

OZ SCHOOLS INSTRUMENTAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



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

PIANO

Event Guide

NSW STATE FINAL

AUGUST 23

CONTENTS

Welcome.....	3
Schedule.....	4
Competition structure.....	5
Instruments/gear.....	6
What to perform.....	6
Assessment.....	7
About the judges.....	8
Audience tickets.....	10
Venue.....	11
Photo/video.....	12
Dress code.....	12
Contact.....	12

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

NSW PIANO STATE FINAL - Saturday August 23rd

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

8:00am - 10:00am

Registration from 7:30am



(Prep - Grade 2)
Primary
JUNIOR

10:00am - 12:00pm

Registration from 9:30am



(Grades 3 & 4)
Primary
INTERMEDIATE

12:00pm - 2:00pm

Registration from 11:30am



(Grades 5 & 6)
Primary
SENIOR

3:00pm - 5:00pm

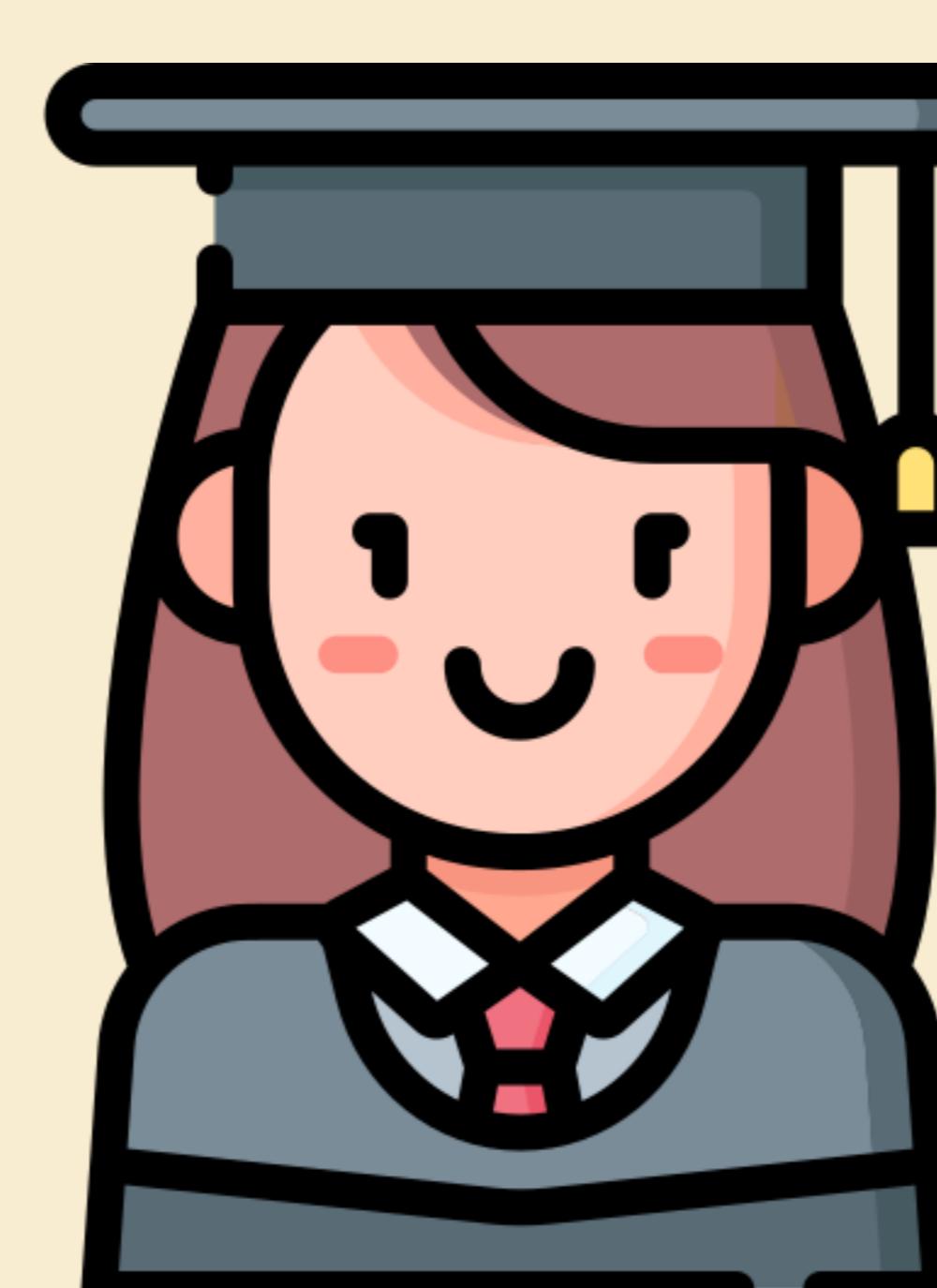
Registration from 2:30pm



(Years 7 - 9)
Secondary
JUNIOR

5:00pm - 7:00pm

Registration from 4:30pm



(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.

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

PIANO - Students will perform their piece on the competition Yamaha grand piano.

MICROPHONES - The competition piano will be amplified by 2 mics, controlled by the event AV team.

