



2025 QSO ACADEMY PROGRAM QUEENSLAND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Background

The QSO Academy Program lays the groundwork for aspiring pre-professional musicians to step into an orchestral career through intense preparation and training including masterclasses and lessons with globally renowned artists, mentorship from QSO musicians, and the opportunity to play in chamber and orchestral performances, including mainstage, opera and ballet productions and regional programs.

This Program will further develop the technical skills already present from high-level tertiary study, as well as provide insights into career management and preparation for auditions – helping to develop sustainable and rewarding careers.

The QSO recognizes its essential role in developing the next generation of instrumentalists, especially where the participants can grow into future permanent musicians of the Orchestra.

2025 Program Summary

The Program will run from 3 February – 27 July 2025. There is a strict minimum playing standard and no minimum intake. Only those applicants of suitable playing standard will be considered for a place in the program. Commencing in February 2025, the QSO will accept up to nine (9) musicians into the Academy Program on the following instruments.

1. Violin (3 positions)
2. Viola
3. Cello
4. Double Bass
5. Flute
6. Horn
7. Trumpet

*String and Horn positions for the 2025 program have been filled by Queensland Conservatorium/University of Queensland tertiary students.

Academy Participants will receive:

1. Guaranteed minimum inclusion in 40 calls of professional rehearsal and performance experience. Where possible this will be scheduled across a variety of activities, including one Ballet production, one Opera production, one Regional Tour activity and one mainstage Maestro concert performance, however this will also depend on the QSO season schedule.
2. 1 chamber music project (or chamber orchestra project) with permanent members of QSO.
3. Work experience with the QSO's Management Team.
4. 2 x Mock Auditions (with two different typical programs for standard orchestral auditions).
5. 2 x Collective Performance Workshops on audition repertoire with a group of QSO musicians/mentors.
6. 6 x lessons on orchestral excerpts and audition preparation (minimum of two with the relevant section leader and the remainder from any QSO musicians or titled conductors of the Participant's choice)
7. Presentations on transition from study to work, audition preparation, managing nerves and health & wellbeing.
8. Possible masterclasses with guest international soloists.

Academy Participants will need to be fully available to QSO scheduled activities for the period of the Academy. All rehearsal and performance calls attached to the list of activities above will be the base commitment of each

Participant. All rehearsal and performance calls *over and above* the lessons, sessions, rehearsal and performance calls (40) listed here will be paid at the QSO casual musician rate.

Auditions

Date	Tuesday 15 October, 2024
Location	ABC Studio (QSO), 114 Grey Street, Brisbane
Time	To be confirmed one week prior to audition
Excerpts	2-3 standard excerpts and 1 free-choice performance piece. Excerpts will be provided upon receipt of application.

Recorded auditions will be accepted. Please contact recruit@qso.com.au for further details on recorded audition requirements. All live auditions will be filmed for future reference.

Financial Arrangements

An amount of \$12,500 will be paid by QSO to Academy Participants. Payments are made fortnightly.

It is expected that Academy Participants will be able to earn some funds to support themselves from casual work with the QSO additional to their base commitment of 40 playing calls.

Eligibility and Requirements

1. The QSO Academy Program is a 6-month commitment and successful candidates will need to reside in Brisbane from 3 February – 27 July 2025 inclusive.
2. Applications to audition will be accepted from the following instruments: Flute and Trumpet
3. Applicants must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident or New Zealand citizen.

To Apply

Interested applicants should submit a CV via the musical chairs website <link> before COB Friday 4th October, 2024. Any queries regarding the program or auditions may be directed to recruit@qso.com.au.