

2025 VOCAL SYLLABUS

for

THE 58TH ANNUAL EISTEDDFOD

ORGANISED BY

TAREE AND DISTRICT EISTEDDFOD SOCIETY INC.

www.tareeeisteddfod.com.au

President: Tim Stack OAM
Secretary: Julie Edwards
Treasurer: Rosemary Latimore

Major Sponsor
STACKS FINANCE

www.stacksfinance.com.au



**“The important thing is not to win a prize or beat a rival,
but to pace one another on the road to excellence.”**

Closing date for entries: Friday 21st March

ALL ENTRIES AND FEES TO BE SUBMITTED ONLINE AT

www.comps-online.com.au

Venue: Manning Entertainment Centre, 33 Manning River Drive, Taree

Coordinators: Deirdre Sutherland & Kristine Waugh

**Contact Details: 0467 655056 (DS) 0419 419064 (KW)
Email: tareevocal.tdes@gmail.com**

Adjudicator: Ben Oxley

Tentative Dates: Tuesday 22nd April to Saturday 26th April (NOT including ANZAC DAY)

GRAND CONCERT

Saturday 14 June 2025 (to be confirmed) Selections of performers are made by the adjudicators and in some instances by the concert organiser in collaboration with section coordinators. Performers are selected from Championship and scholarship winners, multiple place winners and other high standard and entertaining performances.

AGE

A competitor's age for entry purposes is taken as at 1st January in the year of the event.

DONATIONS

Please consider donating. Every contribution, large or small, helps to keep our wonderful eisteddfod running. Your donation goes towards purchasing trophies and providing cash awards.

Donations can be included when submitting your entry at www.comps-online.com.au

Thank you to all our generous donors from last year.

ADMITTANCE TO THE THEATRE FOR PERFORMANCES

We ask that everyone who enters the theatre pay a session fee. This assists us in covering some of our running costs. Full day and season tickets are also available.

PROGRAM

The program will be available from the Eisteddfod website once all entries are received and collated. The cost of the program is automatically added to your cart when you enter online.

RULES AND CONDITIONS

The Eisteddfod Rules and Conditions are available on our website

ENTRANTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS Please inform the coordinators, as soon as you complete your entry, if there are any special needs requirements e.g. wheelchair access, support person.

END OF SESSION At the conclusion of each session the theatre will be cleared until the commencement of the next session. Please ask the front door person about day and section passes to reduce admission costs to the theatre.

To Vocal Teachers and Students

Greetings from Deirdre Sutherland and Kristine Waugh, your Vocal coordinators for the 2025 Taree Vocal Eisteddfod. We extend a warm welcome to all vocalists and voice teachers.

In 2024 we introduced a new aggregate system for 10yrs, 12yrs & 14yrs, and also a new Music Theatre Open Age Championship section.

In 2025 we are introducing the Starburst Section for all abilities. See below in the Starburst Syllabus.

We will also hold the Community Choirs Section at the beginning of the Vocal Section in 2025. This will be a celebration of choral music and vocal harmonies. It will not be a competition, however, our adjudicator will give written comments for each of the entries.

In 2025 we will only use Music Uploads for backing tracks. See page 7 for details.

We live in a very picturesque area of the Mid-North Coast. Competing in a regional eisteddfod has many advantages:

- It gives students an opportunity to refine their chosen repertoire and compete before the bigger city competitions.
- It builds performance and “nerves” muscles.
- The prize money overall is very generous.
- The prize money for the Open Age Aria competition is \$1000.
- There are two Smile Scholarships of \$1000 for further tuition.
- The timing of the Vocal Section coincides with the 2nd week of the NSW school holidays, Tuesday 22nd April to Saturday 26th April (to be confirmed), which makes it easier for participants to come here.
- We have excellent accompanists and an excellent venue.

We would love to see you in the beautiful Manning Valley. Any queries – please email us:

tareevocal.tdes@gmail.com

Yours musically!

