

EMERGENT 2024

Graduate Showcase

Friday 14 March
6.00 pm

Bunjil Place Studio



Acknowledgement of Country

We proudly acknowledge the Traditional Owners, Casey's Aboriginal communities and their rich culture and pay respect to their Elders past, present and future.

We acknowledge Aboriginal people as Australia's First Peoples and as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which we work and live.

Introduction

Emergent 2024 is a diverse presentation of music, drama, dance and theatre studies.

Students perform works that explore love, loss and longing. Performances interpret ideas and themes such as escapism, obsession, revenge, innocence and melancholy. Their performances are virtuosic, rich and expressive.

The showcase includes dynamic band ensembles, acoustic duets, woodwind, contemporary voice, jazz dance solos and bold and challenging theatre.

Emergent highlights students' commitment to their art form, to collaboration and an unwavering pursuit in sharing powerful stories.

We are deeply proud of our Emergent students and their journey to arrive at this point.

We hope you enjoy the show.

VCE Drama

Shanaya Perera

Solo

Waverley Christian College



Norma Desmond

Convinced that the talkies are just a passing phase, and silent films are forever, my VCE Drama Solo of *Norma Desmond* insists that her latest script, *Salome*, be made into a silent film. After being rejected by Cecil B DeMille, a desperate and delusional Norma approaches a rival production company executive demanding that the film be produced, with herself in the title role, to announce her comeback.

Shanaya Perera successfully completed VCE Drama in 2024, showcasing her passion and talent for the performing arts. She is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Arts at Monash University further expanding her knowledge and skills in the creative field including Theatre Studies.

VCE VET Dance

Kaitlyn Di Pietro

Dance Solo

Fountain Gate Secondary
College



Jazz

This jazz solo was taught to me by Tara Smith. It is a super highly entertaining and high energy routine that highlights flexibility, jumps and turns. The song is from the hit TV show SMASH. The dance follows the narrative that she is going to be the next big superstar.

Kaitlyn is currently undertaking Year 12 at Fountain Gate Secondary College and is completing a Certificate III in Dance. Kaitlyn is also preparing to audition for full time dance.

VCE Theatre Studies

Claire Anderson

Acting and Directing
Monologue
St Margaret's
Berwick Grammar



Fangirls

This piece is from the musical *Fangirls* by Yve Blake. It takes place at the beginning of the second act as the protagonist Edna confesses her feelings and escape plan to her idol 'Harry'. Edna has managed to kidnap her celebrity crush Harry, now trying to convince him to run away with her and escape his life of fame.

The song is originally presented by two performers; however, Claire's performance is arranged for a sole actor for her VCE Theatre Studies exam. This challenge allowed Claire to improve her skills in character transformation as she was required to perform as both Edna and Harry at once. This piece also has its own physical demands of singing and rapping whilst simultaneously dancing, conforming to the genre of musical theatre.

Claire has completed her Certificate of Performance exam with the Australian Music Examinations Board and has had experience performing in concerts as well as lead roles in *Shrek the Musical*, *The Little Mermaid* the musical and *The Wiz musical*. Claire has enjoyed many aspects of performance including acting and dance along with singing.

VCE Dance

Evie Pummell

Skills-based Solo
Beaconhills College



Contemporary

Evie is performing a VCE Dance Skills Solo which focusses on the use of accents and dynamics.

Evie completed Units 3 and 4 VCE Dance as an accelerated subject last year at Beaconhills College and is currently completing Year 12. Evie has had a passion for dance since the age of 2 and enjoys competing solos and troupes in all dance styles.

VCE VET Dance

Kiara Fisher

Cohesive Composition Solo
Berwick Secondary College



Jazz

Kiara is performing her VCE Composition Solo following a narrative formal structure of ABC titled *The Phone Call*.

Section A:

The anxious wait for a phone call about a loved one.

Section B:

The phone finally rings but delivers the dreaded news.

Section C:

Due to grief, the mind plays tricks and creates an illusion that the loved one is still there.

Kiara is a recent Beaconhills College graduate and is currently attending La Trobe University studying Health Science. She has had a love of calisthenics and dance, performing at a championship level since the age of 4.

VCE Drama

Arlo Hitchman

Solo

Elisabeth Murdoch College



The Drama Teacher

Using the main convention and dramatic element of caricature and conflict, this solo follows the deluded drama teacher as she tries to explain to the principal that she cannot work under 'these conditions' and is invaluable to the school, through scenes of her tone-deaf musical *Medea* and past musical *Catsbeth*.

Arlo is a Year 12 student at Elisabeth Murdoch College and Performing Arts captain. They aspire to be a professional performer after graduation.

VCE VET Dance

Mikaylah Armour

Dance solo

Berwick Secondary College



Jazz

In this routine, I'll be channeling pure joy and energy, allowing the music to guide my every movement. Each powerful step will reflect the uplifting spirit of the song, as I express my passion and connection to the rhythm. Through my dance, I aim to evoke a sense of happiness and celebration, inviting you to feel the exhilaration alongside me. This performance is not just about showcasing my technical skills; it's about sharing the emotion behind the music and connecting with you, the audience. I can't wait to transport you into this vibrant world of dance and leave you smiling.

