

The Catholic Weekly

ACPA 2021
AWARD WINNER

SPOTLIGHT

PERFORMING ARTS MEDIA ARTS VISUAL ARTS TAS

Welcome to *The Catholic Weekly's Spotlight* magazine.

We feel it important to give our schools a platform to highlight the talents and creative abilities of our students and this is how *Spotlight* was born.

Not only are schools given the opportunity to highlight their best creative talents but also acknowledge the teachers behind the scenes, who nurture and support them.

Spotlight also gives schools the opportunity to showcase what they provide - a great opportunity for parents who are looking for a school that offers a comprehensive creative program.

We hope you enjoy this year's issue and look forward to showcasing the many up and coming talents in our Catholic Schools in the future.

- Enjoy!

FEATURED SCHOOLS

St Mary's Cathedral College, Sydney

T: (02) 9235 0500

www.smccsydney.catholic.edu.au p4-5

Southern Cross Catholic College, Burwood

T: (02) 8633 8100

www.sccvc.catholic.edu.au..... p6-7

St Clare's College, Waverley

T: (02) 8305 7100

www.stclares.syd.catholic.edu.au p8-9

St Andrews College, Marayong

T: (02) 9626 4000

www.standrewscmarayong.catholic.edu.au ... p10

Casimir Catholic College, Marrickville

T: (02) 9558 2888

www.casimirmarrickville.syd.catholic.edu.au ..p14-15

SPOTLIGHT

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PERFORMANCE

St Mary's Cathedral
College, Sydney



St Mary's Cathedral College



VISUAL ARTS



MUSIC



DRAMA



ENSEMBLES

Creative Arts at St Mary's Cathedral College

Choir Program | Instrumental Tuition | Diverse Music Ensembles | Visual Arts | Drama

Creative Arts plays a central role in the academic and social life of St Mary's Cathedral College. For decades music has been central to the College identity and a source of the reputation students and Old Boys enjoy. No less important but perhaps less well known are the hundreds of students that study Visual Arts and Drama and a range of Technology subjects.

Music

The College's music program is wide-ranging. The Primary classes, composed of students in Years 3–6, are all either members of the Cathedral Choir, one of Australia's elite sacred vocal ensembles, or talented instrumentalists. A number of students are both. Students who begin in the choir as boy sopranos graduate to become tenors and baritones in time and maintain their connection with the Choir through their high schooling and sometimes beyond. The relationship with the Choir extends to the whole school, as each year Mr Thomas Wilson, Director of Music at St Mary's Cathedral, coaches the whole student body in the Mass Choir item that always marks the climax of the College Concert.

The Concert, one of the most important in the College year, has traditionally taken place at a packed Sydney Town Hall every June, and the entire community were thrilled to return this year after two years of pandemic controls which prevented a live performance. A diverse array of ensembles and individual performers, incorporating music, drama, and dance were featured in the production, *Destination Unknown*. The ensembles—including a full orchestra, stage bands, jazz groups, and a variety of string and vocal combinations—are composed of students who are among the more than 300 boys who study an instrument as part of the College's instrumental tuition program. This number has been swelled in 2022 with



Students from the Vocal Ensemble performing at Sydney Town Hall in the College Concert.

the inauguration of the Amadeus program in the College, which involves all students in Year 7 learning a musical instrument. All students study Music at

Stage 4 and a variety of elective classes are offered for students in Stages 5 and 6, including Music, Music Extension I, and Music Extension II at HSC level. The

College's results in these exams have been very strong, and a number of students have gone on to pursue tertiary studies at the Conservatorium.



Visual Arts

Visual Arts is a very popular subject at the school and in the last few years a second specialist art room has been built to cater for increased numbers. Students study Visual Arts in Stage 4 and a range of electives are available in Stages 5 and 6. Students in Primary also have access to specialised art instruction. In the 2 unit Visual Arts HSC course the College has a history of outstanding results. Edward Parsons, from the Class of 2021, had his work exhibited at the Art Gallery of NSW as part of the NESA showcase, ArtExpress, in March this year.



Drama

Drama is also offered at the College, with a specialist Drama room having been built as part of a larger set of refurbishments in recent years. There are Drama courses offered from Years 9–12. Students involved in these courses have staged a number of plays and have competed in Theatresports and other competitions. A number of students have had performances shortlisted for the NESA showcase OnStage.



