Tena koutou katoa

It’s a funny thing to be back writing content for a Drama NZ newsletter. Years ago I used to be in charge of collating one in the days when my only instructions were to inform everyone of Drama NZ correspondence. In those days we didn’t really get a lot of correspondence and thus the newsletter died a natural death.

But Emma Bishop came along and resurrected it, turned it into the great piece of information sharing that it is today. It celebrates the activities of the regions and keeps us linked with our associate members. I want to start out by acknowledging all that Emma has done during her time as President. I am so grateful for the vision that she has had for building the association and mostly, her never ending time commitment to the role.

Conference was a great opportunity to walk around and get a handle on where exciting things were happening, with the view of looking at how they could be celebrated. My first role as President was to attend the PPTA’s Subject Association forum (more on that later in the newsletter) but I started by buying a big red journal. This is where I started making notes of ideas and dreams for the association following conference. Some day there will be a symbolic ‘passing on’ so that no idea can be lost and perhaps revisioned in a new way.

In that respect, the first thing I’d like to say that this is my first and last writing in this newsletter as the President. I want to turn this into the Exec corner instead and use it to keep you abreast of the things we discuss in our monthly meetings and share the voice of our different Exec members. In the next newsletter someone will report on our two days of strategic planning that will occur towards the end of May. We’re in a really strong position as an Association and it’s exciting to start planning how we can utilise it.

Naku iti noa, na
Kim

WATCH THIS SPACE

2019 DRAMA NZ PRACTICE EXAMINATIONS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE SOON!!!!

2019 Executive Committee

PRESIDENT       Kim Bonnington
                bonntastic@gmail.com
VICEPRESIDENT   TBC
SECRETARY        Annette Thomson
                athomson@avonside.school.nz
TREASURER       Teresa Callaghan
                teresa.callaghan@greenbayhigh.school.nz
PRIMARY REP     Judy Norton
                judy.norton@saientkentigern.com
REGIONAL REP    Bianca Till
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CO-ORDINATOR   Charles Bisley
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                Emma Bishop
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                Pradha Ravi
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Primary FB  https://www.facebook.com/dramanzprimary/
KIM BONNINGTON  
President  
Favourite past time: Getting geeky and talking teaching and pedagogy. 
Least favourite household chore: Folding washing. There’s a big pile of it waiting for me right now. 
Last piece of live theatre I saw: Soft Tissue @ Bats.

Teresa Callaghan  
Treasurer  
Favourite past time: Anything to do with being on, in or near the water and walking in the Waitakeres. 
Least favourite household chore: All of them - have become very adept at moving things round the house. 
Last piece of live theatre I saw: Gangsters Paradise - actually rocked my world and gave me such good belly laughs, brilliant piece of youth theatre especially when seen with other drama teachers!

TBC  
Vice President

Annette Thomson  
Secretary  
Favourite past time: Designing and creating my own textile embroidery art works. 
Least favourite household chore: Cleaning the shower. 
Last piece of live theatre I saw: Tim Minchin the ‘Back’ Tour– sooooooo good!

Judy Norton  
Primary Rep  
Favourite past time: watching The Bachelor (guilty pleasure) 
Least favourite household chore: All the washing. 
Last piece of live theatre I saw: Potted Potter – hilarious, especially if you have a mad keen HP fan in the family.
**EMMA BISHOP**  
**Regional Rep Co-ordinator**  
*Favourite past time:* Chillin on the couch with Scrappy my pup  
*Least favourite household chore:* Folding the clean washing - Mt Washington often gets the better of me  
*Last piece of live theatre I saw:* Sinerella - Mangere Arts Centre - fabulous and full of soul.

**NICK MEISSEL**  
*Favourite past time:* Spending time with my kids - especially playing cards or reading David Walliams books!  
*Least favourite household chore:* Cleaning the toilet. I’ll do anything else but you’ll drag me kicking and screaming to do that one!  
*Last piece of live theatre I saw:* ‘Annie Jr’ in Hokitika directed by the fabulous Tim Shawcross. A lovely school holiday treat.

**CHARLES BISLEY**  
*Favourite past time:* Reading  
*Least favourite household chore:* Tidying the fridge  
*Last piece of live theatre I saw:* An opera, Julius Caesar by Handel

**PRADHA RAVI**  
*Favourite past time:* watching dance/music videos and films  
*Least favourite household chore:* Cleaning the car  
*Last piece of live theatre I saw:* Mrs Krishnan’s Party
Term One closed with - Regional Shakespeare Festival - Leigh Sykes

“There is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so” - Hamlet.

