



## PIANO FESTIVAL

The Lev Vlassenko Piano Competition and AMEB (Australian Music Examinations Board) in conjunction with Kawai Australia, are pleased to announce an exciting new program for outstanding young Australian pianists aged 10 to 15 years old.

### **Online Applications will close Friday 22nd February 2019**

The **Little Lev Piano Festival** is a new, national program designed to identify and support young pianists to develop their performance skills. The program comprises four stages, starting with a video audition, followed by a series of Masterclasses in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane, culminating in a final Masterclass and performance opportunity during the 2019 Lev Vlassenko Piano Competition & Festival.

Following a national call-out, six students per city will be selected by organisers to participate in Masterclasses in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane in March & April 2019. Students should apply to attend their nearest Masterclass location, with students from interstate and in regional locations around Australia also encouraged to attend in the city most convenient to them.

During the national Masterclass series, students will work with Natasha Vlassenko, Artistic Director of the Lev Vlassenko Piano Competition. They'll be led through an intensive session focusing on technique, style and stage presence.

Following the national series, six of the best students from the cohort will be invited to perform in the Little Lev Showcase at the 2019 Lev Vlassenko Piano Competition & Festival, July 2019. The showcase includes a Masterclass conducted by a Lev Vlassenko Competition Jury member (to be announced), and a performance opportunity in front of the entire national and international Competition Jury panel.

As a finale, two students from the Little Lev Showcase will be selected by the Lev Vlassenko Competition Jury to take part in a special performance during the Competition's Final Concert at the Queensland Conservatorium Theatre – streamed live, online for world-wide audiences.

## **THE 'LITTLE LEV PIANO FESTIVAL' PROGRAM**

There are four stages to the Little Lev Piano Festival program:

1. Application & video audition
2. Masterclasses in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane conducted by Lev Vlassenko Piano Competition Natasha Vlassenko, Artistic Director (six performers selected to take part in in each city)
3. The Showcase – a Masterclass at the Lev Vlassenko Piano Competition, taught by a Jury member, and performance in front of the entire Competition Jury panel (six performers selected from the national pool)
4. Two participants selected by Lev Vlassenko Competition Jury to perform during the Lev Vlassenko Piano Competition Grand Final

All selected participants will receive feedback on their participation. All applicants, whether selected to perform or not, are encouraged to attend their closest Masterclass as audience member.

## **HOW TO APPLY**

**To be eligible to apply students must:**

- **be of at least Grade 8 AMEB or equivalent standard**
- **be no older than 15, and no younger than 10 as at the start of Lev Vlassenko Competition on 30th June 2019**

All entries are to be submitted using the **Online Application Form** and must also be accompanied by:

A non-refundable \$50 application fee (payable online at time of application)

- A digital photograph (portrait) in jpeg format
- A biography outlining applicant's previous musical experience and achievements (250 words maximum)
- Contact details for and signed verification from the applicant's current or most recent teacher
- A 5-7 minute audition video (sent via link to you-tube or vimeo)

### **Auditions**

- Auditions for the Masterclass will be in the form of a video submission at the time of application. This can be provided as a link to a you-tube or vimeo clip.
- For auditions, students must play **5-7 minutes of repertoire of their own choice.**

- This recording must be accompanied by a signed statement from the applicant's music teacher to verify the authenticity of the performance and must be made within 4 weeks of the participant's application date.
- We're looking for applicants that demonstrate both musical ability and appropriate preparation for the audition videos.
- An audition video will be eligible only if all documentation and payments have been received.

### **TRAVEL TO AND FROM MASTERCLASSES**

The AMEB Little Lev Travel Fund has been established to offer financial support for regional or interstate students selected to attend Masterclasses. Six (6) small bursaries of \$500 are available to assist the cost of attendance at Masterclasses and Festival events. Priority will be given to students who reside outside of the major capital cities where Festival events are being held (Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane) and have been selected to take part in Masterclasses. One bursary will be provided per family, per year. For details on how to apply visit our website at [www.littlelev.com.au](http://www.littlelev.com.au)

### **ABOUT THE LEV VLASSENKO PIANO COMPETITION & FESTIVAL**

The **Lev Vlassenko Piano Competition & Festival** is one of Australia's most prestigious programs for young pianists. To be held July 2019, it offers twenty of Australia & New Zealand's finest pianists aged 16 to 30 the chance to compete for the top honour, international recognition, concert engagements and over \$60,000 in cash and prizes, culminating in a dazzling final concert with the Queensland Symphony Orchestra. Established in 1999 in memory of world renowned concert pianist, Professor Lev Vlassenko, The Lev Vlassenko Piano Competition provides talented young performers with a major platform to develop professionally and artistically, and to compete for career changing cash prizes.

For questions or more information, please contact **Mona Burkart, Events Manager** on [info@levvlassenko.com](mailto:info@levvlassenko.com) or 0406 081 494.



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