WOW – we are definitely full steam ahead. Department reviews of last year’s results, assessment calendars, swimming sports and athletics, rehearsals for productions, introducing new units to name a few things we are up to.

2016 is full of opportunities for Drama NZ Members. Your branch committees are meeting and planning. The National Executive are planning our 2016 workshop series, the DNZ PAT Project team are planning and creating, the Wellington branch are busy organising the Annual conference.

Finally do not forget it is time to renew your membership – the easiest way is via the website – this means paying by paypal….it may be easier to do it yourself and claim back from your school.

And as always remember Drama NZ is here for you…..if you have ideas or need support contact us now……

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**2015 DRAMA NZ NATIONAL EXECUTIVE:**

**President:** emma.bishop@saintkentigern.com  
Emma Bishop -- Saint Kentigern College, AKLD

**Vice-President:** charlesb@kelburnnormal.school.nz  
Charles Bisley – Kelburn Normal Primary School, WGTN

**Secretary:** dramednz@gmail.com  
Jo Matheson – Newlands College, WGTN

**Treasurer:** Teresa.Callaghan@greenbayhigh.school.nz  
Teresa Callaghan – Green Bay High School, AKLD

**Regional Rep Co-ordinator:** danielbettnz@gmail.com  
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 PMR NORTH

**Committee:**  
Gillian Towle - Craighead Diocesan School, TIMARU

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**Drama NZ website:** [www.drama.org.nz](http://www.drama.org.nz)  
**Drama NZ email:** dramednz@gmail.com  
**Drama NZ Facebook:** [https://www.facebook.com/pages/DramaNZ/182928978490756](https://www.facebook.com/pages/DramaNZ/182928978490756)  
**Drama NZ: the Primary Edition Facebook:** [https://www.facebook.com/groups/818548034900707/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/818548034900707/)  
**DNZ Northland Facebook:** [https://www.facebook.com/groups/331444900315666/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/331444900315666/)  
**DNZ Auckland Facebook:** [https://www.facebook.com/groups/513523238796638/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/513523238796638/)  
**DNZ Waikato Branch:** [https://www.facebook.com/groups/325395620958293/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/325395620958293/)  
**DNZ Massey Facebook:** [https://www.facebook.com/groups/1470960373227577/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1470960373227577/)  
**DNZ Wellington Facebook:** [https://www.facebook.com/groups/752422148201084/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/752422148201084/)  
**DNZ Canterbury Facebook:** [https://www.facebook.com/groups/dunedindramateachers/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/dunedindramateachers/)  
**DNZ Otago Facebook:** [https://www.facebook.com/groups/dunedindrama教师/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/dunedindrama教师/)
DRAMA NZ needs a “Membership Secretary”

Do you have some time in your week to give back to your drama community? Drama NZ are currently looking for someone to come on board as the National Membership Secretary to ensure we have an up to date membership list and database.

This role is crucial to the effective running of the Association both at Branch and National level.

If you are a logistics type, who is good with a spreadsheet and can navigate the computer
WE WANT YOU.

This role includes:
- Managing the National Database
- Working with our online database
- Sending a monthly membership report to the National Executive
- Liaising with the Regional Rep Co-ordinator termly with updated database of members
- Liaising with the National Treasurer
- Attending National Executive Meetings (optional) – you could be co-opted to the National Executive if you want to learn how the Executive works

For more information or to express your interest contact Emma Bishop, President at emma.bishop@saintkentigern.com

2016 National Executive

We have some people standing down this year so will be looking for people to join the team.

If you would like to contribute to the future of your association, learn about how we work, help colleagues and network both nationally and internationally this is definitely he place for you!

This role includes
- Attending monthly online meetings
- Taking on a portfolio role (optional)
- Sharing ideas and helping make decisions on behalf of the membership

For more information or to express your interest contact Emma Bishop, President at emma.bishop@saintkentigern.com

Nominations will be taken prior to the AGM at the National Conference in April.

REGISTER NOW!

Wellington 21-23 April 2016

AROUND THE REGIONS

AUCKLAND BRANCH TERM ONE
The Branch committee has met and started planning for 2016.

Term One UPSKILL
UpSKill Drama NZ Auckland Branch Term One Workshop is next week on Wednesday at Saint Kentigern College, Pakuranga.

