

December 2023

**LEA SERVICE AWARD**

*Cheryl Breen*

**For service to Lutheran education  
2001 – 2023**

The Lutheran Church of Australia thankfully acknowledges the faithful and committed service of Cheryl Breen to Lutheran education for 22 years.

Cheryl's journey with Lutheran education commenced when she started as the piano tutor at Trinity Lutheran College in 1997 and was offered a permanent part-time music teacher role in 2001. Since then, Cheryl has been an outstanding member of the Performing Arts department at Trinity Lutheran College, teaching a range of classes throughout the years from Year 6 through to Year 12 Music and Music Extension.

Throughout her long and highly successful career at Trinity, Cheryl demonstrated an ability to create fun, engaging, motivating lessons that always instilled a love of arts in the students. She taught with genuine joy that came from a place of truth with her infectious enthusiasm for music and her ability to inspire.

Cheryl fostered success in students who were at the very beginning of their journey as performing artists and equally was able to prepare highly advanced musicians for wonderful success in the later years of their schooling, with many of Cheryl's students going on to successful careers in the music field and in the industry.

During her years of service as a middle and high school music teacher, Cheryl had a varied curriculum including TE system, OP curriculum, Australian curriculum, ATAR curriculum and the list goes on. She always had an ability to master the changing face of educational curriculum but deliver it in a way that was accessible and easy to understand. Her generous spirit, patience, kindness, warmth and sense of humour enabled her to create wonderful connections with her students, leaving a lasting impression on all who had the pleasure of being in her class.

Cheryl's contribution to the co-curricular life of the college has been exceptional, being a gifted piano accompanist, choral director, instrumental director and chorus director and an accomplished vocal conductor. As an integral member of the entire Performing Arts team, Cheryl has been fully invested in the college arts community, generously giving thousands of hours to so many major productions and casts at the school.

In her role as chorus director, vocal director and costume director, Cheryl passionately ensured every note that was sung was done so with accuracy, purpose and joy, and that the hundreds of students that took to the stage looked stunningly beautiful in the many themes/time frames/locations and fantasy worlds she created for the audience and cast. She has a gift for combining fabrics and colours and designs that enhance the overall visual spectacle of a show, whilst ensuring every child felt at their best, in a stunning costume, lifting their own individual performances to new heights.

Cheryl has the ability to light up any room that she enters with her positive energy, her big smile, her servant heart, her truly caring and kind approach, her genuine love and kindness for those around her and her personal faith. She is highly respected by her colleagues, her students and the extended Trinity community.

Today we celebrate and recognise the long and outstanding service of this gifted and passionate educator in Lutheran education and wish her a wonderful and well-deserved retirement.

Cheryl's faithful and conscientious service to her Lord and the Lutheran Church of Australia, through her service in Lutheran education, has been outstanding and is humbly recognised through this award.



**Assoc Prof Lisa Schmidt  
Executive Director  
Lutheran Education Australia**

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