called the *Royal Schools Anniversary Scholarship*. It is a wonderful way to showcase excellent young musicians on various instruments or voice and makes for a most enjoyable concert.

The Scholarship was first awarded in 2006, during the 80th anniversary year. This year, to celebrate the Centenary there will be two awards of \$5000 and \$3000. The Scholarship allows for an outstanding young WA musician to undertake a musical *project* of their choice.

Celebrate Mother's Day with us.

DATE/TIME: Sunday 10 May 2026

@ 2.30pm

VENUE: Callaway Music
Auditorium

COST: \$25
Full time students \$5



Trybooking: <https://www.trybooking.com/DJDTG>

The RSMC has great pleasure in advising that applications are now open. The closing date for applications is **30th March 2026**.

The full Terms and Conditions, an Application Form and a Template for the project can be found on the website: www.rsmc.info





MICHAELA COLLINGWOOD CHORAL AWARD (MCC AWARD)

Presented by six finalists.

Choral music is loved by singers and music lovers alike. Indulge your senses in this concert which will feature six selected choirs which have succeeded as finalists of this Award.

This Choral Award is possible thanks to a generous bequest from a long and loyal member of the Club, the late Michaela Collingwood.

The adjudicator will be esteemed choral specialist
Dr Margaret Pride OAM.

DATE/TIME: Sunday 7 June 2026
@ 2.30pm

VENUE: Callaway Music
Auditorium, UWA

COST: \$25
Full-time students \$5



Trybooking: <https://www.trybooking.com/DJDTI>

Information and Entry forms available at:
<https://rsmc.info/category/awards/>

CLOSING DATE: 30th April 2026



Pictured:
Michaela
Collingwood



CELEBRATING YOUNG MUSICIANS

A highlight every year is the student concert. They are always delightful and enjoyable. The Club takes pride that many past performers have gained national and international acclaim.

The Club continues to deliver one of its aims, which is giving practical encouragement to young musicians. Performers at all levels, from the early stages of learning to the most advanced at diploma level and beyond will be playing.

Their performances can be expected to be a very high standard and a joy to hear on a variety of instruments.

Please invite friends and family to enjoy a wonderful afternoon concert of excellent music.

DATE/TIME: Saturday 18 July
2026 @ 2.30pm
VENUE: Callaway Music
Auditorium
COST: \$25
Full-time students \$5



Trybooking: <https://www.trybooking.com/DJDTM>





RSMC EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Comprising
**ROYAL OVER-SEAS LEAGUE AWARD FOR
YOUNG SINGERS (ROSL)**

**WINIFRED HURFORD AWARDS FOR A SINGER
AND AN ASSOCIATE ARTIST (PIANO) (HURFORD)**

APPLICATIONS CLOSE: 1st July 2026

The RSMC is once again presenting the “RSMC Excellence Awards” with a total of \$6000 in prizes.

This is a most exciting concert which you should not miss. It has proven to be an outstanding event over the past three years, since the Hurford Awards were added to the *Royal Over-Seas League Singing Award*.



ROSL – Prizes for the *Royal Over-Seas League Singing Award* are generously donated by the WA Branch of the *Royal Over-Seas League*.

First prize: \$1000 Second prize: \$600 Third prize: \$400



HURFORD – Both the pianist and the singer are being adjudicated not necessarily performing together. Prizes are generously donated by Peter Hurford in memory of his mother.

One pianist and one singer will each receive \$2000.

DATE/TIME: Sunday 9 August
2026 @ 2.30pm

VENUE: Callaway Music
Auditorium

COST: \$25
Full-time students \$5



Trybooking: <https://www.trybooking.com/DJDTs>

Information and Entry forms available at:
<https://rsmc.info/category/awards/>

CLOSING DATE: 1st July 2026



MAX AND LORRAINE KOUSINS WIND AND BRASS AWARDS

All RSMC competitions are in fact CONCERTS as these events happen in a friendly soir e setting, which makes for really wonderful concerts.

The Max and Lorraine Kousins Wind and Brass Awards are held every second year, and this Centenary year the special prizes are gratefully received from Max and Lorraine Kousins to support wind and brass students.

DATE/TIME: Saturday 5 September 2026 @ 2.30pm
VENUE: Callaway Music Auditorium
COST: \$25
Full-time students \$5



Trybooking: <https://www.trybooking.com/DJDTX>

Information and Entry forms available at:
<https://rsmc.info/category/awards/>

CLOSING DATE: 15th August 2026





**GALA EVENT -
PAST, PRESENT,
FUTURE
CONCERT AND
DINNER
GOVERNMENT HOUSE
BALLROOM**

One hundred years of celebrating musicians from the Past, the Present and the Future, still rings true today and will be reflected in this concert and dinner. And as the Club's objective is *Supporting Live, Local Music and Musicians* the RSMC is proud to continue these traditions, which will include musicians who have supported and performed at the Club. At this gala event there will be a distinguished line-up of well-loved Perth musicians and some special surprises. *Aquinas Schola Cantorum* under the direction of Hugh Lydon will perform the world premiere of a work by Iain Grandage OAM, which has been commissioned by the Club for the Centenary.

