

YOUNG WOMEN'S JAZZ WORKSHOPS 2018

About the Course

Now in its 16th year, the award-winning Young Women's Jazz Workshops course teaches young women, aged 12 and up, how to improvise and get a feel for jazz and blues. Running over eight weeks, the program culminates in a public concert at which our Media Partner ABC Jazz presents some awards.

Founded and developed by Dr Sandy Evans OAM and Sydney Improvised Music Association (SIMA) in 2002, this pioneering program has had a direct impact on the number of women studying jazz at a tertiary level in Australia. In NSW, the program is delivered in partnership with the Sydney Conservatorium of Music Open Academy. In the ACT, the program is delivered in partnership with the ANU School of Music. Our course tutors are sought-after educators and in-demand musicians, and the course includes masterclasses with leading practitioners in the field.

Some of our graduates have gone on to perform headline shows at the Sydney International Women's Jazz Festival, win the coveted \$20,000 Freedman Jazz Fellowship, and in 2017 the course itself was recognised at the Art Music Awards, winning the NSW State Award for Excellence in Music Education.

Our participants have such a good time that many of them come back to take the workshops at a higher level the next year – and the next! **This could be a life-changing experience, so apply today! Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions.**

Who is Eligible

The course accommodates all levels of jazz experience. If you can read music and play your instrument, you are eligible to apply. Students are divided into different levels based on their instrumental ability and knowledge of jazz (if any).

For students with no knowledge of blues scales or improvisation, the course serves as an excellent entryway into the world of jazz. For the more advanced student, the course serves as excellent training preparatory to auditioning for

a tertiary jazz program. Active musicians have used the course to become confident soloing and improvising in a supportive and fun learning environment.

Dates & Details

Audition Day: Saturday 30 June

If you can't attend on this day, please email Caitlin operations@sima.org.au

Program: Saturdays 10am – 1pm, 28 July – 22 September (eight three-hour workshops in total)

No class Saturday 25 August for ANU School of Music/Sydney Conservatorium of Music Open Day

Venue: Sydney Conservatorium of Music (NSW) / ANU School of Music (ACT)

Final Concert: Wednesday 26 September

Course fee: \$425 payable on acceptance to the course. This is non-refundable once the course commences.

A small number of subsidies are offered for families who are experiencing financial hardship at the discretion of the Course Director. Please contact gm@sima.org.au to find out how to apply.

More information: sima.org.au under 'Education'

Enquiries: 02 9036 6292 or operations@sima.org.au

Audition Day Information

Show us what you can do!

Think of your audition as a friendly, musical meet-and-greet. We're interested in seeing what you know and what you can do.

We welcome students of all skill levels, even if you don't know anything about jazz yet! Your personal session with the Course Director allows her to get to know you as a musician, and place you into an appropriate ensemble for your age and skill level.

Previous participants do not have to re-audition but are welcome to!

1. Bring a piece of your choice that you feel confident playing for us. It can be any genre,

and should demonstrate your ability.

2. We'll have a chat with you to find out how much basic theory you know (e.g. note names, major/minor)

3. We'll ask you to play some scales. Knowledge of some major and minor scales and the blues scale is very important. If you don't know any of these yet you will be asked to learn some during the course, so it's a good idea to get started!

Advanced:

4. We'll assess your aural skills, eg. interval and chord recognition, and your ability to identify melodies from a recording or played live.

5. We'll see what level your sight reading is at. If you have some jazz experience, you can try improvising over a set of chord changes. We'll also ask you to play a blues head and improvise over the form.

6. If you already have experience playing jazz, we'll further explore your improvising ability and knowledge of theory.

Drummers: We'd like to know that you understand what a swing beat is – even if you don't have much experience yet in playing one!

Depending on your experience, we'll listen to you play some feels (e.g. swing, bossa nova, rock, jazz waltz...). You'll play along with our accompanist and we'll see how you interact rhythmically.

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Application Form

Name _____

DOB _____

Address _____

Mobile/Tel _____

If under 18 at any point during the course, please provide a parent/guardian's telephone contact:

Email _____

If under 18 at any point during the course, please provide a parent/guardian's email address:

Main instrument _____

Other instruments _____

High School _____

Year _____

1. Briefly describe your general musical background – years of playing, any music qualifications, who you have studied with, etc

2. Can you read music? YES / NO _____

3. In what keys can you play the major scale? _____

Have you any jazz/improvised music playing experience? YES/NO _____

If no, ignore questions 5-7. If yes, please describe _____

More advanced students

5. List any jazz tunes you can play from memory (maximum of five favourites)

6. Do you know the chord changes to the above songs and can you improvise over them? YES / NO _____

7. Have you ever auditioned for a tertiary jazz course? If yes, describe your experience and whether you were successful

If accepted, please confirm that you will be able to practice course material daily and that you understand the course fee is \$425 payable on acceptance to the course and is non-refundable once the course commences.

A small number of subsidies are offered for families who are experiencing financial hardship at the discretion of the Course Director. Please contact gm@sima.org.au to find out how to apply.

Signed _____ Date _____

If under 18, please obtain signature of parent/guardian

Signed _____ Date _____

Name of parent/guardian _____

APPLICATIONS MAILED TO:

**YWJW, PO BOX 55, Broadway NSW 2007 or email to
operations@sima.org.au**