

Advance Australia Fair Signers _____

STARS
IN THE ARENA



Instructions for schools

- Auslan teachers
- Classroom teachers
- Choir teachers
- Performing Arts Teachers



FESTIVAL of MUSIC

Thank you for supporting your students to participate as Advance Australia Fair Signers in the 2026 Primary Schools Music Festival.

A special welcome to Auslan teachers and Performing Arts teachers.

This year we are at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre with 4 big shows in the Arena. We are aiming for **big** numbers of AAF signers at each concert, with exciting staging. More than one school will sign at each concert.

This document sets out the procedure for you and your students.

If you have any questions, please contact the friendly PSMF team at office.psmf925@schools.sa.edu.au
8261 5438
festivalofmusic.org.au

Important Dates

Audition Expression of Interest
by the end of Term 1

Audition film due
Thursday 4 June
Week 6 Term 2

Performances 15, 16, 17, 18
September Week 9 Term 3



Step One

Access the PSMF website.

>Auditions>Advance Australia Fair-Auslan

Scroll down to find music and footage to use in teaching your students.

- Explanations of signs and tips and tricks.
- Vision, where students mirror the screen to learn.
- Vision for teachers to mirror the screen to learn.
- Student phrase by phrase vision to mirror.

Step Two

Register your Expression of Interest to Audition

- Ensure that your school's leadership team will support this opportunity.
- Go to the Festival of Music Website.
- Go to Auditions> >Advance Australia Fair-Auslan
- Click on the link to complete the Expression of Interest form.

You will then have access to support from the PSMF Team.

Step Three

Select your students.

- Signers can come from Years F to 6.
- Signers do not have to be in choir.
- No choir students in your signers? They can perform on the same night as your choir.
- Choir students in your signers? They will sign on a different night to your choir.

Step Four

Teach your students the signing for two verses.

- Signing is a language.
- Left and right handers will naturally sign in opposite directions. Charissa has great ideas about how to manage this in her videos.
- Encourage students to use facial expression while signing. Be happy to "rejoice" in being "one and free", show "courage" in a "joyful" happy face.

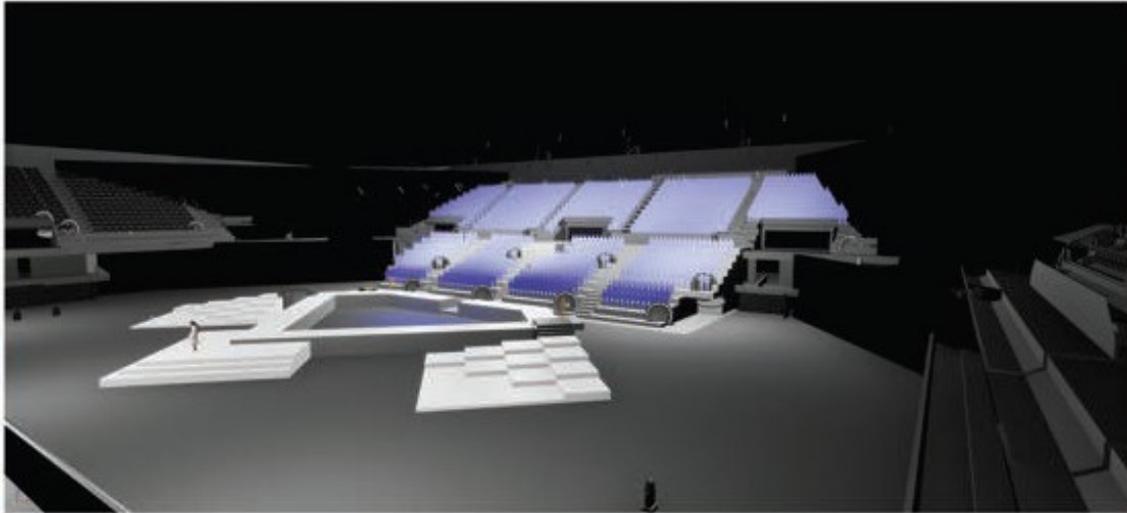
A big thankyou to Charissa & Maddison for creating our new super clear learning videos.



