



Northern Beaches Secondary College

Balgowlah Boys Campus Band Program

Maretimo Street
BALGOWLAH NSW 2093

Principal:
Deputy Principal:
Deputy Principal

Paul Sheather
Benjamin E Seldon
Christopher Boylan

WELCOME TO THE BALGOWLAH BOYS MUSIC DEPARTMENT

The Music Department is a well established part of the school culture at Balgowlah Boys. They run curriculum lessons as well as a variety of extra-curricular programs including the Band Program and HPGE Music Program. Balgowlah Boys has three curriculum Music staff, as well as two external conductors.

MUSIC CURRICULUM TEACHERS AND COORDINATORS

Mr Iain Robertson

Iain was a drummer in a professional rock band in the 90's and was signed to London Records and EMI Music Publishing. Iain then went on to study Music in the UK gaining degrees in Music Production at Newcastle College then a Music Education degree at London Metropolitan University. Iain started teaching in London and was in 2 different schools for 11 years between 2006 and 2017. Iain then moved to Australia with his young family and worked briefly in Emanuel school in Randwick. He then opted to come and work in the state system and he considers himself very fortunate to work at Balgowlah Boys. Iain is a multi-instrumentalist and considers himself a drummer first, but enjoys playing guitar, piano and trumpet. Iain is very passionate about rock and popular music and never stops talking about the Beatles.

Ms Eva Stokes

Since completing her Bachelor of Music Education with honours at UNSW where she gained accolades for her research into music pedagogy, Eva has been teaching at Balgowlah Boys since 2019. She has taken both Music 1 and Music 2 courses through the HSC with much success, channelling her knowledge and experience in performance, composition and musicology. Eva has a wealth of experience as a classical and jazz pianist, as well as a multi-instrumentalist who enjoys playing bass, drums and guitar. Eva is the main point of contact for the Band Program.

Mr Ben Corby

Ben completed a Bachelor of Contemporary Music at JMC Academy and a Master of Education at UNSW. From age 15 he has been performing regularly as a professional musician in original and cover bands across NSW. Ben has gained valuable experience in the music industry, recording in some of Sydney's top studios and developing his own skills as a music producer. Since starting at Balgowlah Boys in 2016, he has continued working as a professional musician which allows him to pass on current information and advice to students interested in a career in the music industry.

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EXTERNAL CONDUCTORS

Julian McKay

Julian McKay is one of Sydney's young, up and coming trombonists and band leaders. Currently studying BMus Jazz Performance at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, he has the luxury of working with many of Australia's best musicians such as Judy Bailey, David Theak and James Greening. He is a regular performer in Judy Bailey's Jazz Connection, and has performed with international artists such as James Morrison, Lionel Cole, The Cat Empire, Katie Noonan, Emma Pask, Sandy Evans and many more. Music has also given him the opportunity to travel internationally through China, Europe and the United States as well as rural trips through Australia. He has worked with many fantastic band-leader educators such as Steve Williams, Jason Isaac, Tim Crow, Simon Sweeney, and James Hill and is looking forward to passing on some of his acquired expertise to the boys at Bally. He is still thoroughly enjoying his time being involved with the Balgowlah Ensembles Program, and considering he is a former student, is heavily involved in creating one of the best musical opportunities for the boys this year for many years to come.



Caleb Miller

Having come through the Bally Music program himself, Caleb leads the Junior and Senior Improvisation Ensembles at the school. He's played in many jazz bands and small ensembles throughout his high school career, most notably spending 6 years in Colin Bright's Offbeat Impro program, which has greatly shaped his own musicianship and informed his knowledge of jazz and improvisation. Inspired by this, Caleb started the Bally Improv Band in 2019 as a Year 12 student and was brought back to lead it again officially in 2020, with bigger and better aspirations for the future.



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BALGOWLAH BOYS BAND PROGRAM AGREEMENT 2021

At NBSC Balgowlah Boys Campus, we offer a comprehensive Band Program that caters for instrumentalists of all skill levels and tastes. The school bands are involved in performances at school assemblies, awards days and showcases, as well as external eisteddfods and festivals. The program assists students in reaching their musical goals, whilst refining their ensemble skills by having access to highly experienced teachers and conductors. We offer two comprehensive programs that are available to all students – the Concert Band Program and the Jazz Program.

The offered bands and their rehearsal times are:

Concert Band Program:

- Junior Concert Band (Year 7 – 8) – Friday, 7:30am in the School Hall
- Senior Concert Band (Year 9 – 12) – Tuesday, 7:30am in the School Hall
- Saxophone Ensemble (all years) – Friday lunchtime in DS7
- Guitar Ensemble (all years) – Tuesday lunchtime in DS7

Jazz Program

- Junior Improvisation (for students new to improvisation) – Wednesday, 7:30am in the School Hall
- Senior Improvisation (for students with experience improvising) – Monday, 7:30am in the School Hall
- Stage Band (all years, auditioned) – Thursday, 7:30am in the Music Studio
- Jazz Orchestra (all years, auditioned) – Friday, 7:30am in the Music Studio

The Band Program welcomes musicians of all skill levels and backgrounds and aims to foster the enjoyment of playing music with peers. Here is a short summary of each band.

