

MAGA MUSIC ARRANGERS GUILD OF AUSTRALIA INC.

The Industry Benchmark in Professional Arranging.



Secretary's Report

The Board have just completed the judging of the 2022 Arranging Competition and congratulations to the first three place getters who are featured in articles below. The competition was close with many quality arrangements received as well as some outstanding entries. We had entries from NSW, QLD, SA and VIC with ages ranging from 15 to 29 years. Due to the standard this year, we will be offering the first 3 place getters full MAGA membership with membership fees waived for the first year. We would like to thank our major sponsor Hal Leonard for their contribution to the prize money for this year's competition and planning is already underway for the 2023 competition!

As you may have read, our wonderful President of MAGA, George Bruno, after 33 years' service on the Executive Board, has decided to step down as President and from the Executive board. George has been one of the longest serving members on the MAGA Executive, holding positions of Committee Member, Vice President, Treasurer and most recently President from 2015-2022.

On behalf of the Executive Board, I would like to thank George for his many years of dedication to MAGA and his service on the Board, in which he has been involved in and driven many initiatives for MAGA. In this edition, we feature an article on George prepared by Ross Maio.

There are many members celebrating significant anniversaries since the last MAGA Scene in April. We have a page dedicated to all the members anniversaries but would like to particularly call out Maurice Brunell #38, Ray Glover #42 and Graeme Lyall #514 for achieving 59 years with MAGA. Amazing achievements!

The AGM will be on Monday December 12th via Zoom and call for nominations for 2023-24 board will be out in September. Please see below for more details. A great opportunity to get involved in the MAGA Board!

In terms of workshops, we have an upcoming Zoom session with Australian musical director, composer and trombonist Daryl McKenzie on Tuesday 27th September via Zoom. This will be a great opportunity to listen to Daryl talk about his amazing musical career in Australia. Also our Vice President Jessica Wells will talk about her arrangements for the HUSH album for the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, Missy Higgins, Kate Miller-Heidke and Emily Wurramurra, on October 25th.

We hope you enjoy the 51st edition of MAGA Scene.

Tim Middleton - MAGA Secretary

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President: George Bruno
Vice President/Publisher: Jessica Wells
Secretary/Web Master: Tim Middleton
Treasurer: Ross Maio

National Executive for 2022

<http://www.magainc.org.au>

Board Members:
Greg Schultz, Ian Boath, Matt Amy,
Kieran Hurley, Greg Flood,
Peter Casey, Steven Stanke



Vice President's Message

2022 has seen an explosion of musical events around the country, as performances are rescheduled from the last two years of lockdowns, and people are getting out and about again to hear live music and attend concerts and shows.

The change in government (and attitude towards the arts) has lifted our spirits, with Arts Minister Tony Burke delivering a National Cultural Policy by the end of this year.

<https://minister.infrastructure.gov.au/burke/media-release/new-era-arts-australia>

“A National Cultural Policy is a broad, comprehensive roadmap for Australia’s arts and culture that touches all areas of government, from cultural diplomacy in foreign affairs to health and education.

The policy will be based around five pillars:

- **First Nations first:** recognising and respecting the crucial place of these stories at the centre of our arts and culture.
 - **A place for every story:** reflecting the diversity of our stories and the contribution of all Australians as the creators of culture.
 - **The centrality of the artist:** supporting the artist as worker and celebrating their role as the creators of culture.
 - **Strong institutions:** providing support across the spectrum of institutions – funded, philanthropic and commercial - which sustain our arts and culture.
 - **Reaching the audience:** ensuring our stories reach the people at home and abroad.”
-
- From creating secure employment opportunities to showcasing unique Australian stories across all artforms, the new policy will reflect the intrinsic value of arts, entertainment and culture to Australia and the diversity of the Australian community.
 - The arts sector is currently in an extreme state of flux as it seeks to recover from the devastating impact of the pandemic – and it needs a Government to help it build back better.
 - The arts, entertainment and cultural sector is important to who we are as Australians and plays a vital role in the economy.
 - There is a lot of work to do in this space to rebuild the damage done by a decade of Liberal Government. A new National Cultural Policy is the foundation for a better future for Australian artists.”

