



**CELEBRATING 20  
YEARS OF SINGING**

**27 JUNE - 6 JULY 2025**

**A CHORAL  
SHOWCASE**

## A CHORAL SHOWCASE

3.00PM, SUNDAY 29 JUNE 2025  
HOBART CITY HALL

**Sarah Atkinson, MC**

### VEUS- COR INFANTIL AMICS DE LA UNIÓ

**Josep Villa Jover, Conductor**

*Rondel* - Eduardo Lopez-Chavarri

*Nothing Gonna Stumble* - Greg Gilpin

*El mestre i el bon caçador* - arr Josep Vila i Casañas

*Song of Hope* - Susanna Lindmark

### HILLCREST CHRISTIAN COLLEGE CHOIR

**Dr Robert Stewart, Conductor | Claire Preston, Accompanist**

*Hela Rotan* - Traditional Indonesian, arr Ken Steven

*Say a Little Prayer* - Burt Bacharach, arr Jay Althouse

*I Will Sing* - Michael Engelhardt

*Uptown Girl* - Billy Joel, arr Roger Emerson

### GONDWANA INDIGENOUS CHILDREN'S CHOIR

**Lyn Williams AM, Conductor | Lauren Hannay, Accompanist**

*Storm Bird* - Luke Byrne, Gudju Gudju (Yidinji words and song)

*Birinyi* - Luke Byrne, Gudju Gudju (Yidinji words & song)

### HARAMBEE A CAPPELLA

**Daniel Kim, Musical Director**

*Down Under* - Colin Hay and Ron Strykert, arr Daniel Jinha Kim

*Pure Imagination* - Leslie Bricusse and Anthony Newley, arr Ben Bram and Tehillah Alphonso

*All I Need* - Jacob Collier, arr Elliott von Wendt

### THE AUSTRALIAN VOICES

**John Rotar, Artistic Director**

*Waltzing Matilda* - Banjo Paterson, arr Ruth McCall

*Wild Mountain Thyme* - Gordon Hamilton

*Songs About Birds, Forest, Flowers and Mountains* - John Rotar

### COMBINED YOUTH CHOIRS

#### WITH HARAMBEE A CAPPELLA & THE AUSTRALIAN VOICES

**Jenny Mathers, Conductor | Kate Denmead, Accompanist**

*Jambo, Rafiki* - Victor C Johnston

**Dr Robert Stewart, Conductor | Hillcrest Christian College John Williams Wind Orchestra**

*Keep This Flame Alive* - Paul Jarman





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## **FEATURED CHOIRS**

### **VEUS- COR INFANTIL AMICS DE LA UNIÓ (CATALONIA)**

Veus – Children’s Choir Amics de la Unió was founded in 1996 within the Music School of the Societat Coral Amics de la Unió in Granollers. Conducted by Josep Vila Jover since its inception, this treble choir stands out for the quality, eclecticism, and uniqueness of its productions. Since 2017, it has been the resident choir at the Teatre Auditori de Granollers.

Veus has participated in numerous international festivals and has been awarded in various competitions. Among its most recent prizes are the award for best performance of the compulsory piece and 3rd prize in the children’s category at the 7th Tokyo International Choir Competition (2024), the 3rd prize at the 53rd Tolosa Choral Competition (2022), the Josep Anselm Clavé Award for Best Recording for the album *Els Colors del Mar* (2018), the Guido d’Arezzo recognition (2017), the 1st prize at the 47th Tolosa Choral Competition (2015), and the Silver Rose Bowl at the EBU Let the Peoples Sing! competition (2013).

Veus regularly performs on the country’s major stages, including the Gran Teatre del Liceu, the Palau de la Música Catalana, and L’Auditori de Barcelona. Internationally, it has performed at the Philharmonie de Paris and the Philharmonie de Luxembourg, among others. It has shared the stage with prestigious conductors such as Kazushi Ono, Jordi Savall, and Gustavo Dudamel.

It is frequently invited to participate in prestigious festivals across Europe, including La Folle Journée and Via Aeterna. Additionally, it has toured and participated in festivals in Japan, China, and the United States, among others.







## HILLCREST CHRISTIAN COLLEGE CHOIR (QLD)

Hillcrest Christian College's partnership with the *Festival of Voices* began in 2016! Most recently they returned in 2023 and are thrilled to be invited back to celebrate the festival's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary through song.

Founded in 2009 by Jenny Moon, Hillcrest's Choral Excellence program has a reputation for its refined and technically accomplished sound. Known for their command of languages and expressive storytelling, Hillcrest's Choirs have travelled widely and regularly perform and compete in local, national, and international festivals and competitions.

In 2024 Hillcrest won Gold at the *Australian International Music Festival* (2024) following their successful Gold Coast Music Eisteddfod season, where they received the City of Gold Coast Trophy in recognition of their Choir program's wide-spread success spanning from Years 3 to 12. Hillcrest Choirs also participate in the Australian National Eisteddfod, with outstanding results.