While some people think of Shakespeare’s work as difficult and intimidating, a huge number of students from schools across Auckland spent Term 1 of 2019 thinking of the wonderful challenges presented by the work and embracing all things Shakespearean.

Auckland now hosts four SGCNZ University of Otago Sheilah Winn Regional Shakespeare Festivals each year, with the most recent festival, Auckland West, taking place for the first time in 2015. Since then, the number of schools and students attending the festival has grown substantially to the point where a total of 32 scenes, involving over 170 students, were presented over the two nights of the festival at the beginning of April.

Students created and performed 5 and 15 minute scenes from a variety of Shakespeare’s plays and audiences were treated to a wide range of funny, sad, powerful and thought-provoking performances. The majority of the scenes (23 of the 32 entered) at the festival were directed by students, which shows the strength and depth of student creativity and engagement in this annual opportunity to share their passions with eager audiences.

At the awards ceremony after the final performance, assessors Ben Henson and Rita Stone commented on the quality of all of the performances and performers they had seen, noting that many groups had presented scenes from plays that they knew very well in fresh and unexpected ways.

A number of awards including direct entry and best 5min and 15 min were presented at the end of the festival, celebrating the innovative and thought-provoking work of the students from many schools.

The SGCNZ UOSWSF National Festival Awards are extremely prestigious, meaning that those students awarded will perform again at the National Shakespeare Festival held in Wellington over Queen’s Birthday Weekend. These awards are also a testament to the hard work and creativity of the students; the support and encouragement of their parents and friends and the dedication of their Drama teachers. Taking part in a regional festival can be the beginning of a life-changing journey with Shakespeare and SGCNZ. It is most definitely a worthwhile and valuable event to have on your Term One calendar.
AUCKLAND

Conference thanks and write up by Gaby Reid
The theme for this year’s Drama NZ National Conference was ‘Strong, Resilient, Creative - Ka tipu te whaihanga, creativity will strengthen’.
Held at the lovely Rangi Ruru Girls’ School in Merivale the first weekend of the holidays, this kaupapa was strongly intertwined in all workshops on offer over the weekend. As with all conferences it was wonderful to catch up with our Drama whanau and to refill our cups after a long term.

It was fantastic to catch up with members from Auckland and Northland at the branches morning tea on Sunday. Some of our discussions included ideas to ensure Northland members could be involved in Professional Development plus other ideas for future workshops. These branch morning teas are always great to put faces to names!

Thanks to the Canterbury Branch for planning a great conference - can’t wait to get back to school to try out what I’ve learnt!

Term Two - Make up workshop:
We are excited to be running a teacher workshop alongside BFX and with the talented Donna Rae as the facilitator.

As well as being our Industry Rep on the Auckland committee, Donna is a qualified makeup and special effects artist and has a passion for theatre.
She has worked on many pro-amateur theatre productions over the past five years including Mamma Mia, The Phantom of the Opera, Sister Act and Evita.
She has also worked with schools on their productions such as Les Miserables, Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street, The Addams Family, Blood Brothers, Beauty and the Beast and Sugar.
This workshop will both introduce teachers to the store and expertise that is BodyFX as well as provide some starting points for drama teachers with their makeup for theatre.

What is Next?
With our focus on primary and Intermediate teaching this year we are hoping to have two more get togethers/workshops organised by Judy Norton and Chris Horne. Watch this space!! We are gathering more information from those directly involved over the next couple of weeks so we are proactive in what is wanted and needed.
So here we are heading back to school at the start of term two. Hopefully everyone has had some down time and a chance to relax and reflect on what was, I am sure, a very busy term one.

**National Conference in Christchurch**
A few of us from the Waikato Branch attended the amazing conference in Christchurch. The theme of which was ‘Strong, Resilient, Creative - Ka tipu te whaihanga, creativity will strengthen’.

Hosted at the beautiful Rangi Ruru Girls’ School in Merivale in the first weekend of the holidays, by the wonderful team from Canterbury, it was, once again, a success and some of the best PD that a drama teacher could hope for. It was also a great chance to catch up with drama teachers from around the country and renew friendships as well as starting new ones. I can certainly say that my energy levels were renewed after taking part in the varied and excellently presented workshops on offer, as well as hearing the honest and heartwarming key note from Viv Aitken.