Our Prime Minister Anthony Albanese recently presented the Excellence in Community award to Midnight Oil at a Support Act fundraiser. “From pubs and clubs to stadiums, they’ve been a force of nature,” Albanese said, calling the band “very much part of our national soundtrack. He added: “The message was always about bringing people together. **They’re a reminder that music enriches us, that it sustains our soul, and broadens our horizons.**”

What a refreshing change! Hopefully funding will be increased for the Arts (they need to put their money where their mouth is!) and we can look forward to increased security for our livelihoods in the Music sector in the near future.

Jessica Wells (Vice President)

George Bruno - Reflections on his time at MAGA

George Bruno - MAGA Timeline:

- 5 July 1970 Joined MAGA (NSW Division)
- 1971 - 1972 Committee Member (NSW Division)
- 1973 - 1977 Vice President (NSW Division)
- 1996 - 2002 Treasurer
- 2003 - 2013 Vice President
- 2015 - 16.07.2022 President

George Bruno's reflections (collated by Ross Maio):

At its peak the **APIA Club (NSW)** featured international shows and sported one of the best sight-reading, accompanying bands in Sydney. Led by **Dick Buchannan** and comprising of: **Dick** on t/bone & tpt, **Stan Wilson** tpt, **Col Loughnan** reeds, **Billy Nuku** drums, **Tom Williams** piano and **George Bruno** on bass. Being in that band with such talented players it was inevitable that he would become interested in arranging. The setting was perfect because he could instantly hear what he wrote and get some advice from the players and the 3 other **MAGA** members on board, namely **Dick Buchannan**, **Col Loughnan** and **Stan Wilson**. It was **Dick Buchannan** who encouraged him to apply for **MAGA membership** and sit for a copying test. Being young and cocky he thought he would go straight for an arranging membership!

The structure of **MAGA** in those early days was quite different. Not only was the head office Sydney based, but the committee was totally from Sydney too, with reps from each state organizing their local branches.

Membership applications were done by mail and tests were done in person under the supervision of a committee member. Turning up for his arranging test at **Don Rankin's** music store was nerve-wrecking! He was allowed to bring the sheet music of 3 tunes (one of them to be chosen by the testing member) score paper and a pencil! He remembers that he couldn't hold on to the pencil because his hands were sweating so much.

Being a member of such a respected body as **MAGA** was a great privilege. It instantly branded you as a serious arranger who took the time to produce quality work. No sequencing programs to listen to or engraving programs to help you with graphic layouts. Straight from the head, to the paper, to the players, with a fee in between of course. The other benefit was that once accepted and you got your **MAGA ARRANGER** stamp, you were now rubbing shoulders with all the other great arrangers of the period. Therefore, you had a greater chance to be considered seriously when pitching for high level contracts.

The great motivating force that drove **MAGA's** founding members to form this organization was exploitation! With TV in its infancy, recording being done live in studio, lots of live cabaret artists performing at a myriad of live venues (like the Tivoli with 2 bands and revolving stage) **MAGA** played a powerful role in securing fees for its members that allowed for gaining a reasonable life-style.

He got interested in the mechanics of running **MAGA** at the executive level, early in the piece. He successfully ran for committee and got in by defeating the other applicants. In those days **MAGA** had many applicants challenging each committee position. It's on record that he has spent more time on the Board of **MAGA** than any other member. From Board member to Treasurer, to Vice President and recently as President, he has enjoyed working with all the Executive Boards and feels privileged to have been contributing to keeping **MAGA Inc** alive and contributing to its growing presence in today's music scene.

George is proud to have been associated with the modernisation of **MAGA** when Robert Gavin took over as secretary which would lead it from "a Steam Organisation" to a worldwide "Digital Organisation". Robin Workman was responsible for digitizing **MAGA** records, which were all previously hard copy and took up so much valuable space, now reside on a Hard Disk with an extra Backups as well.

George also provided much input and had much to say about the acceptance of music software notation programs to generate scores and parts. He thinks the computer-generated parts are neater to read but he misses the pleasure of recognising the hand written style of the top copyists of the day. There are many arrangements done in studios without any notation written, just grunts and directions. Many “Hits” have come about in this manner.

Those arranger/producers weren’t members of MAGA so he addressed this by introducing the **Electronic Arrangers Category** to MAGA. It wasn’t easy he recalls!! The response was very negative from the existing Executive Board of that time. “forget it ...what on earth is that about?” This established a need for acceptance and to embrace progress in the way music was going to be produced.