Hillcrest's Choral Excellence program values collaboration with Indigenous, local, national, and international choral communities, conductors, composers, and performance groups.

Their touring accolades include; the *International World Vision Choir Festival* in Seoul (2013); the *Pacific International Festival* Oregon (2018); the *Pemulwuy National Male Voice Festival* in Brisbane (2023) and mostly recently *Spinifex Gum* (2023) at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre. The *Spinifex Gum* song cycle, partnered with the Indigenous choir *Marliya*, was a powerful performance opportunity full of poignant learnings.

Hillcrest would like to acknowledge some of the many artists who have contributed to the growth of their Choristers. Thank you to Lyn Williams AM, Paul Holley OAM, Dr Carl Crossin OAM, Paul Jarman, Annie Kwok, and Dr. Anthony Trecek-King.



Image credit: Stephen Henry





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## **GONDWANA INDIGENOUS CHILDREN'S CHOIR (QLD)**

Based in Cairns, Queensland, the Gondwana Indigenous Children's Choir (GICC) is one of Australia's most celebrated ensembles of young Indigenous performers. Under the leadership of Lyn Williams AM and Lauren Hannay, the choir is renowned for its rich, vibrant sound and deep cultural resonance. Their performances celebrate Country, language and story, bringing audiences powerful and moving choral experiences.

The choir is strongly committed to commissioning new works in First Nations languages, collaborating closely with cultural custodians. This dedication has given rise to acclaimed projects such as *Birinyi* (2020), a Yidinji story shared by Gudju Gudju, and *Buda:dji* (2021), a Djabugay story shared by Dennis Hunter—each beautifully captured in films of the choir singing on Country.

GICC has performed alongside iconic artists including Archie Roach, Uncle Seaman Dan and Jessica Mauboy, and has appeared at landmark events like the G20 Summit and NAIDOC Gala Ball. The choir has also partnered with the Australian Chamber Orchestra Collective to present new works for Cairns audiences.

In 2017, GICC undertook its first European tour, captivating audiences with music in multiple Indigenous languages and dynamic performances of Torres Strait Islander songs and dances. This international journey included a special collaboration with the Vienna Boys' Choir and the Sydney Children's Choir in *Songs of My Country*.



# 20 FESTIVAL OF VOICES CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF SINGING



## THE AUSTRALIAN VOICES

From its inception in 1993, The Australian Voices (TAV) has relentlessly pursued its mission to commission, perform and promote Australian music, both locally and internationally.

The vision of Graeme Morton and Stephen Leek when founding the group was to tap into something unique about Australia, its land and its people.

Through the music of a new generation of Australian composers, including the original musical language of Stephen Leek, TAV created a sound unlike anything the world had heard before. In 2009 Gordon Hamilton took the reins, and with works like *Toy Story 3 = Awesome* and Robert Davidsons acclaimed *Not Now, Not Ever!* a musicalisation of Julia Gillard's 'misogyny' speech, brought the group firmly into the 21st century and again at the forefront of Australian, and international choral music.

Recently, the choir has collaborated with numerous Australian musicians and ensembles: in 2019, the choir performed Britten's Cantata *Misericordium* and a 're-composition' of Mozart's *Requiem* by then-Artistic Director Gordon Hamilton in collaboration with Omega Ensemble; in 2022,

collaborated with ARIA-nominated artist Raphael Karlen and Camerata – Queensland's Chamber Orchestra to premiere *Sinking Cities*, a work for string orchestra, choir, and saxophone; and at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the choir commissioned 22 (mostly) Australian composers to write a choral work on the theme "Far and Near", in response to the darkening of concert halls around the world.

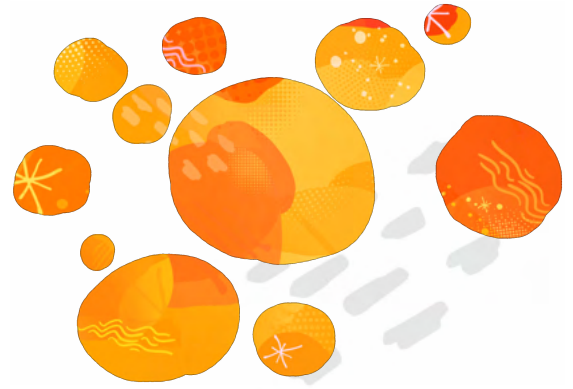


Image credit: Kris Anderson

Now under the artistic direction of John Rotar—one of Australia's leading young composers—and building on a legacy of excellence established by past artistic directors, the choir is poised to take the next step in its evolution. Celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2023, the group marked this milestone by releasing two groundbreaking albums in 2024. *Far and Near* is a reflective collection drawn from the 22 commissions during the COVID years, while *Painted in Dirt* offers a stunning exploration of Australian music, featuring incredible new compositions and a crowd-favorite title track filled with evocative bush noises.