It was fantastic to catch up with the few Waikato branch members who attended the conference at the Branch morning tea on the Sunday. It is always nice to know who we are and meet new people. We had some good discussions on how to move the branch forward in the near future.

For those of you who have not been to a DramaNZ conference, or haven’t been for a while, I cannot recommend them enough.

A huge thanks to the Canterbury Branch for organising a great conference.

**Moving Forward**

We are still looking for ideas from people for what workshops they would like.

Don’t forget the Red Leap theatre workshop hosted by Zoe Vaile at Sacred Heart Girls’ College in Hamilton. This is on the 17th of June, at 4:30pm.

Most importantly, we have our **AGM coming up on Thursday May 9 at 7:30pm.** This will be hosted at St Paul’s Collegiate School. For those of you who have a long way to travel we will be setting up a Zoom meeting. More on that when we have the details. Please make sure that you are available for this as we will need a quorum. This is also a great time to let us know how we can support you going forward.

For any information about the Waikato Branch please contact Waikato Chair/Regional Rep Bruce Rawson - b.rawson@stpauls.school.nz

Follow the Waikato Branch Facebook Group at: [https://www.facebook.com/groups/401441810944321/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/401441810944321/)
For any information about the Canterbury Branch please contact Regional Rep Annette Thomson atomson@avonside.school.nz or join us on our regional branch Facebook page at: https://www.facebook.com/groups/425374920934604/

For any information about the Massey Branch please contact Massey Regional Rep Daniel Betty - danielbettnz@gmail.com

Have you joined the Massey Branch Facebook Group? https://www.facebook.com/groups/1470960373227577/

A small but mighty group from the Massey Branch at the Regional Morning Tea at Conference. Congratulations to Lisa Simpson on receiving Life Membership to Drama NZ.

We had a great time meeting with many DramaNZ members at this year’s National Conference. Congratulations to the organisers and everyone involved in preparing such a great event!

During conference, we held a competition at our tradestand to WIN $0 inside fees when ticketing your next show with us. The winning school’s name has been drawn from a hat and the lucky winner of the prize draw is...

St Paul’s Collegiate School

Thanks to everyone who took part in the competition. In the coming weeks you will also hear from us for a no obligation chat about how iTICKET can help you take the drama out of ticketing!

Let us help you reduce hours of admin by ticketing your:
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We’re here to help!
CONFERENCE REFLECTIONS......

It was the keynote speech by Dr Viv Aitken....the monkey and the elephant metaphor was an effective idea that resonated regularly throughout conference. But a piece I took away most was the idea that “everyone is someone, not an other”. Holding onto this idea seems important to me.

Finally I got to try out ZEN ZEN ZO - two sessions and I am hooked - it is a great way to physically work out and to see how you create patterns through simple rules. - Jo Matheson

Newlands College

I think this year’s conference was definitely about bringing people’s selves into the class and allowing space for them to be who they want to be. The rider and the elephant metaphor was blimmin’ fantastic (bought the book she recommended).

A conference where we all took stock of our capability to plant seeds of acceptance and value the differences of students in the space. Beth Draper Aotea College

Wellington Branch is also proud to be well represented on the new National Executive. Congratulations to Kim Bonnington - President, Charles Bisley & Pradha Ravi - Committee

TERM TWO

Wellington Branch Term Two activity is going to be a Political/Brecht workshop.

Presenter, Date and Venue to be confirmed

Watch your emails for details.

For any information about the Wellington Branch please contact Regional Rep Kim Bonnington - bonntastic@gmail.com

or join us on our regional branch facebook page at:

https://www.facebook.com/
Great to see so many of you at the conference in April.

We are very keen to build our network and create PD opportunities that you have asked for.

**Next gathering .....**

**Thursday 9th May**

The Theatresports Coaches and Teachers session is **5.00 - 6.30pm** at the Court theatre. You are welcome to attend, even if you haven’t registered for the competition. To be involved, please email Rachel: rachel.sears@courttheatre.org.nz

**6.30pm** anyone who would like to can gather together for a drink before the dress rehearsal of Hedwig and the Angry Inch which is the same evening. To register for the dress rehearsal, please ensure you get your tickets as per the email that Rachel sends from the Court. If you don’t get that email, please contact her directly.

**SURVEY OF MEMBERS**

We are keen to tailor PD as much as possible. Please fill in the following form.

