With the AGM fast approaching I’ve been reflecting on the year that’s been and what an amazing year it has been.

Highlights have included:

- ending the year with the highest number of financial members (263) in over ten years,
- an increase in the number of Drama NZ Associate Members (22),
- implementing the writing and sale of External Practice Examinations which was highly successful and been carried forward into 2018,
- the implementation of a resource writing project which has seen a number of resources created specifically for our member’s use,
- an academic ejournal published,
- the joint Drama Aus and Drama NZ Journal announced and underway.

To find out about these highlights and more ensure you are at the 2018 Annual General Meeting at conference next week Saturday 14th at 5pm.

We are currently looking for members interested in joining the National Executive for the 2018 year.

Executive officers attended monthly online conference calls, make decisions and implement initiatives to advocate and benefit our membership. Being on the Executive gives a great insight into the governance of an Association such as ours.

If you are interested or would like to find out more please speak to one of the current Executive officers.

Whilst I will be thanking the Auckland Branch team at conference this weekend I would like to take a moment now to acknowledge the work this amazing team have put into creating this year’s National Conference.

I really do hope that our time together this weekend reminds you of the joys of teaching and brings back into focus why we all do it.

A few years ago I spoke of Peter O’Connor’s reference to ‘our bed sock moments’ - those are the moments that keep us warm at night. It’s during the last weeks of term, production weeks, report times and those stress points that we need to stop, breathe, and take a moment to remember those moments and the joys that come with the slog.

So, I look forward to seeing many of you in the weekend whilst we embrace our theatre and education whanau and have fun together.

Ngā Mihi

Emma Bishop, PRESIDENT

#20 : April 2018
2018 has been a busy first term organising the National Conference at Unitec. Our fearless leader has run our meetings to strict time constraints and fabulous structures have been in place to help us plan, delegate responsibilities and to decide what will be useful and FUN for all. The committee is an efficient, effective and supportive team which has made the conference organisation process a pleasure.

A few highlights have been securing the Keynote speakers Dr Peter O’Connor and John Saunders, organising inspiring performances and social events, and planning and preparing for the workshops. There are 8 sessions with 3 to 5 workshops in each which also include topics of interest to primary teachers.

This is a rich programme focused on the joy of teaching drama interspersed by a fab programme of social events and activities to help teacher-networking and develop relationships with colleagues from across the country.

We can’t wait to see you all there!

Many of the branch members have been busy working towards the Northland Shakespeare Festival which was held last week at Kamo High School.

Thanks to Debi Walters for facilitating this and Tracey Lawson for hosting.

A huge congrats to everyone who performed - 21 entries from 10 schools and to those that gained awards including

SGCNZ UOSWSF - National Festival Awards

1. Best 15 Minute Scene  Titus Andronicus, Tauraroa Area School
2. Best 5 Minute Scene  Titus Andronicus, Whangarei Boys High School
                          Love Labours Lost, Whangarei Girls High School
3. NSSP Direct Entry Award  Maea Shepherd, Whangarei Girls High School

For any information about the AKLD Branch please contact Auckland Regional Rep, Cherise Stone, sto@gdc.school.nz or join us on our regional branch facebook page at: https://www.facebook.com/groups/513523238796638/

For information about the Northland Branch follow the Northland Branch Facebook Group at: https://www.facebook.com/groups/331444900315666/
Term one has been a long one with many teachers in the Massey Region preparing for Sheliah Winn Festival and school productions.

Throughout the region there has been activity via Facebook from Chris Burton (Palmerston North Boys High) and Daniel Betty (Iona College) organising schools in their area to attend a performance of Verbatim. This performance will be performed by Simple Truth Theatre Company which comprises of Unitec Graduates. The performance will happen in Term two. If you would like to find out more information about the performance or dates in Palmerston and Havelock North please go to the Massey Region Facebook page and message Daniel or Chris.

In term two the Massey committee will be meeting to discuss workshop opportunities in the area and plan for term two and three. If you would like to be a part of these conversation please email Branch Secretary Daniel Betty on danielbettynz@gmail.com and we can arrange appropriate technology so you can participate or share the information about venue for you to attend.

For any information about the Waikato Branch follow the Massey Branch Facebook Group at: https://www.facebook.com/groups/401441810044321/

The Branch committee are currently planning workshops for Term Two. Many and the team at Otumoetai College has offered to host a NZQA Face to Face Best Practice Workshop in Tauranga. For this to happen we need a minimum expression from 12 teachers.

The proposed dates are week 6 or 7 of Term The cost will be $120 per person but if we get more participants this may be able to be reduced.

