

OZ SCHOOLS INSTRUMENTAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



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

GUITAR

Event Guide

VICTORIAN STATE FINAL

OCTOBER 26

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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.

Keep up the practice – see you on stage soon!

Warm regards,

OSIC Team

SCHEDULE

VIC GUITAR STATE FINAL - *Sunday October 26th*

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

8:00am - 10:00am

Registration from 7:30am



(Grades 5 & 6)
Primary
SENIOR

10:00am - 12:30pm

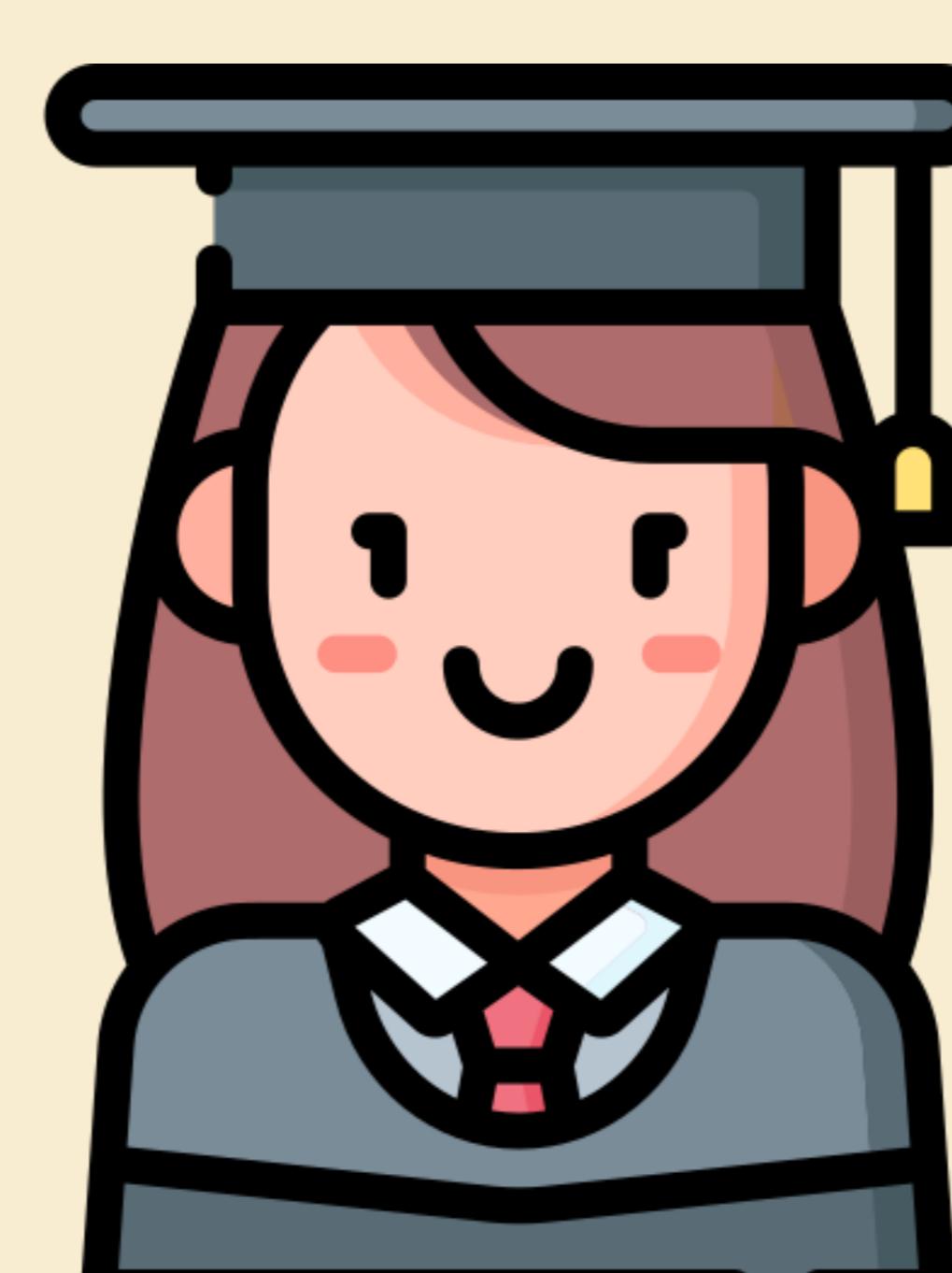
Registration from 9:30am



(Years 7 - 9)
Secondary
JUNIOR

1:30pm - 4:00pm

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 to the judges is not mandatory, but is highly recommended where a part is available. Sheet music can be provided at the registration desk on the event day.

TUNING/PRACTICE - A space will be available to students for tuning instruments, warming up or practicing prior to their performance.

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/exit a session at any time (between performances).

PRESENTATIONS - Presentations will take place on stage at the end of each section (approximately 10 minutes after the final performance).

INSTRUMENTS/GEAR

GUITARS - Students are required to bring their own instrument.

AMPS - The following amps will be available for students:

Guitar: Vox AC30, Fender Twin Reverb (digital), Fender Mustang (digital) & Marshall Silver Jubilee (full stack).

Bass: Ampeg Classic (bass head and cabinet).

Students are welcome to use their own amp if preferred.

PEDALS - Students are permitted to use their own pedal/ pedal boards.

CABLES/RACKS/STANDS - All cables, racks and stands will be provided.

BACKING TRACKS - Backing tracks are permitted and must be submitted no later than October 12th (see next page for instructions on submitting your backing track).

MICROPHONES - Acoustic guitars without plug-in capability will be amplified by a front-facing condenser mic.

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

BACKING TRACKS - Backing tracks are permitted and must be submitted no later than October 12th.

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

EXPLICIT LANGUAGE - Use of clean/censored backing tracks is encouraged where explicit language is present.

LIVE ACCOMPANIMENT - Live accompaniment is permitted, but must be noted under 'stage requirements' during registration, or via email (admin@osic.com.au).

SOUND CHECK - Students will have the opportunity to test and adjust their sound levels before their performance.

ASSESSMENT

Students will be assessed on the following criteria:

Timing and Rhythm

Consistency (no rushing or dragging)

Flow (natural phrasing and 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)

