


EVENT CALENDAR: Summer Holidays 2007-08 and Term 1 2008

Thu 20 Dec 2007	MFE office closes for holidays at 6pm
Mon 14 Jan 2008	MFE office re-opens at 11am.
Mon 21 Jan	Due date for re-enrolment and payment of Term 1 fees for all continuing MFE members
Tue 29 Jan-Sat 2 Feb 2pm-5pm	ROCK SCHOOL Holiday Workshop for ages 11-16
Sun 3 Feb from 2pm	Rock school performance at National Museum of Australia
Wed 9 Feb 3-6pm	Information and enrolment session for NEW members
Mon 11 Feb	Term 1 classes start
Mon 11 Feb 5pm	Act Up Sing Out information session Junior Workshop 1 for ages 7-11yrs: <i>CIRCUS</i>
Sat 9 & Sun 10 Feb	Rock School performances at the National Multicultural Festival
Sat 16 Feb 2pm	Papalote! Interactive concert by South American world music group presented by MFE at the Theo Notaras Multicultural Centre Civic Square. Tickets at the door
Sun 16 Mar 3pm	MFE Ensembles Concert & Annual General Meeting
Fri 11 April	Last day of classes for Term 1

MAKE MUSIC HAPPEN FOR YOU IN 2008 – RE-ENROL ON TIME!

- All MFE members enrolled in 2007 programs should have received their re-enrolment package for 2008 by mail and/or email by now. If you haven't, you can download the 2008 program schedule and membership/enrolment forms from the website: go to the How To Join page.
- **To re-enrol:** members need to complete TWO pages of the **PURPLE** membership and enrolment form, filling in both your membership details for 2008 and entering the programs you wish to enrol in. Consult the **GREEN** schedule of programs and fees to enter the codes, days, times and fees of your programs on the enrolment form. Please read the information on the green form about possible discounts before calculating your total costs.
- **UPDATE ALERT:** there have already been some changes to the green schedule, in the areas of guitar and trumpet. You can check out the UPDATED schedule on our website: changes are in red. Or ring the office for advice if you are not sure what class is the right continuing one for you.
- **Make sure you return your re-enrolment form with membership and program fees payment for Term 1 2008 no later than Mon 21 January.** After this date, MFE cannot guarantee that there will be vacancies in the program of your choice. You can post it, fax it or bring it in during office hours. Just make sure you get it back by Mon 21 January, because after that date any unfilled places will be opened to people on our waiting lists.
- **Discounts:** Please note that MusicPlus and Family discounts are only available on enrolments received and paid by the due date Mon 21 January.
- **Office hours:** The MFE office will be closed from Fri 21 December 2007 to Sun 13 January 2008. From Mon 14 January, office hours will be as normal: Mon-Thur 11am - 6pm.
- **Members Handbook:** Remember to pick up your 2008 Members Handbook from the MFE office once term starts: all members should read this handbook carefully and make sure they are familiar with MFE policies, especially regarding fees, and codes of behaviour in the Ainslie Arts Centre.
- Our first activity for 2008 is our **Rock School** holiday workshop for youth: it's already booked out, only one place left for an electric **BASS** guitar player at time of compiling this newsletter.
- **Our 2008 weekly tuition programs will have several new classes and ensembles - look out for:**
 - # NEW FAMILY DRUMMING CLASS Tuesdays at 6pm: this is an innovative idea suggested by an MFE member at Winter Warm-Up, after enjoying the all ages Come and Try drumming session. This class will be for families, adults with kids from 6yrs, a great way for a family to make music together.
 - # TRUMPET is back after a one-year absence: think about joining a group class, youth or adult, plus there will be some spots for individual tuition.
 - # New beginner classes start up in Term 1 in most instruments for different age groups.
 - # Plus there are two new ensembles: Sempre Strings and Kaleidoscope – details of these and other ensembles are on the website.
 - # And MFE welcomes several new tutors for 2008: Ty, David and Rafael (guitar, electric guitar and bass), Emma and Vanessa (violin), and Adrian (trumpet). A new singing tutor will be announced soon.

music FOR everyone Newsletter December 2007

COMING IN 2008

MFE's annual theme for 2008 is **Latin American Music** and culture. This offers great opportunities to explore a range of wonderful music styles and traditions. The 2008 Commissioned Composer, Michael Sallis, will be writing works for our ensembles with a Latin American flavour, and those world premieres performances will be part of the program of the Latin Fiesta annual theme concert on June 15.

