

Grace Studios

Speech & Drama
Communication & Leadership
Singing and Musical Theatre
Creativity & Critical Thinking

In your school



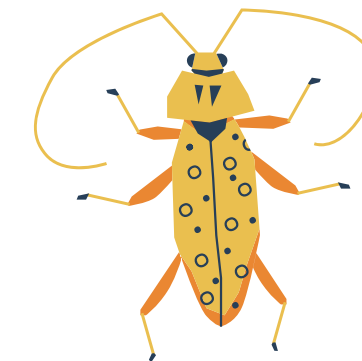


"The World Economic Forum (WEF) recently asked 350 HR leaders from the world's biggest organisations which skills will be in greatest demand in their business in 2020. Their findings? Although AI and smart machines may claim many jobs, there will be increasing demand for skills where the human touch is still required. Building on WEF's research, and developing it using our own experts, we've identified these 5 key future skills you simply cannot afford to ignore when you're setting out your path to career success:"



What skills do students need to succeed?

We are here to teach them!



Primary & Secondary

AMEB certifications in the following syllabuses

- Speech and Performance
- Drama and Communication
- Voice and Communication
- Musical Theatre and Singing

Speech Therapy

Public Speaking, Communication and Leadership Courses

Theatre Troupe Coordination for school productions and Theatre Sports Competitions

Speech and Communication professional development workshops for staff



Students are empowered to:

Gain formal, internationally recognised qualifications in the arts (AMEB)

Achieve additional ATAR points from universities

Improve the clarity of their speaking, including their pronunciation of sounds

Learn to read out loud and improve their comprehension

Become confident public speakers with enhanced communication skills, teamwork and leadership qualities

Nurture and grow their creative intelligence and foster divergent thinking skills

Critically engage with a range of literature, exploring themes and issues that intersect with the areas of learning on the NSW school curriculum and the texts they are studying in class

COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE



10 years of outstanding results

Grace Studios opened its doors in 2010 and is today an award winning studio. For the past two years, studio Director, Anna Grace, has been named in the top four highest ranking AMEB Speech and Drama Teachers in the State of NSW. Grace Studios is one of the Sutherland Shire's leading Speech and Drama schools, preparing students for formal, internationally recognised qualifications in the arts. Here, we teach the five 'C's: confidence, creativity, collaboration, communication and critical thinking. These are invaluable and transferable skills that students can take with them into their personal and professional lives, helping them to succeed in school and in the workplace. Grace Studios is a creative community that promotes inclusion and positive risk taking, helping students to appreciate their own unique qualities, to recognise and value those in others, and to grow into empathetic and passionate leaders. Our educational services are carefully tailored to map students' needs and provide rewarding classes for students of all ages and experience levels. Our students are frequently rewarded for their talent and skill in a wide variety of extra-curricular activities including public speaking competitions, eisteddfods, Australian Youth Theatre Productions, acting fellowships and their AMEB examinations. As teachers and as mentors, our tutors guide students towards invaluable opportunities that extend their school education.

ABOUT THE STUDIO

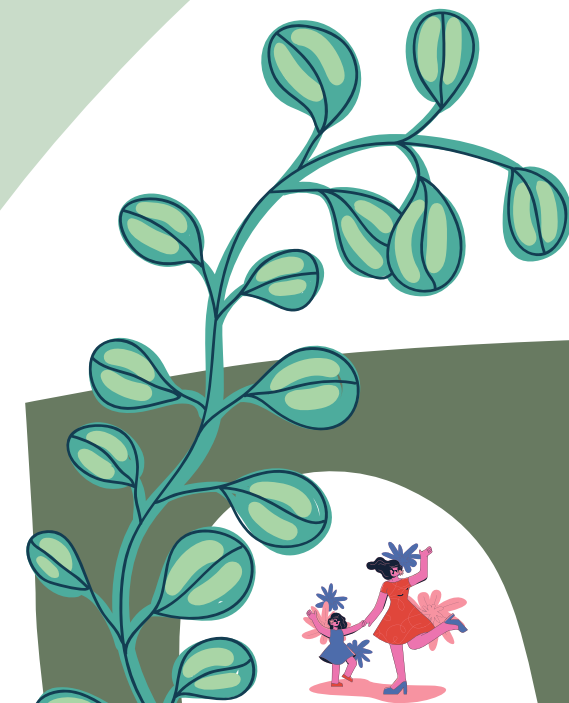


Government Funded Creative Kids Program - \$100 Free Tuition Yearly

As NSW Government registered Creative Kids service providers, Grace Studios offers all students under the age of eighteen \$100 of free tuition each year.