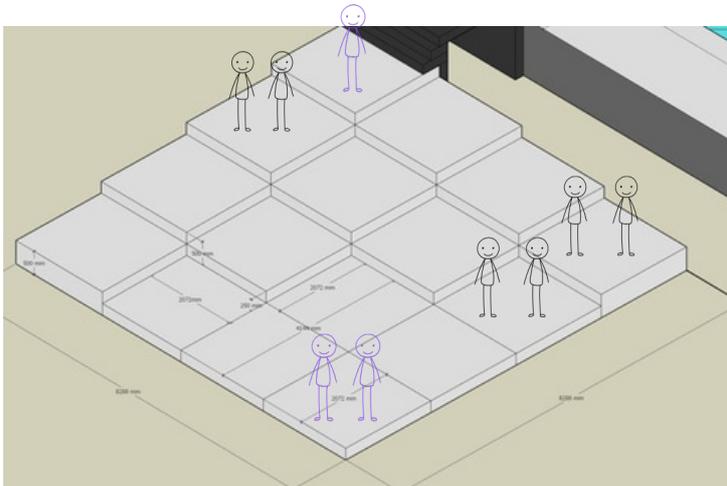
Step Five

Organise your students into their performance space.

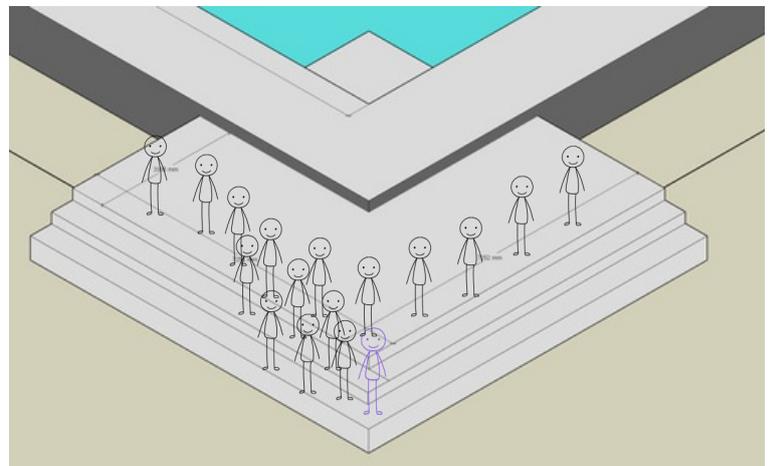
The Arena at the Entertainment Centre is an enormous space. The staging has been designed for maximum wow factor. It will look something like this.



Your signers will be allocated one of these two satellite stages to perform on. Each should hold around 32 signers.



On this stage, position your students with one or two on each square. 2072 mms squares.



On this stage, position your students in 3 V shaped lines. 7252mm to central point.

- Select your 2 most confident signers.
- One will stand at the front of the stage as a guide while signing.
- One will lead the students onto the arena floor to their stage and make sure no one is left behind at the end.
- You may choose to go with them as support.
- Mark the space out on your rehearsal space.

Step Six

Film your students for the Audition

- Film your best “halfway through Term 2” performance. Email your film to the Festival of Music Office by Thursday 4 June, Week 6 Term 2.
- Wait for an email from the PSMF Team.



Once you are accepted

Step Seven

School visit

A member of the PSMF Team will visit your school to work with you and your students to prepare for the performance.

Step Eight

Forms

- All signers must have full media consent to perform.
- Use your school’s health information for health forms.
- You will receive one page media and medical forms for your signers from the PSMF.

Step Nine

Concert Information

You will receive emailed instructions from the PSMF about your performance day, media permission and medical forms.

Step Ten

Concertising your signers

- make sure your signers can sign the two verses of Advance Australia Fair from memory.
- Rehearse running carefully and with purpose onto the stage area.
- Use the “*not signing*” hand sign when in position and while waiting for the music to begin. This hand grip also helps with nerves.
- Practice running off waving to the audience at the end of the anthem.
- Film your signers. let them watch themselves and provide feedback.
- Get your signers to perform regularly at school assemblies. This helps with nerves and increases their performance confidence.

Step
Eleven

Costume

Advance Australia Fair Signers wear a T-shirt that students will change into in their dressing room at the Entertainment Centre. Some will have the Wattle design, others will be plain orange. These T-shirts remain the property of the PSMF. Signers arrive at the theatre in school uniform tops and long black/dark pants/leggings. No tears or rips. Signers wear all black shoes and socks. No logos or white stripes. These flash onstage. No jewelry except sleepers studs, medical or faith. Cheap black sneakers can be purchased at Big W. Start organising your costume from the waist down early. Have a costume check at school in the weeks before your performance.



Step
Twelve

Performance time! Watch your students shine!

Thankyou Heather and thanks for the wonderful opportunity. Our students thoroughly enjoyed the experience. It was also a valuable learning opportunity for them. I'm sure they'll remember this moment. I am a very proud teacher. The pure joy on every one of their faces as they left the stage was priceless.

Belinda from Para Vista Primary

I loved it so
much
from Adeline

It was fun
I was cool
Christian 2024

