**WELCOME** to our new Drama New Zealand termly newsletter.

This initiative comes from requests from you as members to be kept in the know of what is happening for the Association on a regular basis.

We look forward to sharing with you new news from; the National Executive; the Regions; links to PD, research, as well as sharing resources and good practice.

Drama New Zealand is your association – we are here to help you but to do this efficiently we need to hear from you and what you need.

The 2015 Executive are working towards goals set in our five year strategic plan – our target include higher membership rates, a drive in the primary sector to help teachers integrating drama as both a subject and pedagogy, a stronger profile both Nationally and Internationally, and creating research opportunities and project based work for practitioners in all regions of the country.

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**IMPORTANT LINKS:**

Drama NZ website: [www.drama.org.nz](http://www.drama.org.nz)

Drama NZ email: [dramednz@gmail.com](mailto:dramednz@gmail.com)


Drama NZ: the Primary Edition facebook page: [https://www.facebook.com/groups/818548034900707/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/818548034900707/)

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**MEET THE 2015 DRAMA NZ NATIONAL EXECUTIVE:**

**President:**
Emma Bishop – Saint Kentigern College, AKLD

**Vice-President:**
Charles Bisley – Kelburn Normal Primary School, WGTN

**Secretary:**
Jo Matheson – Newlands College, WGTN

**Treasurer:**
Teresa Callaghan – Green Bay High School, AKLD

**Regional Rep Co-Ordinator:**
Daniel Betty – Havelock North Boys High, HAWKES BAY

**Primary Liaison:**
Mandy Taylor - Pukekohe Intermediate, AKLD
Charles Bisley – Kelburn Normal Primary School, WGTN

**Tertiary Liaison:**
Tracey-Lynne Cody – Massey University PALMERSTON NORTH

**Committee:**
Gillian Towle - Craighead Diocesan School, TIMARU
Michelle Johnasson – Manukau Institute of Technology, AKLD

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**INTRODUCING the new Dramanet Facilitator**

Ryan Benjamin is the newly appointed HOD for Performing Arts (Drama and Dance) at McAuley High School, a Decile 1, Catholic school for girls in Otahuhu, Auckland.

Ryan has been teaching for eight years with seven of them at Rosehill College in Papakura. Ryan has filled various national contract roles in recent years, including for NZQA, and as a writer on the TKI Teaching and Learning Guidelines for The Arts.

This year he has joined the DNZ Auckland Branch committee.

Drama NZ acknowledge the past facilitators of Dramanet and is excited about the future of Dramanet in Ryan’s hands.

Congratulations again Ryan on this appointment.

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**We Learn By Doing**

Brains are wired through hands-on interaction with the physical world

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**RExLAX... I'M A DRAMA TEACHER**

**DON'T KEEP CALM BE DRAMATIC**
WHAT’S YOUR REGION?

Currently Drama New Zealand is broken into six regions

**Auckland** including **Northland**

**Waikato** including **Bay of Plenty, Taupo, Gisborne** and surrounding areas

**Massey** including **Taranaki, Manawatu, Ruapehu, Hawkes Bay** and surrounding areas

**Wellington** including **Wairarapa, Horowhenua** and surrounding areas

**Canterbury** including **Marlborough, West Coast**, and surrounding areas

**Otago/Southland** including **Timaru, Southland, Fiordland** and surrounding areas

Currently all regions are active but with many only being in either the major centre of the region or in one section, for example Auckland, Hawkes Bay, Wellington, Christchurch.

Drama NZ are aware that this is due to the geographic distance within the regions and are looking at the best way to cater for ALL our members in ALL regions.

Our first step is to set up regional clusters that are geographically manageable that will work within the official regions. We are therefore looking for keen members to be a part of this initiative.

You will be supported by the National Executive and your current regional rep with resourcing and ideas. If this sounds like you or would like more information please email your Regional Rep or Daniel Betty, DNZ National Executive Regional Rep Co-ordinator, danielbettnz@gmail.com.

**Current Regional Representatives:**

**Auckland:** Emma Bishop, emma.bishop@saintkentigern.com

**Waikato:** Kathleen Westhead, happykaf@gmail.com

**Massey:** Daniel Betty, by@hnhs.school.nz

**Wellington:** Helen Jones, hjones@storans.school.nz;

**Canterbury:** Peter Rutherford, pr@cathcollege.school.nz;

**Otago/Southland:** Position open

Also check out the Regional pages on the DNZ website for future workshops and meetings.

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**RESOURCES IN THE SPOTLIGHT**

*Pretending to Learn* by John O’Toole and Julie Dunn – now as an e-book $12 AUD

[https://pretendingtolearn.wordpress.com/](https://pretendingtolearn.wordpress.com/)

*Pretending to Learn* by John O’Toole and Julie Dunn gives teachers the confidence, knowledge and skills to teach drama in the primary and middle years. Based upon over sixty years of combined teaching experience, this ebook includes an overview of how drama works, ten detailed exemplars of practice and a companion website that offers a range of rich and exciting resources.