This progress has culminated with MAGA introducing the **National Youth Arranging Competition** where all the applicants are using scoring software notation programs for their arrangements. The orchestral sample libraries are also very important in producing a great “orchestral mockup” of the arrangement as well.

The big motivation for George to move from Vice-President to President was that there were frustrated people on the board like Ian Boath who had great ideas about competitions and promoting MAGA to the public but could not get a hearing because there were people “living in the past” (said with endearment) on the previous executive boards.

George asked the previous President **Sven Libaek**: “What is the most important thing for a President to do? **Sven Libaek** answered: “Come up with ideas and get out of the way”. On reflection he thinks this approach has worked.

Bearing in mind before this current board headed by our secretary **Tim Middleton**, MAGA was on the verge of closing. George was not happy about it.

He feels vindicated that now we have a younger more progressive executive board who are allowed to inject their current ideas namely the Arranging Competition and focus on music education. Another pinnacle for George was initiating the **MAGA Music Catalogue** which gives MAGA a worldwide profile and acceptance. He also proposed opening up MAGA to link with other areas of music organisations.

In concluding he is confident that MAGA is in “good hands” with the present executive board and will carry the Guild forward to continuous success in the future.





George Bruno & Sal Spata,
Italo Australian club-
George St Sydney Cca
1959-60



1970's

GB with Peter Allen/Ballarat 1981a

GB with Julie
Anthony 1988-89



1992. With Chief Sinaka of Port Moresby

George Bruno & Doug Parkinson



George with Steve Gadd



Anniversaries



May-August

May

- #151 Bill Hucker - 50 years
- #503 Paul Millard - 42 years
- #32 Dawn Nettheim - 36 years
- #30 Anne Stevens - 33 years
- #513 Phil Luke - 25 years
- #587 Virginia Johnstone - 17 years
- #595 Terry Million - 16 years
- #624 Tim Middleton - 13 years
- #630 Simon Walters - 12 years
- #628 Andrew Georg - 12 years

June

- #288 George Bruno - 52 years
- #251 Rudi Van Berkum - 47 years
- #22 Lyn Lawrence - 46 years
- #375 Art Phillips - 35 years
- #338 Stephanie Holmes - 28 years
- #336 Stella Talati - 27 years
- #391 Jessica Wells - 25 years
- #214 Allan Hall - 22 years
- #567 John Coker - 20 years
- #570 Rick Best - 20 years
- #657 Joseph Twist - 7 years

July

- #38 Maurice Brunell - 59 years
- #42 Ray Glover - 59 years
- #514 Graeme Lyall - 59 years
- #125 Noelene Thomsen - 56 years
- #21 Col Loughnan - 56 years
- #229 Machiel Berghuis - 53 years
- #422 Ian Ford - 47 years
- #11 Bruce Cale - 44 years
- #280 Bruce Davidson - 38 years
- #194 Peter Best - 36 years
- #385 Velko Gavranich - 34 years
- #433 Charles Affleck - 30 years
- #405 Paul F. Eotvos - 27 years
- #410 John Grant - 27 years
- #414 Robert Smallwood - 27 years
- #551 Brenda Drake - 20 years
- #552 Cathy Aggett - 20 years

August

- #87 Geoff Ayling - 57 years
- #58 Laurie Lewis - 57 years
- #340 Robin Workman - 51 years
- #237 Larry Price - 46 years
- #188 Mike Hope - 41 years
- #360 Ray Cairney - 41 years
- #376 Julie Simonds - 35 years
- #216 Nerida Tyson-Chew - 34 years
- #444 Kerin Bailey - 25 years
- #445 Paul Woodward - 25 years
- #383 John Barnes - 23 years
- #359 Bill Deer - 22 years
- #588 Stephen Bydder - 17 years
- #607 Neil Hanson - 15 years

MAGA National Youth Music Arranging Competition 2022

WINNERS ANNOUNCED!



Daniel Bunting is our winner!

\$2500 prize money for his arrangement "Three Bush Melodies"

2nd \$1000 : Luka Ison (QLD)

3rd \$500: Tony Gu (VIC)



Daniel Bunting is a Sydney based screen composer whose credits include an RSPCA commercial, four-hour narrative game Copycat, three-part documentary Tasmanian Ghost Towns, and additional music for Jim Cummings' feature film The Beta Test.

He studied both classical composition and music technology at the Queensland Conservatorium before completing postgraduate study in screen music at AFTRS.