Technical and Applied Studies

In addition to the encouragement provided to the Creative Arts, the College offers a wide range of other subjects that harness the creativity of young men to productive ends. Students in Stage 4 study Technology, which introduces students to working with mixed materials (including timber and metal), digital technologies, engineering, and food. In Stage 5 students can study elective courses to further their education in these fields, including Food Technology. Senior students can choose from a variety of courses as part of their HSC studies including Industrial Technology (working with timber, multimedia, or graphics), Information Processes Technology (where students learn not only about computers and how they work but the social implications of new technology), Engineering, and Construction. All of these courses involve students designing and completing projects that combine creativity and knowledge. The College's results over a long period of time demonstrate the expertise of the teaching staff in these courses: in 2020 the school recorded more Band 6 results in Industrial Technology than any other school in NSW; in 2022 sixteen students have had their projects shortlisted for inclusion in the InTech and Shape exhibitions that will follow the HSC this year. The entire TAS area of the College has been completely refurbished in the last two years, giving students an even better platform to use for their explorations of technology.





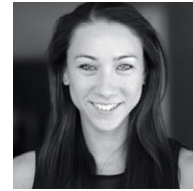
Southern
Cross Catholic
College **Established 2010**



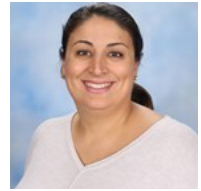
LUKE COLLINS
HEAD OF SCHOOL
PERFORMING ARTS &
CREATIVE INDUSTRIES



LUCY EATON
DANCE, MUSICAL
THEATRE



MELANIE MAUDAUVE
DRAMA, DANCE,
MUSIC THEATRE



VITA GREENE
MUSIC

PERFORMING ARTS AUDITIONS NOW OPEN

Innovative & excellent

Want to see your name in lights? Southern Cross Burwood is currently accepting enrolments by audition for its 2023 Performing Arts stream.

Southern Cross Catholic College is offering full-time and part-time enrolments in Years 9 to 12 as part of its "Ignite Your Passion" initiative.

The Performing Arts stream provides a specialist pathway for talented performers with experience in, and a passion for, Dance, Drama and Music to get a foot in the door of their dream job before graduating.

Students have access to state-of-the-art facilities and industry specific equipment to succeed, including a recently upgraded dance studio, 400-seat auditorium, dedicated recording studio and control room, green screen room, music and drama studios.

All the programs are led by industry experts.

SEBASTIAN YOUSEFF DREAMS OF BEING A FAMOUS ACTOR

There are loads of course pathways he could have followed to land his dream career.

With the hope of one day establishing a career as an actor, he chose a Performing Arts ATAR pathway at Southern Cross Catholic College Burwood.

Sebastian (pictured right) said he loved that the College allowed him to tap into his creative side.

"I want to go to NYU Tisch School of the Arts," Sebastian explained. "If not Tisch, then NIDA or WAAPA (the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts)."

As a first step he is undertaking senior Stage 6 Drama and to complement his passion for the Performing Arts he is also about to complete a Certificate III in Screen and Media at Southern Cross, Sydney Catholic Schools' only specialist performing arts college.

His passion for acting was sparked two years ago when he watched 'The Lighthouse'.

"I thought that was great and joined The Art Umbrella (School of Performing Arts)," said Sebastian, who is now in Year 11.

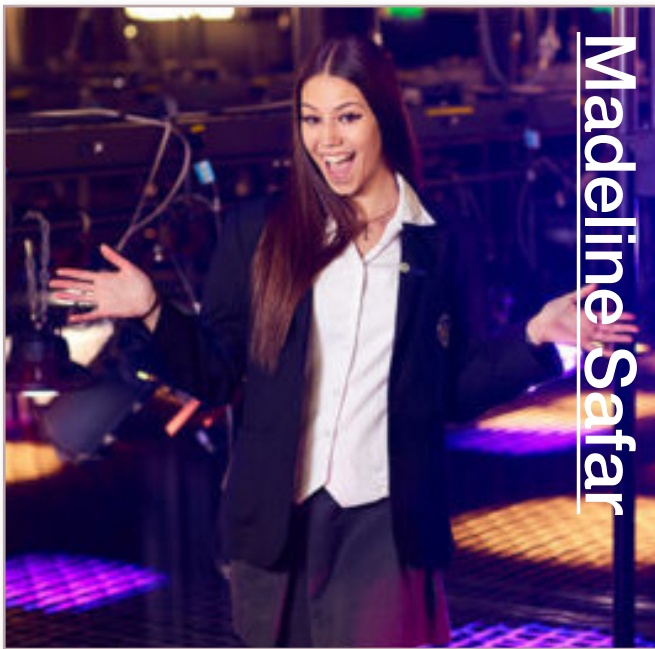
"There's nothing better than doing a good performance, and people saying you were great!"