Junior Concert Band

Junior Concert Band is the perfect transition into the Balgowlah Boys Band Program. Welcoming all students in Year 7 and Year 8, Junior Concert Band performs a range of repertoire derived from Rock, Pop and contemporary styles. The band is led by one of the Music teachers, Mr Iain Robertson.



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Senior Concert Band

The Senior Concert Band is the most advanced ensemble in the Concert Band program. Open to students from all year groups, the Senior Concert Band focuses on challenging and enjoyable contemporary repertoire. The ensemble is led by ex-Bally boy and Sydney Conservatorium student Julian McKay.

Saxophone Ensemble

The Saxophone Ensemble is open to any interested saxophonists from all year groups. It is run by our saxophone tutor, Damien Mathieson.

Guitar Ensemble

The Guitar Ensemble focuses on refining the technical skills of guitarists at all levels. They work on a range of repertoire from blues and jazz to rock, focusing on skills required to play riffs, improvise and accompany. The Guitar Ensemble is open to all interested students at all different levels of experience, and is run by Music teacher Mr Ben Corby.

Improvisation Groups (Junior and Senior)

The improvisation groups are the perfect starting point for students who want to refine their improvising skills. There is a Junior group for beginner improvisers and a Senior group for more experienced students. The groups are run by ex-Bally boy Caleb Miller.



Stage Band

Stage Band is the entry point ensemble for students in our Jazz Program. Open for audition to students from all year groups, it introduces students to new styles typical of jazz and blues, while giving them the opportunity to perform in a smaller ensemble. This ensemble is perfect for students wanting to extend their repertoire and knowledge of Jazz. The ensemble is led by ex-Bally boy and Sydney Conservatorium student Julian McKay.



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Jazz Orchestra

The Jazz Orchestra is the most advanced ensemble in the Jazz Program. Open to audition for students in all year groups, it focuses on developing skills required when playing in Jazz big bands. The ensemble is led by ex-Bally boy and Sydney Conservatorium student Julian McKay.



Auditions for the Stage Band and Jazz Orchestra will be held in Week 3, Term 1.

Interested students must register with Ms Stokes in the CAPA Staffroom.

Rehearsals for all Concert Program ensembles will begin Term 1, Week 3 (8th Feb)

Rehearsals for all Jazz Program ensembles will begin Term 1, Week 4 (15th February)

Band Program Parent Committee

The Band Program Parent Committee is a group of parents who meet informally as needed to discuss the progress of the Band Program and any potential improvements. Roles within this committee are on a voluntary basis; these provide great assistance to the Music staff and will help to extend the Band Program for the benefit of all students. If you are interested in joining the Band Program Parent Committee, please indicate your interest on the registration form below.

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Registration and Requirements

- Completion of a Google form is required to register for the Band Program. This can be found here: <https://forms.gle/62CRfgLrdKCpKp6BA>
- In order to provide students with the best access to repertoire, experienced external conductors and the maintenance of band resources, we ask for a fee of \$350 per family for the year. Please complete the payment form on the following page and return it to the Front Office. If there is an issue meeting this payment, please contact the Music Staff.
- Students are required to complete and return the agreement form attached to this letter in acknowledgement of the Terms and Conditions of the Band Program.

Terms and Conditions

- Students are required to attend all weekly rehearsals.
- All students are required to participate in internal and external performances.
- Any absences must be communicated to the Music Staff with ample notice – consistent absences are not acceptable.
- Students are required to organise a folder for their sheet music and ensure it is up to date when new sheet music is distributed. It is the student's responsibility to maintain this folder.
- Students are to adhere to the Balgowlah Boys behaviour standards throughout all rehearsals and performances.

Enquiries

For any enquiries please email eva.stokes2@det.nsw.edu.au.

Please complete the Band Program Agreement and payment form on the following page and return to the office by 22nd February 2021.

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Balgowlah Boys Band Program

Fee ID 399 256

Cost: \$350 per student

Teacher/s in Charge: Ms Stokes and Mr Robertson

Please complete the section below and return with payment to the office by 22nd February 2021



Agreement Slip

I hereby agree to the terms and conditions specified by the Balgowlah Boys Band Program.

Signature of Student _____ Class _____ Date _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Phone numbers: Home _____ Work _____ Mobile _____

Fee ID 399 256 (Please include this code with your online payment)

Student Name:

Year:

Payment by:

Cheque Cash

Amount Paid: \$

(insert amount payable)

I have made an online payment at www.nbscbalgb-h.schools.nsw.edu.au. My receipt no is:

If you would like to make a credit card payment over the phone please call the school on 9949 4200 between 8:30am & 2pm

Signature:

Mobile:

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