

Francis Louran BMus BA (Syd)

Francis Louran has been an examiner of piano candidates since 1990.

In addition, he has examined brass and voice candidates for the AMEB, and various disciplines and ensembles for the Board of Studies (HSC). He studied Music and English at Sydney University and the NSW State Conservatorium, and graduated with Merit and first prize for piano in his degree course. Following further studies in Paris and England, Francis was appointed to the staff of the Riverina College of Advanced Education as an Artist-in-Residence and as a junior lecturer in Music in its undergraduate Arts programme. After extensive performing in NSW and Victoria as well as teaching and lecturing in the degree programme of the College, Francis was invited to direct a music school in the west of Sydney as a senior officer of the NSW Division of Cultural Activities within the Premier's Department.

During his tenure at the Western Sydney Music School in Mount Druitt and Shalvey, he was responsible for the curriculum, graded musical development and pastoral needs of over 150 students with the assistance of a team of dedicated teachers and volunteers. Francis joined the staff of Sydney Grammar School as a Music and English master, and for 14 years taught secondary English, class Music and conducted many of the School's bands, orchestras and choirs. He pursued his work experience at Eton College in the UK, and was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to study the music of Bach at Jesus College Oxford during his tenure at Sydney Grammar School.

Francis held the post of Director of Music at Cranbrook School in Bellevue Hill in Sydney for 11 years where he managed the K-12 curriculum, conducted ensembles, accompanied and directed musicals in association with Ascham School. A highlight was leading 3 tours of musicians from Cranbrook, Ascham, SCEGGS and Kincoppal to Europe to compete in international music festivals for young people in Vienna and tour throughout several cultural centres in the UK and Continent. After retiring from full-time classroom education, Francis established a private studio focusing on Music education for HSC candidates, including composition, English preparation for scholarship entrance examinations and piano tuition from P Plate to Diploma level candidates. Francis continues to teach in the classroom from time to time, writes articles on the raising of successful children in the high school environment, adjudicates eisteddfods, accompanies young performers in HSC examinations, and examines for the AMEB.