Once registered with the government program, students will be able to select from a range of short courses aimed at helping them to upskill in the areas of Speech, Voice, Communication and Leadership.

Workshops are offered at preliminary, intermediate and advanced levels, and students receive certificates of completion for each short course. By making these programs free for students using the Creative Kids vouchers, schools and families can work together to ensure every young person has the chance to boost their confidence and develop transferable skills that will help them to succeed at school, and in their future professional lives.



About AMEB

AMEB (NSW) has been inspiring excellence and supporting students' artistic achievements for over 100 years. AMEB (NSW) provides quality assessments in music and speech and drama, with more than 35,000 AMEB exams undertaken by students each year. AMEB is the most widely used assessment system in its fields of study in Australia and AMEB credentials are recognised professionally both in Australia and overseas. AMEB (NSW) is a constituted entity under the agency of the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA). Overall direction of AMEB activities is the responsibility of a Federal Board consisting of representatives of educational institutions that are signatories to the AMEB constitution, namely the Universities of Melbourne, Adelaide and Western Australia, the Minister for Education, New South Wales, the Minister for Education, Training and Employment, Queensland, and the Minister for Education and Training, Tasmania, through the University of Tasmania.





What's on offer

A qualification that is widely recognised and can assist with entry into tertiary education

The only examination body with formal links to major Australian universities and Ministers for Education

The most widely-used assessment system for Music, Speech and Drama in Australia

Assessment from the preliminary to diploma level

Highly-trained examiners who are specialists

Detailed written reports for practical examinations

Fresh and accessible syllabuses developed in consultation with teachers, parents and students

A wide range of repertoire available in the manual lists, in addition to AMEB publications

Quality publications



Program Descriptors



AMEB

Syllabuses focus on a wide range of dramatic skills, as well as enabling students to extend their intellectual interpretations of different texts and historical theatre periods, and build a sophisticated knowledge of the body, speech and phonetics, the language of sound. Students will refine their voice production technique, including breathing, resonance, relaxation and posture. Vocal modulation work will help students to build an awareness of pitch, pace, pause, volume and stress to build tonal colour, avoid monotony and adjust their register. Students will work on their articulation and intelligibility, which is particularly helpful for students with rapid or lazy speech or for those for whom English is a second language. Plays, prose, poetry, mime, storytelling and script writing are incorporated into colourful programs of work that encourage students to critically engage with a wide range of social concerns and build their vocabulary and love of language.



Directing

Putting on a school production is a huge task and it pays to have some extra help and expertise. Our tutors are available to assist with: theatrical training workshops, production planning, choreography and performance arrangements, scripting and textual interpretation, ensemble work, blocking and staging.



Singing & Musical Theatre

Students will be extended with enhanced vocal training and an enriched theoretical understanding of the voice. Focus is given to: increasing vocal range, vocal fault identification and correction, breath control, support and anchoring, pitch, resonance and forward placement, articulation, accent, performance skills and technical skills (mic and sound), character development, movement, phrasing and harmonies.





Theatre Sports

A series of very famous improvised theatre games which students can participate in as part of a team, in a competitive format. Each game requires students to draw on different theatrical skills and work together to develop their wit, timing and comedic impact. Students will learn to think on their feet, work collaboratively and take positive risks in a safe environment. These games can be taught over many terms and competitions can be held internally at school, and between schools.



Public Speaking

Students will explore the art of communication on many levels, working through a variety of mediums, including: discussion, description, persuasion, humour, storytelling and critical review. Voice production, intelligibility and vocal modulation will be developed to enable ease of communication and clarity. Body language, facial expression, eye contact, posture and gesture are the focus of units that help students to reflect on non-verbal communication and appear outwardly confident and empathetic. Speech writing skills are developed through work on structure, language features and engagement with current societal themes and issues. Impromptu speaking and personal expression will encourage students to take positive risks, think critically and independently and build their self-confidence and emotional intelligence.