Deirdre Sutherland 0467 655056

Kristine Waugh 0419 419064

Taree and District Eisteddfod Vocal Coordinators

TDES Vocal Syllabus 2025 Contents

- P5– Checklist, Venues
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VOCAL SYLLABUS CHECKLIST

- **Performance dates: 22nd – 26th April 2025 (Not including ANZAC Day) to be confirmed. Please note this is 2nd week of NSW school holidays.** Programming and age group days are not allocated until after 24th March 2025
 - **Closing date for entries: Friday 21st March 2025 midnight.** Please note the Comps-online system will not accept your entry after this date.
 - **Adjudicator's copy of music/lyrics MUST be emailed to tareevocal.tdes@gmail.com no later than: Friday 4th April 2025**
 - **Music to reach Accompanists no later than: Friday 7th March 2025.** This is teacher/student responsibility to organise. Accompanists need adequate time to rehearse your music!
 - **Appointment to be Booked for Accompanist Rehearsal: Friday 7th March 2025.**
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VENUE – Manning Entertainment Centre (MEC), 33 Manning River Drive Taree

- **In 2025 the Vocal Section will be held in the Flett Studio.** This smaller 150 seat theatre is built next to the main auditorium of the MEC. All age group sections will be held during the daytime and evening, at the **Flett Studio**. Junior and Senior Championships will be held on the evening of Saturday 26th April, time to be advised in program. Competitors are to use the Green Rooms allocated for costume changes and warm-ups.
- **The Community Choirs Section will be held in the main auditorium in the evening of Tuesday 22nd April.**
- **22nd April Starburst Section** will be held in the **Flett Studio**, in the afternoon.

ADJUDICATOR – We are pleased to welcome... Ben Oxley

“With over 20 years of teaching experience, I have helped many students achieve vocal freedom. My own teachers include Eduardo Asquez, Andrew Field and Vernon Mackie, a pupil of Edgar Herbert-Caesari, the author of many books on singing. My students have achieved numerous exam, scholarship, and competition successes, including recording contracts, entry into Sydney Conservatorium of Music, professional work with Opera Australia, musical theatre, and film credits. I taught at The Italia Conti Academy of Theatre Arts in London, and had a private studio in London. After overseeing The Australian Singing Competition, I wrote the eBook **Sing To Win** [https://www.amazon.com.au/Sing-WIN-How Singing-Competitions-ebook/dp/B00JDAR6CI](https://www.amazon.com.au/Sing-WIN-How-Singing-Competitions-ebook/dp/B00JDAR6CI) that outlines all the aspects of winning a singing competition. Repertoire choice, preparation and the winning mindset are what separates a singer for success. Previously I have adjudicated for the Bathurst, Gladstone, National Eisteddfod, Northern Beaches, Ryde, and Wollongong Eisteddfodau. In 2024 I am adjudicating the Coffs Harbour Eisteddfod, the Lower Clarence Valley Eisteddfod Vocal, Choral, and Instrumental sections, the Mildura Eisteddfod Vocal sections and the Northern Beaches Eisteddfod Choral sections.”

MAJOR AWARDS

CHAMPIONSHIPS

To be eligible for these sections, you must perform in other solo sections as noted in this syllabus.

16 years and under Championship \$300

20 years and under Championship \$300

Open Age Music Theatre Championship \$500

Open Age Operatic Aria Championship \$1000

ROMA LIGGINS PERPETUAL SCHOLARSHIP

A \$2500 scholarship will be available to an outstanding competitor in the 2025 Taree and District Eisteddfod. The scholarship is open to any competitor of any age and in any section of the eisteddfod, except Early Childhood. The management committee of the Taree and District Eisteddfod Society Inc., taking into consideration adjudicators' decisions, will then choose the successful competitor, whose name will be announced at the Grand Concert. A competitor will only be available for this scholarship once.

SMILE SCHOLARSHIPS

Two Smile Scholarships of \$1000 will be made to very talented competitors in the Vocal section.

