

FELLOWSHIP IN MUSIC AUSTRALIA

The Award

This is the highest and most prestigious award offered by AMEB.

The Fellowship can be undertaken in any instrument available for examination in the current edition of the AMEB *Manual of syllabuses* (Music syllabuses) including Voice.

It is expected that a performance at this level will reveal the following characteristics:

- Excellence in all areas including technical ability, musical maturity, a stylistic understanding and professional stage presence.
- An ability to fully engage an audience and to maintain interest over the entire programme.
- A concept of the works as a whole, performed with an understanding of the structure and the musical content of each, together with those elements that give them a particular unity or character.
- The maintenance of unity and continuity in multi-movement works, including appropriate timing between, and linking of, movements.
- Familiarity with the accompanying part in items requiring accompaniment, with a consistent and integrated sense of ensemble between soloist and associate artist.
- Mastery of technical and stylistic elements resulting in an expressive and coherent performance.
- Command of contemporary techniques appropriate to the instrument.
- Understanding of performance conventions relevant to the works being performed, and an ability to differentiate between a range of musical styles.
- A sense of professional presentation, with attention to posture, presentation and normal performance conventions.
- Performance from memory according to syllabus requirements.

To qualify for a Fellowship award, the candidate must display the above characteristics to an outstanding degree.

SUBJECT CODE:

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Content

The candidate will be expected to choose a full recital programme, of approximately 80 minutes' music content (60 minutes' music content in the case of Brass, Woodwind and Singing).

The programme should show balance and cohesion. Works will be chosen to demonstrate the candidate's proficiency in a variety of musical styles or in any style preferred by the candidate in the area of specialisation (e.g. *Lieder*, contemporary repertoire etc). It is expected that complete works will be chosen (e.g. a complete sonata rather than particular movements).

The programme should be planned as two halves with a 20 minute interval.

If the candidate wishes to include contemporary works requiring prepared piano in the programme, this must be discussed with AMEB to determine whether it may be accommodated.

Chosen works which require Accompaniment or a Collaborative Artist(s) must be performed with the necessary Accompaniment or Collaborative Artist(s).

Memorisation

For pianists the entire programme must be presented from memory with the exception of contemporary works. For string players the entire programme must be presented from memory except sonatas and contemporary works. For other instrumentalists presentation from memory is encouraged but is not mandatory. For singers, presentation from memory is required except in cantatas and oratorio.

These requirements relate to both the video audition and the examination recital.

Entry

Candidates are advised that the process from entry to examination may take 12 months and it is suggested they contact their State Office for more information about the timeline and enrolment closing dates.

Candidates need to take three steps to enter for FMusA.

Step 1 - Programme submission:

Candidates will be required to submit their proposed programme, together with timings, for approval by AMEB. The programme should be submitted online via SCORE at score.ameb.edu.au. A fee will be charged.

The Federal Chief Examiner will consider the programme and the candidate will be advised within three weeks of the approval, or otherwise, of the programme. After notification of approval has been provided, no programme changes are allowed within 12 months. Should the candidate wish to amend their programme within that time, they will be required to restart Step 1. If the programme is not approved, the candidate may revise and resubmit their programme (if desired) once only up to two weeks after the initial notification is received. If the resubmission is also unsuccessful, candidates may recommence Step 1 after three months.

Step 2 - Video audition:

Following approval of the programme, candidates will be required to submit a video recording of a performance of their entire programme, for approval by AMEB. This is a key stage in the entry process and will determine whether the candidate is offered the opportunity to enrol for the FMusA examination. A fee will be charged.

The video audition should be treated as a formal recital performance, conducted in a high quality environment, with live audience if desired. The video must be recorded in a single session on a single day and must include each individual work in the complete programme, including multi-movement works and associate artists. The candidate may stop at the programme interval point or take short breaks between works if needed. Video recordings should be submitted online via SCORE at score.ameb.edu.au.

The video will be considered by a panel of three current AMEB examiners, chaired by the Federal Chief Examiner. One of the other examiners will be a specialist in the instrument being examined. The candidate will be advised within four weeks whether their video audition has been successful and they may proceed to Step 3. If unsuccessful, the candidate may complete and submit another video recording within three months for assessment. No further resubmissions are allowed within 12 months at which point the candidate must restart the entry process.

Step 3 - Enrolment for examination:

Candidates must enrol for the recital examination with the AMEB office in their state within 12 months of the approval of their video audition. A fee will be charged.

Recital

The examination takes the form of a public recital.

Requirements regarding arrangement of the recital (including selection of venue, instrument requirements, rehearsal time, equipment, audience and programme preparation) are set out by the AMEB State Offices. It is the responsibility of the candidate to follow these requirements. Candidates should consult with their State Office for further information.

Appropriate dress for a public recital should be worn, and the candidate should be aware of the appropriate manner in which to acknowledge the audience and the associate artist(s) if applicable. It is the responsibility of the candidate to select and manage their associate artist(s) including payment of any expenses.

Candidates must bring to the recital three copies of the music for the examiners.

Assessment

Fellowship examinations will be examined by a panel of three examiners, chaired by an AMEB Federal Examiner. One of the other examiners will be an AMEB examiner who is a specialist in the instrument being examined or the instrument area. The other examiner will be a person who is not currently an AMEB examiner and is a recognised specialist in the instrument being examined or the instrument area. At least one of the three examiners will be a specialist in the instrument being examined.