

Southern Stars Performing Company 2024 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 (see table under general information for more specific company requirements).

What to consider before applying:

- Performers from the Company can be asked to perform at special Departmental and community events, but their main 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, Pulse Alive and Schools Spectacular require a commitment over a number of school days.
- Southern Stars 2024 will be held 26 - 31 August 2024 at WIN Entertainment Centre, Wollongong
- There will be a compulsory workshop held over a number of days during the July School Holidays for all groups – proposed dates can be found further on in this document.

Financial Commitments:

- An application fee of \$30.00 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. <https://www.trybooking.com/CMPRJ>
- Annual company fee of \$300 payable upon acceptance in to the company
- A compulsory Performing Company uniform polo shirt worn at all rehearsals and events will need to be purchased at an additional cost of \$40
- Optional Performing Company uniform – Jacket \$70, Backpack \$35,
- Additional costs will be incurred by all performers for costumes (to be advised by the design team), personal travel & meals etc.
- 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. If for any reason your Principal does not want you to audition, they will address this with you personally.

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.

Parent Consent:

By your child attending the audition you are providing consent as per the statement below:

I acknowledge that this event/activity is required to be held in accordance with current NSW Health COVID-19 Public Health Orders and the NSW Department of Education policies and procedures. I acknowledge and accept that there is a risk that my child may be exposed to COVID-19 whilst attending and participating at this event. I confirm that my child will not attend if displaying any symptoms of illness, and/or if directed to isolate under public health orders.

Primary and High School Dance Company Auditions

Saturday 2 March 2024

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

Audition Process:

- Payment of the \$30 Application Fee **MUST** be paid before completing the Audition Application form. Applications will not be accepted until you can provide the Booking ID (found on your receipt). <https://www.trybooking.com/CMPRJ>
- Complete the online application [Southern Stars Performing Company 2024 Audition Application](#) by **1 March 2024**
- Students **DO NOT** need to prepare any audition pieces. They will attend a workshop presented by a professional choreographer/teacher as the audition.
- Please ensure students are 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
2 March 2024	Dance Auditions – Albion Park High School
11 March 2024	Pulse Alive rehearsal (High School Dancers)- Netball Central, Sydney Olympic Park
15 March 2024	Pulse Alive performance (High School Dancers) - Ken Rosewall Arena, Sydney Olympic Park
18 – 21 June 2024	South Coast Dance Festival (Primary School Dancers) Rehearsal day/s TBA
TBA	Mass Dance Rehearsal – WIN Entertainment Centre
15 - 21 July 2024	Holiday rehearsals – actual time and days to be confirmed
21 – 26 August 2024	Show Week – including rehearsals and performances at WIN Entertainment Centre

Vocal Company Auditions

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 2024
- 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 beat-boxing, 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 particular show.

Audition Process:

- Payment of the \$30 Application Fee **MUST** be paid before completing the Audition Application form. Applications will not be accepted until you can provide the Booking ID (found on your receipt). <https://www.trybooking.com/CMPRJ>
- Complete the online application [Southern Stars Performing Company 2024 Auditions](#) by **8 March 2024**
- A "How to prepare for your audition" workshop will take place online on Saturday 24 February 2024 via zoom. If you are attending, complete the audition registration via the above link but do **NOT** send in your video. You will be advised where to send it during the workshop.
- If you are not attending the online "How to prepare for your audition" workshop, upload a video audition of 1:30 minutes maximum demonstrating the student's vocal and performance skills.
- All students will be emailed the outcome of round 1 auditions. Should the student be successful in moving through to round 2, further instructions will be emailed.

Rehearsals and Performance Commitments:

- A draft list of rehearsals is below. Students must be able to commit to all of 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
24 February 2024	Online workshop – preparation tips for your audition
8 March 2024	Applications close
23 March 2024	Results emailed
6 - 7 April 2024	Round 2 auditions including Backing Vocal & Featured Vocal Ensemble workshops
12 May 2024	PEFA Rehearsal - nominated students
25 - 26 May 2024	Backing Vocal Rehearsal
27 May 2024	PEFA Rehearsal/performance - nominated students
1 June 2024	Featured Vocal Ensemble Rehearsal
22 - 23 June 2024	Vocal Workshop - blocking rehearsal - featured artists, backing vocalists
24 June 2024	Media Launch - nominated students
15 – 21 July 2024	Vocal Workshop – Featured artists, backing vocalists, Featured Vocal Ensemble
10 – 11 August 2024	Vocal Workshop – Full run through Act 1 & Act 2
24 August 2024	Sitzprobe – Featured artists and backing vocalists only
25 August 2024	Sitzprobe - Featured artists, backing vocalists and featured vocal ensemble
27 August 2024	Sound check - WIN Entertainment Centre
27 – 31 August 2024	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:

- Payment of the \$30 Application Fee MUST be paid before completing the Audition Application form. Applications will not be accepted until you can provide the Booking ID (found on your receipt). <https://www.trybooking.com/CMPRJ>
- Complete the online application [Southern Stars Performing Company 2024 Auditions by 8 March 2024](#)
- 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 video audition should demonstrate a prepared performance, it need not be from the start of the selected piece.
- 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
8 March 2024	Orchestra auditions close
4 May 2024	Round 2 live Orchestra auditions
20 July 2024	Orchestra rehearsal and photo day
28 July 2024	Orchestra rehearsal
11 August 2024	Orchestra rehearsal
24 August 2024	Sitzprobe - Rhythm section 8.30 am - 1.00 pm Sitzprobe - Full orchestra 2.00 pm - 6.00 pm
25 August 2024	Sitzprobe - Full orchestra 5.00 pm - 9.30 pm
27 August 2024	Sound check - orchestra on standby 12 noon
26 - 31 August 2024	Show Week – including rehearsals and performances at WIN Entertainment Centre

Drama Company Auditions

Audition Process:

- Payment of the \$30 Application Fee **MUST** be paid before completing the Audition Application form. Applications will not be accepted until you can provide the Booking ID (found on your receipt). <https://www.trybooking.com/CMPRJ>
- Complete the online application [Southern Stars Performing Company 2024 Auditions](#) by **8 March 2024**
- Students must present an individual monologue, of 1-2 minutes. This should showcase the range of their dramatic abilities. They may be asked to perform the piece more than once.
- All students will also be involved in an improvisation workshop during their allocated block.
- All students must audition in rehearsal blocks.
- Auditions will take place in small groups. Audition times will be emailed to the email address supplied in the online application
- No props or costumes are required.
- Alternatively, if students are unable to attend auditions due to distance they may send a DVD or YouTube link of their audition monologue for consideration, please email southern.stars@det.nsw.edu.au

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.
- 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
8 March 2024	Audition Applications Close
6 April 2024	Drama Auditions
TBA	Mass Rehearsal Day – WIN Entertainment Centre
15 – 21 July 2024	Rehearsals
26 – 31 August 2024	Show Week – including rehearsals and performances at WIN Entertainment Centre