



Old Newingtonians' Union
Established 1895

Old Newingtonians' Union Inc.

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF NEWINGTON COLLEGE ~ ESTABLISHED 1895

John Keene (ON 2014)

John Keene was the youngest ever participant of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra Fellowship program in 2014 and followed this extraordinary achievement by being awarded the Fellowship again the following year as well his selection as the Australian Chamber Orchestra Double Bass Emerging Artist for 2017. It will come as no surprise to anyone of his interest to pursue a career in Music outside of school but John has revealed he will use the ONU Centennial Trust to develop his career as an orchestral conductor.

John entered Newington in Year 10 on a full music scholarship and engaged with almost every musical activity possible – orchestra, chamber strings, wind symphony, choir, jazz combo, stage band, chapel band, rock band. He was also elected as Johnstone House Captain and was a full College Prefect.

John has kept very busy since leaving Newington. He commenced at the University of Sydney Conservatorium of Music and is a casual musician of the Sydney, Tasmanian, Queensland and Melbourne Symphony Orchestras and was appointed as String Director at Cherrybrook Technical High School.

His passion for conducting developed in 2014 when he was one of seven Australians selected to participate in the Symphony Service Scholars Conducting course. His selection to the Symphony Service Core Conductor program saw him conducting seven different orchestras including the Auckland Philharmonic Orchestra and the West Australian Symphony orchestra. He hopes to become a leading figure in the international and Australian conducting scene.

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