## **HARAMBEE A CAPPELLA (VIC)**

Established in 2002, Harambee A Cappella is a vocal ensemble based in Melbourne, Australia, formed by a diverse group of young adults who all share a love of singing! The name Harambee means "in the spirit of togetherness" in Swahili, which embodies their culture of openness and inclusivity.

Harambee A Cappella perform a variety of contemporary a cappella music for community events and competitions and were recently crowned the Gold Medal winners of the Pop Ensemble Open Competition in the 2024 World Choir Games, a global choir competition with participants from over 40 countries.



## COMBINED YOUTH CHOIRS

### CANTERBURY CANTABILE CHOIR (QLD)



Canterbury is an award-winning Anglican Early Learning to Year 12 coeducational school serving the communities of Logan, northern Gold Coast and southern Brisbane since 1987. The College offers an extensive cocurricular music program for students in Years 2 to 12 to participate in string ensembles, concert and jazz bands, orchestras and choirs. Additionally, there is a large Rock School and Chamber Music School, with all ensembles performing regularly throughout the school year.

Canterbury's Cantabile Choir is a choir for girls in Years 8 to 12. This choir has a rich history of touring and performing in choral festivals around Australia and overseas, and this year, they are excited to participate for the first time in the Festival of Voices.

### KENMORE STATE HIGH SCHOOL CHORALE (QLD)

Kenmore State High School, located in the leafy western suburbs of Brisbane, Australia, is a thriving secondary school catering to students from Years 7 to 12. With around 2000 students, Kenmore SHS is well-known for its Programs of Excellence, particularly the Music Extension (MEX) program. The Kenmore SHS Music Department involves over 300 students in its extensive Instrumental and Vocal Music programs. These include a symphony orchestra, two concert bands, senior and junior jazz bands, three string ensembles, two percussion ensembles, three choirs, and several small chamber groups, catering to a wide array of musical interests.

The department has a proud tradition of music study tours, with past destinations including regional Queensland, China, USA, and New Zealand. In 2025, the Kenmore SHS Chorale will perform at the Festival of Voices in Hobart, Tasmania, participating in various workshops and performances.



Chorale is an auditioned SATB ensemble who perform a diverse array of musical styles and genres. Previous highlights have included performances at various competitions, Queensland Performing Arts Centre and securing a position as a State Finalist in the 2019 Education Queensland Choral Fanfare competition.



# 20 FESTIVAL OF VOICES CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF SINGING

## KOROWA VOCAL ENSEMBLE (VIC)



The Korowa Vocal Ensemble is a premier ensemble at Korowa Anglican Girls' School in the eastern suburbs of Melbourne, Victoria. The school offers a vibrant music program with broad range of auditioned and unauditioned choirs, orchestras, jazz bands, string orchestras, concert bands, gamelan and contemporary ensembles and classroom ensemble programs supporting the academic music offerings. For many students, the music department serves as a home - where they develop a love of music and an appreciation for how it enriches their lives.

Members of the auditioned Vocal Ensemble are dedicated musicians, many of whom study voice and play multiple instruments at a high level. Comprising students from Years 9-12, the ensemble explores various musical genres, embraces challenging repertoire and enjoys a variety of performance opportunities. Founded by its current conductor, Marianne Rigby, and accompanied by Kate Denmead and Larissa Cox, the ensemble plays a key role in major school events, including Services, Autumn Jazz Night, Gala Concert and Speech Night. Korowa Vocal Ensemble also compete in several competitions including Generations in Jazz and the Victorian School Music Festival.

## TYO TASMANIAN YOUTH CHORALE (TAS)

Young singers in the TYO Tasmanian Youth Chorale rehearse challenging choral repertoire and have been regularly invited to collaborate with professional ensembles and sing live on radio, in addition to performing in TYO and community concerts. No auditions are held for this chorale and all participants and voice types are welcomed.

A key element of TYO's offering is exceptional performance opportunities, including high artistic value collaborations with professional musicians. The TYO Chorales have particular opportunities



Image credit: Mike Morffew

in this space, experiencing tours and recording collaborations with professional ensemble Van Diemen's Band, as well as performing live on radio and at community events and festivals. All TYO singers have the opportunity to perform in at least three TYO concerts each year, plus community performances. These opportunities are an outstanding benefit of TYO participation and collaborations are particularly valuable to young people who may be considering a professional career in the sector.

## OTHER EVENTS YOU MAY LIKE!

**Verdi Requiem**

**Sat 5 Jul**

**7.30 pm**

**Hobart City Hall**

**Waiata, Cançons, Lieder**

**Tue 1 July**

**7.30 pm**

**Federation Concert Hall**

**Gondwana Indigenous Children's Choir**

**With DENNI: Songs of Country**

**Tue 1 July**

**7.30 pm**

**Ian Potter Recital Hall**

**Cheers to 20 Years**

**Sun 6 July**

**2.00 pm**

**Hobart City Hall**

**FESTIVAL<sup>OF</sup> VOICES**  
.com

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**27 JUNE**  
to **6 JULY**