

Abygael Anne Butler

19 Lawnside Drive, Leichhardt NSW 2040

Mobile: 0414 981 062 • Email: abygael@gmail.com • Work: (02) 9999 2222

DIRECTOR, PRODUCER & COORDINATOR OF MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVALS

A reputation for creating centres of excellence for Music through
A Rich & Varied Musical Culture • Peer Mentoring • High-Profile Music Programs

Imaginative and multi-talented music professional with a track record for designing and managing large concerts, festivals, and events which captivate and inspire audiences. Over 25 years of experience in music event management; classroom music; curriculum development; and developing and conducting acclaimed instrumental, band and general music programs. Motivates students to perform at personal-best levels and foster a lifelong appreciation for music through exposure to a wide range of musical styles.

- **Musical Director, Producer and Dance Coordinator** for school productions of *Oliver*, *It's Cool in the Furnace*, *Scrooge*, *Smike*, *Kidsummer Nights Dream*, *Alice in Computerland*, *Play It Up*, and *Showcase*.
- **Choral / Instrumental Director, Conductor, Producer** for many Music and Arts Festivals. At the Kirri Wakka Dance Eisteddfod, the School reached the finals, being awarded 'Winner of Audience Favourite Award'.
- **Received formal and informal recognition** from Principals and Teachers for contributions to Music Festivals, State Choral and Instrumental Concerts, School Spectaculars, and annual concerts / community events encompassing up to 1000 students.
- **Item Director for state-wide student performances at the Olympic Games** and the Pacific School Games Opening Ceremony, receiving rave reviews from renowned committee organisers and contributors.
"A fantastic success...managing a performance group requires enormous effort, dedication, hours of rehearsal, efficient organisation for costumes, transport, fundraising and the discipline to maintain your regular teaching and associated duties." – Roy Olst - President, SOCOG Committee
- **Tutor and mentor**, leading to students winning school scholarships on the strength of auditions; winning places and high commendations in Eisteddfods; gaining leading roles in notable musicals; gaining places at the Sydney Conservatorium; and performing in orchestral groups both nationally and overseas.

Education & Qualifications

Graduate Diploma in Arts, Expressive & Performing Arts – University of Sydney

Associate of Music in Australia (A.Mus.A) – A.M.E.B NSW

Teachers Certificate – NSW Department of Education

Diploma of Teaching – Sydney Teachers College

Performances

Kirri Waka Dance Eisteddfod – Choral/Instrumental Director, Producer (1986 - Present)

Olympic and Pacific School Games Opening Ceremonies – School Choral/Item Director, Conductor (2000 & 2001)

District, Cluster, Regional Music and Arts Festivals – Producer, Director, Conductor, Accompanist (1986 - 2001)

Public School Opera House Concerts – Choral/Instrumental, Director, Tutor (1986 - 2001)

Metropolitan Dance Festivals - Dance Item Producer / Coordinator (1986 – 2000)

Sydney Harbour Music Festivals – Choral/Instrumental Item, Director (1984 – 1985)

Public School Choral Concerts - Choral/Instrumental Item, Tutor (1974 – 1977)

Regional Responsibilities

Recorder Tutor / Choral Tutor – State Music Camp, Glebe (2001 - Present)

String Tutor / Accompanist – State Junior Music Camp, North Sydney (1993 - 2006)

Professional Experience

SYDNEY SCHOOL OF MUSIC (SSM), NSW – 600 Students

2001 to Present

Principal

Mentor & Manager of Teaching Staff

Teacher of Piano & Theory, Accompanist, Band Conductor

School uses a fresh modern approach and quality program to provide instrumental tuition, in classes or as individuals, on a variety of instruments, for children as young as 6-months of age through to adults

Direct business and financial management responsibility, oversees 20 staff, and provides support and encouragement to up to 600 students at any one-given time. Improved the prestige and standing of the school by expanding music programs; introducing new technologies; developing a more rich and varied musical culture within the school; and providing a fresh, creative and innovative approach that supported the school's philosophy 'Music Education is for all'.

