

## Maitland opera talent scores semi-final spot and dream role overseas



By [Chloe Coleman](#)

Updated June 1 2026 - 2:05pm, first published 11:00am

Save

Share

0



*Classical singer Bridget Power. Picture by Grant Leslie Photography*

While opera singing is an unconventional path for most young performers, Bridget Power has carved out a distinct niche for herself.

The classical singer, who was school captain at All Saints' College, Maitland in 2021, is making her mark in the music world, being named a semi-finalist in the IFAC Handa Australian Singing Competition.

She is also preparing to travel to Sicily later in June where she will perform her dream operatic role, Susanna in Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro*.

Bridget, 22, said it has always been her dream to perform on stage.

"If I get to be living on stage for the rest of my life I think that'll be the best outcome for all of this hard work," she said.

"If I get to jump from place to place and be on a different stage in a different part of the world performing and singing I'll be very happy."

Quite the full circle moment, Bridget actually wrote part of her fourth-year honours thesis on Susanna, the character she will play in Sicily at the Mediterranean Opera Studio & Festival.

"To be able to go and put that into practice after researching it for a year is quite special, I think I'll get a lot out of it," she said.

Bridget completed her honours at the prestigious Sydney Conservatorium of Music last year and graduated with first-class honours.

She is currently in the first year of her Master of Music Studies (Opera Performance) at the University of Sydney.



*Classical singer Bridget Power. Picture by Grant Leslie Photography*

Bridget said she is honoured to be selected as a semi-finalist in the IFAC Handa Australian Singing Competition, which is one of the most prestigious singing competitions in the country.

"I'm always just in awe of the people who get into the semi-finals and the finals," she said.

"I'm just honoured and in shock that I made it through myself, I cannot believe it, but I'm so excited nonetheless."

Bridget said the Hunter region gave her an incredible start in her performing career, from her incredible music teachers to performing on world-class stages.

"The abundance of performing opportunities in the Hunter Valley I think has just fuelled my passion for music, being able to have such a good performance venue as well like the Civic Theatre stage," she said.

"I think my first show at the Civic I was maybe 11 or 12 years old with ASPIRE performing arts with the Catholic Schools Office.

"I gained so much valuable training and experience and it just kept me coming back more eager and more hungry to continue to learn and grow, and just looking for a next experience that was really important."

The IFAC Handa Australian Singing Competition semi-finals concert is on Sunday, August 16 in Sydney.



[Chloe Coleman](#)

Journalist

Chloe Coleman is a journalist covering news in the Lower Hunter.



Follow