Two Workshops on offer

1) 2pm - 7pm - Survivor Drama with Emma Bishop & Verity Ann Davidson
This workshop looks at ways to survive - NCEA, MS Planning, Moderation, Rich Contexts, resourcing - it will be adapted to the needs of those in attendance - (SECONDARY)

2) 4.30pm - 7pm - Getting on Top of It: Drama in the Classroom with Dr Elizabeth Anderson.
This workshop looks at creating drama units in the classroom. Curriculum links, assessments, ideas and values

For more information or to register email Aucklanddnz@gmail.com

For any information about the AKLD Branch please contact Auckland Regional Rep, Cherise Stone, sto@gdc.school.nz

The Waikato Branch is keen to announce a Term One meeting / workshop.
Let Gaenor know what you would like a workshop in.

Gaenor is still on the lookout for people to join her and help with Branch matters. You don’t need to be in Hamilton as the branch stretches all the way to the Bay of Plenty, Rotorua, Taupo, and Gisborne. If you are able to help out – we will meet using online technology…please email Gaenor Stoate at gaenor@waikato.ac.nz.

This year the Hawke’s Bay area of the Massey region is starting to hum. Teachers met on 17 February and discussed the external examination results, had a visit from the head of the Hawke’s Bay Festival and started to develop a professional learning program from an internal skills audit. We are very fortunate this year to have a number of great productions coming through to the area and drama educators are excited with the opportunities this brings for our students.

Daniel Betty is looking for a facilitator’s in New Plymouth, Palmerston North and Wanganui. The facilitator will work with Daniel to create clusters of members within these areas. These clusters will then be provided with relevant professional learning, resources and support (when needed) by Drama New Zealand. If you are interested or are contacted by Daniel in the near future please consider this as a great way of becoming a leader in drama education within your area. To contact Daniel please email danielbettnz@gmail.com.
The Canterbury region had our first meeting hosted by Jo Clark at Hornby High School on the 18th February. The discussion started around what development and workshops those present would like to see this year. Juniors, devising and professional development for the Performing Arts Standards were the key requests from our members, with the possibility of a tech roadshow exciting those present and a reminder that more members registering interest in a PAT workshop with NZQA will increase the chances of something happening in that area.

There was also a discussion around practice exams and two of our members expressed interest on writing practice exams and having them moderated. These would be available to our members at no cost.

We also discussed the increasing digitization of the drama classroom - devices and cloud-based systems. Our next meeting is at the Arts Centre Gym hosted by the Free Theatre on Thursday 19th May.

On Saturday 20th February we had our first workshop for student directors of Shakespeare. This was targeted specifically at those students directing pieces for the SGCNZ Otago University Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Festival. The very successful workshop, attended by 20 students, was taken by our Annette Thomson and Melanie Luckman, a freelance director. The students thoroughly enjoyed themselves which bodes well for this year’s festival.

Some comments from the students:
"Thank you so much for allowing me to attend the course today, it was an amazing opportunity and I have gained so much from it."
"I felt each task was useful in improving my directing style, and each piece of advice given from you, Mel and the other students has been valuable in how I now consider my approach of directing and the work of theatre in general."
"Thank you again for the very insightful and enjoyable day today. The advice that was given was very useful especially for those of us who have minimal experience with directing. You had good spacing between talking/power points and games which were useful at both understanding what u had taught us and keep us focused."

The Wellington committee have been meeting regularly to plan and organise the DramaNZ 2016 conference – “Meet Me at the River.” Our next meeting is on Friday 26th of February at 4pm at WGC and we welcome any other Wellington members who might be prepared to offer help with organisation. We will be needing help prior to and during the event, so please come along or contact one of the committee members.

In other regional activities, Conference Committee member Robert Dil, St Mark’s Church School, is offering a “Puppet Play” workshop on Saturday 6th March – if interested go to –

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1CZXtbbsUq34FbVyH5h1GjeJvTbyoOzUmbb1xhDRpy8l/viewform?usp=send_form

Also, Louise Tourelle from St Cuthbert’s College is offering a workshop in Wellington on Saturday 12th March exploring theorists Brecht, Stanislavski, and Artaud. For registration form contact louise.tourelle@stcuthberts.school.nz.

Don’t forget to book for conference! Helen Jones – Wellington Rep
Dates for the festival are:

**HEATS:** Wednesday 30th March at St Margaret's College
Thursday 31st March at Papanui High School
Friday 1st April at Hornby High School

**SHOWCASE:** Sunday 3rd April at The Court Theatre

For further information for the festival contact Annette at athomson@avonside.school.nz.

Or register a scene on the SGCNZ website: http://www.otago.ac.nz/humanities/about/otago077780.html

Annette Thomson (Canterbury Branch Chair)

instructing student directors

Branch Members please note: Plans are afoot for a Commedia del Arte workshop for teachers in term two.

