



Newsletter 1 | Summer 2021

Welcome

I was delighted to be offered the position of Musical Director at NCAM and I look forward to meeting you all in the coming weeks.

I completed my Bachelor of Science (Mathematics) in 2020 and I am currently in my final year of my Bachelor of Music in Performance Voice, both at the University of Canterbury. I have always thoroughly enjoyed my musical activities and play several instruments (Violin, Cello, Piano, Harp and Flute) and have performed with Seasoning Ensemble, a chamber group and Secret Sinfonia, a small orchestra. I am looking forward to continuing my studies at UC working towards a Master's Degree.

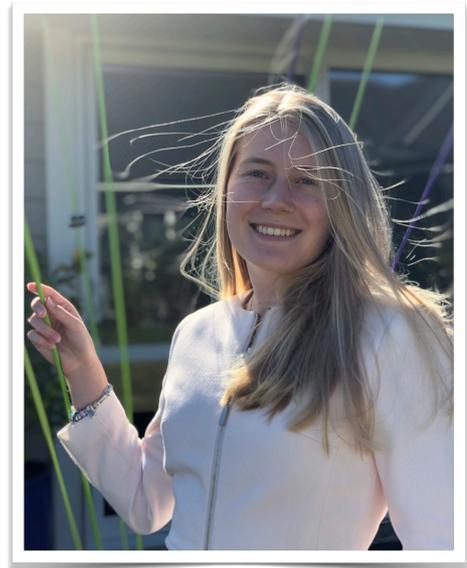
In complete contrast I enjoy trampoline coaching at ICE Trampoline and Tumbling Sports here in Rangiora and compete at Junior International level. I also hold a Private Pilots Licence and I am working towards my Commercial Pilots Licence. I have developed a passion for aerobatics and I have competed at the South Island and National Aerobatic Championships where I won my class at Nationals in Masterson last year.

This term I will be at NCAM on Monday afternoons from 3:30 - 5:30 to be available to you all for 'drop-in' sessions when I hope to meet you all. Please drop in just for a chat or to discuss any problems or queries that you may have.

I am looking forward to an exciting year ahead especially to our Orchestral Weekend in June when we will be working with members of the CSO.

Alexandra H Watson BSc ARSM ATCL

Musical Director



Junior & Senior Orchestra

We are delighted that Mark Hodgkinson has joined NCAM as our new conductor of both the Junior and Senior Orchestra's. Mark is a free-lance conductor and teacher who is also conductor of Canterbury Philharmonia, the Christchurch Doctors' Orchestra, the New Zealand Doctors' Orchestra and the chamber orchestra Resonance Ensemble.

Mark studied for a performance degree in Trumpet at the University of Canterbury and has travelled extensively. He has worked with Limhamns Brass Band in Sweden and with the Perkel Opera and Mercury Opera in Auckland. In Christchurch he has worked with CSM, Christchurch Operatic, Canterbury Music Theatre, Christchurch Youth Orchestra, Christchurch Symphony Orchestra and Canterbury Opera. He was also Music Director of Da Capo, a chamber orchestra and worked with Nelson Symphony Orchestra.

Our orchestras are a very important part of NCAM. They bring together students who study a variety of instruments and wish to be part of our developing orchestra's. Our orchestra's give you the opportunity to meet with other students in a social and rewarding environment, enabling you to develop your skills in a collaborative orchestral environment.

Please come along and explore our orchestra's on a Thursday evening between 5:45 - 6:30 or 6:30 - 7:45, I would like to see as many of you as possible joining our orchestra's.

Group Timetable

Choir	Monday 4:45 - 5:30	Studio 3	Charlie Neeson
Junior Chamber Group	Every 2 nd Wednesday 6:45 - 7:15	Studio 2	Reina Dornan
Wind Ensemble	Every 2 nd Wednesday 7:15 - 8:15	Studio 2	Reina Dornan
Advanced Chamber Group	Every 2 nd Wednesday 8:15 - 8:45	Studio 1 & 2 (by invitation)	Reina Dornan
Cello Ensemble	Thursday 5:05 - 5:35	Studio 3	Naomi Harmer
Celtic Fiddles	Thursday 5:30 - 6:30	Green Room	Jeremy Brownbrooke
Junior Orchestra	Thursday 5:45 - 6:30	Small Theatre	Mark Hodgkinson
Senior Orchestra	Thursday 6:30 - 7:45	Small Theatre	Mark Hodgkinson



NCAM Orchestral Weekend

On 18 and 19 June 2021 we have an amazing opportunity for students to join us for a fantastic weekend with members of the CSO.

The CSO tutors will be working with the students in sectionals and massed orchestra rehearsals on Friday evening and Saturday afternoon prior to the concert. This Orchestral Weekend will end with a concert to be held at Kaiapoi High School Performing Arts Centre on the evening of Saturday 19 June.

If you have not been a member of the Academy orchestra's this will be a great experience, giving you a taste of orchestral life.

This will be a learning curve for all students irrespective of your ability, from beginners to experienced players. Everyone will be welcome! If you have any questions or would like to be involved please email me and I hope that as many of you as possible will be able to take part in this amazing weekend.

Please put these dates in your diary with more information to come.



Trinity Exams

This year NCAM will be offering Trinity College, London examinations.

The deadline for entries is 28 May.

Exams will take place in mid-August.

If you would like enter any exams please discuss this with your tutor.

I do hope that you will register for an exam as it is wonderful way to gain confidence and set a goal for the year.

Closing date: 28 May 2021

News

Student News

I would love to celebrate all student success in any area of activity, not only music.

If there is any success that you would like added to the next newsletter, please let me know.