# INFORMATION SHEET

## The Music Diploma (Performance)

**Leading to New Zealand Diploma in Performing Arts (Level 5) (120 credits)**

| Domestic Fees | Start Date | Location | Duration |
|---|---|---|---|
| $1200 per course | 2026<br>Feb-Nov | Otara Music Arts Centre | 38 weeks<br>6 weeks break |

### *Stakeholder endorsement*

*Excellent course of intensive music study. Robust and well-rounded overall.*

*The focus on collaboration, upskilling and analysis to enhance creative output comes out strongly.*

*I like the acknowledgement towards building strong fundamental skills as it will always be a core necessity for sustaining a carrier in the music industry. Programme is structured well but still allows flexibility.*

*It makes sense to develop fundamentals, production, performance, industry skills and then extend – great!*

*I see this suiting many school leavers who are practically inclined – creation of a strong learning, practicing community which is a positive thing for youth, and underpins the culture. Wider music and production community.*

### *The purpose of the programme*

The aim of the programme is to provide aspiring musical artists with the essential skills for a sustainable career in the performance of different genres of music. Through musical exploration and reflective practice, they will build resilience, adaptability and broaden their musicianship, and be able to prepare for employment opportunities in the live performance industry.

Graduates of this Programme will be able to:

- Apply a range of technical skills to inform music across a range of genres and contexts
- Apply performance techniques to engage an audience



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- Manage personal wellbeing and professional practice to identify and pursue employment opportunities in music performance contexts
- Analyse musical context to inform own creative practice as a performing musician

## COURSES

4.0

MUSICIAN'S TOOLKIT

This course is an intensive 4-week course designed to ignite your passion for music while building a solid foundation in essential skills for creative work in music.

4.1

GENRE EXPLORATION I

This 4-week course builds on the foundational skills developed in 4.0, focusing on a dive into a specific musical genre. Students will explore the technical, creative, and cultural aspects of a chosen genre, developing proficiency in relevant technologies and creative processes. The course emphasises practical application, creative problem-solving, and critical reflection.

4.2

GENRE EXPLORATION II

This 4-week course builds on the foundational skills developed in 4.1, expanding students' experience through the exploration of a second specified genre. Participants will delve into the technical, creative, and cultural dimensions of their chosen genre, fostering proficiency in the relevant technologies and creative processes. The course emphasises practical application, innovative problem-solving, and critical reflection, encouraging students to engage deeply with the unique characteristics and influences of the genre.

5.01

GENRE EXPLORATION III

This 4-week course builds upon the skills acquired in 4.2, focusing on the exploration of a third (and final) specified genre. Students will investigate the technical, creative, and cultural elements of this genre, enhancing their proficiency in associated technologies and creative methodologies. The course prioritises practical application, inventive problem-solving, and critical analysis, encouraging students to examine the distinctive features and contextual significance of the genre, thereby enriching their overall musical understanding and versatility.

5.0

SUSTAINABLE MUSICIANSHIP

This intensive 4-week course develops students' skills in personal wellbeing and professional practice within the music industry. By exploring a second instrument, students will expand their musicianship and deepen their understanding of ensemble playing, arranging, and composition. Musical exploration and reflective practice will foster resilience, adaptability, and essential career skills.

The course also introduces real-world industry roles and expectations. Students will learn to

5.1

ADVANCED GENRE STUDY 1

This 4-week course explores the relationship between performance, production, and research through immersion in an advanced musical genre. Students will investigate its stylistic, technical, and cultural dimensions, developing proficiency in relevant technologies and performance methods. Emphasising practical application and critical analysis, the course deepens understanding of the genre's distinctive features and context. Students will apply these insights in performance to



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prepare for employment by producing contracts, invoices, and professional materials.

enhance audience engagement and creative versatility.

5.2

ADVANCED GENRE STUDY 2

This 4-week course develops cohesion between performance, production, and research through immersion in a second advanced musical genre. Students will explore its stylistic, technical, and cultural dimensions, building proficiency in relevant technologies and performance methods. Emphasising practical application and critical analysis, the course deepens genre understanding and context. Students will apply these insights in performance to enhance audience engagement and creative versatility.

5.3

ADVANCED GENRE STUDY 3

This 4-week course integrates performance, production, and research through immersion in a third and final advanced musical genre. Students will examine its stylistic, technical, and cultural dimensions, enhancing their skills in relevant technologies and performance practices. With a focus on practical application and critical analysis, the course deepens contextual understanding and genre fluency. Students will apply these insights in performance to engage audiences and expand their creative versatility.

## PROGRAMME SPECIFIC INFORMATION

Courses are run as block courses with attendance required on Tuesdays – Thursday.

This programme is not yet approved for loans and allowances and is not supported by government funding. Please contact us if you need help sourcing a scholarship to meet the fees (**Education scholarships, grants and awards | New Zealand Government**). The Talent Scholarship is based on your audition, and is awarded by Let's Go Educate Limited Directors. Ask us about AfterPay or Zip, Credit card or direct payments.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **4.0** MUSICIANS TOOLKIT | **4.1** GEN EX I | **4.2** GEN EX II | **5.01** GEN EX III |
| February-March | March-April | April-May-June | June-July |
| **5.0** SUSTAINABLE MUSICIANSHIP | **5.1** ADV GENRE STUDY 1 | **5.2** ADV GENRE STUDY 2 | **5.3** ADV GENRE STUDY 3 |
| July-August | August-September | October-November | November |

*Dates will be confirmed in 2026

Topics you will learn:

- Hands-on instrument lessons/band rehearsals
- Performance workshop(s)
- Industry standard Digital Audio Workstations (DAW) techniques and sound design
- Chart writing and arranging
- Band room etiquette and PA set up
- Listening analysis



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- Reflection, feedback and improvement cycle
- Live performance
- Professional practice in the music industry (e.g., gig acquisition, retention, contracts)
- Financial management for musicians (e.g., invoicing, basic tax obligations)
- Personal wellbeing strategies (e.g., stress management, work-life balance)
- Musical exploration: learning a second instrument to develop adaptability
- Reflective practice and group discussions on wellbeing
- Genre overview and historical, cultural context
- Research and analysis
- DAW performance techniques
- DAW keyboard lab
- Instrument/Production
- Rehearsal and performance workshop
- Music theory related to genre
- Listening analysis
- Reflection, feedback and improvement cycle

All courses are assessed by competency assessment, performance practical and music technology project, and analysis assessments

There will be a performance open to the community at the end of the programme, and the possibility of a tour around Auckland High Schools.

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Entry Criteria for this programme is:

- Students will be 16 years or age or older
- Domestic student
- The Certificate in Music (Creativity) Level 4 or NCEA Level 2 or equivalent
- All will be required to attend an interview/audition. Some musical proficiency is required (pitch, time).
- Where English is not the first language IELTS General of Academic score of 5.5 with no band score lower than 5 or equivalent

## PATHWAYS AND FURTHER STUDY OPTIONS

This qualification is intended to provide a pathway to employment or self-employment as a performer in the performing arts industry role.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FURTHER STUDY INCLUDES: Level 6 and degree level study in creative arts field

## ADDITIONAL EXPENSES



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It is recommended that students have/bring their own:

- Personal instrument (as applicable)/microphone ($300)
- Laptop (Apple Mac) computer ($1500 M2, $1000 M1) with DAW software installed (Logic Pro X or Ableton Live) ($300-$500)
- Audio interface ($600-$1000)
- External or cloud based storage device
- Hearing protection
- Notebook and stationery
- Headphones

**Go to website for more information**

**ENROL NOW!**



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