Please register your interest for this workshop by emailing Emma at dramednz@gmail.com

We are also looking at running another workshop during the term. To help us in planning please go to our regional facebook page and take the poll.
It was great to have such a large turn out for the AGM this year. Thanks to all who came and drank wine, coffee and enjoyed the chocolate biscuits.

The committee are:
President: Jo Matheson
Regional Rep/Secretary/Treasurer: Kim Bonnington
Primary Rep: Susan Hayworth
Committee: Megan Figgest

We set a plan for the year and what we would like to do.
This includes:

An Artaud workshop with Karla Haronga. This will be early term 2 and we'll have dates and information out to you sometime this week.

Mid term 2 we will offer the Exam workshop again, focussing on ideas for teaching the exams.

Term 3 will see another workshop on scholarship where teachers can bring their students. It was agreed that the focus on improvisation was really good at getting the kids moving into improv. There was also some discussion around the possibility of a follow up workshop this year to continue the work.

Term 3 will also see us offer something for Primary; now that we have our Primary rep and the executive have a focus on building Primary this year so more is to come on the hows and whys of this.

After the seniors leave we thought we would have a Beer and Banter evening and then end the year with an afternoon sharing Junior Drama programmes, like we did at the end of 2017 with the seniors.

All in all a busy year in a great region.
Ngā mihi

Kim Bonnington
Term one has been a busy one here in Canterbury – our committee have met and decided on some awesome workshops plus we have a survey going out to members on what workshops they would like to have. Link here to complete this and have your say.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScqXR0gMbUXGBNHz_f6RlJGTYZJLW6mMyqzFtSc-6mM8hQ/viewform

Merrin and I met with University of Canterbury teaching students who needed some advice before they hit schools next term at C1 café – A lot of advice and info was passed along by us ‘oldies’. We will have another one of these in term 2.

Teachers met before the Dress rehearsal of Easy Money at the Court Theatre to network and catch up. We enjoyed an enjoyable night out. The Court Theatre’s line up came out and Rachel Sears is asking schools to put in their options for which plays have school matinees.

Shakespeare Festival is happening 7th and 8th April. – 23 schools from the Canterbury region – 400 students.

Over two days – an incredible amount of effort and organisation goes into these Festivals from everyone involved. Big thanks to our organisers: Annette Thomson and Celia Mann and to our three judges: Elizabeth Grubb, Eilish Moran and Lizzie Tollemache.

Term 2

10th May – Dress rehearsal of “In the Next Room”

14th June – Dress rehearsal of ‘The Biggest’ at the Court Theatre

For any information about the Canterbury Branch please contact Regional Rep Peter Rutherford - p.rutherford@rangiruru.school.nz or join us on our regional branch facebook page at: https://www.facebook.com/groups/425374920934604/

CANTERBURY

NELSON BASED BEST PRACTICE WORKSHOP

Waimea College is hosting a face-to-face Best Practice Workshop in Nelson on May 16. The course will run from 9 - 3pm.

The cost is $120, however if we have sufficient numbers, the cost per head may go down.

To apply click the link to the form below.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=xX-aIi82mUGjbGeUtcgkJGJTGpM_CYJKkX6k3DCk-roFUMjMxWDE0RkVTTEZFQIBCMVk3UERPWkk1WC4u
The expression ‘If you want something done, ask a busy person’, certainly applied to the ‘Drama Teacher’ in Term One, and Drama Departments in the South were no exception. Setting up our Drama classes for the year, planning, directing, producing our schools’ major productions and finally preparing students for the Shakespeare Festival, proved once again that Drama is alive and well in our area.

The Otago/Southland branch met for the first time this year on February 22. In the afternoon we had the opportunity to view the venue of our SGCNZ’s Otago Regional, University of Otago, Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Festival, which will be held at the Kings and Queen’s Performing Arts Centre. From there we progressed a short distance towards St Clair Beach and had dinner at one of the beautiful restaurants along the Esplanade.

On Monday March 5, Drama teachers throughout Otago and Southland gathered at Kings High School, to participate in a Best Practice Workshop with a National Moderator. As with most gatherings of Drama teachers there was very animated discussion and many of the internal achievement standards were examined in depth.

As the term draws to a close we are looking forward to our Shakespeare Festival on Wednesday April 11. This year the committee decided to return to an old format of a day festival where schools could enter their finest and best from 9 am to 5pm. In the evening winners would present a showcase of Shakespearean talent.

It has been a busy term for everyone but the expression, ‘the show must go on’ makes the Drama teachers’ lot an important one. As the term break comes closer, I’m sure we will all breathe a collective sigh of relief as we prepare ourselves for Round two – Term Two.