[https://forms.gle/Yt4kB4horjKUS8iP8](https://forms.gle/Yt4kB4horjKUS8iP8)

_Ginnie Thorner_  
*Canterbury Branch Chair*

For any information about the Canterbury Branch please contact Regional Rep Annette Thomson athomson@avonside.school.nz or join us on our regional branch facebook page at:  
[https://www.facebook.com/groups/425374920934604/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/425374920934604/)
For any information about the Otago / Southland Branch please contact Regional Rep Kimberley Fridd - kimberley@mccglassan.school.nz

or join us on our regional branch facebook page at: https://www.facebook.com/groups/dunedindramateachers/

DramaNZ National Conference - Otautahi Christchurch
It was lovely to see a great representation of people from Otago and Southland at the recent National Conference in beautiful Otautahi Christchurch. We are all feeling very grateful for the opportunity to attend many fabulous and creative workshops, hear an inspiring keynote presentation, and network with members from across New Zealand.

Our Regional Branch Morning Tea was a great way to touch base with everyone over the conference weekend. We discussed a range of matters, including the launch of the new Otepoti Theatre Lab - with details below. I also reminded people about our working document for 2019 - detailing events and workshops available for students and teachers in our region: https://docs.google.com/document/d/11VLqpfb150w5Gux6nSyBnbwF2F8-ouxMiEAcGl6K9A/edit?usp=sharing

If you know of any other events which might be of interest, please add to this document, or let me know.

There were so many fabulous ‘takeaways’ from conference… here are some thoughts from a couple of our branch members:

Ria Cummings:
I guess what I got most out of the Conference is how important our work is. Rachel’s quote of “be kind to your future self” has really stuck with me. My favourite part was working with Zen Zen Zo! I can see it working in a dance classes as well as drama, I walked away extremely inspired, energized and on the hunt to find Anne Bogart’s “The Viewpoint Book”. It was great to see people again and have not only perfection discussion but lots of laughs.

Rachel McMillan:
2019 Drama NZ conference takeaways: Viv Aitken: Keynote speaker message about the ‘infinity room’ effect of ‘Righteous thinking’ resonates with what the world needs right now, capturing the essence of Drama (empathy and being able to see things/appreciate/respect other viewpoints while we reconsider our own values).

The potentialities for inquiry learning stimulated by Viv Aitken’s Mantle of the Expert workshop. I’d love to see all students get the opportunity to learn using Dorothy Heathcote’s methodology. Incredibly empowering work that provides a vehicle for collaborative, cooperative and democratic processes.

Shaun Edwards Five Ways to Wellbeing workshop enabled participants to embody wellbeing through connecting, giving, taking notice, being active and keeping learning. Brilliant approach to planning with a commitment to being student centred, culturally responsive and nurturing wellbeing.

Ginnie Thorner’s Increasing Literacy workshop looked at different forms of literacy. This holistic approach to literacy was affirming since we often walk in the world of spatial, visual, kinesthetic and oral literacy.

‘Finding the Joy’ with Emma Bishop was a thoroughly enjoyable workshop with very practical tools for devising. Being ‘inside’ the drama lesson is such brilliant professional development as teachers are reminded of how we can influence joy, strength and resilience. Ka tipu te whaihanga - Creativity will strengthen!
Bianca Till’s ‘Sustainability’ workshop will directly impact how I approach drama devising with Year 12 and 13 this term. Greta Thunberg’s Student strike for climate change motivated our youth to take a stand. So I am inspired to see how our students can use drama platforms to amplify their beliefs and concerns about the environment they live in. The concept of ‘partnership’ underpinning the Treaty of Waitangi provides the potential for preservation that will increase the element of ‘hope’ in this quest.

Overall being able to present with the H.A.W.F.A.E Health and Wellbeing For Arts Educators team (Kimberly Fridd, Diane Dupres, Ria Cummings, Gillian Towle, and Rachel McMillan), was extremely stimulating (I have been reading up about neuroplasticity for the rest of the holidays). Having colleagues ask you to write resources and present more about our H.A.W.F.A.E work is a huge honour.

Otepoti Theatre Lab

Otepoti Theatre Lab has launched three new programmes as part of the Lab for 2019, and they are particularly excited to share with us some more details of their school programmes. The school programmes include on-site/in school devising workshops, and a writers workshop, with additional mentoring and development opportunities for secondary school students. Three students will have their work presented in a rehearsed reading during the New Zealand Young Writers Festival in October. These opportunities are free for students and schools to participate in. More details for all the OTL programmes and applications forms are now live on the PPP website: https://prospectparknz.com/ or feel free to contact them directly to discuss any questions you might have.