STOOL - Students are permitted to adjust the piano stool height before beginning their performance.

LIGHTING - Sheet music lighting 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.

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 Piano Judge - Claire Trevelyan

Claire Trevelyan is a Sydney-based pianist who divides her time between performing as both a soloist and accompanist, and teaching students in schools and in her private studio. She also serves as a musical director for a church, and was previously a tertiary lecturer in music theory and piano at the Academy of Music and Performing Arts (AMPA).

Claire was born into a family of professional musicians and began her musical journey before she could talk; her earliest clear memory is a musical competition like the one you'll be meeting her at.

Claire holds Bachelor and Masters degrees in music performance, but believes that her musical education continues as long as she lives.



ABOUT THE JUDGES

2025 NSW Piano Judge - Ophelia Zheng

Ophelia is a passionate pianist and dedicated educator with decades of experience teaching students of all ages and skill levels.

A scholarship graduate of the prestigious Central Conservatory of Music in China, she has nurtured a generation of pianists who have gained entry into elite programs such as the Rising Stars Program at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and top-tier institutions including the Central Conservatory of Music.



An avid performer, Ophelia has appeared extensively as a recitalist, soloist, and chamber musician.

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**).

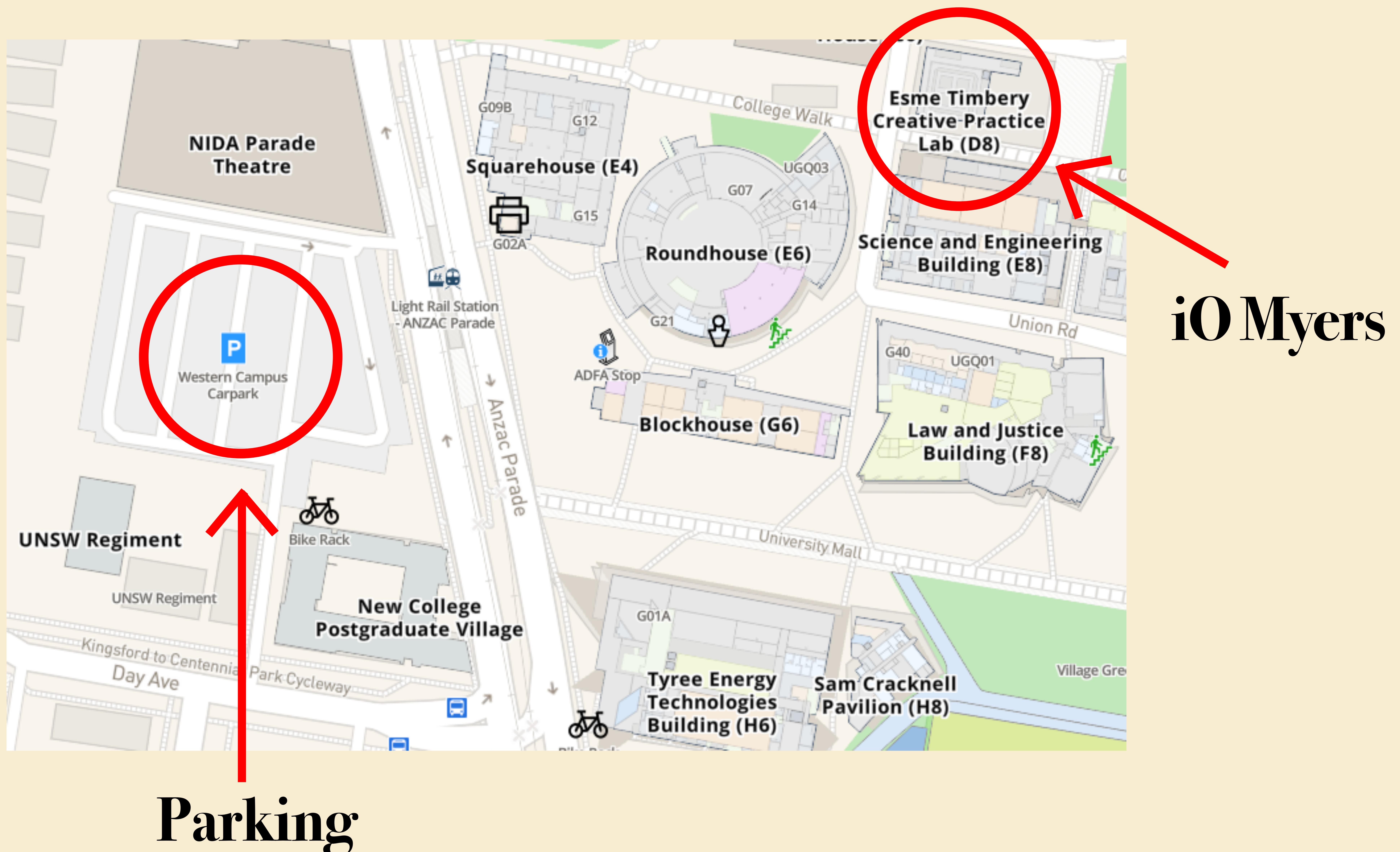
VENUE

All piano 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. 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!