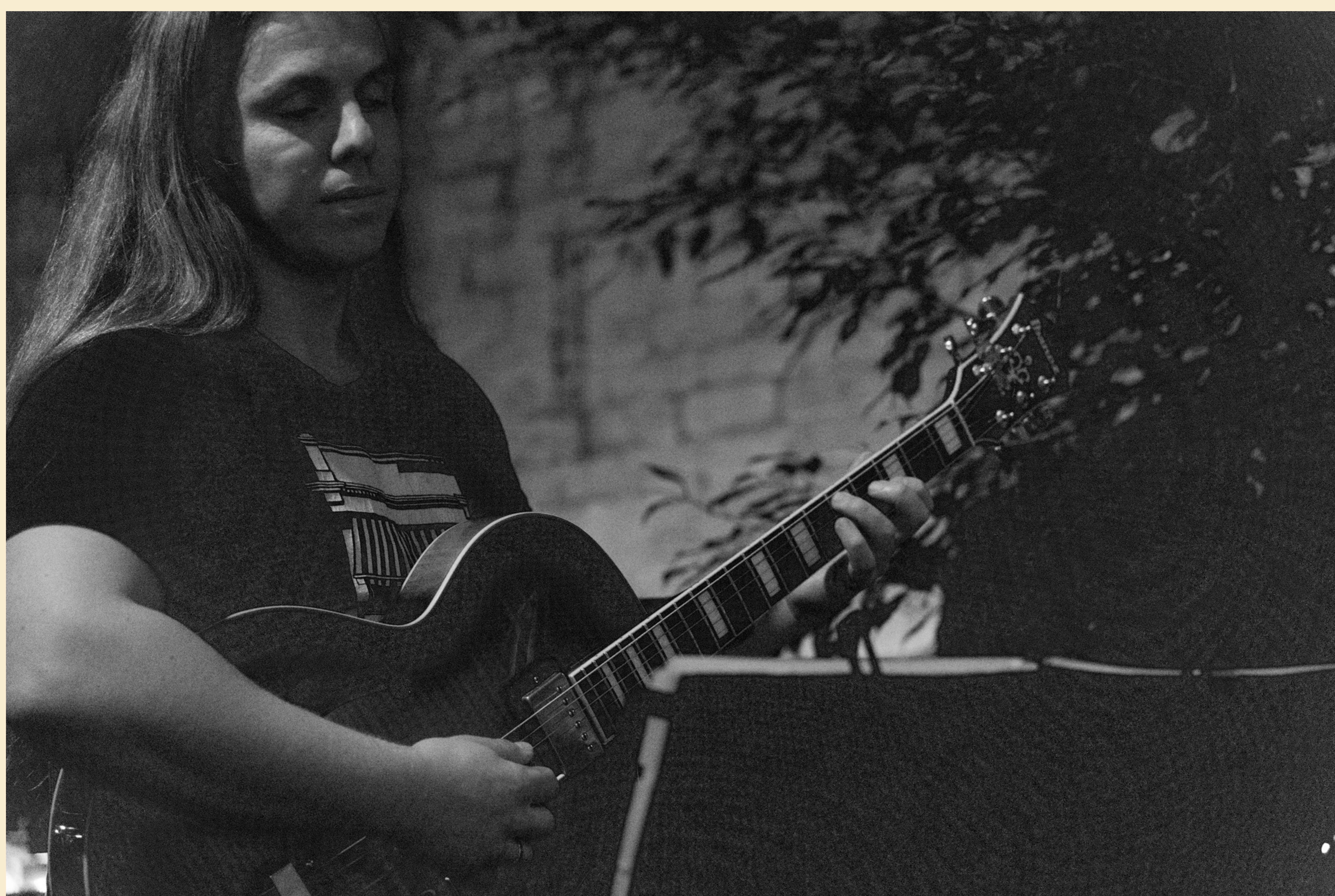
Energy (engagement & enthusiasm)

ABOUT THE JUDGES

2025 Victorian Guitar Judge - Anthony Mastrullo

Anthony Mastrullo is a Melbourne-based guitarist with over a decade of professional experience, performing and composing across blues, ragtime, jazz, and rock styles. As both a solo artist and collaborator, he's shared stages with guitar legend Tommy Emmanuel, and toured internationally in Japan and Vietnam.

A graduate of Box Hill Institute with a Bachelor of Music (Jazz/Contemporary Performance), Anthony's work blends virtuosic technique with jazz-influenced expression. He currently leads the jazz fusion group PDBH and performs widely as a session musician across Melbourne.



ABOUT THE JUDGES

2025 Victorian Guitar Judge - Fiona Steele

Fiona Steele is a Melbourne-based singer, songwriter, and guitarist with over two decades of guitar study. She performs nationally through her solo folk-rock project FJ Steele and as part of the indie folk duo GraceJean, and has collaborated with artists including Ruth Hazleton, Nat Vazer, The Maes, and Hayley Mary (The Jezabels).

Fiona's experience spans intimate folk venues, musical theatre orchestra pits, and large festival arenas. She holds a Bachelor of Music (Performance – Classical Guitar) from Monash University and is leading educator in guitar performance and composition.



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

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 finals will take place at The Australian College of the Arts (Collarts), Wellington St Campus Theatre.

ADDRESS - 208 Wellington St, Collingwood (entry via the main door on Wellington Street)

PARKING - Street parking is available on neighbouring roads - Stanley Street, Cambridge Street and Oxford Street.

ACCESSIBILITY - Wheelchair access is available for all areas used in the event.

AMMENITIES - Bathroom facilities are available for all students and guests (ground floor).



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@osic.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) and we will provide an answer!