

13. CELLO FESTIVAL – BID \$20K

Officer responsible Leisure Manager	Author Monique Alispahic
Corporate Plan Output: Festivals and Events	

The purpose of this report is to provide supporting information for the funding bid for this festival.

This project has previously received events seeding to its maximum term. The event organiser has approached the Council and made the request for core funding on an annual basis from 2000 for \$20,000 per year for a biennial festival. The fourth International Australasian Cello Festival is planned for July 2001.

Like many smaller festivals, the organising committee have utilised an immense amount of goodwill and in kind contributions to make this festival work over the last six years. With the time now upon the festival to take a more professional approach, a request to the Council is being made for yearly funding of an event organiser to grow and stabilise the revenue sources through sponsorship.

The Adam International Cello Festival and Competition was first held in 1995 with 20 young cellists from around the world competing for a prize package that included a performance with the NZSO, a CD recording with Naxos and NZ\$8000.

Initially conceived by Dr Alexander Ivashkin, Head of Cello at the University of Canterbury, the festival attracts chamber musicians of world-wide renown to appear both on the competition jury and as guest recitalists. Daily master classes, discussions and interaction with the members of the jury are a feature of the event for the 18 competitors (selected from 100 entries received from countries as diverse as Korea, Lithuania, Israel, the USA and England). Musicians from throughout New Zealand and Australia are able to observe the events as well as attend competition rounds, the special recitals by the jury and other concerts.

Festival objectives include:

- to develop young musicians in performance
- to attract national and international music students and audiences through daily master classes and concerts
- to enrich the cultural life and profile of Christchurch
- to increase the numbers of School of Music students

Attendances have more than doubled since the inaugural festival in 1995. Approximately 4,080 people took part in/attended the various events of the festival and competition in 1999: this included music students, music teachers, instrument makers both local and from Australia, observing musicians, and concert audiences (from throughout New Zealand and from Australia).

Officer's

Recommendation: That funding be provided in the 2000/2001 Annual Plan of \$20,000 for the Biennial International Australasian Cello Festival. This would be a continuing ongoing provision.