in submitting this application I acknowledge that I have read and understood the application and selection procedure information in this brochure.

I enclose the non-refundable application fee of $75.00 by:

- Cheque/money order made out to the Sydney Conservatorium of Music
- Bankcard
- Visa
- MasterCard

Cardholder name
Cardholder number
Expiry date
Signature

Completed application form and fee must be received by the Conservatorium Open Academy no later than 5.00pm, Mopday 16 January, 2006.

Mail Conservatorium Open Academy
Macquarie Street Sydney NSW 2000

Fax 02 9351 1210

Phone with credit card payment 02 9351 1207 // 02 9351 1206

application and selection procedure
Stage 1 Monday 30 January
Stage 2 Tuesday 31 January

Applicants must be Australian citizens and generally will need to have completed Year 12 (or equivalent) with passes in English and Mathematics and be between 18 and 25 years of age. The ability to play the piano is desirable, as is some mechanical aptitude. The course is open to both males and females. Applications from persons outside these guidelines are also invited if their life or work experiences indicate that they have the potential to develop the skills required.

Eligibility for selection is by lodgement of the application form and non-refundable application fee of $75 by 16 January 2006. Selection of suitable candidates for the course will be a two-stage process. In Stage One, all applicants will be required to attend an assessment of their hearing acuity and take part in a short interview. Approximately 12 applicants will be short listed to attend Stage Two the following day. This will consist of a practical assessment of simple manual dexterity, a short essay and a further interview. Based on the results of these assessments, 6 applicants will be offered a place in the course.

A further 3 applicants will be eligible for a stand-by position for 1 month and may be offered a place in the course should one of the original students be unable to continue at that time. The decision of the selection panel will be final and correspondence will not be entered into.

For further information contact Geoffrey Pollard, Sydney Conservatorium of Music, Macquarie St, Sydney NSW 2000 Telephone 02 9351 1221, Email g.pollard@usyd.edu.au
answering the call from the piano industry, this new intensive one year course will provide graduates with the specialist technical skills required to build a successful career as a piano tuner, meeting a nation wide skills shortage in this field.

You don’t need to be a musician, but you do need to:

> Be a perfectionist with lots of patience
> Possess fine motor skills and a technical bent
> Enjoy working with your hands and knowing how things work
> Be able to stick at a task and see it through
> Love the idea of working in the music industry
> Want to run your own business
> Enjoy dealing with people but also to be happy to work alone

If this describes you then apply for this course.

course description

This one year, full time training course in piano tuning, regulation, voicing and basic repairs is designed to equip graduates with the skills to commence their own piano service business or to be employed in the piano retail sector. It will provide the basis for graduates to confidently continue their learning in the broader areas of major piano repairs, rebuilding and piano design through development of links to other piano technicians and piano manufacturers.

The course has been developed in response to concerns of the major piano importers and the piano technicians association (APTTA) and is supported by the wider piano service sector.

The training is practical, vocational and intensive and students will be expected to display considerable application and energy to reach the accepted industry standards at the end of 12 months.

The course will produce competent piano service personnel. It is not intended as a course of general interest for musicians or as a means of casual income.

course structure

The course will run from Monday 27 February 2006 to Friday 2 February 2007. Classes will be full time for 12 months, involving 42 weeks of tuition with 4 short holiday breaks. Hours will be 9.00 to 5.00 each day, 6 days per week for the first 5 weeks, 5.5 days for 11 weeks and 5 days per week for the remainder of the course. A number of subjects in the curriculum will be delivered by practising piano technicians and industry experts.

The course curriculum will cover the following topics:

> tuning theory and practice
> introduction to materials used in piano manufacture
> grand and upright regulation
> common piano faults and repairs
> basic voicing techniques
> starting and managing a small service business
> piano construction & history
> OHS issues and safe practice for piano technicians
> overview of the piano industry

assessment

Due to the small student numbers, assessment and mentoring will be continuous. Formal assessment will be conducted weekly to ensure satisfactory progress in the basic skills of the program. Assessment of theoretical subjects will be monthly and practical assessments in the other subjects will be held regularly.

fee

The cost of the course will be $20,000. This fee will include a comprehensive technicians toolkit valued at $4,000. The full fee must be paid at the commencement of the course; there is no provision for part payment.

Course Director Geoffrey Pollard Cert.(Piano Tuning) SCM

Geoffrey Pollard has 30 years experience in the industry and has held the position of piano technician at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music for 17 years. He has had a successful piano tuning and repair business in Sydney, worked in London for Bosendorfer pianos, for Overs pianos in Sydney and has completed advanced training with both Yamaha in Japan and Steinway in Germany.

He has served terms as president of both state and national Australasian Piano Tuners and Technicians Association.

application form piano technology course 2006

Name

Address

P/Code

Telephone (h)  (w)
Mobile  Fax
Email

Gender M/F  Age

Australian Citizen  Yes  No

Name your highest educational qualification :
Attained in year :

If you have the HSC, what was your UAI score?

List any other relevant qualifications or awards (attach separate page if needed).

Indicate any formal or informal musical training or experience (attach separate page if needed).

List any employment or interests over the last 5 years that may be relevant to your application (attach separate page if needed).