Teacher Workshops

As teachers, we need to care for our own voices, and consider how voice production techniques can aid our communication with students. Over time, yelling or straining of the cords, caused by excess tension and lack of breath support and resonance, can cause irreversible damage to the voice and its tone. Additionally, a knowledge of how vocal modulation and tonal colour can be used to enhance the delivery of mood and meaning can greatly improve student engagement and help to model the communication styles we want to nurture in our students.



Speech Therapy

As Speech and Drama teachers, we are empowering students of all ages to achieve natural and intelligible speech habits. As well as addressing functional speech disorders with closely guided speech exercises and a long term treatment hierarchy, our lessons provide students with an opportunity to convert this training into habits by applying it in fun, creative drama activities. Common challenges we work on include:

The 'th', 't', 's', 'r', and 'l' sounds

Lip laziness

Rapid speech

Mumbling and throaty tone

The elision (removal) of sounds

Unnatural speech rhythm

Inappropriate pause and stress

Inappropriate intonation (rising and falling tones)

Monotony (lacking vocal colour and expression)

Shallow breathing / breathy tone

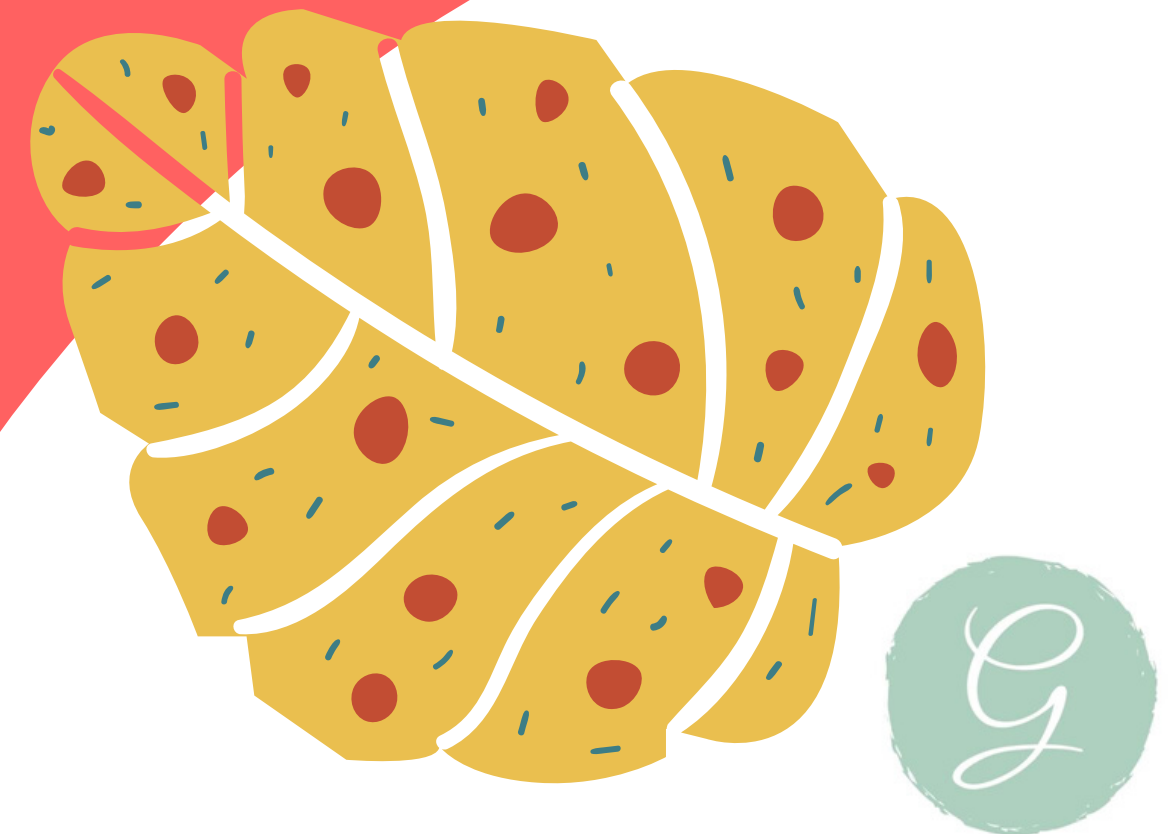
Faulty tones such as excess nasality

Lack of resonance (speaks too quietly or too loudly)

