

Kodály

Presenter Biographies



Musical Foundations – Inspired music education for the early and primary years - (Kodály SA)

Jason Boron, Musical Foundation and Australian Kodály Certificate 24- Primary L1



Jason Boron is the First Year Coordinator of the Bachelor of Education (Primary) and a Lecturer in Music Education at Edith Cowan University. Jason's teaching draws upon 10 years of experience leading music education programs for children from pre-kindergarten to year 12 in both public and independent school contexts.

Jason is the President of Kodály Australia and a past Chairperson of the Australian Society for Music Education Western Australian Chapter. He is an accredited lecturer of the Australian Kodály Certificate and also member of the ECU Education Committee.

Jason is a past recipient of the Sarolta Kodály Scholarship awarded by the International Kodály Society and in 2020 was awarded the Vice Chancellor's Staff Excellence Award for Innovative Teaching. Jason maintains regular work with children as a choral conductor for the West Australian Young Voices (WAYV).

Intermediate package Australian Kodály Certificate Levels AKCSA 24

Stephanie Eaton, Musical Foundation and Australian Kodály Certificate 24- Choir/Conducting



Stephanie Eaton is an accomplished vocal educator, choral conductor, musician, clinician, with a profound passion for vocal and choral music and a commitment to music education. She is the conductor of *South Australian Public Primary Schools (SAPPS) Choir*, the *YAV Community Choir* and *Christmas Choir* and the *Kodaly SA Educator's Choir*.

Stephanie works at various schools around Adelaide, she plays an integral role at *Young Adelaide Voices*, where she serves as a Conductor, the Musicianship tutor for senior choirs and the Development Coordinator and has commenced her MPhil at the Adelaide University in Choral Conducting in 2024. Stephanie holds the Australian Kodály Certificate and serves as a lecturer for the AKC award, nurturing the next generation of music educators. Her dedication to advancing Kodaly-inspired practices is further evident in her roles as Vice-President of the Kodály National Council and the Kodály SA branch. In recognition of her outstanding contributions, she was honoured with the '*Outstanding Service to Kodaly SA*' award in 2021.

Lucinda Geoghegan, Australian Kodály Certificate 24 – Early Childhood L2



Lucinda Geoghegan graduated in music from the University of Edinburgh in 1982, completed a postgraduate teaching qualification at Moray House College of Education and trained with the Kodály Institute of Britain where she gained an Advanced Diploma in musicianship.

She worked as a secondary music teacher in Edinburgh before deciding to specialise in Primary and Early Years Music Education. She was also member of staff with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra Junior Chorus for 16 years, Director of the National Youth Choir of Scotland (NYCOS) West Lothian Choir for 8 years and taught in both the Junior and Senior Departments of Royal Conservatoire of Scotland for 18 years.

Lucinda is currently Creative Learning Director for NYCOS, a tutor for the Benedetti Foundation and a regular tutor and Chair of the Education Planning Board for the British Kodály Academy. In 2017 Lucinda was elected as a Director on the Board of the International Kodály Society.

Lucinda has a strong commitment to training in music education according to the Kodály concept and has delivered workshops in Australia, Singapore, Hungary, Ireland, Germany, The Netherlands, Sweden, Indonesia, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Thailand, Taiwan, Turkey, Qatar, Canada, South Africa and USA.

Maree Hennessy, Australian Kodály Certificate 24 - Primary L2



Maree Hennessy is a recognized educational leader, professional development facilitator and mentor. She has worked in Early Childhood, Primary, Secondary, Tertiary and community contexts, and has a particular skill in multi-level settings.

As Director of the Kodály Center at Holy Names University, 2015 - 2023, Maree built key community partnerships, developed early career leadership capacity and oversaw the Masters of Music and Graduate Summer Certificate programs based in the Kodály philosophy.

As Senior Project Writer for Curriculum to Classroom (C2C) materials with Education Queensland, Maree designed materials to support Queensland teachers in the implementation of the Australian Curriculum: The Arts. Maree was editor, key writer and demonstration teacher for the Kodály Queensland 'Middle Years Music Education' DVD resource for teachers, and initiated the renowned Open Classroom Series hosted by Kodály Queensland.

Tess Laird, Australian Kodály Certificate 24- Primary L3



Tess Laird has been a music specialist for 33 years and holds a Masters in Music Studies from the University of Queensland. She is an accredited lecturer for the Australian Kodály Certificate, is on the Education Committee of the Kodály Music Education Institute of Australia and has been awarded Honorary Life membership with this organisation. Tess has regularly provided professional development throughout Australia and she presented at the International Kodály Symposia in Scotland, Canada and Malaysia. During her career, Tess has demonstrated a solid commitment to providing quality music education in state schools, as well as helping to formulate Kodály AU's responses to the National Curriculum and to the Victorian Parliament's enquiry into the benefits of music education.

Tess has worked on compiling a series of pentatonic exercises on an interactive audio CD called "Purely pentatonic". This resource was developed to support both teachers and students, by providing a tool for independent practice of pentatonic scales and intervals.

Tess has conducted various community choirs and ensembles in and around Towoomba. She has a special interest in a capella jazz performance and aural pedagogy.

Dr James Cuskelly, OAM Australian Kodály Certificate 24 - Secondary L1



Dr James Cuskelly is a music educator, lecturer, musician and mentor. He is internationally renowned for his knowledge of Kodály methodology and practice, choral conducting and research into the importance of meaning in music.

With his work as a music education lecturer and facilitator, James has been influential in the lives and careers of many school-aged to tertiary students and has mentored generations of music teachers, conductors, performers and lecturers. James' commitment to the students has improved musicianship globally.

Dr James Cuskelly was awarded an Order of Australia Medal for service to music education in The Queen's Birthday 2018 Honours List.