ENTRIES

- 1. ON-LINE ENTRIES – ALL** vocal entries must be made on-line via the <http://www.compsonline> website. Teachers may make individual or studio entries, but please note that there is a small fee included for www.compsonline for each entry that is made.
- 2. If you require the services of the official accompanist, you must choose them in the Comps Online entry. The accompanist fee will be added to your entry (see page 8). There is also a \$1.75 APRA copyright fee for every song entered unless it is self-composed.**
- 3. CLOSING DATE – Friday 21st March midnight.** Please note that the Comps-on-line system will not accept your entries after that date. For urgent enquiries, contact Deirdre Sutherland phone: 0467 655 056, or email: tareevocal.tdes@gmail.com
- 4. ENSEMBLES (duets, trios etc.) – one person only to complete entry with all names of competitors on the entry.**
*Where two or more competitors are competing in combination, no competitor may compete more than once.
*It is not the responsibility of the committee to contact teachers/parents for competitor's names.
- 5. NUMBER OF ENTRANTS PER SECTION –**
*In all sections, including championships, at least three competitors must enter.
* If there are less than three entered, there will be adjudication only, or refund for that section.

VOCAL SECTION STAGE ETIQUETTE, RULES, AND REGULATIONS

1. Please arrive at the venue at least half an hour before the session time. Report to the registration desk prior to entering the theatre.
2. All competitors and groups must perform in the order of their name in the program book. Changes may only be made after consultation with the session coordinator.
3. **REPertoire** – Please follow the description requirements for song choices in the syllabus sections. An incorrect genre of song choice will unfortunately be disqualified. A competitor who has won first place in a section, may not use that song choice again in this eisteddfod.
4. **ACCOMPANIMENTS** – accompaniment is to be with piano, unless otherwise stated, for each section. If you wish to use the services of the official accompanist check page 8. You may also use your own accompanist.
5. **AMPLIFIED SECTION ACCOMPANIMENTS. CDs are no longer allowed!! Backing tracks must be through Music Uploads.com. Please be advised Music Uploads have fees. They are only used for Pop Sections and the Music Theatre Amplified sections. They may also be used for the Ensemble sections.**
6. **PROPS** – props are to be minimal and free-standing. Notify stage manager if you need help.
7. **Courtesy** – all competitors and their support persons must demonstrate courtesy. If they distract or cause problems for the performers and adjudicator, the Stage Manager and

Vocal Coordinator have the authority to ask any person causing trouble to leave immediately. There must be silence in the auditorium during a performance.

8. No teacher, parent or carer is permitted to contact a competitor during the item being performed, unless as the accompanist. No prompting or assistance of any kind may be given by any person other than the adjudicator.
9. All competitors are to wait where the Stage Manager instructs. All competitors, their teacher and parents are to follow directions from the Stage Manager.
10. No parent, teacher, competitor, or any other interested person shall be allowed to approach the adjudicator. to do so could disadvantage their competitor or other competitors. All enquiries are to be made to one of the coordinators.
11. **Photography and filming, including mobile phones: there is no filming of any sort allowed during a performance. there will be a photographic opportunity given at the end of each session. For further enquiries contact vocal coordinators on the day of your performance.**
12. **Time Limits** – Although there are no penalties, please endeavour to stay within the time limits printed within the syllabus.

REGULATIONS REGARDING PHOTOCOPYING –

A photocopy of all songs' sheet music and pop lyrics, to be performed, must be emailed to tareevocal.tdes@gmail.com by Friday 4th April 2025. This copy will be used by the adjudicator and later destroyed. The accompanists may perform from a photocopy which must be marked as ACCOMPANIST COPY. Each entrant must please sign an AMCOS copyright form for eisteddfods, available for download from the AMCOS website. AMCOS/APRA charges a small fee for each eisteddfod performance song, which is in the public domain. TDES collects that on behalf of APRA in each Comps online entry.

REGISTRATION ON THE DAY OF YOUR PERFORMANCE

Competitors must sign in at the Registration Desk, in the foyer, at least half an hour prior to their section beginning (also handing in any adjudicator's music that has not been emailed.)

OFFICIAL ACCOMPANISTS

Anyone who requires the services of the Official Accompanist must make this choice in their Comps Online entry forms. You may also use your own accompanist. A copy of the music in a folder with plastic inserts is to be sent to the Official Accompanist. **Friday 7th March 2025 is the latest date for accompanists to receive music.** Loose-leafed music is not acceptable. Set out folders with contents page as follows:

1. The competitors name and contact phone number
2. The competitors age group
3. The section name and number
4. The Song Title and Composer

The music supplied to the accompanist must be a full accompaniment not a single line with chords. Accompanists will not transpose or improvise and will only play the written accompaniment. They may not help the competitors by playing the vocal line.

