

Sydney  
Improvised Music  
Association (SIMA)  
& Sydney  
Conservatorium of  
Music Open  
Academy present

# YOUNG WOMEN'S JAZZ WORKSHOPS 2019



## About the Course

Now in its 17th year, the APRA 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 supported by Media Partner ABC.

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. Our course tutors are sought-after educators and in demand musicians. The course also includes masterclasses with leading practitioners in the field.

Our graduates have gone on to win the Freedman Jazz Fellowship and perform at the Sydney International Women's Jazz Festival. In 2017 the Workshop 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 a fun 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.

### Key Dates

**Closing Date:** 7 June

*(Late Applications will be considered)*

**Orientation Day:** Saturday 29 June

If you can't attend on this day, please email Caitlin [operations@sima.org.au](mailto:operations@sima.org.au)

**Program:** Saturdays 10am – 1pm, 27 July – 21 September (eight three-hour workshops in total) No class Saturday 31 August Sydney Conservatorium of Music Open Day

**Venue:** Sydney Conservatorium of Music (NSW)

**Final Concert:** Wednesday 25 September

**Course fee:** \$485 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 [operations@sima.org.au](mailto:operations@sima.org.au) to find out how to apply.*

**Enquiries:** 02 9036 6292 or [operations@sima.org.au](mailto:operations@sima.org.au)

## Orientation 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 person, 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. Don't forget to bring your sticks and any cymbals you prefer using.

# YOUNG WOMEN'S JAZZ WORKSHOPS2019

Application Form (Applications close 5pm June 7th.

Email applications to [operations@sima.org.au](mailto:operations@sima.org.au))

## Application Form

Name

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DOB

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Address

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Mobile/Tel

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

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Email

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

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Main instrument

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Other instruments

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High School

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Year

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

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2. Describe any jazz/improvised music playing experience you have had

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

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

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5. In what keys can you play the major scale?

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6. Can you read music? YES / NO

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

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If accepted, please confirm that you will be able to practice at least one hour daily on course material and that you understand the course fee is \$485 payable on acceptance to the course and is non-refundable once the course commences.

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Signature

Date

If under 18, please obtain signature of parent/guardian

Signature

Date

Name of parent/guardian

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**APPLICATIONS MAILED TO:**

**YWJW, PO BOX 55, Broadway NSW 2007 or email to [operations@sima.org.au](mailto:operations@sima.org.au)**