

Southern Stars Performing Company 2026 Audition Information Package

The Southern Stars Performing Company is a group of performers consisting of dance, drama, vocal, choir and instrumental students who are selected through an audition process for Southern Stars.

All NSW Public School students in Years 2 – 12 are eligible to apply.

What to consider before applying:

- Performers from the Company can be asked to perform at special Departmental and community events, but their focus each year is Southern Stars.
- Rehearsals are usually outside school hours and some scheduled school days prior to events.
- Southern Stars, Dance Festival, Drama Festival and Pulse Alive require a commitment over several school days.
- Southern Stars 2026 will be held **25 - 29 August 2026** at WIN Entertainment Centre, Wollongong
- There will be a compulsory workshop held over several days during the July School Holidays for all groups – proposed dates can be found further on in this document.
- ***It is essential that all members fully support their school CAPA programs to the best of their ability***

Financial Commitments:

- An application fee of \$35.00 per student per company application is payable to cover the costs associated with the running of the Southern Stars Performing Company auditions. eg. If a student wishes to audition for more than 1 company ie. Dance and drama then a SEPARATE application form and application fee for each is required for each company. [Link to Trybooking](#) for payment.
- An annual company fee of \$350 is payable upon a student's acceptance into the company. A limited number of fee waivers are available through the scholarship program for students who may require financial assistance. All students are strongly encouraged to audition, and applications from all interested candidates are welcome.
- Additional costs will be incurred by all performers for costumes (to be advised by the design team), personal travel & meals etc.
- Financial hardship scholarship. Students may be able to apply for a financial hardship scholarship to cover the cost of the company fee. The student would need to complete the scholarship application once they have been successful.
- Students should follow all school procedures for applying for external companies before completing the application form. All Principals will be emailed a list of students applying to audition, once applications are closed.

Audition Regulations:

All auditions are closed to parents, other students and members of the public. Only the auditioning student and their accompanist (where applicable) should enter the audition room.

Primary and High School Dance Company Auditions

Saturday 28 February 2026

Venue - **Albion Park High School** - 120 Church St, Albion Park

Audition Process:

- An application fee of \$35.00 per student per company application is payable to cover the costs associated with the running of the Southern Stars Performing Company auditions. eg. If a student wishes to audition for more than 1 company ie. Dance and drama then a SEPARATE application form and application fee for each is required for each company. [Link to Trybooking](#) for payment.
- Complete the online application [here](#) by 27 February 2026
- Students DO NOT need to prepare an audition piece. They will attend a workshop presented by a professional choreographer/teacher for their audition.
- Please ensure your student is wearing appropriate dance attire - dance shoes are optional.
- Bring snacks and water

Primary School Dancers	Registration 8.30 am - Audition 9.00 am to 12 noon
High School Dancers	Registration 1.00 pm - Audition 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm

Rehearsals and Performance Commitments:

- If you cannot make any rehearsals, for any reasons, you will forfeit your position in the item being taught.
- Most rehearsals will be outside school time on weekends, school holidays and after school.
- Dates for all rehearsals will be published in the acceptance package. Students will be working with numerous choreographers for the performances
- Please be aware that there will also be compulsory rehearsals during July school holidays that all students must attend
- Performance opportunities including but not limited to Public Education Foundation Awards, Dance Festival/s, Eisteddfods, Schools Spectacular.

Date	Event – Dance Company
28 February 2026	Dance Auditions – Albion Park High School
6 March 2026	Pulse Alive rehearsal (High School Dancers) Netball Central, Sydney Olympic Park
20 March 2026	Pulse Alive performance (High School Dancers) Ken Rosewall Arena, Sydney Olympic Park
25 - 29 May 2026	South Coast Dance Festival (Primary School Dancers) Rehearsal day/s TBA
28 July 2026	Mass Dance Rehearsal – WIN Entertainment Centre
13 - 18 July 2026	Holiday rehearsals – actual time and days to be confirmed
26 - 29 August 2026	Show Week – including rehearsals and performances at WIN Entertainment Centre

Vocal Company Auditions

Saturday 28 March and Sunday 29 March 2026

Venue - **Albion Park High School** - 120 Church St, Albion Park

Times - will be advised once applications close.