Accompanist fees – a fee of **\$8 per song** is charged by the Eisteddfod Society if the services of an official accompanist are to be used in any vocal section. This is included in the on-line booking. **Official accompanists are not to be used for the Pop Sections.** Rehearsal fees with an official accompanist are to be paid at the time of the rehearsal. Fees are \$38 per half hour. See below for rehearsal bookings.

8YRS, 10YRS, 12YRS, Open Age – LYDIA WILLS

Postal Address for music: Lydia Wills, 5 Kyogle Place, Port Macquarie, NSW 2444.

Port Macquarie and northern region competitors may book rehearsals directly with Lydia. Phone: 0408 741371 or 65814892. Lydia's rehearsals for Taree, Wingham, Gloucester, Forster/Tuncurry, and southern regions will be held **Sunday 6th April 2025** in Songlines Music Studio 2/66 High St, Taree. To book rehearsal appointments please call Deirdre: 0467 655056, by 22nd March 2025.

14YRS, 16YRS, 20YRS – DON SECOMB

Postal Address for music: Don Secomb, 52 Flett St, Taree, NSW 2430

To book a rehearsal appointment please call Don by 7th March 2025. Phone: 0400 402090.

JUNIOR SECTIONS

RESTRICTED VOCAL SOLO - OWN CHOICE

For competitors who have not gained a first prize in the Taree Eisteddfod Vocal Section. Any genre. **Entry fee \$12.** Time limit 4 minutes. Must use Official or own accompanist. No backing tracks.

Section 1. 8yrs and under
Section 2. 10yrs and under
Section 3. 12yrs and under

Section 4. 14yrs and under
Section 5. 16yrs and under
Section 6. 20yrs and under

FOLK OR TRADITIONAL SONG – OWN CHOICE

A song of no known authorship. May be sung unaccompanied or may be accompanied by one or two appropriate instruments. Official or own accompanist. **Entry fee \$12.** Time limit 4 minutes.

Section 7. 8yrs and under
Section 8. 10yrs and under
Section 9. 12yrs and under

Section 10. 14yrs and under
Section 11. 16yrs and under
Section 12. 20yrs and under

SONG BY AN AUSTRALIAN COMPOSER (art song/classical genre, not pop or folk) – OWN CHOICE

Entry fee \$12. Time limit 4 minutes. Official

or own accompanist.

Section 13. 8yrs and under
Section 14. 10yrs and under
Section 15. 12yrs and under

Section 16. 14yrs and under
Section 17. 16yrs and under
Section 18. 20yrs and under

VOCAL SOLO - OWN CHOICE (art song/classical style, not music theatre, pop, folk, or traditional. Suitable to age level.) **Entry fee \$12.** Time limit 4 minutes. Official or own accompanist.

Section 19. 8yrs and under

Section 20. 10yrs and under

VOCAL SOLO ART SONG FROM ELIZABETHAN TO 21ST CENTURY CLASSICAL REPERTOIRE – OWN CHOICE **Entry fee \$12.** Time limit 4 minutes. Official or own accompanist.

Section 21. 12yrs and under
Section 22. 14yrs and under

Section 23. 16yrs and under
Section 24. 20yrs and under

SACRED SONG, CANTATA or ORATORIO – OWN CHOICE. NOT POP or CONTEMPORARY **Entry fee \$12.** Time limit 4 minutes. Official or own accompanist.

Section 25. 16yrs and under

Section 26. 20yrs and under

ENSEMBLES – Duet, Trio, Quartet - OWN CHOICE For 2 – 4 singers

One song which must contain some harmony. May be from Popular, Music Theatre or Classical genres. USB accompaniment allowed or official or own accompanist.

Entry fee \$12. Time limit 4.5 minutes. (Add all names of competitors onto one entry form but one person only must send in full amount of entry fee.)

Section 27. 14yrs and under

Section 29. 20yrs and under

Section 28. 16yrs and under

SONG IN COSTUME – OWN CHOICE

The song is to be chosen from music theatre, film, television, or operetta (including Gilbert and Sullivan). Official or own accompanist. USB backing & microphone NOT allowed. Must use official or own accompanist.