Other 2008 Special events include:

- Rock School holiday workshop for youth & **Rock School finale concert**, Sunday 3 Feb (time to be confirmed but in the afternoon from 2pm) at the National Museum of Australia
- Also at the National Museum in the last week of January, special holiday workshops free of charge for **people with disabilities**: the afternoon will consist of a guided visit through the Papunya exhibition followed by a music workshop with MFE tutors Julie and Mary. This is a great new initiative for people with disabilities, made possible by generous support from the Museum – contact the MFE office if you would like to take part.
- **Papalote!** 2pm Sat 16 February at the Courtyard Studio, Canberra Theatre Centre, Civic. Travel South America in sound, with an entertaining and interactive performance by Papalote, a group of versatile musicians led by Justo Diaz of Sydney's Café Carnivale. Papalote have performed at schools and festivals around Australia, presenting their own unique and lively expression of all types of South American music. Their one-hour show, *From Zamponas to Synthesizers*, sweeps across traditional Andean, Brazilian, Salsa and Caribbean music, and along the way demonstrates both the old and new instruments of the South American continent. Join in the dancing and singing, plus there are opportunities to try some traditional instruments. Experience both the ancient sound of the Aztecs and the up-tempo rhythms of the Latin American music of today, live with Papalote! Tickets at the door: adults \$10 / Concessions, students and Festival Card holders \$8 / children under 12 \$4
- **Create your own Carnival holiday workshop** for youth 9-11yrs in the April school holidays: this workshop will have fun drumming, music-writing and movement opportunities, all leading to a Carnival type showcase for family and friends on the final day.
- **Latin Fiesta annual theme concert** 15 June
- **Winter Warm Up annual open day** which will also have a Latin American theme Sun 31 August
- and of course three fabulous **Act Up Sing Out** music theatre shows in June, October and November.

Special events Oct-Dec 2007:

Act Up Sing Out presented two fabulous productions, *The Pinafore Pirates* at the Belconnen Theatre with our youth workshop, and *The Sound of Christmas* at Ainslie with our juniors. Both shows were very popular with audiences and performers alike, and a credit to the many, many people who worked so tirelessly and generously on these shows: parent volunteers who helped create sets and costumes, and took on backstage & technical roles, and of course our amazing professional creative team, director Nina Stevenson and musical director Christine Munro. Well done!

Member concerts reached a new high in Term 4, with a fabulous Foyer concert moved to the Hall, and just as well, there were so many performers and audience! The members and their tutors did a great job presenting some really entertaining music and performances were very well-prepared, as was also the case for our end-of-year Christmas concerts. The MusicPlay Gathering was a great success as usual, the Children's Concert showed a very high standard of playing for such young students, and the large number of people performing at our Youth and Adult Concert demonstrated just how many exciting new programs and ensembles have come to fruition in 2007. Well done to all our performers, and a big thank you to all our MFE tutors for their extra work for these concerts.

Drumming program at North Ainslie Primary School (NAPS): Jim Sharrock led the 40 kids who have participated in this program in term 4 in a knockout performance at the school's end of year concert. This exciting program continues in 2008 at NAPS for yr 5 & 6 kids not in the school band: well done Jim!

SOME GOODBYES & SOME THANK YOUS

2007 sees MFE say farewell to some very special tutors, Christine Munro (violin and Act Up Sing Out), Kylie Baines (singing), and Nathaniel Smith and Ashley Callinan (guitar): we wish them all the best for the future and thank them for all they have contributed to MFE. Another goodbye and special thanks to our two core staff, Christine Johnson & Jessica Harris, for making all the many activities at MFE possible, keeping things organised & running day after day in very difficult circumstances this year – we also wish them well in their new roles. Welcome to Michelle Forman, our new administrative assistant, and to Greg Marginson, our acting office manager – they have already worked wonders by getting the 2008 schedule out in December rather than January for an MFE first! Thanks to all our tutors and to the volunteer members of the MFE Council for surviving the extraordinary challenges of 2007 and contributing their time, expertise and inspiration to keep our dynamic community arts organisation of 500 plus members going! And thank you to our members for their patience, understanding and support through all the complications the storm damage brought us. Best wishes to you all and I look forward to another exciting year of MFE music-making in 2008.

Vivienne Winther Artistic Director