

# OZ SCHOOLS INSTRUMENTAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



*A competition for Australia's best up-and-coming musicians.*

## STRINGS

*Event Guide*

### NSW STATE FINAL

AUGUST 24

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# WELCOME

Welcome to the inaugural Oz Schools Instrumental Championships (OSIC) National Series!

Over 10 weeks, more than 1,000 students from across the country will come together to showcase their talents and compete for championship titles in piano, strings, drums, and guitar.

We've been blown away by the talent displayed in auditions and nominations over the past three months. Each section promises outstanding performances and some very close competition!

With the event fast approaching, we encourage you to read through this guide to ensure you're fully prepared for your performance. If there's anything you can't find, please email us at [admin@osic.com.au](mailto:admin@osic.com.au).

Keep up the practice – see you on stage soon!

Warm regards,

OSIC Team

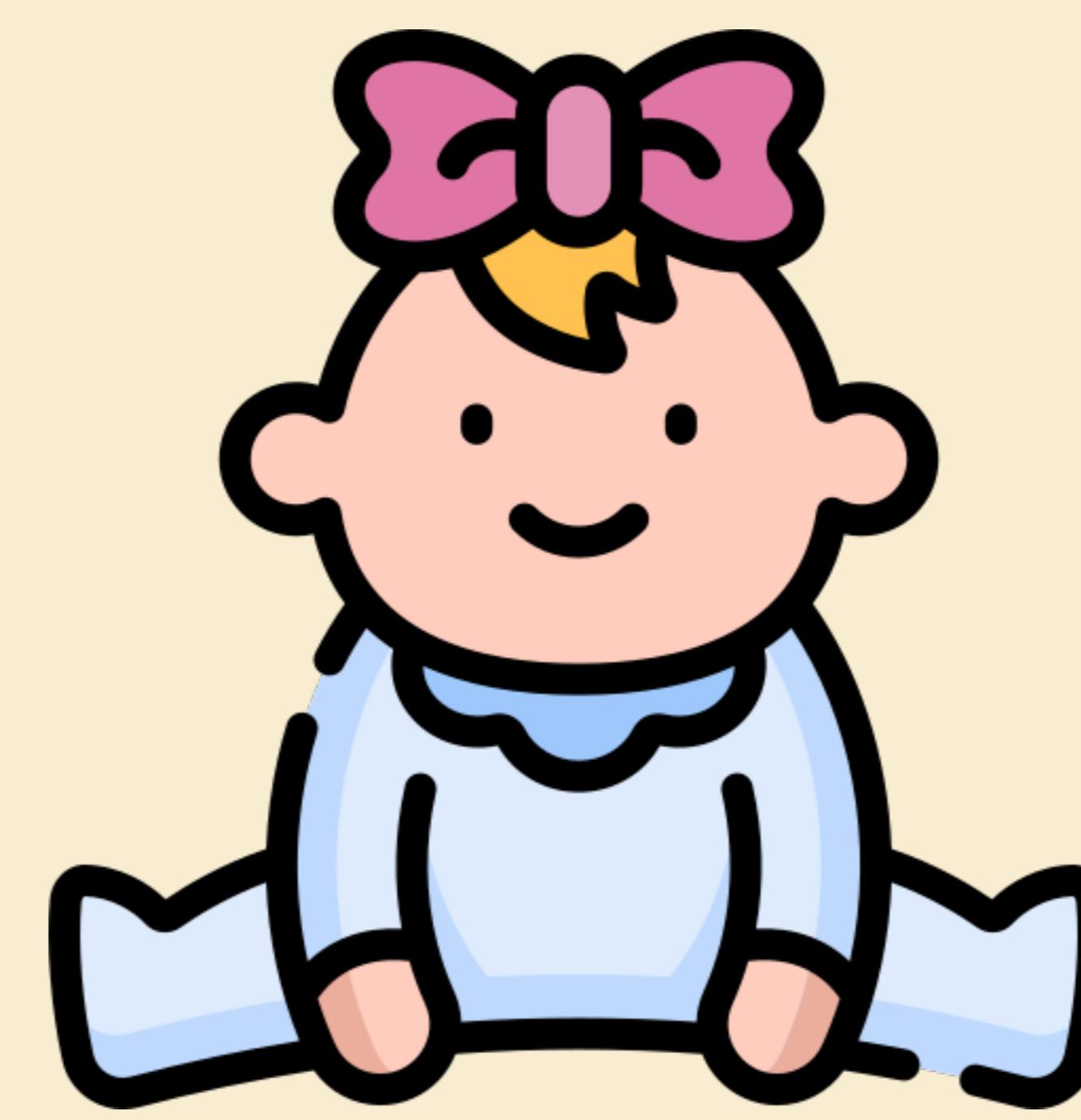
# SCHEDULE

**NSW STRINGS STATE FINAL - Sunday August 24th**

Full programs (student order) will be provided on the event day.

