

Southern Stars 2022

Southern Stars is a large-scale performing arts event, celebrating talented students from NSW public schools in the South Coast and beyond. It provides access to quality opportunities in music, dance and drama. Schools from all over the state who participate gain the well-being benefits associated with this long running event.

Southern Stars offers a wonderful opportunity for teachers to gain professional teaching experience.

The event will be held at WIN Entertainment Centre, Wollongong on **Friday 26 and Saturday 27 August 2022** (Term 3 Week 6).

There will be opportunities for both primary and secondary students within the event and participation will be open to students of all abilities from any public school across NSW.

The operation of this program is contingent on advice provided by the NSW Department of Education in consultation with NSW Health. All activities will adhere to the DoE COVID-19 guidelines and restrictions.

Applications close **Friday 11 March 2022**.

General information

Available categories

Opportunities are available for students to participate in Southern Stars through the following categories:

- massed choir
- massed dance
- massed drama
- rising stars – disability ensemble
- Yanggaa Garaba Aboriginal dance ensemble
- specialist group including circus, marching band
- Student crew – VET entertainment and multi media

Further information can be accessed via [Southern Stars - The Arena Spectacular Website](#)

Key dates and venues

Applications

Applications close on Friday 11 March 2022 (Term 1 Week 7)

[School application to participate - Southern Stars 2022](#) – click on this link to nominate for all areas of Southern Stars 2022.

Rehearsals

Rehearsals for Southern Stars 2022 will take place during late Term 2 and Term 3 2022.

Most rehearsals for school groups will be held at Illawarra Sports Stadium, Fred Finch Park, Hooka Creek Road, Berkeley.

Dates for all rehearsals will be released in the teacher's package which will be published in Term 1.

Performance

The performance for Southern Stars 2022 will take place on **Friday 26 and Saturday 27 August 2022** (Term 3 Week 6) at WIN Entertainment Centre, Wollongong.

Rehearsals for the event will take place during the day on Wednesday 24 and Thursday 25 August for all performers at WIN Entertainment Centre, Wollongong.

Risk assessment and COVID-19 safety plan

A risk assessment for all rehearsal and performance venues, as well as a detailed COVID-19 safety plan for the event will be made available to all schools involved in the event upon acceptance.

Participation Fee

There will be a participation fee of \$25 per student and \$100 per school (GST inclusive). There is an additional cost of \$25 for a Southern Stars t-shirt.

The participation fee also assists with covering a number of our copyright costs and assists with the costs involved in the conductors, choreographers and tutors working with the students.

An inter school journal will be sent to all participating schools early Term 3.

Tickets

Tickets for Southern Stars will be on sale to the public in May 2022.

Ticket prices and methods of purchasing will be made available to schools later in Term 1.

All principals of participating schools will receive 2 complimentary tickets to the event. These tickets will be made available to them via email during Term 2.

T-shirts

All students involved in Southern Stars 2022 will require a Southern Stars t-shirt.

T-shirts will need to be ordered online by participating teachers during Term 2.

Please note, once shirts are ordered schools are making a commitment to the number of students participating in terms of participation fees.

Additional merchandise for Southern Stars 2022 will be made available as part of the t-shirt ordering process. The purchase of this merchandise is optional.

Participation and publicity consent forms

All students participating in Southern Stars 2022 will be required to complete participation and publicity consent forms and return them to be kept on file at their school.

These forms will be provided to teachers via the teacher's package which will be made available during Term 1.

Principal approval for participation

Teachers should ensure that in-principle permission is received from their school principal to participate in Southern Stars 2022 before the nomination form is submitted.

Teachers will also be asked to confirm that all students involved in Southern Stars have completed and return their participation and publicity consent forms in early Term 3.

Duty of care

All students at Southern Stars must be supervised at all times by a teacher.

School or representative groups participating in massed choir, massed dance, massed drama, and specialist items are expected to provide a teacher to attend all rehearsals and performances. Relief costs must be provided by the school. Students participating in the Yanggaa Garaba Aboriginal Ensemble should be supervised by their school. If their school is not participating, Southern Stars will supervise these students. Further information will be sent directly to teachers who have nominated students to participate in this group.

Schools that have groups of students participating in more than one category (for example: a group in choir and a group in dance) must provide a teacher to supervise each category group (a teacher for dance and a separate teacher for choir). Every group requires supervision as entry and exit points, holding rooms and performance spaces for each category group are in different locations.

Schools and teachers also need to be aware that teachers must actively supervise their students at all times at rehearsals and performances of Southern Stars. It is not appropriate for students to be left unsupervised at rehearsals or performances or for teachers to be completing marking or other busy work while students are rehearsing. Teachers are expected to support the conductor/choreographer and the students and take part in the rehearsal process where possible,

Massed dance, massed choir, massed drama – information

Eligibility and selection

The massed dance, massed choir and massed drama category in Southern Stars will involve groups of students from different NSW public schools joining together and learning the same choreography to participate in one of a number of massed items at the event.