2019 Shakespeare Globe Centre NZ University of Otago Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Festival

Ten schools recently participated in the annual Otago regional event held at King’s and Queen’s Performing Arts Centre in week #11, all hoping to make it to the national competition in Wellington at Queen’s Birthday weekend. More than 120 secondary school pupils spent the day acting out various scenes from Shakespeare's plays, while three finalists in each category performed in an evening showcase.

Results:
Winning 5-minute scene: John McGlashan College, Romeo and Juliet.
Winning 15-minute scene: Logan Park High School, King Lear.
Direct entry to National Shakespeare in Schools Programme: Maiescha Fox, Kavanagh College.
Denise Walsh Memorial Award for the Best Ensemble: Kaikorai Valley College, Macbeth.

Our next branch event...
We will aim to have another branch catch-up or event during the first part of this term. More details to come.

Nga mihi, Kimberley - DramaNZ Otago Southland Rep & Chairperson
I had known this person as a name for a number of years: she was the name on some of the unit plans at Rosehill College, the name of the editor/collator of a book of resources I had from Team Solutions and finally the name of a person whose invoices I paid for a recently finished Drama NZ Ministry Contract as the National treasurer when I first came onto the executive.

But this person is so much more than a name.

She completed her training at Waikato University before moving to Auckland where she taught at Papakura High School, Waitakere College and Rosehill College before she became a National Advisor with Team Solutions – a role she held for 2 years.

In the 80s she became close with those in NZADIE in Auckland and was encouraged to become a member. She has been remembered by one member as a very competent, knowledgeable, helpful and kind person in the role of one of our first national moderators of our then Unit Standard Assessment platform. She sat on the first writing panels for the creation of the new assessment model NCEA. Her contribution is of a person that has truly helped making our subject seen as an academic one.

A past secondary student of this person Kijana Pene, who is now a drama teacher herself, recalls her as a teacher at New Plymouth Girls’ High who was able to ‘calm the crazy’ and who was the teacher that ensured the students and families understood the value of Drama as an academic choice.

Now this person’s contribution didn’t stop there. She was integral in the Jumbo Days in which she strengthened the work of many a teacher. Kim Bonnington recalls attending these days where this person bought real examples of work, of the how’s and why’s in real context whilst also being a person who opened teachers up to thinking about alternative how’s and why’s and other contexts and settings.

Kim felt teachers including herself left these days feeling a sense of ability and capability to take back into their classes.

When I finally met this person for real – in person, face to face I was immediately greeted by a sense was of calm and control. As we worked together I was in awe of her ability to assess the questions or look for possible solutions from a multitude of perspectives and the way in which through her way of critical questioning was able to ensure you did well, was, well nothing but extraordinary.

This wahina toa is definitely a details person……in fact only last weekend as I spoke to her on the phone she was about to go into school to do a few repairs on some costumes before completing the final checks on the student’s group boxes in preparation for their Shakespeare festival on Monday. A job she had to complete as she wouldn’t see the girls until they boarded the bus on Monday.

This person has always had a space in her heart for our association which meant when I called her a week out from this conference to ask for her help as one of our presenters presenting in two spaces was no longer able to attend she paused, and considered in her calm and controlled way and replied “yes, yes I can do that, in fact I would be happy to as it would allow me to give back to the association that gave me so much especially as I started out as a teacher.”

Now it’s not all about Drama for this person, she lives with her husband and three teenaged daughters in Taranaki…although I am sure there is drama there!

And for a bit of peace she gardens not just for pleasure but for creativity.

So I ask you all to put your hands together for Drama New Zealand’s newest Life Member Lisa Simpson (nee Sharp).

Presented 13th April Rangi Ruru Girls’ High School by Emma Bishop
Come and join us in Dunedin UNESCO City of Literature for the 2019 Speech Communication Association Professional Development Seminar: “Voices ‘n’ Verse”, Tuesday, 1st October, 8.30 a.m. - Thursday 3rd October, 3.00 p.m., Kingsgate Hotel.

