



## STUDENT & PARENT INFORMATION PACK

**Styles:** Musical Theatre | Contemporary | Classical

**Skill Level:** Beginner to Advanced

**Suitability:** Ages 6 years and up

Offering private individual lessons in music theatre and contemporary vocal styles to both male and female students. Beginners to advanced students welcome, age is only a number.

Kris is an experienced local performing artist who has worked with some of the leading names in professional Australian and International music theatre. He is keen to help you develop your natural talent and enjoy your own passion for performing at any level from small concerts to Eisteddfod competitions.

Half hour to hourly lessons available.

Weekdays [during or after-school hours]  
*for busy parents with school aged children*

Weekends [mornings or afternoons]  
*for busy kids with working parents*

Kriscendo Kids classes can cater for group lessons also.

Positive Notice Blue Card [Working with Children] Approved

## ABOUT YOUR **VOCAL TUTOR**

### **Kristopher Brennan**

*B. Theatre (Music Theatre)*

CQCM CQUniversity Australia

*Grad Dip L&T (Secondary)*

CQUniversity Australia [In Completion]



Kris, originally travelled from the cane-paddocks of Home Hill, just south of Townsville, to study at the Central Queensland Conservatorium of Music. 10 years on, he has made Mackay home. Growing up a Burdekin boy he has always held a passion for performing and a skill to light up when on stage. Starting when he was aged 11, his first on-stage role as a cockney boy in the Home Hill Choral Society's production of *My Fair Lady*. From there he ventured across the river with the Burdekin Singers & Theatre Company, where his credits include roles in *Hans Christian Andersen*, *Cinderella*, *Oklahoma!*, and his personal favourite, *Les Miserables*. During his school years he also participated in various eisteddfods both in the Burdekin and North Queensland with school and community choirs as well as orchestras. Whilst studying his senior certificate, he also participated in and won both District and Regional finals for the Lions Youth of the Year Quest and was awarded the Australia Day Cultural Award for the Burdekin Shire.

Upon his relocation to 'the big smoke,' he swiftly took on various roles within The Conservatorium's productions of *Chess*, *Kiss Me*, *Kate*, *Aspects of Love*, *Footloose*, *The Sentimental Bloke*, *Chicago*, *The Threepenny Opera* and *Copacabana*, and most recently, *Sweet Charity*. It was during the performances of the JC Williamson operetta, *Djin, Djin*, where he found his voice in performing the title role, and really enjoyed the passion and the excitement from utilising his instrument to its full capacity.

Working with nationally and internationally accredited artists, has certainly cemented Kris's eye for detail. From the legend that is Nancye Hayes, to Keith Hawley, as well as the bubbly personality of Chloe Dallimore, Jack Webster and Peter Ross to name a few. Kris has always enjoyed learning and creating something magical with each of his cast mates and has fond memories of each performance. Until recently he was also a member of Mackay's own 'popera' boy band, *Formidable* singing alongside mentor, Musical Director and CQCM lecturer, Kim Kirkman accompanied by Dr Judith Brown. Touring to the northern and southern areas of Queensland and interstate, certainly opened up his eyes to the different aspects of performance and not just the glitz and glamour of the stage. Locally, Kris has been an avid performer, joining the Mackay Choral Society and the Mackay Musical Comedy Players in various productions most recently in *Spamalot* and *The Secret Garden*, but will always treasure his leading role as Enjolras in *Les Miserables*. With the Player's he also directed the Theatre Restaurant, The World Bra Unclipping Championships at Garimba, as well as a few scenes in various concerts and revues. He has also been an invited guest artist to various concerts and private events both locally and in northern districts and attends various master-classes and workshops for theatre and music where available. He is an invited consultant to the Home Hill Choral Society as vocal and performance specialist and regularly holds workshops and master-classes with local students. He will be vocal coach for the 2014 Mackay Musical Comedy Player's production of *Bonnie and Clyde The Musical*.

Kris currently holds a Bachelor of Theatre (Music Theatre) degree from the Central Queensland Conservatorium of Music, CQUniversity Australia, and is currently enrolled in a Graduate Diploma of Learning and Teaching (Secondary) where he aims to graduate as a Music and Drama Specialist. From there he anticipates commencing further post-graduate studies into music and vocal performance, as well as assisting to develop the natural talents of younger Australians and the young-at-heart.

## THE PRIVATE APPROACH TO YOUR VOICE

Your voice is a personal instrument. Something that is unique only to you. Only you can produce the sound and only have such an original tonality and singing is a very personal method of expression. It doesn't require any electrical input, nor is it packed away in a case; however it does require passion and confidence, something only that can come from within.

By using a tried and tested method of vocal production, Kris has spent many hours with a number of vocal tutors to hone his craft, in fact he still has regular lessons himself as he believes that you can never stop learning. His background primarily is Music Theatre however has a grounding in classical technique that many of today's singers from Celine Dion, Mariah Carey, Ricky Martin even Beyonce and Australia's own John Farnham utilise this technique and apply to their own vocal performances, giving them the vocal stamina to perform live sell-out concerts night after night for many years.

Your individual vocal lesson will be sculpted around your journey and each lesson we will attempt to unlock a little more from your personality to express your natural talents through your voice. You will receive a weekly report card to track your journey from each week, this will be used to review your progress, see what has been worked on and what perhaps to work on in between your weekly attendance to help you improve.

### EACH LESSON STEP BY STEP

Over the course of each of your weekly lessons, your vocal coach will be working on various aspects of your vocal technique, repertoire selection as well as your overall development in performance. We want to make you the best you can be! Lessons can be arranged to suit you, from weekdays or weekends, during school times for busy parents with school-aged children or after-school for busy kids with working parents.

Each lesson may cover one or all of the following:

- Correct use of breath and controlling your *support*
- Vocal technique and correct production
- Warming up your voice, safely and confidently
- Quality of vocal tonality and pitch
- Choosing the correct repertoire for your voice type
- Performing to different situations, from competitions to concerts

And much more!

It is preferred to have your lesson for an hour each week. This will ensure the maximum time is spent on improving your technique and applying that to your repertoire that you will be working on each week also. From warm up to singing your favourite song with confidence, your coach will guide you to the best of your ability and encourage you to keep achieving your goals.



## PUTTING IT ALL **TOGETHER**

With a Music Theatre Workshop, **Kriscendo Kids** classes cater for younger members of your family or friends who may find the individual lesson a bit daunting. Kris can host small weekly group classes where various styles of music theatre can be explored and incorporate basic dance movement and perhaps prepare group competition pieces that should keep youngsters motivated and enthused about performance. Kris has taught for the CQ Conservatorium of Music Outreach Program *The Conservatorium Academy* and many of his students still attend private lessons also. Kris was also the founder, Musical Director and Conductor for the successful Mackay-based children's choir, *A-Choir'd Pitch*.

Kris holds a Positive Notice (Approved) Blue Card for Working with Children and is a member of various community organisations from the Mackay Choral Society, Opera North Inc as well as the Mackay Musical Comedy Players Inc and the KMEIA Mackay Branch. He also attends various workshops on voice, performance and pedagogy, where available, and enjoys learning about performance and its many facets that this incorporates, keeping his knowledge relevant and up-to-date.

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## **REGISTER YOUR INTEREST**

Contact Kris for more information or perhaps to arrange your vocal lesson schedule. Select your preferred day and time (I'd also choose an alternative, should that be unavailable) and let your journey from the shower to the stage begin.

### **Kris Brennan**

Vocal Coach | Director

### **KRISCENDO STUDIOS**

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