**8:00am - 9:00am**

Registration from 7:30am



(Prep - Grade 2)  
**Primary**  
JUNIOR

**9:00am - 10:30am**

Registration from 8:30am



(Grades 3 & 4)  
**Primary**  
INTERMEDIATE

**11:00am - 1:30pm**

Registration from 10:30am



(Grades 5 & 6)  
**Primary**  
SENIOR

## **COMBINED SECTION**

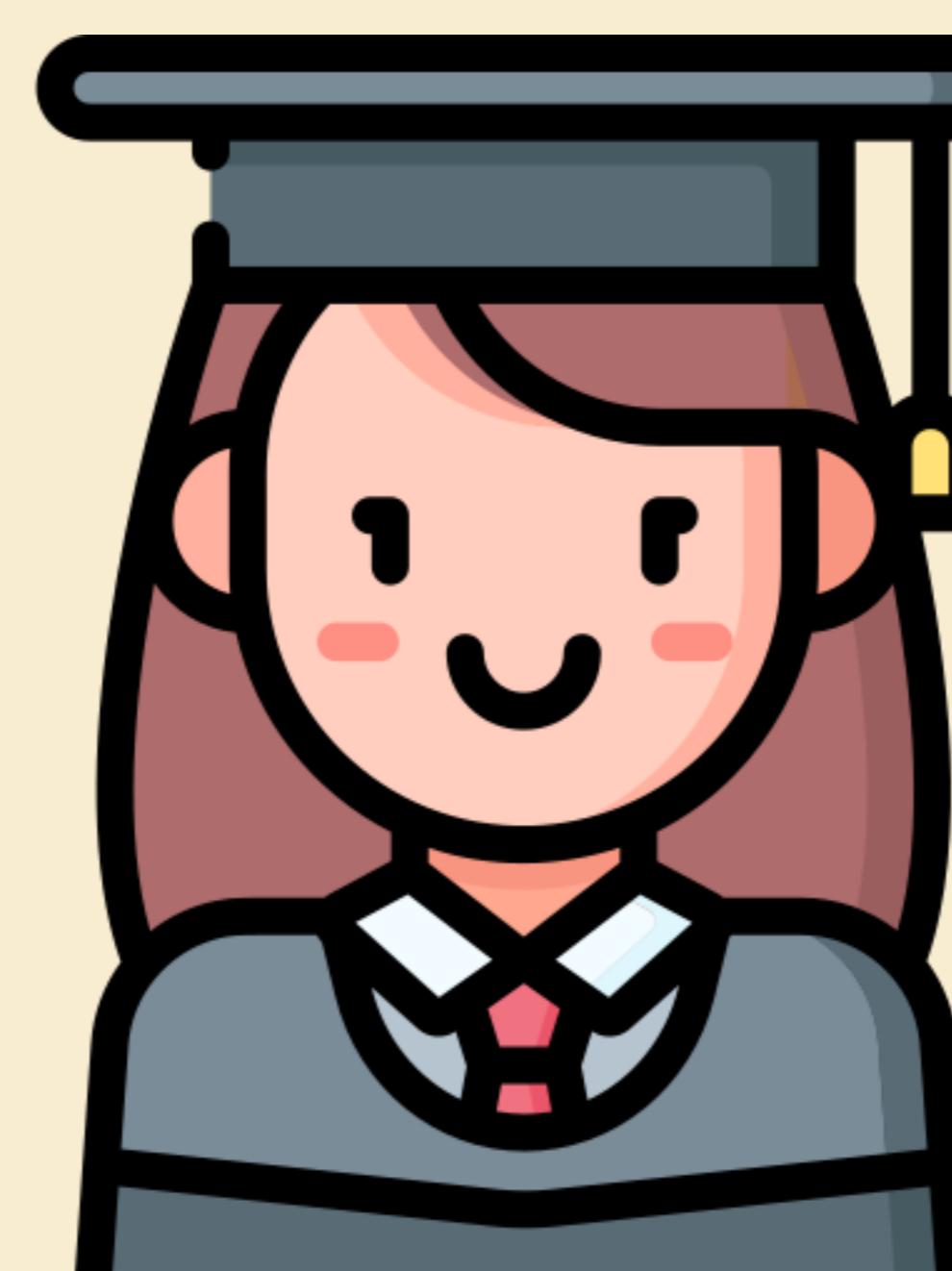
Students will perform for the same audience, with individual winners selected for each of the two categories.



