



NZMEB Newsletter

January 2016

I hope the year has gone well for you all and you are looking forward to a beautiful, restful summer.

This year I have had the absolute pleasure of attending two concerts by NZMEB teachers. The first was Melanie Lina, an accomplished pianist who has recently moved from Cambridge to Christchurch and performed a solo concert. One of the joys of the concert was listening to pieces which we have in our syllabus. Melanie played Bartok's "Romanian Dances", Bach's "French Suite no 5", Gershwin's "Three Preludes for Piano" and a selection of Waltzes, Nocturne and Scherzi by Chopin amongst other pieces. A beautiful programme played with an infectious joy. The second was Affetto, a baroque group with Rachael Griffiths-Hughes on the harpsichord. This was another beautiful afternoon, reinforcing how lucky we are with the wealth of musical knowledge and talent we have with the NZMEB teachers and examiners.



sound values

Examination Sessions

Having had another successful examining year, we are extremely thankful that we have such a supportive network of teachers, and so many willing to offer their premises for examination venues. It makes the process much easier for the entrants to come into a familiar setting, or one that has a friendlier feel. Something to bear in mind during an exam is that examinations are private. One of the requirements of an examination venue is that there is somewhere where parents and entrants can sit while they are waiting, and can't hear the exam. Please make sure you are familiar with the guidelines for examination venues if you are hosting exams. Hosts are responsible for ensuring that there is a music stand available as entrants very seldom bring their own. Hosts may ask the teacher or students to bring one if they don't have one but if you are a host, please check. Cellists are responsible for bringing their own spike holder. Please note that diploma results will no longer be released immediately and may take up to 4 weeks to arrive.

Syllabus

Our piano syllabus is currently being reviewed, and we envisage a reprint late 2016

Accredited by:



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WAIKATO
Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato

Sheet Music

It is important that entrants bring original copies of their music into the exam room, with a copy for the examiner. If they are playing by memory, the original copy on its own will suffice. Because our syllabus is so broad, examiners need a copy to refer to, and it is also needed for the musical knowledge component of the examination.

Please note that if examination students are using purchased sheet music copies from the internet or dvd's, they need to include the page that shows details of the purchase along with their printed pages. It is also acceptable if the entrant's or teacher's name is included in the printing of the individual pages.

Theory

Included with the theory marksheets in December was a markers' report. We hope you will find this useful for your preparation for future theory exams.

Professional Development

NZMEB hosted a wonderful evening with Glenn Riddle, for the IRMT in Tauranga. Glenn is currently working at the University of Melbourne and in 2016 is touring with Katherine Austin performing a piano duet concert. He gave a seminar and masterclass about developing technique in the higher grades, and his generous sharing of really useful and usable information was thoroughly appreciated by the teachers and students who attended.

Yours sincerely,
Lynne Sperring

NZMEB Timetable 2016

Saturday 26th March:

Closing date for First Session Theory exams

Saturday 16th April:

Closing date for First Session Practical exams

Saturday 7th May:

First Session Theory exams

1st - 31st August:

First Session Practical exams

Saturday 3rd September:

Closing date for Theory exams

Saturday 17th September:

Closing date for Second Session

Practical exams

Saturday 29th October:

Second Session Theory exams

1st - 18th December:

Second Session Practical exams

School Terms 2016

Term 1 Tuesday 2nd Feb - Friday 15th April

Term 2 Monday 2nd May - Friday 8th July

Term 3 Monday 25th July - Friday 23rd Sept

Term 4 Monday 10th Oct - Friday 16th Dec

NZMEB is recognised as a course owner by the NZQA