Entry fee \$12. Time limit 4 minutes.

Section 30. 8yrs and under

Section 33. 14yrs and under

Section 31. 10yrs and under

Section 34. 16yrs and under

Section 32. 12yrs and under

Section 35. 20yrs and under

MUSIC THEATRE AMPLIFIED – OWN CHOICE

The song is to be chosen from music theatre, film, television. May be in costume. Microphone must be used. Accompaniment must be on musicuploads.com.au

Entry fee \$12. Time limit 4.5 minutes.

Section 36. 8yrs and under

Section 39. 14yrs and under

Section 37. 10yrs and under

Section 40. 16yrs and under

Section 38. 12yrs and under

Section 41. 20yrs and under

POP SONG – OWN CHOICE

A pop song is a non-classical, non-music theatre song, which can be Country, R&B, Jazz, Ballad, Rock & Roll and is usually characterised by an insistent rhythmic beat.

The Official accompanist is not available for this section. Accompaniment may be by own instrumentalists or musicuploads.com.au Backing vocals will be allowed. A copy of lyrics only will be required for the adjudicator. A microphone is available for use.

Entry fee \$12. Time limit 4.5 minutes.

Section 42. 8yrs and under

Section 45. 14yrs and under

Section 43. 10yrs and under

Section 46. 16yrs and under

Section 44. 12yrs and under

Section 47. 20yrs and under

POP SONG BY AN AUSTRALIAN SONGWRITER – OWN CHOICE

THIS SONG MUST BE WRITTEN BY AN AUSTRALIAN SONGWRITER. Encouragement is given to local singer song-writers to enter their own song. See definition and requirements in above section.

Entry fee \$12 Time limit 4.5 minutes for all age groups.

Section 48. 8yrs and under

Section 51. 14yrs and under

Section 49. 10yrs and under

Section 52. 16yrs and under

Section 50. 12yrs and under

Section 53. 20yrs and under

Aggregate Awards

10 years and under Aggregate Winner - \$100 – given to the entrant with the highest average score of all their results, in the following sections – 8, 14, 20, 31 or 37 (whichever is higher of the two music theatre sections), 43 or 49 (whichever is higher of the two pop sections).

12 years and under Aggregate Winner - \$100 – given to the entrant with the highest average score of all their results, in the following sections – 9, 15, 21, 32 or 38 (whichever is higher of the two music theatre sections), 44 or 50 (whichever is the higher of the two pop sections).

14 years and under Aggregate Winner - \$100 – given to the entrant with the highest average score of all their results, in the following sections – 10, 16, 22, 33 or 39 (whichever is higher of the two music theatre sections), 45 or 51 (whichever is the higher of the two pop sections).

16 years and under Amplified Aggregate Award - \$100

Given to the entrant with the highest score of their results in the following sections -

Section 34. Song in Costume

Section 40. Music Theatre Amplified

Section 46. Pop Song

Section 52. Pop Song by Australian Songwriter

20 years and under Amplified Aggregate Award - \$100

Given to the entrant with the highest score of their results in the following sections -

Section 35. Song in Costume

Section 41. Music Theatre Amplified

Section 47. Pop Song

Section 53. Pop Song by Australian Songwriter

JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

Date: Saturday 26th April 2025

SECTION 54 - 16 YEARS AND UNDER VOCAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Entry fee \$18

To qualify for entry, competitors must have performed in any two the following sections – 17, 23, 25. Competitors will be required to sing two songs which will be performed consecutively.

Time limit – maximum 10 minutes

Perpetual Trophy donated by Sue and Craig Ryde

1st Prize \$300 donated by Manning Valley Choral Society

(A) Art Song or Aria from Baroque Period to Classical Period repertoire

(B) Art Song or Aria from Romantic to 21st Century Classical repertoire

SECTION 55 – 20 YEARS AND UNDER VOCAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Entry fee \$18

To qualify for entry, competitors must have performed in any two of the following sections – 18, 24, 26.

Competitors will be required to sing two songs which will be performed consecutively.