General Information:

- The Vocal Company consists of three components – Featured Artists, Backing Vocalists and Featured Vocal Ensemble.
- The Vocal Company consists of vocalists from Year 2 to Year 12 who will assume backing vocal, small ensemble and/or soloist roles in performing the vast repertoire of songs in this year's production of Southern Stars 2026.
- The Featured Vocal Ensemble are an ensemble of approximately 30 vocalists from Years 5 – 12 who form an advanced choral group singing in two, three and four-part harmony to support the Featured Artists and Backing Vocalists and to showcase as a solo ensemble, both at Southern Stars and other regional activities.
- We also encourage students of all vocal styles, including beatboxing, rap and other vocal talents to audition.
- Please keep in mind that the show you are auditioning for is large scale, high energy and very electric with a wide audience demographic. All too often students perform pieces of music that aren't appropriate for Southern Stars or don't give us enough scope to be able to hear your singing in a musical style that will ultimately be chosen for the show. When choosing your songs, do your research. Look at past performances to see what style of songs have been performed and use this information to inform your choices. Most of all keep your song choices age-appropriate, e.g. A teenager singing "My Heart Will Go On" or "She Used to Be Mine" is not considered an appropriate song choice for this show.

What are the live audition requirements?

- Auditionees need to prepare two songs - one of their own choosing and one from a list of repertoire provided by the panel. These will be presented in the round 1 live auditions.
- No more than 1 min and 30 secs
- The list of repertoire songs will be sent out to all students after applications close.
- Students will need to submit their backing track and headshot, prior to their audition. Form link will be emailed closer to the audition date.

Audition Process:

- An application fee of \$35.00 per student per company application is payable to cover the costs associated with the running of the Southern Stars Performing Company auditions. eg. If a student wishes to audition for more than 1 company ie. Dance and drama then a SEPARATE application form and application fee for each is required for each company. [Link to Trybooking](#) for payment.
- Complete the online application [here](#) by 27 February 2026

Rehearsals and Performance Commitments:

- A draft list of rehearsals is below. Students must be able to commit to all these dates. *(Year 12 students' rehearsal schedules will be adapted to suit each successful candidate with as minimal disruption to HSC commitments as possible. This will be done in consultation with the student, parent and school principal)*
- Please be aware that there will also be compulsory rehearsals in the July school holidays.
- Rehearsal dates, times and locations will be confirmed following the audition process.
- Performance opportunities, including but not limited to the Public Education Foundation Awards, Festivals and Eisteddfods.

Date	Event – Vocal Company
27 February 2026	Applications close
28 and 29 March 2026	Round 1 live auditions - Albion Park High School
17 - 19 April 2026	Round 2 repertoire auditions including Backing Vocal & Featured Vocal Ensemble workshops
22 April 2026	Results emailed
26 April 2026	PEFA Rehearsal/performance - nominated students
30 - 31 May 2026	Vocal Rehearsals - FA's, BV's, FVE
27 - 28 June 2026	Vocal Rehearsals - FA's, BV's, FVE
14 - 18 July 2026	Vocal Workshop - blocking rehearsal - featured artists, backing vocalists
25 June 2026	Media Launch - nominated students
13 - 17 July 2026	Vocal Workshop – Featured artists, backing vocalists, Featured Vocal Ensemble
8 - 9 August 2026	Workshop – Full run through Act 1 & Act 2
22 August 2026	Sitzprobe – Featured artists and backing vocalists only
23 August 2026	Sitzprobe - Featured artists, backing vocalists and featured vocal ensemble
26 August 2026	Sound check - WIN Entertainment Centre
25 - 29 August 2026	Show Week – including rehearsals and performances at WIN Entertainment Centre

Orchestra Auditions

Requirements

Instruments Required

- Strings - *Violin, Cello, Viola, Double Bass*
- Woodwind - *Flute, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Alto Sax, Tenor Sax, Baritone Sax*
- Brass - *French Horn, Trumpet, Trombone, Tuba*
- Percussion - *Timpani, Tuned Percussion, Untuned Percussion*
- Rhythm Section - *Drum Kit, Piano, Synthesiser, Guitar, Bass Guitar*
- Students may nominate multiple instruments, including instruments not listed above, but should clearly identify their first preference from this list.
- All performers will be expected to read standard music notation.