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The Otago Branch for DramaNZ will be having its first meet up for the year next week and we are all looking forward to catching up. Details are as follows:

**Date:** Wednesday 24th February

**Time:** 4.30pm

**Place:** Nova Cafe, Octagon

**Special Guests:** Jonty & Shannon from the Fortune Theatre

**Agenda:**

* Introductions to Jonathon Hendry (new Artistic Director of the Fortune Theatre) & info on shows for 2016
* Shannon Colbert to report on shows for 2016, Fortune Theatre Ambassador programme, and new Theatresports Initiative
* Discussion (& hopefully some action) on formalising the Otago Branch of DramaNZ - we need to elect a Secretary / Treasurer / and set up a bank account etc.
* PD opportunities for staff and students this year - let's share our skills
* Any other issues

The Otago Branch are also looking at a PD opportunity later in the year involving a Massive Theatre workshop, to be held in November at the Otago Boys’ High auditorium. Date is yet to be announced.

KIMBERLEY FRIDD – Otago/Southland Regional Rep
National Conference 2016

to be held at St Patrick’s College, Silverstream, Upper Hutt, Wellington

April 21st - 23rd

Drama New Zealand welcomes you to meet us at the river. In planning conference, the Wellington Branch have had the following pools of thought. Every great civilisation is founded near rivers or a waters edge and so we invite you to return to the source. On its perpetual journey, river water crosses land, hills and plains and this is a journey best travelled with others. However, you cannot step in the same water twice; circumstances change and we invite you to grow with us.

Presenter Applications Open Now
Presenter Applications Close 30th November 2015
Presenters Notified 15th December 2015
Accommodation There are 60 beds available in the St Patrick’s College boarding house. These will cost approx $50 a night. Bookings will be open with registration and will be done via the conference committee
Registrations Early Bird Registrations open 1st February 2016 and close 1st March 2016. All fees include conference dinner.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Earlybird Presenter Registration</th>
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<td>$380</td>
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I thought you'd never become one of us (Abstract)
From Charles Bisley,
Kelburn Normal School, Vice-President Drama NZ

Create, communicate, educate. Drama New Zealand is committed to bringing practitioners together to share and develop practice through conferences, workshops, newsletters, and our e-journal (in collaboration with the University of Canterbury). We also believe that the work our teachers and students do deserves to be known more widely, and has value for educators outside of our specific subject area. So I’d like to draw your attention to ‘I thought you’d never become one of us’, a local piece of practice-based research. This story about a class making and performing plays, that our Vice President Charles Bisley has written, has just been published in an international journal based in The United States. Charles’s short sketch about this work at the 2014 Drama New Zealand Conference provoked a lot of interest; the full story is doing the same, because of its innovative approach to presenting practice, and especially because of the inclusion and authority of so much student voice.

(http://dpj.pitt.edu/ojs/index.php/dpj1/article/view/113)

I thought you’d never become one of us (Abstract)

in this paper, I describe a collaborative process in which a class of grade 6&7 students made and performed two plays, and also transformed their learning. In this process, a reconfiguring of the spaces of learning, the students and I adapted a variety of literacy and drama practices; a key change in practice was the shift away from an instrumental mode of dialogue in which the teacher occupies the superior position of knower and evaluator, towards a Bakhtinian mode in which dialogue, as heteroglossic, moves between all the participants, and becomes the main purpose of learning. In a dynamic combination of linguistic, theatrical, and relational meaning making, the students moved clear of the outcomes-based learning that had hitherto stultified their interactions and language. As a result, they developed a new creative agency, both singly and as a collective, and an authoritative discourse. They left this discourse open for me to join, and also continue afterwards, as I have done here, by presenting and interpreting their voices, and including new ones. [1]

[1] EDITORIAL NOTE: Charles Bisley’s article is an unusual and brave attempt to transcend the current norms of scholarly and academic genres and create a polyphonic article in which he describes a yearlong educational event through the voices of all of its participants – among which he counts not only his students and himself, and their audience of parents and the school authorities, but also includes educational, literary and philosophical authors who inspired him and whose thoughts guided him in his actions and reflections during and after his project in creating dramatic spaces and times with his students.

His writing has elements of reflective auto-ethnography, Woolfian lyrical stream of consciousness, dialogic double-voicedness and a storytelling narrative that is intended to transport the reader into an experience of the dramatic enfolding of the events and their protagonists, actors and directors: his students and himself. Although, his work doesn’t follow what is currently assumed to be the scientific criteria regarding form, length or standard components, we find it interesting and valuable as a polyphonic approach and qualitative study.

