

The Festival Needs Your Support

As Artistic Director of the Australian Festival of Chamber Music (AFCM), I am very much looking forward to my second Festival in this role and am delighted with the artists and repertoire confirmed for July 2008.

As you would appreciate, an extraordinary amount of effort and support is required each year to produce a Festival which delivers a world class programme and also meets important educational and community outreach objectives. A lot of time is spent attempting to secure sufficient income to cover costs.

Currently we raise a quarter of our income from corporate sponsorship, a quarter from government subsidies and grants and close to a third from box office. Each year we have a budget shortfall of around 15%. We rely on donations and, to a lesser extent, support from philanthropic foundations to cover this shortfall.

I am proud to say the Festival makes a huge contribution to the arts and culture both at a local level and nationally. And it's not only through the festival concerts themselves. The Outback Tour frequently provokes heartfelt feedback from youngsters who are normally rather isolated from contact with classical performers. One student travelled over 250 km into Mt Isa to attend a masterclass with our touring string quartet. On-the-spot advice and interaction with professional young players was an opportunity quite different from his usual lessons via "school of the air" radio. That sort of practical and inspiring help is something special the AFCM can provide.

Our Winterschool has also made a real difference to the lives of many emerging artists. A local Townsville pianist described the Winterschool in The Bulletin Newspaper as *"an opportunity of a lifetime for young musicians to learn from some of the world's best"*. In fact many of our Winterschool alumni have gone on to play with Australia's most acclaimed orchestras and have secured places in highly sought after music schools overseas. The chance to seek advice from a concentration of famous artists is, again, something valuable and unique the AFCM can offer young Australians.



Our AFCM goal is to build a solid financial base so that we can count on continuing to present every important component of our Festival.

No matter how large or small, donations to the Festival will contribute to its long term future and will support young artists - many of whom will go on to become successful international performers in years to come. A donation of \$1000 would substantially support taking a string quartet into a remote Queensland community to conduct a masterclass.

A \$100 donation would, for example, help us to present an emerging artist's concert – such an important opportunity for a young player to gain confidence when performing publicly and to be heard by a real audience!

The AFCM, now in its 18th year, is a significant national event. But it requires constant investment to survive and develop. It is only made possible through the collaboration of many generous and idealistic contributors. I hope you may wish to be among those supporting our vision this year - many people will be grateful to you.

Roll on July...

Yours sincerely,

Piers Lane
Artistic Director

Donation Form

Full Name _____

Address _____

Telephone (BH) _____ (AH) _____ Mobile _____

Email _____

Yes, I/we want to support the Australian Festival of Chamber Music by making a tax deductible donation of (please tick):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concerto Grosso \$10,000 + | <input type="checkbox"/> Concerto \$5000 - \$9,999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sonata \$2,500 - \$4,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> Divertimento \$1,000 - \$2,499 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Suite \$500 - \$999 | <input type="checkbox"/> Partita \$100 - \$ 499 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____ | |

I enclose a cheque to the Australian Festival of Chamber Music \$ _____

Please debit my credit card for \$ _____

Please note: all credit card payments attract a \$3 transaction fee

Visa Mastercard

Card Holder _____

Card Number _____ Expiry Date ____/____

Signature _____ Date _____

I/we wish my name to be acknowledged in the program as follows

I/we wish to remain anonymous.

Thank you very much for your generous support.
A receipt will be mailed to you shortly with our thanks.

Please return this form to the Festival office:

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