

PARRAMATTA

Young virtuosos to open for orchestra



Marleen Broekmans, Paul Witney, Jennifer Wang and Kirrily Biskupic will perform. Picture: Adam Ward

Set for Symphony under the Stars

Maryanne Taouk

THE Sydney Symphony Orchestra might be taking the main stage at Symphony Under the Stars at Parramatta Park, but a group of talented locals will be warming the crowd up and getting the music flowing before the orchestra takes its seat.

The 18-piece western Sydney string ensemble will support the main orchestra, and consists of promising young musicians from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and The Mercy Music and Performance Academy in Parramatta, as well as high schools including Our Lady of Mercy College, Parramatta Marist High School, Elite Violin Academy and Parramatta Cello School.

"We've planned a high-energy, uplifting repertoire that includes a variety of popular contemporary hits such as Sia's *Chandelier* as well as traditional Latin American and Irish scores,"

Classical feast



» **WHAT:** The Symphony Under the Stars
 » **WHEN:** Saturday, January 28, at 6.30pm
 » **WHERE:** The Crescent, Parramatta Park
 » **DETAILS:** sydneyfestival.org.au

conductor Paul Witney said. "This is a fabulous opportunity for up-and-coming western Sydney musicians to showcase their skills in a professional environment."

Cellist Marleen Broekmans said being able to perform with the city's best musicians is a realisation of a life goal.

"(It) will also inspire and educate students who are embarking on the lifelong journey of learning a musical instrument," she said.

On stage with Ms Broekmans will be star 14-year-old violinist Jennifer Wang.