Lack of non-verbal communication (eye contact, gesture and facial expression)

Accent for ESL students

Confidence to communicate





Classes can be provided at your school under the following arrangements:

Classes are run on the school premises before and after school

Classes are run during recreational sport time (when other students may typically compete in rep sport)

Students come out of class during school hours for weekly lessons on a rotating schedule, so that they do not miss the same classes

Our tutors are brought in to assist with school musicals / theatre productions as required

Workshops can be booked for staff professional development days



How does it work?



ONLINE TUITION

Making classes available for all

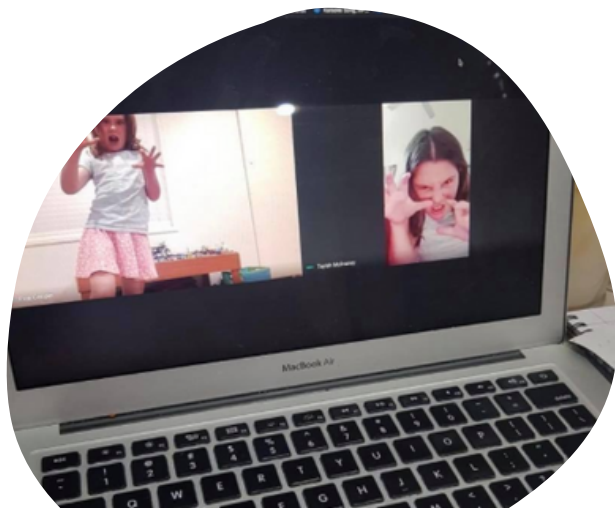
No matter where students are located in Sydney, Australia, or internationally, we can provide expert tuition, close mentoring and coaching.

With the recent updates to government recommendations, in response to the Coronavirus, the studio has re-assessed service delivery and implemented a range of new outcomes for online teaching and e-learning. We have mature digital safety policies and procedures that help us to deliver effective online tuition with high levels of care.

Where safe to do so, and in compliance with government recommendations, the studio can provide on-site tuition. However, online lessons will also be available to students during and after any restrictions.

We have carefully tailored our online lessons to maximise the impact of e-learning formats. The studio provides a range of digital resources, including access to video conferencing for live learning sessions, pre-recorded videos, digital activities and online class documents.

We are here to support our students to feel confident to communicate online and to enhance their digital literacy and technology skills. We are working hard to amplify our impact and reach more students through digital channels.



LOGISTICS



Marketing

By providing this opportunity for students on campus, your school can enhance its unique value proposition. We recommend advertising these services and student successes online and in marketing materials for parents.



Billing

Classes can be billed directly to parents who can pay and track their term fees using our online booking system. Additionally, in-school workshops or services can be invoiced directly to the school.



Space

Schools are responsible for providing a space for classes to be held on school campus, and class sizes and types will be negotiated based on the size of the space. Music classes may require additional assets, such as a piano.



Programming

Many educational programs can be tailored to align with the school curriculum, incorporating texts and areas of learning. Curriculum coordinators can support this opportunity by giving tutors access to the appropriate information.



STUDIO DIRECTOR

In both 2018 and 2019 Anna-Grace was named in the top five highest ranking AMEB Speech and Drama Teachers in the State of NSW. As well as working as a peripatetic teacher in schools, Anna Grace has been the director of her own performing arts studio, Grace Studios, for the past ten years. In this time, she has worked with more than five hundred students across the areas of speech, drama and musical theatre. Anna Grace is an accredited AMEB (Australian Music Examinations Board) Speech and Drama teacher, and is herself a passionate performer with professional experience in film, television and fashion.

As well as her career in the arts, Anna Grace is also the CEO of an international technology startup and chairs a not for profit promoting STEM education and entrepreneurship for young people. In her roles as a founder and a business woman, Anna Grace has featured as a keynote speaker at conferences and events around the world, recently including TEDx, The United States Wearable Technologies Conference, and a variety of thought leader panels and guest lectures for universities and educational institutions including: UNSW, UTS and SP Jain School of Global Management. In March 2019 Anna-Grace represented Australia, and the University of Sydney, in New York as a Global Voices Scholar at the United Nations 63rd Commission on the Status of Women.

