



QSO SideBySide Program 2025 | Toowoomba

Queensland Symphony Orchestra’s **SidebySide Program** (previously known as the Prodigy Project) provides Queensland instrumental music students with one-on-one mentoring from a QSO musician and the opportunity to participate in a mainstage performance alongside the full Orchestra. These opportunities are available for advanced level instrumental students in regional locations. This program is free of charge and something Queensland Symphony Orchestra is extremely proud to offer. The SidebySide Program provides important audition, learning and performance experience for aspiring musicians and aligns with the Queensland Instrumental Music Curriculum and the Australian Curriculum by providing performance opportunities as well as technical and expressive skill development.

QSO invites students from Toowoomba to audition for the opportunity to perform alongside QSO in *Classical Favourites*, conducted by Benjamin Northey. The concert will be held at the Empire Theatre on Thursday 10 April 2025 at 7pm. Program participants will join the Orchestra for Prokofiev *Dance of the Knights* from Romeo and Juliet.

Full details including how to apply, are provided below. For further enquiries, please contact edcom@qso.com.au

Toowoomba – Classical Favorites, Empire Theatre, Thursday 10 April, 7PM

Important Dates

Friday 28 February	Toowoomba SidebySide audition material is released on QSO website
Friday 28 February	Toowoomba SidebySide applications open
Friday 14 March	Closing date for applications & submissions of audio recordings
Thursday 10 April 3:45-4:45PM	Tutorials with QSO mentors (Empire Theatre)
Thursday 10 April 6:00-6:30PM	Full Orchestra rehearsal with QSO mentors (Empire Theatre)
Thursday 10 April 7:00-9:00PM	Performance, participants perform in 1 piece (Empire Theatre)

Repertoire

Students are required to submit audio recordings of:

- Provided excerpt from Prokofiev *Dance of the Knights* from Romeo and Juliet (listen [here](#))
- One piece of participant’s choosing (approx. 1-1.5 minutes in duration)



Eligibility QSO can accommodate one student for each of the instruments listed below, with a maximum of ten positions available.

The instruments are: Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, French Horn, Trumpet, Trombone, Percussion.

Students must be currently enrolled in a Queensland Secondary school and should be of a standard equivalent to **AMEB Grade 6 and above**. Applicants will be assessed on their instrument technique and demonstrated commitment. Priority will be given to older students.

How to apply Please complete the application form, which can be found [here](#) and submit an audition recording of yourself playing the following audition excerpt found [here](#).

Recordings Auditions are to be submitted as audio recordings with the following naming convention:

Lastname_Firstname_Instrument__PieceName_ToowoombaSBS_2025.mp3
e.g. Smith_Jane_Cello_DanceOfTheKnights_ToowoombaSBS_2025.mp3

Please share your recordings via file sharing platforms like Dropbox, Google Drive, OneDrive, etc. and remember to allow sharing permissions for edcom@qso.com.au.

Please listen back to your recording and consider the audio clarity before submitting. Please also ensure to say your name and instrument at the beginning of the recording.

Excerpt Info

String applicants:	Prepare the excerpt provided for your instrument. Violinists prepare either 1st or 2nd violin, but not both.
Wind/brass applicants:	Please prepare the excerpt provided for your instrument.
Percussion applicants:	Please prepare the excerpt provided for both snare drum and tuned percussion.

Play the excerpt as close to performance conditions as possible with regards to tempo, dynamics and expressive techniques.