Time limit – maximum 10 minutes

1st Prize \$300

(A) Art Song or Aria from Baroque Period to Classical Period

(B) Art Song or Aria from Romantic Period to 21st Century Classical repertoire

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OPEN AGE SECTIONS

Date: Saturday 26th April 2025

Section 56. RESTRICTED VOCAL SOLO – OWN CHOICE

For competitors who have not gained a first place in the Taree Vocal Eisteddfod. Official or own accompanist.

Entry fee \$12. Time limit 4 minutes.

Section 57. FOLK OR TRADITIONAL SONG – OWN CHOICE

A song of no known authorship. May be sung unaccompanied or may be accompanied by one or two appropriate instruments. Official or own accompanist.

Entry fee \$12. Time limit 4 minutes.

Section 58. ART SONG BY AN AUSTRALIAN COMPOSER – OWN CHOICE

Entry fee \$12. Time limit 4 minutes. Official or own accompanist.

Section 59. VOCAL SOLO ART SONG. (Not Operatic Aria) ELIZABETHAN TO 21ST CENTURY CLASSICAL ART/LIEDER SONG REPERTOIRE – OWN CHOICE

Entry fee \$12. Time limit 4 minutes. Official or own accompanist.

First prize \$100 Marieke Dan Perpetual Memorial Trophy

Section 60. SACRED SONG, CANTATA or ORATORIO ARIA– OWN CHOICE

Entry fee \$12. Time limit 4 minutes. Official or own accompanist.

Section 61. OPEN AGE COMMUNITY CHOIRS/VOCAL ENSEMBLES - OWN CHOICE

Two contrasting songs of any genre, which must contain some harmony. Own accompanist or 'a Capella'. Add name of group onto one entry form.

Entry fee \$25. Time limit 10 minutes.

Section 62. SONG FROM MUSICAL COMEDY, OPERETTA (including Gilbert and Sullivan), MUSIC THEATRE, FILM or TELEVISION – OWN CHOICE Official or own accompanist, NOT backing track. May be performed in costume.

Entry fee \$12. Time limit 4.5 minutes.

Section 63. MUSIC THEATRE AMPLIFIED – OWN CHOICE. The song is to be chosen from Music Theatre, Film, Television, Operetta. May be in costume. Microphone must be used.

Accompaniment must be on USB

Entry fee \$12 Time limit 4.5 minutes.

Section 64. POP SONG – OWN CHOICE (see details below)

Section 65. POP SONG BY AN AUSTRALIAN SONGWRITER – OWN CHOICE

A pop song is a non-classical, non-music theatre song, which can be Country, R&B, Jazz, Ballad, Rock & Roll and is usually characterised by an insistent rhythmic beat.

The Official accompanist is not available for this section. Accompaniment may be by own instrumentalist or by USB recording. Backing vocals will be allowed. USBs must be clearly marked with the competitor's name and section number. USB recordings must be MP3 files not WAV. A copy of lyrics only will be required for the adjudicator. A microphone is available for use in this section.

Entry fee for each section \$12. Time limit 4.5 minutes.

OPEN AGE ARIA COMPETITION AND VOCAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Date: Saturday 26th April 2025

Section 66. OPEN AGE MUSIC THEATRE CHAMPIONSHIP

Entry fee \$18

Official or own accompanist may be used. Not Backing Tracks.

First Prize \$500 Mike Collins-Brian Croxen Memorial Award, donated by Taree Arts Council

To qualify for entry competitors must have performed in the following two Open Age solo sections: 62, 63.

Competitors will be required to sing two music theatre songs, which will be sung consecutively. Competitors are encouraged to perform in costume if appropriate. Time limit maximum 12 minutes.

(A) Music Theatre Song from Broadway or West End 1940 - 1969

(B) Music Theatre Song from Broadway or West End 1970 – current era

Section 67. OPEN AGE VOCAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Entry fee \$18

Official or own accompanist may be used

First Prize \$1000 donated by Mr Tim Stack OAM and Taree Eisteddfod Society

To qualify for entry competitors must have performed in **two** of the following solo sections: Open Age Sections 58, 59, 60.

Competitors will be required to sing two arias, which will be sung consecutively. Time limit maximum 12 minutes.

(C) Operatic Aria from Baroque or Classical Period

(D) Operatic Aria from Romantic or Contemporary period

(The arias may be sung in English or the original language)