

# Wellington 2026 - Venue Information Band Events

## Friday 10 and Saturday 11 April 2026: C, D and Youth Grade at the Wellington Opera House

Please refer to the map on page 2.

### **Band members drop off:**

**You cannot use Manners Street as a drop-off point. This is a busy single-lane city bus route.**

There is a drop-off point on Wakefield Street at the main entrance to the Michael Fowler Centre. The height restriction in this area is 3.30 meters.

A bus drop-off point is just past the Michael Fowler Centre on Wakefield Street, on both sides of the street. This is opposite the Amora Hotel.

At present, there is major road work on Wakefield Street, and the street is one-way from the corner of Cuba and Wakefield Street to Victoria Street. Entry into Wakefield Street is only from Taranaki Street or Cuba Street.

Vehicles will not be allowed to park at these drop-off points.

**Parking:** There is limited on-street parking in the general area, with a maximum stay of 3 hours. There are car park buildings locally nearby.

### **Competing Bands:**

- Once unloaded, band members should move up Opera House Lane, next to the car park entrance, continue behind the rear of Opera House, and enter through the stage door on the left side of Opera House.
- There are three areas we will hold bands backstage.
  - Stage-level dressing rooms
  - Green room underneath the stage
  - Level one dressing rooms.
- We will only be able to hold three bands backstage at one time. If bands arrive early, they will have to hold in the front foyer until the room becomes available to move backstage.
- Bands will not be able to blow back stage.
- Approximately 5 minutes before the end of the preceding bands' performance, the bands will be escorted backstage.
- Once the preceding band have cleared the stage, your set-up/ percussion team can move on and set up the stage.
- When bands will move on to the stage from the rear left of the Stage.
- Upon completing your performance, you will return to your holding area, gather all your belongings and exit via the stage door you came in.
- We will have volunteers directing you to the hold time.
- There are no lifts in the Opera House to get to the stage level; there are approximately five steps. There are steps leading down and up to the other holding areas. Band members who have difficulty using these steps can remain on the Stage level. Assisted access if this is required, please let staff know.

### **Band photo:**

On Friday, C and Youth Grade after your performance, and you have collected your instrument cases and belongings, and go to the Michael Fowler Centre for a band photo in the ground floor foyer.

D Grade will have their photo on Saturday.

### Entry for Audience:

Enter the Opera House by the front entrance on Manners Street. Access to the Theatre stalls is off the ground-level foyer. Entrance is free, and please be seated well in advance of the band's performance.


On Friday, there is no break for the audience to enter or leave between the Sacred Item and the Test piece.

**Café, Bar, live streaming, and Trade Stands** will be available at the Michael Fowler Centre.

### Percussion: C, D and Youth Grade

- Percussion instruments can be loaded into the rear stage area through the doors of Opera House Lane. This door is off the lane and near the rear of the Opera House. It is marked on the attached map.
- Vehicle access to this lane and door is off Manners Street. You cannot drive up the lane from Wakefield Street.
- You will not be able to park in Opera House Lane; it is only to be used to drop off and pick up percussion instruments.
- C Grade bands can store their percussion instruments at the Opera House overnight on Friday if they wish.



 Marks the Stage Door of the Opera House