



The University of Tasmania
Conservatorium of Music
presents
Ossa Music Prize
2026

Established in 2018 and named after Tasmania's highest mountain peak, the Ossa Music Prize is generously provided by Dr Rod Roberts, alumnus of the University of Tasmania, and Mrs Cecile Roberts. The prize supports an individual student or a student ensemble of up to 3 players to pursue excellence in musicianship and performance. In 2026, the cash prize is \$5,000 and additional financial support to the value of \$8,000 underwrites a state-wide performance tour. The tour will include a performance in Queenstown in memory of Margaret Stoermer, thanks to an extension prize gifted by her son Christian Stoermer.

Eligibility

The prize will be awarded to the strongest applicant (which may be an individual performer or an ensemble of up to 3 players), following shortlisting and critique of applicants by a panel. Applications are warmly welcomed from all musical styles. Applicants must be enrolled in a full-time Music course (minimum 37.5%) at the University of Tasmania.

Selection process

The selection process will consist of three rounds, with the third round being a public performance. The recipient will be the student or ensemble who satisfies the panel as the one most ready and prepared for the experience.

First Round

Written applications will be shortlisted, taking into consideration the quality of the application which includes:

1. A written statement that addresses
 - The applicant/s' interest in taking music to regional Tasmania, and how their musical performance will contribute to the cultural life of regional Tasmania
 - The concept for their musical programme and the music to be performed (think of this as a curated event, not just a medley of items)
 - Touring plan and any extra personnel and/or equipment that would be required
 - How winning the Ossa Prize would benefit the applicant/s. Please detail what the prize money might be used for.

2. A short CV

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to perform in the Second Round.

Second Round

Closed performances will be held **week commencing 10th August 2026** at the Hedberg, and will consist of:

1. Performance of two (2) contrasting pieces of music, lasting no longer than 15 minutes total;

2. Short interview conducted by the audition panel regarding your proposed ideas for the concert tour of regional Tasmania.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to perform in the Third Round.

Third Round

The final round – a public performance – will be held at 6pm on **Friday 28 August 2026** at the Hedberg. The performance will consist of a program of no more than 10 minutes of your choice of music. The prize will be awarded at the end of the evening.

Expectations of the successful recipient

The successful recipient(s) will play a series of concerts on a state-wide tour with a special focus on the North, North-West, West and East Coast regions **in early November 2026**.

The successful recipient(s) will be expected to act as ambassadors for the music program and University of Tasmania at all times (before, during and after the tour), and:

1. Keep a travel diary and document their experiences;
2. Submit a report of their trip detailing the experiences and how they have benefited from the opportunity;
3. Perform a concert at the Hedberg on **27 November at 6pm**.

How to apply

1. Complete the online application on the Ossa website.
2. Complete the application form together with supporting information (1. Written statement and 2. Short CV) by midnight, **7th August, 2026**

Contact

Further information regarding the application process can be obtained from CON.Admin@utas.edu.au