During the dinner Geoffrey Lancaster AO will launch the book *Past Present Future – One Hundred Years of the RSMC* written by John Meyer and based on the first 90 years written by Jean Farrant Harvey.

The event will be held in the magnificent Ballroom. His Excellency the Honourable Chris Dawson AC APM Governor of Western Australia and Mrs Darrilyn Dawson will be in attendance.

Open to both members and non-members. The event is not covered by the annual subscription fee. Members book separately and get a discounted fee.

RSVP Essential by: 19th September 2026

DATE/TIME: Saturday 10 October 2026 @ 6pm

For further information: www.rsmc.info



ECHOES OF ANTIQUITY



featuring
Jango Chapkhana
(harpsichord)

BMus(Hons)(WA),
AMusA, ATCL, LTCL,
Dip ABRSM, LRSM,
FRSM, SIMT

This programme will consist of a contrasting selection of music representing the Elizabethan Virginal School, the French Baroque and the North German school of harpsichord writing. One of the most versatile musicians in Australia, Jango Chapkhana is an organist, harpsichordist and pianist of international standing. An acclaimed recording artist, he has recently recorded the complete harpsichord works of William Croft in Germany and the complete works for solo organ by Handel in London for Brilliant Classics. Jango Chapkhana divides his time between Australia and his home in Paris.

RSMC Annual General Meeting 2.30pm
followed by concert at 2.40pm.

DATE/TIME: Sunday 8 November
2026 @ 2.30pm

VENUE: Eileen Joyce Studio

COST: \$35
Full-time students \$5



Trybooking: <https://www.trybooking.com/DJDUI>



CELEBRATORY SEASONAL SELECTIONS

Presented by the choir recipient of the Michaela Collingwood Choral Award (MCC Award)

End the Centenary Year on a high note. Ring in the Christmas festivities with joyful and uplifting choral music. The concert ends with community carols and Christmas fare. All are invited to contribute non-perishables to the hamper for the needy and bring small change for the Christmas raffle.

Bring young and old to celebrate with us at this Christmas concert.

DATE/TIME: Saturday 5 December
2026, 5pm

VENUE: Callaway Music
Auditorium, UWA

COST: \$25
Full-time students \$5



Trybooking: <https://www.trybooking.com/DJDUL>





~ HISTORICAL BACKGROUND ~

Local musicians founded the LAB (Licentiates of the Associated Board) Club for English diploma holders at the suggestion of the visiting examiner for the Associated Board in 1926, Maurice Besly. Mr Harry Vowles was the first President, followed by Mrs Cecil Mason and in 1935 the name was changed to its present title of the *Royal Schools Music Club*.

Members met regularly on Saturday evenings in the Lady Onslow Hall (Karrakatta Club), and in this gracious setting solo recitals and ensembles were presented for friends of music. Full formal dress was worn, with ladies in long gloves – and delicate suppers were served. Special evenings were arranged for the visiting examiners from England.

Between 1947 and 1952 the Club used various venues around Perth. However in 1986 it moved to The University of Western Australia, where it first met in the Eileen Joyce Studio at the School of Music, followed by the Callaway Music Auditorium, its present home.

Meetings were always held on a Saturday evening until 1997 when, in the three winter months of June, July and August, they were replaced by Sunday afternoons. Refreshments (provided by members), are still served at each concert. Traditionally, every meeting started with the assembled company singing both the British and Australian national anthems.

Members of the *Royal Schools Music Club (Inc.)*, RSMC, continue to be musicians and music lovers from all walks of life.

To commemorate the centenary a history of the Club will combine the book *The history of the Royal Schools Music Club 1926-2006* and *Ten Years On – The Royal Schools Music Club Turns 90 2007-2016* (both by Jean Farrant) with the additional final 10 years, into one publication, by Dr John Meyer.

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~ OBJECTS OF THE CLUB ~

- To advance the Art of Music
- To promote and stimulate the interest of music and musicians in Western Australia
- To assist members to obtain performance opportunities
- To provide for the social interaction of members and kindred organisations
- To assist members with advice
- To give practical encouragement to young musicians
- To give members the opportunity of hearing the works of modern and contemporary composers as well as the classics
- To be of assistance to school music departments
- To discuss all subjects relating to music
- To acquire such assets as the Committee may deem advisable

~ JOIN RSMC – MEMBERSHIP ~

Membership is open to any person who supports the objects of the Club. Annual subscription is \$75, or \$15 for full-time students under the age of 18. Members receive free entry to all concerts (except special events), a programme and refreshments, as well as a monthly newsletter.

Join here: www.rsmc.info. You will be taken to: <https://rsmc.helloclub.com/> to set up your profile and join.

~ ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS ~

It is with deep gratitude that we acknowledge the contributions made by so many people over 100 years, who have as volunteers kept the *Royal Schools Music Club* not only alive, but thriving. The Club supports “Live, Local Music” and celebrates the *Past, Present and Future*.

Donations are welcome and can be made to the RSMC Centenary Fund at the door at concerts (cash or card), or by bank transfer (CommBank: 066 001 – 0090 4156). Please include your name.