** Thanks to Chris Manley (Branch) Secretary, for her input into this report
Kimberley Fridd
Otago Southland Regional Rep

For any information about the Otago/Southland Branch please contact Regional Rep Kimberley Fridd - kimberley@mcglashan.school.nz

or join us on our regional branch facebook page at: https://www.facebook.com/groups/dunedindramateachers/
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SGCNZ UOSWSF - Auckland Central Regional Awards

1. Best Stage Design As You Like It, St Cuthbert's College
2. Best Costume Design As You Like It, St Cuthbert’s College
3. Best Use of Music/Song As You Like It, St Cuthbert’s College
4. Most Original Concept The Taming Of The Shrew, ACG Parnell College
5. Best Communication with the Audience TBA
6. Best Student Director Grace Riley, Diocesan School for Girls
7. Best Adult Director Scarlett Kean, ACG Parnell College
8. Most Promising Actor Natasha Mori, Diocesan School for Girls
9. Runner up to Student Chosen for Direct entry to NSSP Kanicha Nualkhair, St Cuthbert’s College
10. Most Outstanding Performance King Lear, Marist College
11. Best Supporting Actor Pheobe Mason, Diocesan School for Girls

SGCNZ UOSWSF - National Festival Awards

1. Best 15 Minute Scene Julius Caesar, Diocesan School for Girls
2. Best 5 Minute Scene Romeo and Juliet, Diocesan School for Girls
3. NSSP Direct Entry Award Izzy Creemers, ACG Parnell College
SGCNZ UOSWSF - Northland National Festival Awards

1. Best 15 Minute Scene  Titus Andronicus, Tauraroa Area School
2. Best 5 Minute Scene  Titus Andronicus, Whangarei Boys High School
   Love Labours Lost, Whangarei Girls High School
3. NSSP Direct Entry Award  Maea Shepherd, Whangarei Girls High School

SGCNZ UOSWSF - Napier / Hawkes Bay National Festival Awards

The Hawke’s Bay Sheliah Winn Regional Festival was held at Napier Boys High School on April 5.

There were 19 entries exploring a wide variety of Shakespeare’s work. The 15 minute pieces were dynamic with some extremely strong performances. Napier Girls High School were selected to represent the region with their version of Othello. It was a great recontextualisation using a chess board to show the tactics that Iago used to manipulate Othelo. In the 5 minute pieces a mixed group of Lindisfarne College and Iona College were selected. They did a wonderful rendition of Much Ado About Nothing which was delivered with strong intentions and truthful characters. Overall a wonderful night of the best bits of Shakespeare. It is great to see that the Bard is still truly alive in students today.

1. Best 15 Minute Scene  Othello, Napier Girls High School
2. Best 5 Minute Scene  Much Ado About Nothing, Lindisfarne College and Iona College

If your region has held your festival share your results and photos to us and we will share next newsletter.
1. In 2017 we programmed more than 60 shows (that’s not counting festivals & extra events)

2. We programme over 80% NZ content

3. 2 out of 3 shows are World Premieres

4. All tickets are under $30

5. Student tickets are usually $15 each

6. We have two intimate, black box spaces: a 100-seater & a 65-seater

7. Stage and seating change all the time which means your experience is always different

8. We are a charitable trust supporting emerging artists to develop their craft

9. Instead of charging artists a venue hire fee, we only take a % of box office takings

10. We curate secondary school suitable arts experiences as part of our Schools Programme. Shows, Q&A sessions, in-school workshops, and a touring show are all on offer.

To find out more about shows for schools, see basementtheatre.co.nz/schools-programme or email schools@basementtheatre.co.nz
DON’T FORGET TO BRING YOUR ORDER BOOKS
Plenty of trades and specialists are attending conference this year.

Prizes include:
$500 voucher from Masks 4 Schools,
scripts from Playmarket
Lighting from Kenderdine and more...
If you have anything you’d like to share in the Primary Corner, please get in touch with our Primary Representative Judy Norton judy.norton@saintkentigern.com.

Also make stay up to date by following us on the Drama NZ Primary Edition Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/dramanzprimary/

Judy Norton
National Primary Rep
Auckland Branch Primary Rep

Judy has been a Specialist Primary Drama Teacher at Saint Kentigern Girls’ School for the past 16 years, teaching Year 1 – 8 classes and itinerant Speech and Drama lessons. She has been on Drama NZ’s National Executive as Primary Liaison for the past year. She has also been on the Auckland Regional Committee for the past three years. Prior to teaching at SKGS, she gave lessons at Kristin School and ran her own Speech and Drama Studio for 11 years. She is a trained primary school teacher with a Bachelor of Education and an LTCL in Speech and Drama.