Sebastian Youseff

Acting aspirant Sebastian Youseff playing his guitar

For more info go to www.sccvc.catholic.edu.au



Madeline Safar

Madeline Safar - Performing Arts ATAR pathway

World at her feet

Year 12 student **Madeline Safar** (or Maddy, as she's affectionately known) is pursuing a Performing Arts ATAR pathway at the College. Studying a Certificate III in Community, Dance Theatre and Events has allowed her to follow all her passions and she has already secured her place as a full time student at Sydney performing arts academy ED5 International next year.

The Certificate III lays the foundations for stricter dance training in her future pathway at ED5 International. There she will come out with an Advanced Diploma after two years, ready to see her name in lights. Not that Maddy has been resting on her laurels.

She recently performed in the first Sydney Archdiocesan musical, Fame Jr., and she has performed in Grease The Musical mass ensemble at Qudos Bank Arena and in Wizard of Oz mass ensemble, both with Harvest Rain, Australia's largest not-for-profit youth arts organisation. "What do I love about dancing? That I'm able to express emotions through movements and just the feeling of being on stage in front of a crowd," Maddy, an aspiring commercial and musical theatre dancer, said. She has also appeared in four television commercials for KFC, Big W, Stayz Accommodation and Suncorp. Maddy says the College has been instrumental in helping her grow as a performer. "I'm enjoying doing all the Performing Arts subjects: Dance, Drama, Music and Musical Theatre," she said.

AUDITIONS

Southern Cross is now holding auditions for its 2023 Performing Arts stream. Located in the inner-west of Sydney, Southern Cross is offering full-time and part-time enrolments in Years 9 to Year 12 as part of its "Ignite Your Passion" initiative. "The Performing Arts stream provides a specialist pathway for gifted and talented students with experience in, and a passion for, the performing arts in Music, Dance and Drama," said the Head of Performing Arts at the College, Luke Collins.



From left to right: Taylah Hall, Sarah Rizk, Madeline Safar, Will Emerson, Gisele Klotz, Rosie Tsaccounis, Ashlee Parker is

The 2022 graduates, the first cohort to graduate, have done themselves and the College proud. A number of students have received the highest level recognition from the HSC performance examinations including nominations for the prestigious "Callback" for HSC Dance and "Encore" for HSC Music. The honour roll includes nominations for: Callback (Dance) received by Madeline Safar, a full-time performing arts student, and part-time ViVA! students Rosie Tsaccounis, Taylah Hall and Gizele Klotz; and Encore (Music) received by Bianca Sainz, a full-time performing arts student.



St Clare's
College
Waverley



HEAD OF
CREATIVE ARTS



HEAD OF
PERFORMING ARTS



TEACHER OF
PERFORMING ARTS

Light from Within

SHINING LIGHT ON THE GIFTS OF EACH YOUNG STUDENT

St Clare's College is one of the most innovative schools in Australia. The College shines a light on the gifts of each young woman, challenging her to action and celebrating her impact on the world. We aim to empower resilient, respectful and responsible young women to reach their potential.

As a community we celebrate the student talent that is on display at various events and activities. The College strives to provide an atmosphere of enrichment for students displaying an interest and ability in all facets of the Arts: Visual Arts and Performing Arts, including Music and Drama.

Every student benefits from personalised learning in an environment that is future-focused and centred on growth, development and belonging.

The Creative team is made up of talented teachers who engage, encourage and inspire the students. It is through their expertise that the students develop the skills to create exceptionally mature and often socially motivated bodies of work.

The College also collaborates and engages with industry experts across these fields, hosting dedicated masterclass sessions throughout the year. These partnerships allow us to provide students with a broader scope of knowledge, techniques and processes to then apply to their current and future projects.



Art

Chloe Colman

Year 12 student, Chloe Colman, began her Body of Work with the intention of producing a series of paintings that explored the lived experiences of individuals. Over the course of her HSC journey, her work developed into a series of technically sophisticated oil paintings that present an eerie, mysterious view of the domestic space at twilight. Her finished work 'As the Light Fades' subverts notions of the Australian Dream, positioning the audience as voyeur who peers down darkened hallways and through windows of the suburban family home, into spaces of intrinsic privacy without permission. Her paintings capture a distinct eerie stillness, a prevailing tension that acknowledges the fragility of the home's expected safety. The Australian suburban home is presented as an unreliable sanctuary, dominated by a looming sense of unease.