Devised events and festivals to showcase the unique talent of students and promote a strong community, cultural and arts focus of the school. Mentored performers, associates, students and teams to champion creativity, inspiration and music appreciation by being a positive role model, implementing high-moral techniques, and demonstrating stability and a commitment to encourage all to achieve their best.

"Thank you for all the time and input into Campbell's music education. Music is a big part of Campbell's life and you have had a significant role in this" - R & J Butler, parents of a 2006 Year 12 student

Performance Leadership

- **Directed and produced** whole of school productions 'Play It Up' and 'Showcase', raising the profile of the school and contributing to it being a centre of excellence school.
- **Planned, produced and compered the combined school's Annual Music Festival** encompassing up to 1000 students and local events comprising up to 100 students. Worked collaboratively with Principals from contributing schools to ensure programs created an extraordinary experience for all involved.
- **Established and organised SSM's annual concerts and community events** - such as the Pink Lady Festival (300 students) – in conjunction with the introduction of a range of local celebrations and festivals, and district music and arts festivals which raised the profile of the school.

Program Development

- **Currently trialling and introducing new technologies** into the music program to assist students in practice techniques and the achievement of excellence by allowing them to record and play back compositions.
- **Introduced talent quests and musical groups** into the program that provided opportunities for gifted students to express themselves while enhancing self-esteem, lead role opportunities, and a feeling of pride within the school and its immediate community. Key outcomes included:-
 - Music became the focus for some gifted student's tertiary studies.
 - 50% of students' became members of orchestras and bands that perform regularly.

Relationship Building

- **Improved the parent-teacher-school connection** by ensuring effective communication practices were in place with parents and staff, leading to strengthened relationships and a climate of trust and collaboration.
- **Consistently ranked as a top instructor and mentor.** Continual requests by students to become tutor/mentor in recognition of ability to inspire, bring about music appreciation, and improve musical talent.

Professional Experience Continued...

- **Supports and mentors undergraduate teachers and secondary students** by being an enthusiastic role model; providing high quality professional instruction; and instilling a desire and dedication to achieve excellence and understanding in all aspects of their musical education.
- **Builds and fosters relationships** to assist the school in providing better services and education to students. This includes preschool, public and private school institutions; other music schools as a way of sharing information and techniques; industry experts such as the A.E.E.B and the Sydney Conservatorium.



JOEY'S PUBLIC SCHOOL, NSW – 850 Students

1986 to 2001

RFF (Music) / Advanced Skills Teacher (1997 - 1998)

A public school providing general education for students from Kindergarten to Year 6

Highly regarded music teacher, tutor and mentor dedicated to enriching and guiding students in learning, enjoying and developing music appreciation that led to creating a centre for excellence school. Played an active role within Fine Arts as **Coordinator, Production/Director District Music & Arts Festivals; Conductor & Accompanist to School & District Massed Choirs & Bands; Band, Choir, Dance Coordinator; and Instrument Teacher.**

Enhanced the quality of Music education for all students by devising an ongoing program of music instruction for all students; introducing and expanding programs that met all student interests; chairing and contributing to committees in the Creative & Practical Arts; integrating technology into the music programme; formulating policies on Music and Creative & Performing Arts; and ensuring staff adopted a uniform and informed music education program.

“You are a credit to Joey’s and we are fortunate to have a dedicated and accomplished music teacher become a part of Jamila’s appreciation and accomplishment in music.” - Sari Brayshaw - Mother of Jamila Brayshaw - student, band member, lead singer in “Smike”

Events & Performances

- **Musical Director, Producer, and Dance Coordinator** for whole of school productions of “*OLIVER*”, “*It’s Cool in the Furnace*”, “*Scrooge*”, “*Smike*”, “*Alice in Computerland*” and “*Kidsummer Nights Dream*” which improved the prestige and standing of the school and contributed to it becoming a centre of excellence school.
- **Coordinator and Founding Committee Member of the Joey’s School Band Program** that led to the school receiving a Bronze Award in the Suzuki Band Competition and performances at local, regional and inter-regional concert events such as the Chinese Lantern Festival, Christmas functions, and community events.

