



#### 10.4.5. Sponsorship Request - 2024 Scholarship Program - Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music

<b>Attachments:</b>	1. 2024 UHCM Scholarship Request - Mbk Shire [10.4.5.1 - 1 page]
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Derek Finnigan - General Manager
<b>Author:</b>	Michelle Sandell-Hay (Governance Officer)
<b>Community Plan Issue:</b>	6 - Community Leadership
<b>Community Plan Goal:</b>	Collaborative and responsive leadership that meets the expectations and anticipates the needs of the community.
<b>Community Plan Strategy:</b>	6.2.1 - Maintain a strong focus on financial discipline to enable Council to properly respond to the needs of the communities it serves.  4.3.1.1 - Council works in partnership to deliver events which support the community and attract visitors to the Shire.

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#### PURPOSE

To submit for Council's consideration, a sponsorship request to support the Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music's 2024 Scholarship Program.

#### OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

Council supports the Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music's 2024 Scholarship Program with a contribution of \$2,800 allocated from the sundries donation budget.

**Moved:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### BACKGROUND

Council has previously provided funding on an annual basis to the Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music by way of Muswellbrook Shire Band – Directors Fees. Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music are requesting assistance from Council for their 2024 Scholarship Program which are aimed at giving free tuition to winners for one year which links back to the Conservatorium's aims and objectives which are:

*... to provide quality music and drama tuition to residents of the Upper Hunter.  
... to foster music as a form of social interaction, expression, and creativity; and  
... to enhance the cultural life of the local community.*

#### CONSULTATION

General Manager  
Mayor

#### REPORT

Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music have requested Council's assistance in providing sponsorship for the 2024 Scholarship Program. Auditions for the 2024 Scholarship Program will be held in Term 3, 2023. The Scholarships will provide free tuition to winners for one



year with the winners generally having 45 minutes or 1 hour lessons.

The Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music teaches lessons through 21 schools across the area.

The costing of students' lessons are as follows:

<b>Length:</b>	<b>Term (10wks)</b>	<b>Semester</b>	<b>Year</b>
30 minutes:	\$400	\$800	\$1,600
45minutes:	\$540	\$1,080	\$2,160
60 minutes	\$700	\$1,400	\$2,800

It is recommended that Council sponsors the Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music's 2024 Scholarship Program, which will be acknowledged by the Conservatorium through their newsletters, website, social media and event programs. The cost of the sponsorship can be met from the Sundries Donations allocation in the 2023-24 budget.

### **OPTIONS**

1. It is recommended that Council sponsors the event with a contribution of \$2,800; or
2. Councillors may elect not to sponsor the 2024 Scholarship Program; or
3. Councillors may elect to grant an alternative amount.

### **CONCLUSION**

It is recommended that Council supports the Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music's 2024 Scholarship Program.

### **SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The 2024 Scholarship Program provides tuition for students who reside in the Hunter Valley creating a form of social interaction, expression and creativity which enhances the cultural life of the local community.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The amount requested can be met from the Sundries Donations allocation within the 2023-24 budget, which currently has \$9,065 available. This will reduce the amount available for distribution under the community grants program planned for the second half of 2024.

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Not applicable.

### **STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

The Local Government Act permits donations and sponsorships of this type.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

No known legal implications.

### **OPERATIONAL PLAN IMPLICATIONS**

Not applicable.

### **RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**



No known risk management implications.

**WASTE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

Not applicable.

**COMMUNITY CONSULTATION/MEDIA IMPLICATIONS**

Council's investment will include the acknowledgement in the Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music's newsletters, on their website, in social media and event programs.



## Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music

Muswellbrook Shire  
P O Box 122  
Muswellbrook NSW 2333  
30 August 2023

RE: 2024 Scholarship Program

Dear Councillors

We would like to thank you for your assistance in payments towards the Muswellbrook Concert Band / Conductor and introduce the Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music to you - we are a not-for-profit organization based in Muswellbrook, providing musical education opportunities for students of all ages, levels, and backgrounds throughout the Hunter region.

We started in Muswellbrook in 1997, noting that we formed in 1995. The Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music is also a member of the Association of NSW Regional Conservatoriums.

*Our aims and objectives are:*

... to provide quality music and drama tuition to residents of the Upper Hunter.  
... to foster music as a form of social interaction, expression, and creativity; and  
... to enhance the cultural life of the local community.

What sets us apart from other establishments is that we genuinely want our students to do well and to be creative by expressing their own music for concerts.

The Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music teaches lessons through 21 schools across the area. Lessons are provided from Murrurundi and Blandford in the North, to Nulkaba in the South and Merriwa in the West.

Our Scholarship auditions for 2024 are being held in Term 3 of 2023, and we would like to offer you the opportunity to be one of the sponsors of these scholarships. Scholarships are aimed to give free tuition to winners for one year, with the winners are generally having 45min or 60min lessons.

For you to see what the costing of students' lessons are, the following may give you an idea:

Length:	Term (10wks)	Semester	Year
30 minutes:	\$400	\$800	\$1600
45minutes:	\$540	\$1080	\$2160
60 minutes	\$700	\$1400	\$2800

Along with sponsorship / donations, we are happy to name scholarships after you, and we can also make it known through our newsletters, website, social media, and event programs.

We encourage you to be involved in any way you can, even if it doesn't match up with the costings above, as these students are appreciative of anything that helps them reach their potential.

The Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music would love to have Muswellbrook Shire Council as a contributor to our Scholarship Program for 2023 and would be happy to discuss this further if you wish.

Kind Regards

Andrew French-Northam  
Director  
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