Visual Arts is enjoyed by students across all year groups at St Clare's College. Students have the opportunity to create artworks in a range of expressive forms and visual art mediums. Each year their artmaking experiences are complemented by practical workshops with specialist artists, in addition to excursions to galleries and major exhibitions such as the Art Gallery of NSW's Archibald Prize and the Biennale of Sydney. In the HSC Course, the students' study in artmaking culminates in their Body of Work. Here students have the opportunity to develop their own artwork through deeper and sustained investigations of practice. A selection of one or more works is made at the conclusion of the course and is submitted as evidence of what students know and can do in the practice of artmaking. Each Body of Work is assessed externally by NESA.



Drama

Performing Arts at St Clare's College sees students from Year 9 to 12 hone the craft of improvisation and comedic techniques. This is complemented by the study of world-renowned plays. They learn about acting and the different approaches performers use while playing a role or character. Students are passionate and excited about the study of Drama and this culminates in the Year 12 Performance Evening, where students perform their HSC monologues for an audience at the College. Drama students have continually achieved outstanding results in the HSC with multiple nominations for OnStage and the NESA presentation of exemplary HSC Drama performances, held annually at the Seymour Centre.

Musical Productions

A highlight of 2022 was the production of Legally Blonde Junior The Musical. This was an enthusiastic display of talent by the cast and crew. Our students gave two entertaining performances of the production, held at the Waverley College Performing Arts Centre on 1-2 August 2022. The student cast were supported by a Year 8 crew who took on the various roles of management, sound and lighting, prop making, hair, make-up and front of house. Students also have an opportunity to participate in a collaborative musical performance with Waverley College, which this year was a colourful and entertaining production of Louis Nowra's Cosi. Students regularly perform at special College events including Assemblies, Open Days and more, which requires hard work, dedication and rehearsal sessions.





St Andrews College, Marayong

Opportunities to Succeed

Showcasing our students' talent and skill

St Andrews College is a co-educational school in Western Sydney that has established a thriving culture of creative and performing arts. Our school motto of 'Doing More and Going Beyond' applies to our method of education, with students not only doing exceptionally well academically, but also receiving industry level skills and experience in their chosen path. We are constantly striving to give our students every opportunity to succeed. At St Andrews College, we pride ourselves on giving our students as many opportunities to showcase their creative talents through some of the many events we hold throughout the year.



Explosive Action at CAN

C.A.N is that night of the year, where all school musicians, dancers, artists, photographers and variety entertainers come together for one spectacular experience. This is not just a talent quest, this is an entertainment extravaganza. The production regularly promises to be dynamic, utilising professionals in the Music industry along with help from our very own students in the VET entertainment course. At CAN, you can expect to see a professional camera crew, drones, stage hands, audio, lighting and visual boffins, MC's, promoters, programmers, make-up artists, sponsors, food trucks, staff acts, fireworks and of course, performers who attract thousands to this wonderful outdoor festival.

Our annual creative showcase calendar consists of the following events and initiatives:

- **Jazz Night** - Students perform songs in the style of Jazz as soloists, duo's, trio's and larger ensembles.
- **HSC Art Exhibition**
- **Unity Day** - Students from years 7-12 dressed in traditional costumes performing songs from a wide variety of cultures.
- **HSC Work in Progress Night**
- **Junior CAPA showcase** - Students from years 7 - 10 showcase creative work in Music, Visual Art and Drama for a live audience.
- **SAC Archibald Competition for Year 9**, where students produce a painting focused on a significant person in their life.
- **Operation Art Competition**, internal competition followed by finalists selected to be entered into Operation Art, initiative of Westmead Children's Hospital and NSW Department of Education
- **ArtExpress and The Archibald Prize Excursion** to Art Gallery of NSW
- **Christmas Concert** - Students and staff perform carols and Christmas themed songs for a live audience.



Crystal Phung HSC Body of Works



MUSIC

Amadeus music program

‘Much to the surprise and delight of those around her, Year 6 student Serena serenaded her family on the Viola at a surprise 50th anniversary event.’



Serena has been learning to play the “the big violin” as part of Sydney Catholic Schools’ Amadeus Music Education Program – one of the biggest, most comprehensive and ambitious investments in quality music education ever undertaken in Sydney’s schools – and no one is prouder of her musical progress than Mum.