An excellent resource for Primary & Intermediate teachers!
DRAMA NEW ZEALAND: The Primary Edition

Drama NZ is pleased to announce that as part of our five year strategic plan and our commitment to the growth in the Primary Sector a Primary Teachers’ group has been created. This group aims to promote, mentor and support the use of drama and the performing arts in schools through the sharing of practice and resources that will empower learners and enrich the curriculum, as well as creating support networks for professional learning in all regions. Three members of the Drama New Zealand Executive- Mandy Taylor (Pukekohe), Daniel Betty (Hawkes Bay) and Charles Bisley (Wellington) are leading this initiative.

Please join our Facebook group Drama NZ: The Primary Edition at https://www.facebook.com/groups/818548034900707/

We would invite members from across the regions who are interested in being part of the Primary sub-committee to register their interest by emailing Mandy Taylor m_taylor@pukekoheint.school.nz or Charles Bisley charlesb@kelburnnormal.school.nz

DNZ’s Survivor Drama went to the Hawke’s Bay as a means of helping invigorate the region through setting up a cluster as part of the Massey Branch. Drama NZ President Emma Bishop delivered the 'survivor' workshop at the Iona College new Performing Arts facility, which she adapted to the needs of the teachers present. The day started with a long list of requests which were all covered throughout the day. Thank you to Emma for your gracious sharing of knowledge, the offer to share resources, discussing how to integrate the curriculum and just pure awesomeness. I look forward to the next development in the Massey region.

Daniel Betty, Massey Regional Rep

Would you like Drama NZ to bring Survivor Drama to your region?
Email emma.bishop@saintkentigern.com to book your region in NOW
The 2014 volume of *The New Zealand Journal for Research in the Performing Arts and Education*, a collaboration between Drama New Zealand and the University of Canterbury, edited by Janinka Greenwood, provides strong examples of contemporary drama and arts practices in our schools and other learning communities.

**Rawiri Hindle and Bert van Dijk** write about an arts-based project which enriched learning by enacting place-based identity and culture.

**Dr. Jane Luton** explores and illuminates the devising process- its challenges and possibilities- by putting herself in her student's shoes, and devising a work of her own.

**Charles Bisley** tells the story of a year 6 girl and her class's play, and how their creative language making and performing was also self-making.

**Leigh Sykes** writes about teaching strategies that helped a group of Pasifika students find their way into Shakespeare’s plays, and make connections back to their lives.

In a Norwegian context, **Aud Saebo** shows how role play can promote student engagement in literacy and extend student response to text.

**Trevor Thwaites** argues that, because it is integral to human experience and helps build communities, students should be given the opportunity for community music-making.

Here is a summary of some of the great posts seen recently on our Drama New Zealand facebook pages that you may have missed.


The Guardian regularly write amazing arts articles either on specific theatre related people or themes such as [http://www.theguardian.com/stage/2015/jun/29/caryl-churchill-the-playwrights-finest-hours](http://www.theguardian.com/stage/2015/jun/29/caryl-churchill-the-playwrights-finest-hours)

Or articles that provoke us such as [http://www.theguardian.com/stage/theatreblog/2015/jun/01/theatres-must-see-audiences-as-collaborators](http://www.theguardian.com/stage/theatreblog/2015/jun/01/theatres-must-see-audiences-as-collaborators)


Make sure you go through the page at some stage as there are a number of fantastic posts for teachers/educators at all levels. [https://www.facebook.com/pages/Drama-NZ/182928978490756](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Drama-NZ/182928978490756)

**DRAMA NZ PRIMARY EDITION --** [https://www.facebook.com/groups/818548034900707/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/818548034900707/)

Dr. Tracey Lynne Cody contributed an article full of facts about why the STEM movement should actually be the STEAM movement. Very helpful if you are one of those educators who are campaigning the importance of the arts in your school. Charles Bisley also shared an innovative planning format.

If you have an interest in the primary sector, please join us on the facebook page or get in contact if you’d like to be involved with PD in the regions.

Mandy Taylor
National Exec and Primary Sub-Committee

**WHATS ON IN THE REGION’S – TERM 3**

**MASSEY BRANCH**

Scholarship Drama Workshop
Sat 15th August
Hawkes Bay

Contact Daniel Betty, Massey Rep for more info
danielbettynz@gmail.com or by@hnhs.school.nz

**Digi-fy Your Drama**

Drama NZ Auckland Branch brings you:

Wed 12th August
Contact
aucklanddnz@gmail.com for more info
GAMECHANGER2015 – Drama Australia / Drama NZ International Conference
hosted by Drama NSW

The highlight of the conference for me, was seeing our New Zealand Colleagues representing us all so eloquently. Along with taking home some new insights and connections, I came away feeling a sense of affirmation about where drama is at in NZ Education. – Mandy Taylor DNZ Exec Member

I feel so alive after drama Conference...Dana NSW

The three days were very inspiring and enriching - not to mention, delicious!
Evelyn, Brisbane

What a weekend, my brain is full! I am so lucky to work in a field with such dedicated, passionate and creative people. Thank you all for inspiring me and for answering all my silly questions! – Amanda, Akld, NZ