Australian Performance Certificate - AMEB

Associate Diploma of Speech and Drama (Teaching) - AMEB

Bachelor of International and Global Studies (Hons, First Class) – The University of Sydney

Master of Digital Communication and Culture – The University of Sydney and Culture – The University of Sydney

Founder of The Orbipsace Initiative, a not for profit supporting STEM education and technology leadership through collaboration with schools, government and universities



Anna Grace



TUTOR

Lauren is a passionate and dedicated teacher who exhibits a high level of skill directing large ensembles as well as coaching individual students. Lauren has completed her Certificate of Drama and Performance Australia, and holds an Associate Diploma of Teaching (AMEB). Having trained under Anna Grace for the past ten years, and taught at the studio for the last three years, Lauren strongly contributes to the culture of the studio and its community values of creativity, kindness and excellence. Lauren has performance experience in both the digital world and upon the stage, including improvisation competitions, Shakespearian festivals, theatre appearances, radio ads, digital ads and billboard campaigns. Lauren's academic background includes marketing and communications and she is also qualified as a mindset coach (NLP), helping clients to work through personal roadblocks and develop positive habits.



Lauren Holly



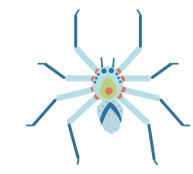
TUTOR

As well as being a top mechatronics and computer science student currently studying and teaching in the Department of Engineering at UNSW, Steven holds a Certificate of Drama and Performance Australia and an Associate Diploma of Teaching (AMEB). Steven has been recognised by the AMEB as an outstanding performer, showcasing his work at the annual AMEB Speech and Drama State Conference. Steven has starred in a range of youth theatre productions in Australia and internationally, and more recently as a lead in the UNSW CSE Review, an annual sketch comedy. In his free time, Steven is highly involved in the Scouting movement, and has directed large management teams for Scouts. Steven is process driven and loves to bring technology into his creative arts and communications classes. Steven previously worked at JAR Aerospace developing STEM programs that will feature in the new education system for the Australian Airforce Cadets. Recently, Steven built a robot that is responsive to sound to help drama students improve their vocal modulation, as well as an artificial intelligence system (AI) that composes poetry.



Steven Jones





TUTOR

Liz is well known for her achievements as a singing teacher, with a Professional Performers Diploma from the Australian Guild of Music (High Distinction). Lizzy has starred in a range of different musical societies around the Shire and beyond, including Adelaide and Sydney Fringe Festival. Liz was Musical Director for SMT's 2018 Production of Miracle on 34th Street and provides adjudication for vocal eisteddfods. Liz also has many years of experience as a dancer and, as part of her professional development and upskilling, has also completed up to grade eight in AMEB Speech and Drama with High Distinction. Liz intends to sit for her Certificate of Drama and Performance Australia next year and draws on her AMEB theoretical knowledge of phonetics, voice production and accent to assist with students' classical training and character development.



Elizabeth Bridges



TUTOR

Emma has been studying AMEB Speech and Drama for the past ten years and holds a Certificate of Drama and Performance Australia and an Associate Diploma of Teaching (AMEB). When finishing school in 2016, Emma was placed on the Distinguished Achievers list for HSC Drama Studies and received an 'On Stage' nomination. That same year, Emma was also the recipient of the annual Grace Studios Rising Stars Showcase award for her performance of her self devised HSC monologue, featuring mastery of four different accents - a skill she is now known for. As a student teacher currently undertaking her Bachelor of Primary Education (Notre Dame), and as a before and after school care Educational Leader, Emma is always thinking about her role as an educator and is passionate about working with children. Emma enjoys programming and designs engaging classes that closely map students' needs and interests.



Emma Bell





Join our community!

grace-studios-drama.com

Sutherland Shire

We come to you!

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Phone Number

+61 421187881

#mylifesalldrama

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In the end, it all comes down to 'grace'. It's about how graciously you accept challenges, learn from mistakes, rise above all else and support those around you to rise too.

- Anna Grace, Studio Director



GRACE STUDIOS