Mikaylah is passionate about dance and calisthenics. Her journey began with a love for movement, and dance has always been a vibrant outlet for her creativity. Incorporating dance elements into her calisthenics has shaped her as a performer.

At Jeaden Calisthenics, she thrives in a supportive team environment that fosters growth and camaraderie. Training alongside her teammates inspires her to reach new heights, and the energy they create together is magical. As a calisthenics coach, she finds fulfillment in guiding others on their journey, fostering an inclusive atmosphere where everyone feels empowered. In addition to coaching, Mikaylah aspires to be a primary school teacher, helping students develop into their best selves. She is excited for the future and grateful for all the opportunities ahead!

Intermission



VCE Music Performance

Maddy Towers

Voice

Masquerade Talent

Studios Berwick



ALICE by PEGGY

This song was selected as part of a lyric-led, story driven, VCE performance set.

Showcasing themes of escapism, maladaptive daydreaming, losing touch of reality and finding comfort in fiction. All told through the story of Alice in Wonderland.

Maddy is a dedicated and highly skilled musical theatre performer, with thirteen plus years of training under various studios and academies.

Her wide repertoire includes notable portrayals of Heather Chandler in *Heathers: The Musical*, and most recently Alice Spencer in *Alice by Heart*.

Maddy has now completed her Certificate III in Music Performance and wishes to pursue further study in musical theatre as a Year 12 graduate and graduate of Masquerade Talent Studios.

She is currently working as a Drama teacher, inspiring young performers through the art of musical theatre.

VET Cert III
Music Performance
**Fuatai (Louisa)
Aigofie**

Voice
Fountain Gate Secondary
College

Love Me Now by Tino ft izza
Accompanist **Christian Tanielu**
Guitar and vocals

This song is about that feeling when you're completely drawn to someone, wanting to be close to them and feeling like you're meant to be together. Hopefully the lyrics really capture the desire to connect emotionally, to be vulnerable, and to share a love that feels undeniable.

We wanted to write something that speaks to the way love can make us feel both vulnerable and alive. With lines like 'Love me now' – it's a plea for emotional openness, for someone to let down their guard and be fully real with you. It's not just about physical love; it's about being there for each other, emotionally guiding and supporting one another.

The idea that this love is 'meant to be' keeps coming up because, for us, that feeling of destiny in a relationship can be so powerful. When you connect with someone in that way, it feels like nothing can tear you apart.

Until part 2 of the song...



Fuatai (Louisa) Aigofie is currently completing a Diploma in Tourism and Business. She has grown up with music all around her, with family, friends, church community and culture. She is a proud Samoan. Music is all she has ever known and it's somewhat of a safe space for her. She hopes that you'll be able to feel her deep love of music through this performance!!

VCE Music Performance
Au-Yeung Oi Lam
(Grace)

Clarinet
St Margaret's Berwick
Grammar

***Russian Rag* by Elena Kats-Chernin**
Accompanist **Ms Coral Rafferty** piano

Russian Rag is composed by an Australian composer Elena Kats-Chernin. It is a Russian rag ballet which blends the rhythm and styles of early 20th Century ragtime with Russian musical elements. The use of melancholic quality portrays a delightful vibe.



Grace Au-Yeung is a dedicated and passionate musician currently in Year 12. She has over ten years of experience studying music, beginning her musical journey at the age of seven. Proficient in both piano and clarinet, she has developed a deep appreciation for music, not only as a skill but as an integral part of her life.

Her commitment to musical excellence is reflected in her achievements, including achieving; 95/100, a distinction for Trinity College London's Grade 8 clarinet exam, Helen Taylor Johannesen Utah International Piano Academy and Festival competition gold award, and participating in the Master's Recital. Recently, she further challenged herself undertaking the ATCL Diploma exam, demonstrating technical expertise and artistic expression.

VCE Music Performance

James Bartholomeusz

Voice

St Margaret's Berwick
Grammar

Waving Through a Window,
composed by Pasek and Paul
Accompanist **Mr Visser** piano

James will present a heartfelt rendition of *Waving Through a Window*, capturing themes of longing and self-discovery.



James is a dynamic performer known for captivating his audiences. He's performed numerous times and will play Ren in St Margaret's upcoming *Footloose* musical.

VCE Music Performance

Christiana Kozaris and Xandria Chan

Voice

Gleneagles Secondary College

***In This Life* Delta Goodrem**

This performance piece is a rendition of Delta Goodrem's *In This Life*, created by Xandria and Christiana as part of their VCE Music Performance program. The piece reflects on the story of a girl as she contemplates her life, transitioning between the innocent and mature version of herself as she finds comfort in her life today.



Christiana had a passion for music from a young age. Musical theatre lessons with the Young Australian Broadway Chorus were the beginning of her music journey which led her to taking formal vocal lessons from the age of nine. She learnt to play the piano as a child and as her music skills broadened, she learnt how to play guitar and accompany herself while singing.