Dialogic Pedagogy: An International Online Journal
http://dpj.pitt.edu/
QUICK LINKS
from Ryan Benjamin
Arts Online Community Facilitator - Dramanet
http://artsonline.tki.org.nz/

I have compiled a list of helpful and current quick-clicks for drama teachers to easily access and navigate the areas of NZQA and TKI websites that are helpful to them.

NZQA & TKI Links:

Drama subject resources:

Level 1 standards:
Level 2 standards:
Level 3 standards:

It is also timely to remind teachers to look carefully at the conditions of assessment (CoA) documents for all levels as these have been updated and re-published just last month.

Level 1 internal assessment resources and conditions of assessment downloadable:
http://ncea.tki.org.nz/Resources-for-Internally-Assessed-Achievement-Standards/The-arts/Drama/Level-1-Drama
Level 2 internal assessment resources and conditions of assessment downloadable:
http://ncea.tki.org.nz/Resources-for-Internally-Assessed-Achievement-Standards/The-arts/Drama/Level-2-Drama
Level 3 internal assessment resources and conditions of assessment downloadable:
http://ncea.tki.org.nz/Resources-for-Internally-Assessed-Achievement-Standards/The-arts/Drama/Level-3-Drama

When teachers are planning assessment tasks and processes at all levels of Drama and have questions/queries it may be useful to first look at the clarification documents and annotated exemplars of student work to guide them on the requirements of the standard and what student evidence may look like at different grade levels.

Standard Clarifications:
Annotated exemplars:

Moderator newsletters also give information that if helpful in planning stages.

Moderator newsletters:

Finally, the TKI Senior Secondary Teaching and Learning Guide for Drama provides both new and experienced teachers with a wealth of ideas and approaches to curriculum design best-practices; especially around the importance of ensuring Curriculum levels 6, 7, and 8 drive their thinking and decision making for programme design BEFORE any standards or matrix does:

http://seniorsecondary.tki.org.nz/The-arts/Drama
An Amazing Experience in the U.S of A.; how did you spend your summer holidays?

5,832 students, teachers and directors gathered in the cavernous Cobb Galleria Conference Center to celebrate one thing: musical theatre in education. There were participants from all over the United States, from South Korea, a performance group from Australia and two representatives from New Zealand: Emma Bishop (President of Drama NZ) and Robert Di l (Director of Performing Arts, St. Mark's Church School, Wellington). The energy was palpable and the weekend never let up from beginning to its conclusion over three event-filled days this past January 2016.

The main event for the festival is adjudication from experts in the field of theatre for young people. Groups perform 15-minute excerpts from the Broadway Junior Collection, as sponsored by Music Theatre International, Playbill and Disney Theatrical Group, and receive feedback on their performances. The best groups also win awards in the areas of acting, choreography, ensemble work and so forth. The whole event however is not over with that 15-minute performance. Students are guided through a full weekend of workshops by leading Broadway and theatre education experts in areas such as acting, dance and performance. There are panels and discussions with professionals including author Jodi Picoult who has a young adult novel in development to be adapted into a stage musical and composers Pasek and Paul (Dogfight, Roald Dahl's James and the Giant Peach) who share their wisdom and their work with the devoted attendees. Disney sponsor an enormous child-friendly dance party (Emma and Robert did NOT attend that -we were happy to go elsewhere) and Glee's Darren Criss gave a great performance in a full evening's concert!

The Junior Theater Festival is led by iTheatrics and the Broadway Junior Group. iTheatrics have an amazing team of dynamic musical theatre educators and practitioners. Head of iTheatrics, Timothy Allen Macdonald, and resident choreographer, Steven G. Kennedy, came out to New Zealand last year and ran a Train the Trainers session, in association with Music Theatre International. Now, New Zealand's The Amici Trust have set up Junior Theatre New Zealand with Emma and Robert serving as national coordinators. We are excited to announce that
iTheatrics' Cindy Ripley, the "go-to" guru of musical theatre education is coming to New Zealand in March and will be running workshops for teachers and students (Year 5 and up), in association with both the Amici Trust and Music Theatre International: Australasia. These will be held in Auckland, Wellington, Tauranga and Timaru. For full details see our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/JuniorTheatreNZ/?fref=ts

Robert will be leading the first-ever New Zealand group from St. Mark's this coming January 2017 to the festival in Atlanta and Emma will be leading a professional development team of teachers from New Zealand to attend and get a feel for the incredible opportunity, that is the festival! Perhaps you would like to get on board? And let's just keep it between you and us for now but there is going to be a Junior Theatre Festival: Australasia here in New Zealand in 2018...see you there!

