



QUEENSLAND
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA
CONNECT

QSO SIDEBYSIDE MACKAY 2025

Queensland Symphony Orchestra's **SidebySide** program provides instrumental music students in Queensland with one-on-one mentoring from a QSO musician and the opportunity to participate in a mainstage performance alongside the full Orchestra. The program is completely free to participants.

QSO invites students from **MACKAY and surrounding areas** to audition for the opportunity to perform alongside QSO in **Symphony Under the Stars Mackay** conducted by Sam Weller. Program participants will join the Orchestra for Suite No. 1 from Peer Gynt, Op. 46 by Edvard Grieg.

SYMPHONY UNER THE STARS MACKAY

BB Print Stadium, FRI 31 OCT, 7pm

Important Dates

Application timeline

- Thu 24 Apr** Mackay SidebySide audition material released and applications open.
- Fri 29 Aug** Closing date for applications.

Workshop & Performance timeline

- Thu 30 Oct** **4:30–5:30pm** Tutorials with QSO Mentors. **Location TBA.**
- 7–10pm** Full Orchestra rehearsal at BB Print Stadium.
- Fri 31 Oct** **7pm** Performance with Queensland Symphony Orchestra at BB Print Stadium.

[Click here to apply.](#)

Eligibility



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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.

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

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

Audition requirements

Application form Please complete the application form, which can be found [here](#) and submit an audition recording of yourself playing the excerpt provided for your instrument.

Excerpts Audition excerpts can be found [here](#).

String applicants Please prepare the provided excerpt (Violins choose 1st or 2nd part) AND one piece under 3 minutes of your own choosing.

Wind applicants Please prepare the provided excerpt AND one piece under 3 minutes of your own choosing.

Brass applicants Please prepare the provided excerpt AND one piece under 3 minutes of your own choosing.

Percussion applicants Please prepare the provided studies for both tuned and untuned percussions.

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

Lastname_FirstName_Instrument_Piecenname_Mackay

For further enquiries, please email edcom@qso.com.au

