

Welcome to our Annual General Meeting for 2021.

The very fact we are all gathered here together on site, is a tribute to our resilience after a very turbulent twelve-months (20/21) of managing the Covid 19 epidemic, with the sudden closure of the centre, trying to stay safe, and adjusting to a new normal with everyone working, and teaching our students online. As President of this association I am so very proud of how we have managed to deal with this turbulence as an organisation, how our remarkable tutors were able to "carry on" and continue to deliver the best music education to our members, be it on line and as difficult an adjustment as it was, how our General Manager Cardinia managed the office working from her home, maintaining contact with our parents, our tutors, giving assurance to all and keeping enrolment number at a reasonable level so as for us to remain financially viable.

We are very appreciative for the assistance from Lane Cove Council who suspended our rental obligations very early in the pandemic, to the ATO for the quick and supportive \$10,000 cash injection and the NSW Government for Jobkeeper support for our wages. This assistance was invaluable and enabled us to stay very positive.

To Sam Woolf our, then bookkeeper and Alex Whitehead our accountant for their assistance in navigating these complex funding programs and ATO income assessments and the challenging 2020 MYOB updates to Single Touch payroll/supa, that delivered our accounts into the Cloud format and to a level of complexity we have never experience before.

As President, managing our wonderful Association has always been a community collaborative exercise for me, over so many years I have been afforded support and guidance with this task from so many remarkable and generous people, but the main stayers have always been the Executive Committee. My thanks and appreciation to the executive committee members (Helen Smith Secretary, Rick Harris, Jim Crew, Steven Mah and Louise Ackroyd) for this endless support and guidance as we were forced to adapt to so many new norms and government health directives.

Long term committee member Jim Crew stepped down in early 2021 mid covid. We were very sad to see Jim Crew leave after so many years of active participation on the executive committee, nevertheless, we do wish Jim the very best with his retirement plans and we thank him for his wonderful service to the association and the Lane Cove community.

This 20/21 Pandemic has revealed much about LCMCC. It has confirmed what we always believed ... "that music education is highly valued by this community", some 180 students all working diligently with their parents and tutors on line ... for months, despite all the difficulties this type of lesson presented to each family.

Parents who stepped up at home to assist their children were amazing, we barely received a complaint throughout this ordeal. They certainly have our respect and have confirmed to us just how dedicated, motivated and skilled our parents, students and tutors have been. Dr Suzuki would have been proud of this social investment in music education ..further evidence that "When love is deep much is achieved" Shinichi Suzuki.

In 2020 we were fortunate to be successful with \$5000 for the NSW Creative Grant to enable us to purchase 2 large screen televisions with mobile trollies to support in-studio, online lessons. We were also able to purchase an additional piano for the centre and continue improve studio equipment where we can.

While our usual student concerts could not proceed through Covid lockdown we are pleased to announce that in December 21 we will recommence this historic concert series with two fully booked end of year Student concerts. Life, community participation and music lessons are slowly returning to a new normal, we look forward to a new start to 2022. Stay safe everyone.

Robyn MAH President**Lane Cove Music and Cultural Association****18/11/2021**