Robert Dil and Emma Bishop.

**APPLY NOW!!!**

Drama New Zealand offer two scholarships for teachers to attend their annual conference.

**Scholarship One: Beginning Teacher** – this scholarship is awarded to a teacher who is in their first or second year of teaching

**Scholarship Two: Rural Teacher** – this scholarship is awarded to a teacher who teaches in a rural or remote area to allow them the opportunity to network

The Scholarship is for $500 to be used towards registration/transport and/or accommodation costs.

**To Apply:**
Send an email application stating why you would like to receive this scholarship and how it would benefit you, your teaching and your students. Applications close March 4th

Applications to Drama NZ (dramednz@gmail.com)
EXCITING PD OPPORTUNITES!!!

Are you looking for some professional development that is something new and different? This workshop is especially perfect for Primary Teachers and practitioners in Children's Theatre or Theatre for Young Audiences. All welcome -no previous experience needed.

PUPPET PLAY! Workshop in Wellington on Saturday 5th March, 2016 from 9am -12pm.
Location: St. Mark's Church School, 13 Dufferin Street, Basin Reserve, Wellington. Cost: $60 per participant.
All the details are below...if you would like to attend please fill in the form link:

https://docs.google.com/…/1CZXtbbsUq34FbVyH5h1Gje…/viewform…

"Puppet Play!"
This interactive workshop will explore how puppets can be used in the classroom and other theatre contexts to engage young people, create a fun environment, and promote literacy and the performing arts. Puppets have been popular in mainstream media in TV, film, and on the stage, including shows such as The Muppets and Sesame Street and stage productions such as Avenue Q, War Horse and The Lion King. Puppets are used in many cultures around the world for ritual, religion, celebration, storytelling, and play. This workshop will provide participants with concepts, ideas, and resources they can take back into their work with young people.

Play is a natural and vital part of childhood development and children the world over develop characters, play out life scenarios, and tell stories through bringing inanimate objects to life. Whether they are handmade, found, or bought in a store, children traditionally love playing with toys. When we project our thoughts and ideas through this medium the spotlight is taken off the child and onto the puppet creating a safe space for young people to express themselves. Puppets can be a great support to shyer children and young people who often communicate in non-verbal ways.

It is so much fun engaging with puppets and it is incredible to see inhibitions melt away. We will actually play with puppets during the workshop, using them for singing, acting, and telling stories. We will look at introductory puppetry techniques and ways to help young people bring them to life.
No previous experience is required and puppets will be provided for use during the workshop.

About Robert Dil
Robert currently serves as the Director of Performing Arts at St. Mark’s Church School, a private IB Primary School in Wellington, New Zealand. Previous to this he spent four years teaching performing arts in Beijing and Shanghai, China through the Yew Chung Education Foundation and Shanghai Grand Theatre. Robert is a passionate educator who believes in the power of theatre to promote positive change in its participants. He continues to freelance as a professional Children’s Theatre Director and Musician (Clarinet, Saxophone and Flute) and was selected as a national coordinator for the Amici trust presents Junior Theatre New Zealand, promoting the growth of junior theatre in NZ.

Robert's puppetry teacher is New York’s Jennifer Barnhart from Sesame Street and Avenue Q. He has even been able to have one of his puppetry lessons at the Jim Henson studio in Queens, New York meeting the cast of characters from Sesame Street. Robert blogs at: www.theatreforyoungpeople.com

Robert holds a Masters degree in Drama and Theatre for Young People with Distinction (Charles Sturt University, Australia).

Contact: robert.dil@st-marks.school.nz
IMPROV MASTERCLASS

Professional Development & Student Opportunity with Steve Jarand
presented by Public Works Performing Arts Collective
in association with Drama New Zealand

'Unblock, Experience, Create. Then the real tools of Improv begin to develop.'

Limited entry workshops
February/March 2016.
For more information and to secure your place email comedy@conartists.co.nz and register your interest now.

High School Improvisation Workshop $50 (1 Day)
Teaching Improvisation Workshop $50 (1 Day)

Both limited to 30 per workshop and include tickets to a live show.

For further personal development, opportunities for public workshops on Improv and Mask read below and receive a 20% discount off Mask when you sign up to the teachers workshop.