

The Benefits of MTAQ Membership

There are a great number of benefits to members of our association. The majority of these apply to all members throughout the state. Each branch and teachers' group also provides meetings, workshops, student concerts etc for the local members.

Here are some of the benefits provided by the central office that apply to all members throughout the state:

Bravura Journal

- An eighty page journal issued three times a year
- Informative articles
- Reviews of books and workshops
- Information on and reviews of new teaching material
- Discounted advertising rates
- Free name listing on our Adjudicators' page
- News about branch activities and teacher group meetings

MTAQ Website

Some of these benefits are already available; others will become available once our new website is up and running.

- Information about each of our branches and teachers' groups
- Free listing on our teacher database on the website (or by phone to the office)
- A free web entry for your bio/photo
- Access to a secure members' only login area with
 - A teachers' forum
 - Resources bank
 - Information to assist teachers in running a home studio
 - Templates for Risk Management Strategy and Procedures
- Free listing on our Find an Accompanist page
- Free listing on our Adjudicator's page
- We are working towards online membership applications, renewal and upgrade and secure online payment facility
- Discounted advertising rates on the website
- Classified advertisements (items for sale, wanted items etc)

General Benefits:

- Assurance to prospective students that you are suitably qualified/experienced to teach your chosen instrument/s
- A nationally recognised professional Teachers' Certificate
- Members can mention on their business cards and stationery that they are a member of the Association (for Professional, Associate and Students only)
- Discounted insurance packages for individual studio teachers
- Insurance cover, as an MTAQ member, for presenting or participating in teaching workshops, meetings and performing events of the Association
- Regular email updates to teachers about forthcoming events, concert information, items of interest to members
- Discounted rates to advertise via email updates
- Booklet of Guidelines for Private Teachers

- Books of MTAQ official invoices, which include a summary of terms and conditions of tuition, are available for purchase
- Central office keeps abreast of the requirements of, for example, the Office of Fair Trading, AMCOS, APRA, and follows through on any changes that impact MTAQ as a whole, branches and individual members
- Provision of support to all members, especially in areas that are difficult for individual teachers to manage by themselves, for example
 - Blue Card requirements and the Risk Management Strategy and Procedures
 - The Music Council of Australia is currently proposing to introduce a national accreditation scheme for studio music teachers, which will impact all studio teachers. I have already been involved in discussions with the other MTA presidents around Australia and we will certainly be supporting all our members through this process.
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- Discounted hire rates for the Association auditorium (includes a grand piano and room to seat 70 people)

Branches/Teacher Groups

Regional branches and teachers' groups provide some or all of the following benefits to their members:

- Networking opportunities with other teachers
- Mentoring for younger teachers
- Performance opportunities for students
- Professional development workshops
- Masterclasses with highly respected teachers and educators
- Audio recordings of some professional development workshops are available for purchase
- Discounts at participating music retailers
- Competitions for students (eg Queensland Vocal Competition, Queensland Piano Competition (discounts for students of MTAQ members), and the Composers' Competition Gold Coast)

I confess that even I was surprised by the length of this list as I was compiling it! Perhaps there are other teachers whom you know who would love to have access to all of these benefits? Please invite them to join!

Are there other ways in which we as an Association can serve you, our members? Are you able to help us by volunteering to help at special events, or by joining Council or a regional committee? I'd love to hear from you!

Brenda Hunting
President