Audition Process:

- An application fee of \$35.00 per student per company application is payable to cover the costs associated with the running of the Southern Stars Performing Company auditions. eg. If a student wishes to audition for more than 1 company ie. Dance and drama then a SEPARATE application form and application fee for each is required for each company. [Link to Trybooking](#) for payment.
- Complete the online application [here](#) by 27 February 2026
- Attach a link to a video audition of a piece of free choice, designed to demonstrate the performer's ability and range of style, 2 minutes maximum. The live video audition should demonstrate a prepared performance; it need not be from the start of the selected piece. For how to upload to YouTube or google drive, refer to the information on the last page of this document.
- Students who wish to audition for a place as a featured instrumentalist ONLY, still need to complete the audition process. During the audition they can stipulate that they do not want to be a part of the orchestra, only as a featured musician.

Rehearsals and Performance Commitments:

- A draft list of rehearsals is below
- Rehearsal dates, times and locations will be confirmed following the audition process.
- Advance notice will be given for all rehearsals

Date	Event - Orchestra
27 February 2026	Orchestra auditions close
9 May 2026	Round 2 Orchestra Live auditions (if required)
18 – 20 July 2026 (2 days only – dates to be confirmed)	Orchestra rehearsal and photo day
22 & 23 August 2026	Full day rehearsals
24 August 2026	Sitzprobe - Full orchestra
25 – 29 August 2026	Rehearsals and performances Full scheduled to be confirmed

Drama Company Auditions

Audition Process:

- An application fee of \$35.00 per student per company application is payable to cover the costs associated with the running of the Southern Stars Performing Company auditions. eg. If a student wishes to audition for more than 1 company ie. Dance and drama then a SEPARATE application form and application fee for each is required for each company. [Link to Trybooking](#) for payment.
- Complete the online application [here](#) by 27 February 2026
- Students must deliver an individual monologue of 1-2 minutes showcasing their range of dramatic abilities during their live audition.
- All students are encouraged to wear rehearsal blacks to the audition

Rehearsals

- Most rehearsals will be outside school time on weekends and after school.
- There will also be additional school day rehearsals leading up to performances for the combined mass drama item
- Please be aware that there will also be compulsory rehearsals during the July school holidays. Rehearsal dates and times will be made available following the audition process.
- Advance notice will be given for all rehearsals

Date	Event – Drama Company
27 February 2026	Audition Applications Close
28 March 2026	Round 1 live drama auditions - Albion Park High School
13 - 17 July 2026	Rehearsals - dates confirmed prior
28 July 2026	Combined Rehearsal - WIN Entertainment Centre
26 - 29 August 2026	Show Week – including rehearsals and performances at WIN Entertainment Centre

Uploading your audition to YouTube or Google Drive

Orchestra auditions only. Dance, drama and vocal auditions are live auditions.

Option 1 – Upload via YouTube

1. Visit www.youtube.com and sign in to your account (or create one if you don't have one)
2. Click Create → Upload video and follow the on-screen instructions to upload your audition.
3. Once uploaded, go to Visibility settings and select Unlisted (this means only people with the link can view your video)
4. Save your changes
5. Copy the video link (URL) and paste it into the relevant section of your online application form.

If your video is blocked due to copyright (for example, because of a backing track), please use option 2 instead.

Option 2 – Upload via Google Drive

1. Visit drive.google.com and sign in with your Google account.
2. Click + New → File upload and select your audition video file.
3. Once uploaded, right-click the file and choose Share.
4. In the sharing settings, click General access → Anyone with the link, then change the access to viewer.
5. Copy the shareable link and paste it into the relevant section of your online application form.

This option works well if YouTube blocks your video or if you prefer not to upload to YouTube.