(Years 7 - 9)  
**Secondary**  
JUNIOR

**1:30pm - 3:30pm**

Registration from 1:00pm



(Years 10 - 12)  
**Secondary**  
SENIOR

# COMPETITION STRUCTURE

**REGISTRATION** - Students can confirm their attendance and collect their registration bag at the front administration desk. Registration for each age category opens 30 minutes prior to the category start time.

**SHEET MUSIC** - Providing a copy of your sheet music is not mandatory, but is highly recommended where possible.

**TUNING/PRACTICE** - A green room will be available to students for tuning instruments, warming up or practicing prior to their event.

**PERFORMANCES** - Students and the name of their piece will be introduced by the event host (students do not need to introduce themselves).

**COMING/GOING** - Students and families are welcome to enter and exit a session at any time. Please note that an entry/exit opportunity is made available between performances to minimise competitor disruption.

**PRESENTATIONS** - Presentations will take place on stage at the end of each section (approximately 5 minutes after the final performance).

# INSTRUMENTS/GEAR

**STRINGS INSTRUMENTS** - Students are required to bring their own instrument.

**PIANO** - Accompanists will be permitted to use the event's Yamaha grand piano. The piano will be amplified by 2 mics, controlled by the event AV team.

**BACKING TRACKS** - Backing tracks are permitted and must be submitted no later than August 16th (see next page for instructions on submitting your backing track).

**MICROPHONES** - Violins and violas will be amplified with an overhead condenser mic. Cello and double bass instruments will be amplified via front and rear ground microphones.

**LIGHTING** - Sheet music lighting will be provided.

**MUSIC STANDS** - Music stands will be provided.

# WHAT TO PERFORM

Students can perform any piece within a **4 minute time limit**. Full pieces, cut pieces, sections of a piece, and sections of multiple pieces are all accepted.

## ACCOMPANIMENT/ BACKING TRACKS

**ACCOMPANIMENT** - Official piano accompaniment will be provided by Soowon Seo. If you would like to be accompanied by Soowon on the day, please email your sheet music and any accompanist notes to [pianistsoowon@gmail.com](mailto:pianistsoowon@gmail.com) no later than Friday Aug 15th.

Private accompaniment is also permitted - private accompanists must visit the registration desk upon arrival to receive a pass (no charge for admission).

**BACKING TRACKS** - Backing tracks are permitted and must be submitted no later than August 16th.

**SUBMITTING A BACKING TRACK** - To submit your backing track, follow the steps on the OSIC homepage, or visit: [www.osic.com.au/uploadbacking](http://www.osic.com.au/uploadbacking)

# ASSESSMENT

Students will be assessed on the following criteria:

## Timing and Rhythm

Consistency (no rushing or dragging)

Flow (strong & natural feel)

## Dynamics

Volume control (balanced changes)

## Technique

Precision (accuracy & execution)

Posture (placement and alignment)

Difficulty (complexity of piece)

## Creativity

Originality (personal interpretation)

Musicality (connection to music)

## Stage Presence

Confidence (assurance & poise)

Energy (engagement & enthusiasm)

# ABOUT THE JUDGES

## **2025 NSW Strings Judge - Mandie Vieira**

Mandie Vieira is a seasoned musician who has been performing professionally for over 20 years. A respected violin specialist, she brings expertise and passion to her craft both on stage and in the classroom.

Mandie currently serves as Head of Strings at Trinity Preparatory School in Strathfield.



# ABOUT THE JUDGES

## **2025 NSW Strings Judge - Nazli E. Sendurgut**

Nazli is a Sydney-based cellist with Bachelor and Master of Music Studies from the Sydney Conservatorium.

Her diverse career has featured work with Delta Goodrem, The Voice and The X Factor. Nazli has appeared at the Sydney Opera House, Wiener Kammeroper, and leading concert halls across Europe, including in the Czech Republic and Italy.



# AUDIENCE TICKETS

Audience tickets can be purchased prior to the event by following the steps on the OSIC homepage, or going straight to: [www.osic.com.au/tickets](http://www.osic.com.au/tickets)

Remaining tickets will be available for purchase on the event day at the OSIC registration desk.

**Please note that limited seats are available for audience in each age category. Some age categories are already close to capacity and may sell out prior to the event. There is no guarantee of availability to purchase audience tickets on the competition day.**

An audience ticket is a reserved seat to the listed age category. Tickets also permit entry into all other categories on the same day (**subject to available seats**).

Competing students do not need an audience ticket, and can attend all other categories on their event day (**subject to available seats**).

