It has been an extremely busy term in the Music Department at Melville SHS, starting with the first day of Term 3. After many months of planning and fundraising for the music tour, on Monday 22nd July, all of the effort, planning and hard work was realized when 34 students along with 4 staff arrived in Melbourne for five days. This was the first time that students traveled interstate for a music tour and for some, the first time in a plane.

The purpose of the tour was to promote the Music in Focus Program at Melville Senior High School within a wider community and for students to establish stronger connections amongst their peers and staff. Apart from having the opportunity to explore a city with a thriving arts culture, including visiting galleries, theaters and lane ways, students took part in intensive workshops and rehearsals at Kindred Studios. Students were fortunate to watch a musical Sunday in the Park with George at Melbourne Arts Centre. They performed to eager audiences young and old, firstly at Carlton Gardens Primary School and then at Alphington Aged Care Nursing Home. The students were perfect ambassadors and represented their school, themselves and their families in a high esteem. A fantastic time was had by all and we can’t wait to do it all again in 2 years time. Thank you to Mark McLeod, Jo Goodie, Paul Hines, Elizabeth Houwen and Ana Milas for giving up their time (and sanity) to attend the tour.

On 26th September, as part of a sponsorship agreement between Melville SHS and Murdoch University, the Swing Band were asked to perform at a Murdoch University event held at Acqua Viva on the Swan in Nedlands. This year the School of Law is celebrating its’ 20th anniversary of the first graduating class and they held an event to celebrate and promote this achievement. Guests included all of Murdoch University’s Alumni students, some industry partners from various law firms and associations and some distinguished guests and staff from School of Law.

Placements for the Music in Focus Program for Year 8 students in 2014 filled up very quickly this year and as a result, two streams of classes will be offered to students next year. There are limited places for the music option course, so if you are interested in applying and haven’t done so, hurry!

Congratulations to the following music captains who take over from the Year 12’s:

- Intermediate Concert Band: James Calvert
- Senior Concert Band: Xiaowen Pan
- Vocal Ensemble: Molly Snowden
- Classical Guitar Ensemble: Simon Raj Singh

Swing Band: Maximilian Wickham

Music Captain: Oliver Richards

We wish the best of luck to all year 12 students for their upcoming exams. Here’s to a safe and happy break!

By Ana Milas

On the 26th of September, the Swing Band performed at the Murdoch University’s School of Law 20th anniversary function held at Acqua Viva on the Swan. Despite having to listen through some longish speeches, the evening was a success. The Swing Band played through some funk, blues and swing numbers and received a warm reception. The group performed well cohesively along with some good performances by individual members. While it was very different from a primary school visit or a school concert, it was a good experience and the crowd seemed to enjoy the music, providing entertainment to what otherwise might have been an evening of quiet chatter. Murdoch University’s School of Law were sponsors of the Music Department at Melville through their payment for our Music Tour hoodies, and we hope to build up a strong connection in future.

By Maximilian Wickham

Students are mentioned for positive contributions towards the Music Program. This may be demonstrated through their work in class, during SIM lessons, at performances or in ensemble rehearsals.

Congratulations to:

- Diana Hanifa - Yr 8
- Kieran Peters - Yr 9
- Kenneth Pang - Yr 10
- Taylah Vincent - Yr 11
- Rhianna Brims - Yr 12
Ana has been performing from an early age. She began by singing in numerous Eisteddfods and playing the tamburica with *Croatian Dawn*; an orchestra whose repertoire includes Croatian Folkloric dances. After moving to Perth, she became a member of *Sounds of Dalmatia* where she played the mandolin. Ana was also a member of numerous bands where she played keyboard and sang vocals, as well as singing with various choral ensembles, such as *Summa Musica Chamber Choir*. She began her voice training in the classical genre in 1999 and in 2001 continued her development under the guidance of Janice Taylor-Warne at WAAPA. After completing the Advanced Diploma of Performing Arts (Classical), she continued her studies at ECU where she completed the Bachelor of Music Education (Secondary) in 2008. Ana has been teaching voice and piano to students of all ages. As well as being the conductor of *West Australian Mandolin Orchestra*, she is the Teacher in Charge of Music at Melville Senior High School where she teaches classroom music.

On 9th September, Stage 2 and 3 music students performed at the Soloist Night in the Carly Smith Studio. As well as the performance being a formal assessment, it was a good opportunity for students to play through their exam pieces to a live audience. The night served as an opportunity to farewell our talented year 12 students and to formally acknowledge the hard work and dedication that they have put into their music throughout the five years of their high school education at Melville SHS.