Dan is also an accomplished performer and teacher of the piano and guitar, and a recording engineer who regularly records Sydney's Metropolitan Orchestra.

Dan is distinguished as a notation based composer (unlike the typical DAW based contemporary screen composer) who uses customised Sibelius software to digitise the traditional composition process.

This enables him to mockup quality demos and make revisions at speed without having to forgo the most valuable tool a composer may have: a written score.

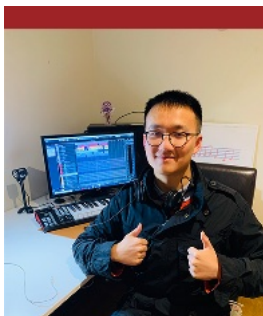


2nd place Luka Ison

\$1000 prize money for "Folxtrot Medley"



Luka Ison is a Meeanjin/Brisbane-based composer currently studying his 2nd year of Composition at the Queensland Conservatorium. In 2019, Luka participated in the Australian Society for Music Education's National Young Composers Project in which he won best in NSW for his composition, giving him the opportunity to travel to Perth and work with leading Australian composer James Ledger. Along with his modern classical works, Luka likes to make music for a variety of other genres, namely punk, alternative rock, jazz, hip-hop, electronic music, and avant-garde music. As well as being fluent on keyboards, he also plays electric guitar, bass guitar and drums, and is currently playing both keys and guitar in the band Quartz Jester.



3rd place Tong (Tony) Gu

\$500 prize money for his arrangement "Australian Folk Song Medley"



Tong (Tony) Gu is a 20 years-old student pharmacist and a virtual composer, and arranger based in Melbourne. He began arranging by self-teaching himself orchestration at the age of 13 through studying existing arrangements and sheet music. Inspired by the soundtrack of many light-hearted Japanese anime shows, Tony's music aims to evoke joy and emotion among the listeners. Tony's goal as a composer is to make sheet music more widely available to the public. Coming from a composer who studied mainly score analysis, Tony understands the scarcity of existing film scores. Hence, Tony wants to make future composers have easier access to sheet music. Tony publishes most of his work with well-notated scores to ensure fellow composers can read into his scores if they ever desire to.

MAGA National Youth Music Arranging Competition 2022



HAL•LEONARD®

This year, the MAGA National Youth Music Arranging Competition featured arrangements for Wind Orchestra. The winning entry will receive \$AU 2,500 prize money.

- 1st place - \$2500
- 2nd place - \$1000
- 3rd place - \$500

We would like to thank [Hal Leonard](#) who is our major sponsor this year!

We had entries from NSW, QLD, VIC and SA and from an age range of 15-29.

https://www.magainc.org.au/arranging_competitions.php

The competition was open to arrangers under the age of 30 as of 31st July 2022. The arrangements must be a medley of at least two of the three Australian based folk songs below:

OUR JACK'S COME HOME TODAY

LEAD SHEET By W. J. Deane

Our Jack's come home of good to-day, The Ten-tradgels has been For
 an-ty u day he's been a-way, His, like we've not had seen, Mac-
 ken-na-ay, A - me and here And with a gen - He Jack, Turned
 down u-pon our old friend, sets down a my hand of work, Our
 Jack's come home to-day, Our Jack's come home to-day, Quite
 ven and pale, from out of jail, Our Jack's come home to-day,

c 189

JUSTICE ON THE MINES

LEAD SHEET Traditional

The day it was wet, and the court it had not, And his wear-ship was live-by and free... The court
 house was a lean-ty, and con-sta-ble Lan-ty, Had the pol-so-ner chained to a tree... What's the
 case? asked his wear-ship, as back words he loan, While his pipe he was com-for-tu-ly Righ-tang, To it
 mur-der, or mid-ding with di-a-ry in-ter? No your wear-ship, the case has been Righ-ting.

TEN THOUSAND MILES AWAY

LEAD SHEET By Joseph E. Geaghan

My true love she is hand - some My true love she is young, Her
 eyes are like as the vio - lets blue, And all - re - ty search her na-ame,
 All re - ty search her na-ame, my boys, But while I sing this lay, a - ay, She's a -
 do-ing the grand in a dis - tant land, The three-and-nine a - way.

19th century



New MAGA Members

Clive Pattie #409 - Arranger VIC - Re-joined after being a member of MAGA in Victoria Division

I am a former member of MAGA Vic and have now re-joined NSW of which I was a member following the amalgamation and have been given my old number back.

