



Womens a cappella choir.

The point of Katandra is simple!

It's wonderful to be involved in a refreshing and energetic format where women can have fun, develop new skills, sing out and become friends.

Katandra means 'song of the birds'. It is a word from the Gurangai language spoken by the traditional people of the Northern Beaches area in Sydney. The name is ideally suited to our beautiful South Coast environs... and a perfect name for a womens a cappella choir!

Katandra Berry was established in July 2017 and Katandra Kiama began in May 2018. Each group is conducted by experienced choral director - Antoinette Raynal. Katandra's focus is on supporting women both within the choir and in the greater community. Antoinette loves seeing the joy and satisfaction someone has when they sing as part of a live and energetic choral sound. She believes music enriches who we are and what we do.

Repertoire is chosen from a wide range of musical styles including Jazz, Pop, Medieval, R n B, Folk and World Music, so everyone will find something that they can enjoy. What determines the choice of music is that it must be a beautiful song, a great arrangement of parts, have vocal skill building features and be fun to sing.

Katandra rehearsals are different from other rehearsal formats because they use a broader dynamic structure. Aside from vocal warm ups, members also learn about vocal technique and music composition and performance. These are work shopped through interactive musical activities. Everyone mingles and can explore their voice qualities in small group exercises. Apart from being a lot of fun, this is a certain way to quickly boost vocal confidence and build musical ability.

The musical arrangements are well designed and online rehearsal recordings encourage easy learning of the music at all skill levels. Members can practice these music recordings at home, load them onto their phone, play them in the car, on walks... or whatever works for best for them!

To date we have performed concerts in the Berry Hotel, Camberwarra Winery, sung Carols at Stocklands Mall in Nowra and the Kiama Carols in the park, performed at the Jazz Brunch in Jamberoo and had the fabulous 2018 and 2019 THE BIG SWING Song and dance evening. The Songs Of Joy Concert we hosted in December collaborating with Hummingsong, Food of Love and the Sing Space Vocal Ensemble was a fabulous end to a great year of singing. Proceeds from our concerts have gone to the Childrens Medical Research Institute, Salt Ministry and Red Cross and the Homestead of Hope.

Finally,

- All fees paid by members support the choir for costs regarding copy right, hall hire, Insurances, music purchases, etc.*
- Proceeds from Katandra performances are donated to women's initiatives in our area.*
- Management and conducting services of the choir by Antoinette are donated in her capacity as Musical Director.*