According to Tanya Rizk, music has positively changed the life of not just Serena but sister Olivia, who also attends St John Vianney Catholic Primary School Greenacre. She credits it all to Amadeus, which is putting more than 50,000 instruments into the hands of every Year 3 to 8 student in Sydney Catholic schools.

“Olivia has always been a shy girl, but not this year,” Ms Rizk remarked glowingly. “It shows when she brings out her Violin and starts to practice.”

Ms Rizk said taking part in Amadeus had given both her daughters a newfound calm,

confidence and a love of music. They were becoming more attentive listeners, as well.

“When they are playing an instrument, it’s like they have gone into a different mode completely. They’ve gone quiet, and they’re in that atmosphere of listening,” she said.

ABOUT AMADEUS

The Amadeus Music Education Program is currently in 58 Sydney Catholic schools and will be rolled out to 40 more in 2023, following the successful large-scale launch of the program last November.

All 150 Sydney Catholic schools will offer the Amadeus program by 2024.

WHAT IS INVOLVED

The Amadeus Music Education Program offers:

- Classroom music lessons led by a specialist music teacher

(Kindergarten to Year 8)

- Small group student instrumental tuition (Years 3 to 8)
- Student instrumental ensemble lessons (Years 3 to 8)

Students receive an instrument, starting with a string instrument in Year 3.

Amadeus will be led by 80 school classroom music teachers and 270 specialist music tutors. These music tutors will bring professional experience from orchestras and ensembles around Australia and the world.

HOW IT LOOKS IN SCHOOLS

Danielle Fuller, Sydney Catholic Schools’ Education Officer: Music K-12, said Amadeus students take part in 30 music lessons in their first year of the program.

Students also learn to play together in either a String Ensemble or Concert Band. Plus they learn arrangements of music from different genres, how to follow a conductor for

dynamics and expression, and gain experience performing as an ensemble for others.

“The response from schools, parents and students has been overwhelmingly positive as we begin to see and hear performances taking place in our schools,” Ms Fuller said.

Opera Australia, Sydney Conservatorium of Music, Sydney Youth Orchestras applaud Amadeus

Opera Australia, the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and Sydney Youth Orchestras have also thrown their support behind Amadeus, acknowledging it as a major injection of music education for Sydney.

“The Amadeus program is visionary and of enormous value to the broader orchestral world,” Lyndon Terracini, the Artistic Director of Opera Australia, said.

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**“Students
are already
performing
beautifully at
assemblies
and year group
meetings”**

- Sydney Catholic Schools’
Education Officer, Danielle Fuller



Amadeus Music Education Program students
Olivia and Serena from St John Vianney
Catholic Primary School Greenacre



Casimir
Catholic College
Marrickville

RACHEAL McCURE
Leader of Learning
CAPA Department



CARMELINA
EUSSEN
College Principal

Providing a diverse range of creative opportunities

The Creative and Performing Arts faculty at Casimir Catholic College Marrickville provides a diverse range of opportunities for all students to express and develop their creative talents in the classroom and in co-curricular activities.

The spectacular and entertaining annual Theatre Production and Showcase evenings are examples of this. Our facilities, subject offerings and talented teachers, students can connect, collaborate and discover the joy of creating and performing.

As a community we come together to show appreciation of the artistic talents of our students. Casimir's Creative and Performing Arts students deliver an evening of entertainment with refined music, drama and dance performances as well as a visual arts display that does not disappoint.



“ Our creative and performing arts students demonstrate what it means to challenge oneself to overcome fears and be courageous and committed. The opportunities at Casimir are extensive.



2022 - Performance of The Importance of Being Earnest.

Yearly Art Exhibition

The yearly Art Exhibitions showcases the skills and amazing artworks of our students, from Visual Arts, Photography, Video and Digital Media classes.

'Believe, Strive and Succeed'



ART EXHIBITION

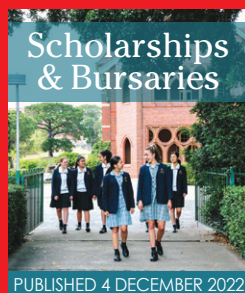


“It is so exciting to see our students perform and display their many talents. As a community the team effort that allows our students to Believe, Strive and Succeed is evident in these performances.”

– Mrs Carmelina Eussen
(College Principal)

ARTS & MUSIC 2022

PERFORMING ARTS MEDIA ARTS VISUAL ARTS TAS



UPCOMING EDUCATION SUPPLEMENTS 2022/23

Enquiries: Call Steve (02) 9390 5404 or Katie (02) 9390 5402