Leadership & Vision

- **Created a centre for excellence in music** by establishing and developing a more rich and varied musical culture within the school that led to strengthening the school’s overall image within the community for their outstanding music programs.
- **Raised the profile of the school** by introducing and implementing a range of programs within the school that created a community environment. This included classroom music programs; art displays; and school plays, musicals and school festivals which encouraged parent, community and teacher participation.

Program Development

- **Introduced visiting experts into the music program**, which inspired students to new heights of success and achievement. Experts included groups such as Musica Viva, Galapagos Duck and visits for the children with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra programs.
- **Introduced programs for special needs and gifted students** that enabled them to learn, enjoy and develop music appreciation and/or participate in activities with mainstream students, such as Band programs and Dance groups. Gifted students were provided with opportunities to take on leadership roles and develop their talents.

Professional Experience Continued...

Classroom Teacher, - RFF in Music, Science, Art & Craft, Library (1986 to 1998)

Appointed at the request of parents and the community to implement a high-profile music program and bring music excellence to the school. Fostered students' aesthetic awareness, enjoyment of the arts and exposure to a wide range of musical styles by playing an active role within Creative and Performing Arts, including **Coordinator, Production/Director District Music & Arts Festivals; Conductor & Accompanist to School & District Massed Choirs & Bands.**

"Thanks for the wonderful job you have done with the choir...for all the hard work...for sharing your musical talent with the children." - Aniyah O'Brien, Mother of Joey's student and Hills Festival Choir student

RESULTS / ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- **Led school productions and events** that generated enormous enthusiasm from students by providing them with an environment to showcase their creativity across all areas of the Fine Arts.
- **Awarded "Teacher of Excellence"** in recognition of ability to impart knowledge and inspire students to new levels of success.
- **Developed and implemented individualised learning programs** that fostered a life-long appreciation for music and music making, contributing to the education and personal enrichment of the whole child.

Professional Development

Accredited Teacher with 'Music Teachers' Association of NSW'

Conducting Workshops

Computer Literacy

Teacher Performance Appraisal

Frontline Management

Project Management

Business & Personnel Management

MYOB

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

This client had approached me as she was wanting to apply for Head of Music & Fine Arts at a leading private school. She knew she had the experience however she was lacking a resume that sold this information. She needed something that highlighted her extensive experience in the industry.

Her current position was with the Sydney School of Music which taught students from zero to adult, and her concern was that she didn't feel she did much in this position and her school experience wouldn't shine through enough to grab a potential employer's attention to show that she had music and arts experience within a school environment.

As the position was wanting someone who had experience in producing and directing festivals, I created a branding statement highlighting this and the fact that she created centres of excellence for music. To ensure her school experience was highlighted, I then developed a series of bullet points under the career profile to drive home her achievements within the school environment...including a quote from a SOCOG committee member for her ability to deliver a wonderful school performance at the Olympic Games.

I then followed this with her education and her Performances and Regional responsibilities, so the first page was packed with Music and Fine Arts Experience that would wet the appetite of a potential employer.

To ensure her experience at the School of Music was treated similarly to a school environment, I broke up the achievements under three headings, Performance Leadership, Program Development and Relationship Building. Under these headings I then listed a number of student-related achievements to help drive home her experience. I also provided a quote from a Year 12 student's parents to reinforce her success with school aged students.

I then followed this format for her next teaching position – the three headings with achievements that supported this. Again a quote was provided to drive home her student success and appreciation from parents.

The result – she was successful in gaining an interview for the position