



ADELAIDE CHAMBER MUSIC SCHOOL

COMMUNITY COMPOSITION PRIZE 2022

WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Abigail Lui, a 19-year-old composer from Brisbane is the winner of the 2022 Adelaide Chamber Music School Community Composition Prize of \$2,500 for her outstanding composition *String Quartet No.1 'Sunrise'*. Young Adelaide composer Kristopher Man won the Junior Prize of \$500 (under 18) for his work *The Heart Speaks Gently*. Music by Eliot McCann (TAS), John Peterson (NSW), Allye Sinclair (SA) and Andrew Dharma (NSW) was also highly commended by the judges.

In this competition-with-a-difference, aspiring composers were invited to write a string quartet **specifically for community musicians**. Twenty-nine entries were received from composers all around Australia. Scores were anonymised and then played by a quartet made up of community and professional musicians. The judges assessed each work on its playability, enjoyability, musical craft and imagination. 'We were overwhelmed by the quantity and quality of the music submitted' said violinist Chris Rawlinson, one of the competition's organisers. 'It was a great problem to have!'

Abigail Lui, also a violinist and chorister, is passionate about the power of music to tell stories and unite people. 'My string quartet was inspired by a school camping trip, where my friends and I would wake early each morning to watch the sun rise together' said Lui. 'In three movements, *Rustlings* describes the window of time just before dawn, which was not silent, but filled with birdcalls and the noise of a waking world. *Dawn* describes the hazy, misty growing of first light on the horizon. Finally, *Daybreak* captures the brilliance and joy of sunrise, with all the hope that comes with a new day.'

The Heart Speaks Gently 'narrates the emotion of the yearning human heart said composer **Kristopher Man**. Only 17 years old at the time of composition, Kristopher is also a pianist, percussionist and enjoys working across different styles of music.

Formed in 2015, **Adelaide Chamber Music School (ACMS)** runs intensive workshops for community chamber musicians. These events attract participants from all around Australia who come together to rehearse and perform in small ensembles. Participants work closely with Australia's best chamber musicians as mentors. In establishing this composition prize, ACMS seeks to expand the repertoire of contemporary music that is accessible to community musicians and provide a platform for composers of exceptional talent.

The winning compositions will receive their premiere performances at an Adelaide Chamber Music School event in 2023.

www.adelaidecms.org

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ADELAIDE CHAMBER MUSIC SCHOOL COMMUNITY COMPOSITION PRIZE 2022

Winner (\$2,500)

Abigail Lui (QLD) - *String Quartet No. 1 'Sunrise'*

Highly Commended

Eliot McCann (TAS) - *New Brooms*

John Peterson (NSW) - *String Quartet No. 4*

Allye Sinclair (SA) - *No way to Know what lies ahead*

Junior Prize Winner (\$500)

Kristopher Man (SA) - *The Heart Speaks Gently*

Junior Highly Commended

Andrew Dharma (NSW) - *Sharky's Adventure*

ENDS.