

2025 marks the 31st year of the Sydney Southeast Symphonic Winds ensemble (formerly known as the Sydney Region Band). Our goal is to provide advanced music education and performance opportunities for children in years 5-8 who are currently enrolled in public schools in and around the Sydney area. Students are auditioned from across the greater Sydney area to form a 100+ piece concert band.

The band has regularly performed at leading performance venues including the Sydney Opera House, Angel Place, Sydney Town Hall, Parliament House, Verbruggen Hall and the Sydney Entertainment Centre, also representing the Department of Education at official events throughout Sydney.

We hold a yearly camp where the students work with experienced conductors and tutors, with regular rehearsals held at Caringbah North Public School. We also provide music teachers with professional development opportunities both as a part of the camp as well as through rehearsals and auditions.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Students in year 5, 6, 7 or 8 who are enrolled in a Public School located in the greater Sydney area. Those who were in the ensemble in 2024 will need to audition for entry in 2025.

AUDITIONS

Auditions will be held between May 9-11 at Caringbah North PS. For more information regarding auditions please see the Audition Requirements information available on the following page. Alternatively, all information can be viewed on our website – www.gspsembles.com and on the Arts Unit website.

CAMP

The 2025 camp will be held **Monday 2nd June – Wednesday 4th June** at The Tops Conference Centre.

FEES

Fees for 2025 total \$600. These fees pay for camp accommodation/meals/activities, music, expert tuition, administration, auditions, supervision, and band polo shirt (if required).

REHEARSAL & PERFORMANCE DATES

Please see the calendar on the following page or on our website for the proposed 2025 schedule.

HOW TO APPLY:

Teachers, conductors, and tutors are to provide information and dates to suitable students. Applications are to be made online at www.gspsembles.com or via the Arts Unit website. Please ensure that all information is read carefully prior to applying. Times and dates for auditions will be sent by Sunday 4th May with auditions held the following weekend. An attempt will be made to honour special requests for audition allocations.

CLOSING DATE: Friday 2nd May, 2025

Questions regarding applications or information regarding the 2025 SSSW ensemble should be directed to

adam.t.robinson@det.nsw.edu.au

Auditions for 2025 will be held Friday 9th (after school), Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th May at Caringbah North Public School. Students will be allocated a time and day following the close of applications on Friday 2nd May. If no information has been received by Monday 5th May regarding audition allocation, please contact us. If there are any special requests regarding audition allocation, we will do our best to accommodate.

On the day of the audition, students will be required to:

- Perform one short unaccompanied piece (or an excerpt from a longer piece) between 1-2 minutes long, with a focus on the players' musicality and technique. Special attention should be paid to phrasing, articulation, and dynamic contrast.
- Play one major, minor, or chromatic scale. The scale should demonstrate as much of the students' playing range as possible and be played "all tongued" or "all slurred".
- Play a short passage of sight reading. The piece will be different for all instruments and will reflect the level of music to be played in this year's ensemble.

All students will need to bring is their instrument, music, and a smile ☺

** SPECIAL INFORMATION FOR PERCUSSIONISTS **

The percussion audition process is slightly different in that it will be an open audition, with all applicants attending at the same time. They will need to demonstrate 4 styles (Rock, Swing, Latin & March) as well as auxiliary and mallet ability if studied. Creativity is greatly encouraged within the various beat patterns.

Day / Date	Details	Venue
Friday 9 th , Saturday 10 th , Sunday 11 th May	Auditions Times TBA	Caringbah North Public School
Sunday 25 th May	First Rehearsal 2.30pm – 5.30pm	Caringbah North Public School
Monday 2nd June – Wednesday 4th June	Camp 9am Monday – 7pm Wednesday	The Tops Conference Centre
Sunday 15 th June	Rehearsal 2.30-5.30pm	Caringbah North Public School
Sunday 29 th June	Rehearsal 2.30-5.30pm	Caringbah North Public School
Sunday 3 rd August	Rehearsal 2.30-5.30pm	Caringbah North Public School
Sunday 17 th August	Rehearsal 2.30-5.30pm	Caringbah North Public School
Sunday 31 st August	Rehearsal 2.30-5.30pm	Caringbah North Public School
Sunday 14th September	Dress Rehearsal 2.30-5.30pm	Caringbah North Public School
Monday 15th September	Cantabile Festival Times TBA	Sydney Opera House
Sunday 12 th October	Rehearsal 2.30-5.30pm	Caringbah North Public School
Sunday 26 th October	Rehearsal 2.30-5.30pm	Caringbah North Public School
Sunday 2nd November	Showcase Concert Times TBA	Sydney Conservatorium of Music – Verbruggen Hall

*** This is a proposed schedule only and is subject to change. ***