Participation in the massed groups is open to groups of students who currently attend a NSW public school from:

- Year 2 to 6 (primary dance, massed choir, massed drama)
- Years 7 to 12 (secondary dance, massed choir, massed drama)
- Year 2 to 12 (Yanggaa Garaba Aboriginal dance ensemble)
- Year 2 to 12 (Rising stars – disability ensemble)

There is no audition process for Southern Stars 2022. Groups comprising students of all backgrounds and abilities are encouraged to nominate and will be accepted.

A supervising teacher must attend at all times during all rehearsals and performances to supervise during their students participation in Southern Stars 2022.

Choreography

All choreography for the event will be distributed to schools by your allocated choreographer. Teachers are responsible for rehearsing the movement sequences to their students prior to the mass rehearsal, so it is vital that teachers ensure that appropriate time is given to the learning of this choreography before students arrive at their item rehearsal. Individual dates for your item will be distributed in the teachers package available in Term 1.

Choir songs/charts

All songs/charts for the event will be distributed to schools by the choir director. Teachers are responsible for rehearsing the songs prior to the mass rehearsal, so it is vital that teachers ensure that appropriate time is given to the learning of the songs before students arrive at the choir rehearsal. Dates for the first combined choir rehearsal will be distributed in the teachers package available in Term 1.

Key dates – massed dance and massed choir

Table 1 – Key dates for massed dance and choir

Date	Event
Friday 11 March	Applications close
Friday 13 May	T-shirt and hoodie orders due
Thursday 30 June	Mass dance rehearsal WIN Entertainment Centre, Wollongong
Wednesday 24 August	Mass CHOIR rehearsal Venue to be confirmed
Wednesday 24 August	Mass Rehearsal – schedule will be supplied in the teacher's package. WIN Entertainment Centre, Wollongong
Thursday 25 August	Technical and dress rehearsal for all cast including dance, drama, choir and specialist groups WIN Entertainment Centre, Wollongong
Friday 26 August	Matinee and evening performances WIN Entertainment Centre, Wollongong
Saturday 27 August	Matinee and evening performances WIN Entertainment Centre, Wollongong

Finale

In addition to their massed dance item, all performers will perform as part of the finale. Videos of the choreography that needs to be learnt for the finale will be available in the teachers google drive. These will be rehearsed during massed dance rehearsals.

Application link

To submit a nomination to participate in Southern Stars 2022, please complete the [School nomination to participate - Southern Stars 2022](#)

Applications close: Friday 11 March 2022

Student crew (VET Entertainment)

The Southern Stars team are seeking enthusiastic students in Years 11 - 12 to form members of the crew at Southern Stars 2022.

Opportunities exist for students to take up specialist opportunities including followspot operators, audio crew, stage crew and front of house assistants. All positions will have the opportunity to work alongside industry professionals and will give a great insight to students looking to pursue careers in this area of the entertainment industry.

Students currently studying the VET Entertainment course will be able to use their work at Southern Stars 2022 to claim work placement hours.

Students selected as members must be available in both the daytime and evening on Tuesday 23 and Saturday 27 August 2022 at WIN Entertainment Centre, Wollongong.

All members of the student crew for Southern Stars will be given a complimentary Southern Stars t shirt.

Application link

To apply online for the student crew for Southern Stars, teachers are asked to please complete the online form. [Student Crew Application](#)

Applications close: Friday 6 May 2022.

Key dates – student crew

Table 1 – Key dates for the student crew (VET Entertainment)

Date	Event
Friday 6 May	Nominations close
Friday 17 June	Successful applicants advised
Tuesday 23 August	Bump in - WIN Entertainment Centre Wollongong
Wednesday 24 August	Rehearsals - WIN Entertainment Centre, Wollongong
Thursday 25 August	Technical and dress rehearsals
Friday 26 August	Matinee and Evening performances
Saturday 27 August	Matinee and Evening performances

Yanggaa Garaba Aboriginal dance ensemble – information

The Yanggaa Garaba ensemble was formed in 2016 to showcase the talents of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. There is no audition process for students to access this ensemble. All students who apply are accepted.

We are seeking expressions of interest from schools who wish to be considered for involvement in this program for 2022. Once you have submitted your expression of interest you will be contacted by the program coordinator and provided with more information about the ensemble.

Application link

To express interest for the Yanggaa Garaba Aboriginal dance ensemble, please complete the form. [Yanggaa Garaba Aboriginal dance ensemble application](#)

If you have any questions regarding Southern Stars 2022, please email southern.stars@det.nsw.edu.au