Christiana Kozaris is studying Science and Popular Music at Monash University while continuing to promote herself as an emerging young artist through social media and community events.



Xandria is currently undertaking VCE. She was born in Kuala Lumpur and spent the first 10 years there before moving to Australia. Her ethnicity is Chinese. She has always loved music and art. She began piano lessons from age 4 in JMC, Yamaha. Her father played the piano and her mother was in a choir in Malaysia when she was younger. She can sing, play percussion and some piano. She has also taught herself to play the guitar.

Xandria has been a part of the Australian Girls Choir since 2020, and has performed at the MCG, Hamer Hall and Government House. Recently, she participated in an International tour to France, Switzerland and Singapore with the Australian Girls Choir and sang in four different languages and performed a solo.

She plays an active part in her school's music program and is also part of a pop band.

VCE Music Performance

Isabella Cauchi

Contemporary Voice

Elisabeth Murdoch College

Hopelessly Devoted to You

by Olivia Newton-John,

composed by John Farrar

Performed by **Isabella Cauchi** Voice

This piece is the iconic heartfelt ballad from the musical 'Grease' and is performed by the character Sandy, who expresses her vulnerability and heartbreak after finding herself distant and unsure about her romantic relationship. This song is very dreamy, tender and soft, yet also shows Sandy's hope and power.

Better Than Revenge by Taylor Swift

Performed by **Isabella Cauchi** Voice

Conner Aiton Drums

Murphy Schmidt Bass guitar

Jayden (JJ) Robinson Electric guitar

Better Than Revenge by Taylor Swift is a very bold, fiery, angsty pop-rock song surrounding the unapologetic criticism of a romantic rival and the desire to 'get back at them'. Issy has loved performing as an ensemble member alongside her friends and has thoroughly enjoyed exploring different music styles and moods throughout the year.



Issy studied VCE Music Contemporary Performance in 2024 and is currently completing Year 12.

Since a young age, she has had a passion for singing, playing piano, and performing at school and wider community. She recently received a commendation from the Music Theatre Guild of Victoria for her performance of Sophie Sheridan in *Mamma Mia*. Issy aspires to pursue a career in music performance or musical theatre following high school.

VCE Music Performance

Dylan Bird and Sofia Sabelino

Electric Guitar and Voice

St Peter's College

***Ain't No Way* by Aretha Franklin**

Finesse/Remember the time

- Bruno Mars, Michael Jackson

Don't You Worry Bout A Thing

by Tori Kelly

Performed by

Sofia Sabelino Vocals

Dylan Bird Electric guitar

Samantha Naiken Backing vocals

Kyle Labor Piano, Vocals

William Pereira Drums

Dante Raso Electric Bass guitar

Dylan Lineros Alto Saxophone

Tokyo Rose formed early 2023 during their time completing their VET Music Performance course. The eight piece consists of Sasha, Sam and Sofia sharing lead and backup vocals, Dylan Bird on guitar and Dante on bass, Dylan Lineros on sax, Kyle on piano and Will on the drums.

Since their inception, Tokyo Rose have grown as musicians and as a band, through the influence and experience they feed off from one another.



Dylan is a self-taught musician since the age of twelve. He is the lead guitar player in the band Tokyo Rose and is extremely passionate about music with a passion to become a music teacher in the future. Dylan has played lead roles in his St Peter's College production of *Legally Blonde: The Musical*, where he played Warner Huntington III in 2023 and also performed in the musical production *Bring It* playing the character Randall. Dylan completed Year 12 in 2024 achieving an outstanding score of a raw 50 in VET Music Performance. Dylan is currently studying Education at Federation University.



Sofia is a self-taught singer who actively engages in various musical pursuits. She played one of the lead roles, Bridget, in the school production *Bring It On*, and has frequently performed with the school choir. She studied both VCE Contemporary Music and VET Music in her final year. She achieved an outstanding raw score of 50 in VET Music alongside her musical partner Dylan Bird. Currently, she is studying Secondary Education and Music at Monash University and is aspiring to become a music teacher.

Thanks to the performers, co-producers, production team, teachers, families and friends.

Emergent 2024: Graduate Showcase has been co-produced by **Grace Jemison** and **Jack Thompson** from Rowville Secondary College



Grace is currently involved in various performing arts at her school including VCE drama, senior choir, the school production as well as other drama showcases and opportunities. Outside of school she's involved in musical theatre and enjoys taking physical theatre and acting classes with friends. In the future Grace hopes to continue performing live and aims to also learn more about writing and directing.



Jack has been performing since the age of 6 and was recently a participant in *Starbound 2025* as a featured vocalist and ensemble. He also loves working backstage and has stage-managed and crewed a number of productions including *State School Spectacular 2023*. Jack recently made his Directorial debut with Masquerade Youth Productions, bringing *Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer Jr* to the stage. He attends Rowville Institute of the Arts, takes acting classes at Masquerade Talent Studios & vocal coaching with Savannah Academy of Performing Arts. He would like to congratulate all the performers tonight.

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