I have been a musician since 1964 as a guitarist and bassist playing rock, jazz, latin, in bands from rock, theatre, cabaret latin and big bands.

Currently the Musical Director for Hobsons Bay Men's Shed's 4 music Divisions: Worlds Biggest Garage Band, P/Plate Beginners, & Ukelele/Acoustic ensembles.

I have arranged music for Community Choirs, Theatre Productions and have composed, written & scored arrangements music for original songwriters.



Alec Roberts #695 - Arranger NSW

As an orchestrator and conductor I have worked on a broad range of TV, film and concert scores for the likes of the BBC, ITV, Netflix, Apple, Disney, DreamWorks & Warner Bros.

Most recently, I had the immense pleasure of orchestrating and conducting the latest three series of *Doctor Who* (BBC) for BAFTA Breakthrough Brit & ASCAP award winning composer Segun Akinola. The series follow the adventures of the first female Doctor played by Jodie Whittaker.

As contributing orchestrator I have worked on film scores by prominent composers including Rachel Portman, Rupert Gregson-Williams, Harry Gregson-Williams, and Geoff Zanelli. Film credits include *Wonder Woman* (Warner Bros.), *Emma* (Working Title), and *Abominable* (Dreamworks).

I've been fortunate enough to work with Emmy nominated composer Patrick Jonsson on thought provoking documentary films from Oscar winner Orlando von Einsiedel. This includes orchestrations for the recent Netflix pandemic documentary *Convergence: Courage in a Crisis* which follows stories from eight different countries during the COVID-19 crisis. Other documentary work includes orchestration for natural history series *Our Great National Parks* (Netflix) which features narration by President Barack Obama, *9/11: Inside the President's War Room* (Apple/BBC), and contributing orchestration for Disney's natural history blockbuster feature *Born In China*.

I've had the great privilege of working as contributing orchestrator and conductor for Emmy award winning composer John Lunn on several of his TV scores including *Grantchester* (ITV), *Jamestown* (from the producers of *Downton Abbey*), and *The White Princess* (Starz). Further TV credits include supervising orchestrator for several episodes of ITV's flagship crime dramas *Endeavour* and *Lewis* as well as contributing orchestration for other popular ITV series including *Mr Selfridge* and *Victoria*.

Based between Sydney and London, I regularly work both in person and remotely with some of the UK and Europe's finest recording orchestras at major studios including Abbey Road and Air Lyndhurst.

It's a real privilege to have been accepted as a member of MAGA and join your wonderful community!

ELECTION 2022



Board Nominations 2023-24

This year is an election year and as such, call for nominations for all positions on the board (2023-24) will open on **16th September** and close on **30th October**.

This is a fantastic opportunity for MAGA members to be more involved in the running and direction MAGA.

The Board meets every second Monday of the month for one hour, so it's a small commitment to put your mark in MAGA and its future!

Please look out for the nominations email coming in mid-September!

AGM 2022

The Annual General Meeting of MAGA Incorporated will be held on:

Monday Dec 12th 2020 @ 7.30pm AEDT via Zoom.