More photos are available for viewing by visiting Melville SHS Performing Arts Facebook page.

### Soloist Night 2013

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### Upcoming Events in 2013

- **WACE Practical Exams** - commence 27th September
- **Term 4 commences** - 15th October
- **MSG Meeting** - 19th November, 7pm
- **Twilight Concert** - 25th November 7pm
- **SIM Information Evening** - 27th November
- **Last Day** - 19th December

### Ensemble Rehearsal Times

Attendance to ensemble rehearsal have been increasingly sporadic this term. Students are reminded to be punctual to EVERY rehearsal, ready to play.

**Ensemble Rehearsal times are as follows:**

- **Swing Band** - Monday 3:15-4:15pm
- **Intermediate Concert Band** - Tuesday 3:15-4:15pm
- **Senior Concert Band** - Wednesday 3:15-4:30pm
- **Classical Guitar Ensemble** - Thursday 3-4pm
- **Vocal Ensemble** - Friday 7:50-8:30am

### Attendance

Students and all Melville SHS teachers have been provided with all instrumental timetables. Please note that lessons are scheduled to rotate each week so students don’t miss the same class each week. Students need to check their lesson times each week. Students are also responsible for reminding their classroom teachers of classes they will miss to ensure that they don’t miss out on assessments or other important information.
On the 22nd of July, at an ungodly hour, 34 students and 3 teachers rocked up at the airport for a fabulous week of music and other general shenanigans in Melbourne. After some delicious plane food, we landed in Melbourne, which was notably sunnier than Perth, and proceeded to bus into the heart of the city where our abode for the next week, Melbourne Discovery, was located. It was there that we met the ultimate challenge- 3 flights of stairs with luggage and instruments in tow. This greatly tested us, and we regretted packing that hair straightener and extra pair of socks.

We proceeded to wander the streets, hunting for food and revelling in the attractions of the big city: Krispy Kremes from 7 Eleven and Starbucks. We returned to Melbourne Discovery for a fabulous quiz night hosted by our very own Mr McCleod, where the Sharknadians dominated with their general knowledge of the universe. We settled in for the night, although not much sleep was had by anyone.

We headed out on day 2, thankfully at a reasonable time, to Kindred Studios. Here we were to engage in some hard-core rehearsal time between our various ensembles. In between rehearsals we ventured out for truckie-food and mucking around at the local park.

That night, we went to ‘Sunday in the Park With George’, a riveting and very musical play about ‘A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jeté’, that painting of a park that everyone knows.

On Wednesday we performed at Carlton Gardens Primary School. The children there took delight in dancing ‘Gangnam Style’ to the Year 10 acoustic band. The Swing Band closed the show with their extensive repertoire.

That night, students entertained themselves and the upper school students watched ‘Sharknado’, a work of cinematic prestige.

Thursday followed the same program as Tuesday, with thorough rehearsals at Kindred Studios. That night was the highly anticipated Variety Night, where we saw touching renditions of classics such as Twinkle Twinkle Little Star, some talented skits and several able makeup demonstrations. The upper school boys topped off the night with a very fabulous performance of ‘Barbara Anne’.

We returned to our rooms to pack our bags and get some sleep before heading home. Actually, that’s a lie. Instead we rode the elevator, ate ice cream in the hallway, had sing-alongs, and, in the spirit of tradition, the upper school boys did a toga run, after leaving all of their keys in their room and being locked out without proper clothes.

On Friday, the guitar and vocal ensembles performed at Alphington Aged Care, before we headed to the Queen Victoria Markets. After a healthy dose of shopping, we headed to Brunswick Street for lunch and some more upmarket shops.

Too soon, we were heading to the airport, reluctant to leave Melbourne and return to our everyday lives. We were dealt a final devastating blow, finding out that the Krispy Kreme shop at the airport was selling everything but donuts. But we supported each other through this difficult time, showing how much we had bonded over the past week.

Thank you to the teachers- Mrs Milas, Mr McCleod, Miss Houwen and Mr Hines, and Max’s mum- for making this trip such a fantastic experience. Thank you to the friends we made along the way, in particular Sheila; she became one of us, and is forever in our hearts. And thank you to the students, all of you, for being such an interesting, funny, amazing group of people. Hopefully I’ll get to see the photos of people in togas at the next band camp, and us Year 11s and 12s can know we passed on a powerful legacy.

By Rhianna Brims