

## Nicole takes rockclimbing focus to the stage

# A synergy of symphony

### THE ESSENTIALS

**WHAT:** North Sydney Symphony Orchestra

**WHEN:** Tomorrow, 8pm

**WHERE:** North Sydney Girls' High School, 365 Pacific Hwy, Crows Nest

**COST:** \$25, student \$20

**DETAILS:**

1300 306 776 or go to [www.nssso.org.au](http://www.nssso.org.au)



Nicole McVicar is a member of the North Sydney Symphonic Orchestra.

Rod Bennett

BALGOWLAH cellist Nicole McVicar had a hiatus from playing music in her 20s and she took up the most obvious thing to replace it - rockclimbing.

While this might seem like a major dichotomy, Nicole said there are similarities between the two.

She is a member of the North Sydney Symphony Orchestra and the group is appearing tomorrow at North Sydney Girls High School.

"Both (disciplines) require intense focus and your senses

are heightened during the experience of each," she said.

An unusual combination of interests? Nicole comes from a family of musicians and her father is a rock climber.

But she said she regretted choosing to give up music and missed it immeasurably.

"I still climb fairly regularly, however, not as much now and

try to keep a balance of indoor and outdoor (pursuits)," she explained.

She said tomorrow's concert comprised the Shostakovich *Piano Concerto No.2*, Ravel *Bolero*, Sibelius' *Swan of Tuonela*, and Cawrse's *The Nightingale and the Rose*.

She said she loves all the repertoire the orchestra is

playing at this concert.

"Especially the Schostakovich," she said. "It is rhythmically challenging and great fun to play."

"I really enjoy challenging repertoire and every composer and piece of music has a different character - it's always interesting."