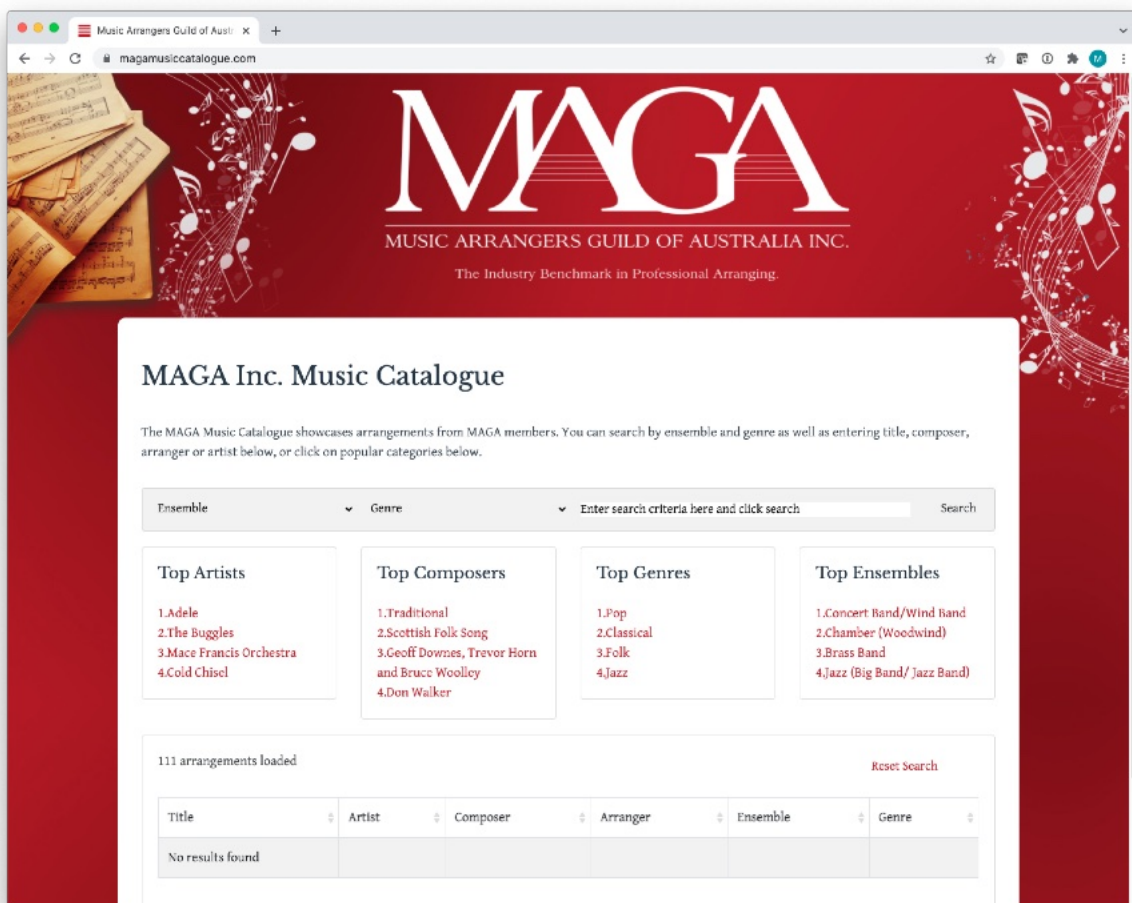


By *Tim Middleton (Secretary)*

The “MAGA Music Catalogue” is NOW LIVE! We would love for members to submit arrangements to be listed. You can go to <https://magamusiccatalogue.com/> and there is a link at the bottom to submit arrangements.

You can search by title, artist, ensemble, genre as well as see top arrangements in each category.

We have launched this website with around 300 arrangements but need more!



USING THE MAGA MODEL ARRANGER'S CONTRACT

Copyright and Contracts – why it matters.

Webinar session with Greg Flood
Presented by the Music Arrangers Guild of Australia

September 21st 7pm AEDT

How copyright impacts arrangers and composers and why a well drafted contract helps you with protecting your rights.



Greg Flood is a lawyer in private practice with Flood + Chalmers + Meade in Melbourne. He has practiced in Copyright and Intellectual Property for over twenty five years and prior to becoming a lawyer was an arranger and musician. Greg first joined MAGA in 1975.



In September we held a very successful Webinar with 40 attendees. “Copyright and Contracts” for Arrangers and Composers, given by MAGA Executive Board member and lawyer Greg Flood. (A recording of this talk is available to members via the website members portal).

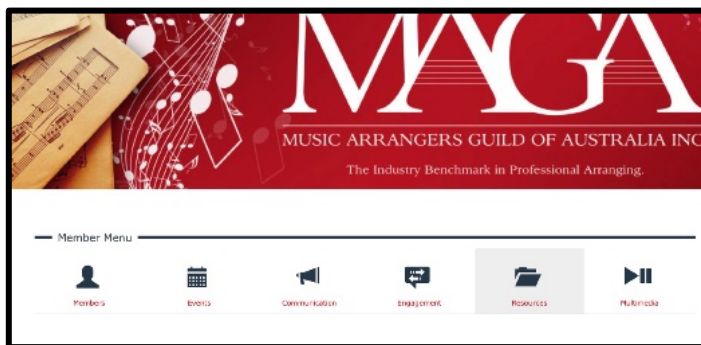
Greg was instrumental in finalizing the

MAGA Model Arranger’s Contract (For Live Performance)