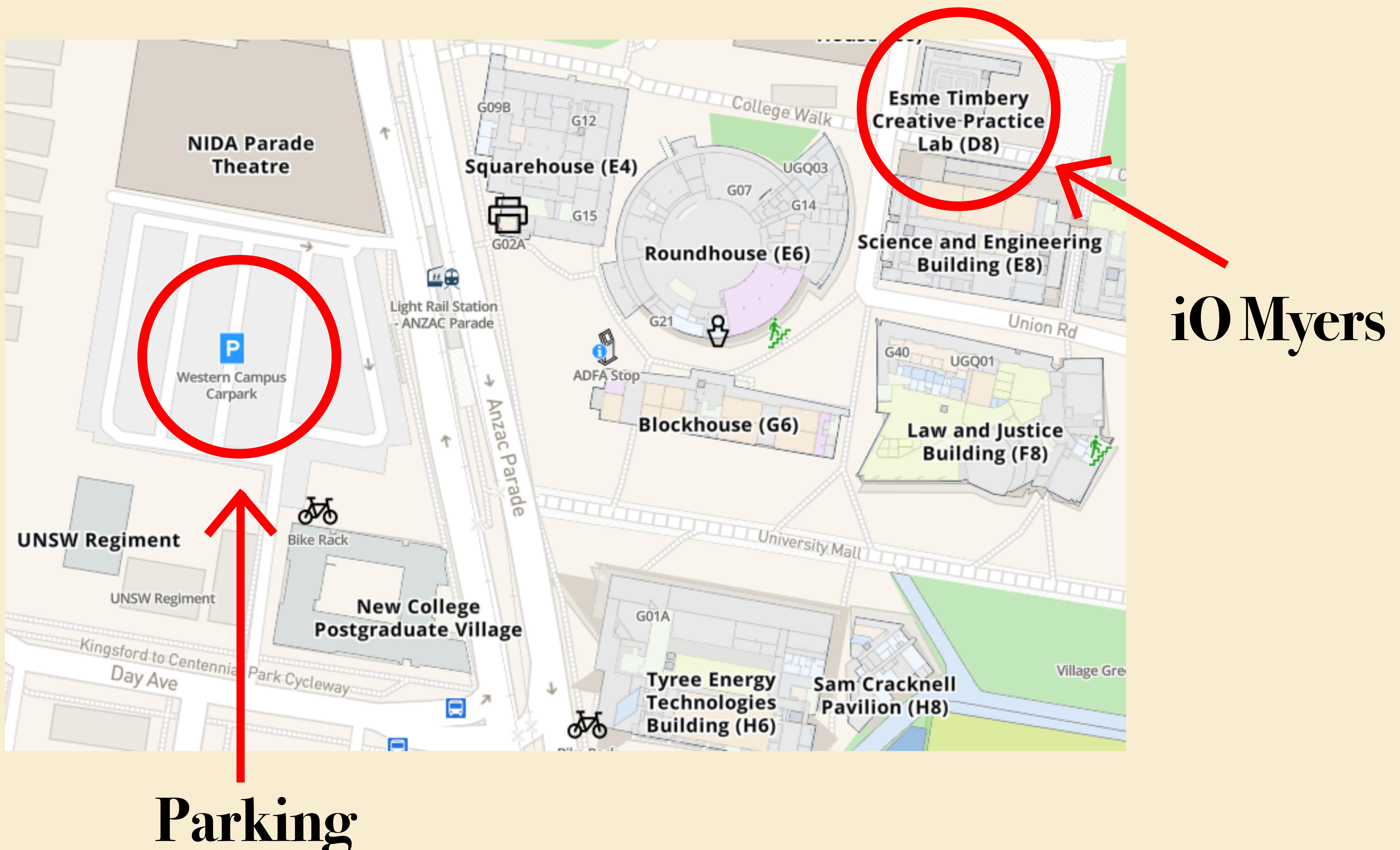
# VENUE

**All strings finals will take place at iO Myers Studio, located at the University of New South Wales (Kensington Campus).**

**LOCATION** - Access is via Gate 2. Look for the building with the big steps, enter through the glass sliding doors and down the steps to your right (or take the lift).

**ADDRESS** - Esme Timbery Creative Practice Lab, High St, UNSW, Kensington NSW 2033

**PARKING** - Free all-day parking is available at the UNSW NIDA carpark, accessible via Day Avenue.



## PHOTO/VIDEO

**PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEO** - An official photographer will be collecting media at various points throughout the event. Parents are welcome to take recordings and photographs of their own child.

**OPTING OUT** - Students can elect not to be photographed or recorded by sending an email to [admin@vsic.com.au](mailto:admin@vsic.com.au). Students who ticked the non-consent to media box during registration have already had their preference noted.

## DRESS CODE

There are no restrictions on competitor attire. School uniform and performance blacks are not required.

## CONTACT

Can't find what you're looking for? Get in contact via email ([admin@osic.com.au](mailto:admin@osic.com.au)) and we will provide an answer!