Claire Coleman
Waikato Branch

Claire began her career in education as a disability awareness puppeteer. Teaching at both secondary and primary level developed her interest in Drama in schools and community settings. Following a Masters in Education at the University of Sydney, she embarked upon her doctoral study. Dancing through the fourth wall which examines the potential of process drama as an enactment of the philosophies of critical pedagogy. Claire currently lectures in Drama Education and Innovative Pedagogy at the University of Waikato.

Juliet Cottrell
Massey Branch Primary Rep

Juliet is a drama teacher of over twenty-five years experience at all levels of education including tertiary. She runs The Drama Workshop and the Hawkes Bay Youth Theatre alongside her husband Peter. Juliet trained as a Primary School teacher and her experience lies in linking classroom drama education with literacy, teacher professional development, applied theatre and providing opportunities for kids to develop confidence through performing arts.
Susan Hayworth
Wellington Branch Primary Rep

Susan spent 30+ years teaching secondary Drama and after just over a year in primary, still feels a bit like she has reinvented herself! As Director of Performing Arts at St Mark’s Church School in Wellington, she has been able to indulge in a number of her favourite things: Shakespeare, Musical Theatre, mime, melodrama and inquiry learning to name just a few. Last year was a huge learning curve, not least getting 16 classes through the Trinity group Drama exams with Distinction.

Ginnie Thorner
Canterbury Branch Primary Rep

Ginnie is has been teaching drama for nearly 30 years, specialising in process drama, story-based drama, devised theatre and applied theatre. She loves finding ways to tailor drama to specific learning needs. She currently teachers years 0-11 which offers some exciting challenges. Ginnie has been an Arts Advisor and continues to offer individual and whole school professional development in dance and drama. Ginnie is part the Teaspoon of Light company working in Applied theatre.

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"I didn't realize it was the end of the term!", said no teacher ever...

"Woohooo! It's Report Card season!!" said no teacher ever.

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Workshop Fee $85.00 + GST
Tutor Sam Scott

Massive Company Professional Development for Teachers working with young people or Theatre Practitioners interested in devising work.

Following on from the 2017 Massive Company workshop in Whangarei, Sam Scott will continue to share philosophy, skills and processes which are used when Massive creates and devises theatre. This will not be a repeat of the 2017 workshop and can be attended by both teachers from a previous workshop as well as teachers who are newcomers to a Massive Workshop.

The workshop includes active participation (up on the floor) and also allows for note taking.

Sam Scott is the founding director of Massive. She has been teaching nationally and internationally for 30 years. A founder of thesperports in NZ and a director of Film & TV (including Shortland St 1998-2007) her biggest love is theatre. Her speciality is devising theatre, creating stories with workshop participants that are gutsy, loud, enormously funny, or powerfully emotional. What is created is what the participant wants to create.

Quotes from previous participants...

"Thank you again for last Wednesday’s workshop in Dunedin. I had no idea I was going to walk away feeling so inspired and energized after a day of working with you and the other practitioners. As a teacher in a semi-remote area it’s very easy to get a little stale and disillusioned with your practice. But I certainly have had my kete filled after your workshop and I can’t wait to start working with my students on this new approach to devising. And also thank you also for the songs you shared, they are a great resource". (Cromwell High School Teacher at the Dunedin Workshop).

"Thank you so much for the workshop last week. I think this is the 4th workshop I have done with you and each one has been different. I really appreciate the time and care you take with us as a group to get the most out of the day. I think the thing I love most is that these workshops are affirming for me, to assured that the sort of work I do with my students is what others are doing professionally. Working alone, we can sometimes forget we are on the right track. Thank you again for coming down and making your processes accessible to teachers". (Teacher from Christchurch)
Musical Theatre New Zealand presents

The Next Gen Boot Camp for 18 – 35 year olds

Workshops Include
Choreography, Directing 102 (the next step); channelling your inner rock/belt voice and performance (Belting/Rock Singing workshop for Rock, Pop, Musical Theatre and Life); the fabulous Jennifer Ward-Lealand will be back – her workshop content TBC with Sam Cleaver, auditioning workshop for everyone (panel and performer); knowledge café session plus our famous cooks The Holmes Team will be back to feed you again, Q&A session with our tutors, Sunday morning showcase ... At the wonderful location we had last year – Epworth Retreat by Lake Karapiro.

The cost only $55...yes $55 and this includes accommodation, food, professional development and networking!!!

Email Kate kate@mtnz.co.nz to sign up for early bird registration information. More details/registrations will be available and on line from early June.

We are looking for members to join us
- National Executive team
- Regional Branch Committee’s

To express interest or find out more email us at dramednz@gmail.com
This year Drama NZ made a commitment to increasing the number of scholarships available for attending Conference and specifically creating two opportunities for Primary Teacher’s to attend what has been seen by many as a Secondary Conference.

Congratulations to our four recipients - we look forward to meeting you at conference!