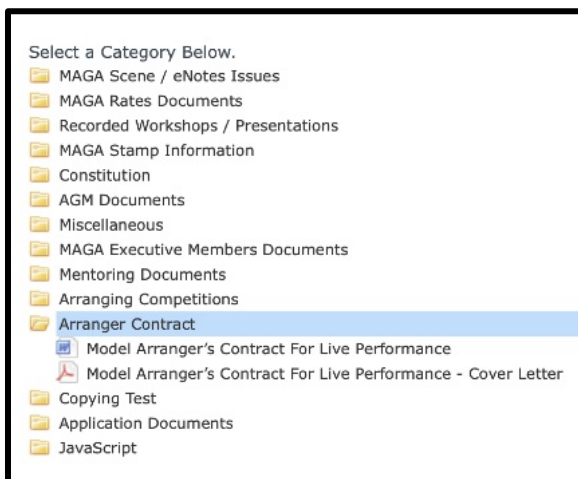
which is available to all members to use.

Members can access this editable contract from the members portal on the website.

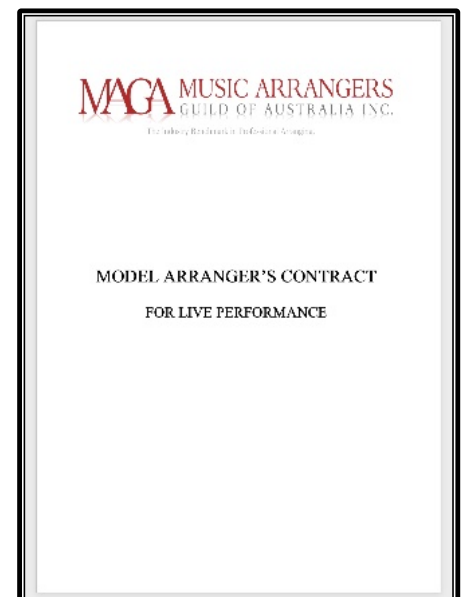
Go to: <https://www.magainc.org.au>



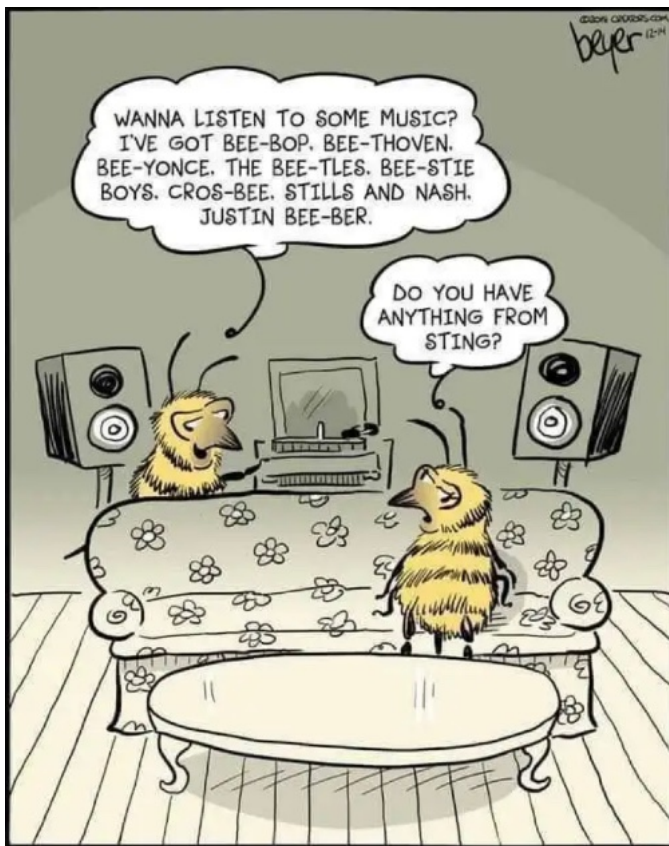
In the Member Menu select the “Resources” tab and click “File Archive”.



You will find the “Arranger Contract” listed where you can download the document and the Cover Letter which explains how to use the document.



Back Page



"Oh, this is so exciting! You know, no one's played this thing for years!"

MAGA
 MUSIC ARRANGERS
 GUILD OF AUSTRALIA INC.
 The Industry Benchmark in Professional Arranging.

CONTACT US

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[musicarrangersguildaustralia](https://www.instagram.com/musicarrangersguildaustralia) [facebook.com/MAGAInc](https://www.facebook.com/MAGAInc)

National Executive 2022

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Executive Member: Peter Casey AM (VIC)

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