

St Mark's organ scholar aims to inspire spiritual growth

Organ Scholarship recipient interview: Stacey Yang

Stacey Yang commenced her St Mark's Anglican Church Darling Point Organ Scholarship in November 2021. She was thrilled to be given this opportunity, commenting: "The timing of the scholarship offer was amazing. After the Covid lockdowns and the interrupted performance opportunities, it has been wonderful to be able to play the organ publicly again and use my skill to benefit others." Stacey is passionate about her music ministry: "Through playing beautiful music I hope to create not only positive feelings, but to enhance people's experience of church. I want to encourage people to have a better faith, strength and hope."

Stacey is enjoying playing for the St Mark's community and feels fortunate to be working with Director of Music Dr William Clark OAM and also the St Mark's Choir. The Anglican church liturgy is another weekly highlight.

Stacey has been playing the organ for 13 years. She was attracted to the organ because it is "a sophisticated, rare and inspirational instrument and because of the surrounding beauty (architecture) of the actual organ." When asked what she enjoys most about playing the organ, Stacey shared: "The ability to explore new sounds and develop a massive and diverse repertoire." In her opinion, being a good organist involves a diverse range of skills. In her case this involves musical skills (such as conducting, singing, improvisation and the ability to work with a choir) and an understanding of language, religious and history disciplines.

Stacey is currently completing her doctoral degree (organ performance and literature) at Eastman School of Music USA. She also works as a piano accompanist (collaborative pianist and opera repetiteur) and is the pianist for the Sydney Male Choir. In her spare time she enjoys reading, singing and language.

Come and enjoy listening to Stacey's organ playing during St Mark's weekly 8:00am Choral Communion service. Stacey will also play at a scholarship recital at St Mark's later in the year. Please visit www.stmarksdp.org for more details

