

Letter of recommendation for Emma Nixon for Folk Alliance Australia Award

To whom it may concern

I've had the pleasure of knowing and working with Emma Nixon for over 25 years, and I can say without hesitation that she is one of the most generous and dedicated figures in the Australian folk music.

Emma brings a combination of deep musical skill, inclusive spirit, and heartfelt connection to every aspect of her work, whether she's leading a fiddle workshop, composing new tunes or mentoring young players.

Her impact reaches far beyond the stage. Emma has taught strings in schools for over three decades, and she's tirelessly shared the joy of folk music through her private studio, community ensembles, and festival workshops around Australia and overseas.

She founded the Brisbane Celtic Fiddle Club and now leads both the Queensland Youth Folk Orchestra and Junior Fiddle Club, creating inclusive arrangements that allow players of all levels to shine.

Emma's research into Scottish fiddle traditions adds depth and authenticity to her teaching and performance, and her three Golden Fiddle Awards speak to her excellence in both education and artistry.

But more than the accolades, it's Emma's warmth, generosity, and commitment to building community through music that truly set her apart.

She is a quiet powerhouse in the folk scene - a mentor and a leader to so many.

I can't think of anyone more deserving of recognition.



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co-Artistic Director, 39th Illawarra Folk Festival - 16-18 January 2026 www.illawarrafolkfestival.com.au

Program Director, Perisher Peak Festival - 6-9 June 2025 www.peakfestival.com.au

Artistic Director, Folk by the Sea - 12-14 September 2025 www.folkbythesea.com.au

Program Director BUGFest (Brisbane Unplugged gigs) - 2 August 2025 www.brisbaneunpluggedgigs.org

Program Director, 12th Maleny Music Festival 7-9 November 2025 www.malenymusicfestival.com

Booking Coordinator for Brisbane Unplugged Gigs (The BUG) - www.brisbaneunpluggedgigs.org

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