Sessions will focus on myriad aspects of poetry: firstly by taking time to listen to poetry performed live by nationally recognized poets including Cilla McQueen, (New Zealand Poet Laureate for 2009–2011), and Sue Wootton, (2008 Robert Burns fellow), to hear the words fill space and our minds and hearts, to register the poems in the immediate moment. With this experience as our catalyst we will go on to consider teaching poetry; adjudicating poetry; preparing our voice for speaking poetry, sharing our own poetry or poems we love – a veritable feast of poetry for us to enjoy.

Along with these sessions SCA President and 2018 Deirdre Snedden Scholar, Glenda Pearce, will be sharing her experience at the Globe Theatre, London – through a workshop provocatively titled “It’s not Verse it’s Dialogue.”

Our venue will be Kingsgate Hotel and they have been kind enough to set aside discounted accommodation for delegates at $145.00 p/n for standard rooms. To take advantage of the discount you need to book directly through the Hotel and quote the block name or number to get the special rate. The block number is 6993913 and the name is ‘NZ Speech Communication Assoc Conf – NZSCA’; you can use the number, the title, or both when you book.

At the beginning of June, registration and full programme information will be available on our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/speechcommassociation/
Website: http://www.speechcomm.org.nz/
For any enquiries please email: Speech Communication <speechcommsassociation@gmail.com>

We hope that you can join us!
We had a fantastic primary and intermediate teacher turn-out at our conference - the largest yet!
It was lovely to see some old faces and meet many new ones. It is so important to have this opportunity and time to make connections, put faces to names and get to know one another.

Some primary highlights from conference

Because it actually means something to me’
Outcomes of an eighteen-month study into Mantle of the Expert, process drama and writing within a culturally responsive frame – Dr Viv Aitken and Renee Downey

I thoroughly enjoyed and was inspired by Viv and Renee’s presentation and workshop. For many of us it was a dip into Mantle. It was a shame that more time was not available to explore this further. Renee’s school has embraced Mantle wholeheartedly. What a huge learning curve they have all been on. It was fascinating to hear about Renee’s Masters research investigating how her students coped with the transition from the Mantle environment to intermediate education. The skills they had learnt meant they portrayed positive reflections on their primary years, had formed strong relationships and were well placed and well prepared for this transition. It validates drama as a learning medium and demonstrates clearly the way it encompasses all key competencies.

‘Walk in my shoes’ – Based on the novel ‘Boy Overboard’ by Morris Gleitzman.
This workshop used process drama to show participants how to guide their students through a cohesive and sequenced process drama experience in the drama classroom. It was presented by Marthy Watson from Griffith University, Australia.

This was timely and topical. Marthy used a range of activities to explore our pre-existing views of refugees. This unit delves into the experiences of immigrants. It aims to gain a greater understanding of their situation. We considered multiple perspectives echoing the ideas that were presented in Dr Viv Aiken’s keynote about the righteous mind; what is meant by the grace element ‘to be in someone else’s shoes’ and explored counter narratives.

At conference the Primary and Intermediate teachers met for afternoon tea. We discussed what is needed in our sector:

A consensus was:
- More networking and sharing of resources
- More workshops in regions

If you have other feedback concerning how you want Drama NZ to support our primary sector please contact us.

If you have anything you’d like to share in the Primary Corner, please get in touch with our Primary Representative Judy Norton dramanzprimaryed@gmail.com

Also make stay up to date by following us on the Drama NZ Primary Edition Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/dramanzprimary/
A reminder that we have another conference coming up, specifically for ECE, Primary and Intermediate teachers.

A TRCC Conference, in association with Drama NZ. 2-4 October, in Wellington.

Get in quick to benefit from TRCC’s travel subsidy for the first 20 paid Early Bird registrations. For registrations go to https://trcc.org.nz/courses/

This conference is designed for ECE, primary, and intermediate teachers. Participants will explore and experience a rich variety of pedagogical methods to engage children from 3-13 through drama, with a focus on language learning. In the keynote address, John Saunders from Drama Australia will talk about his experience of the drama and literacy combination. There will also be the chance to hear children talk about their experiences.

Scholarships:
As part of Drama NZ’s commitment to developing our primary sector we are offering two scholarships to support Drama NZ Primary/Intermediate members to attend this conference. Each Scholarship awards up to the value of $500 to be used towards registrations, accommodation or travel.
To apply for this please email: dramanzprimaryed@gmail.com with your name, position, a personal statement on how receiving a scholarship would benefit you. A statement of endorsement from your senior teacher or principal should also be enclosed.

Scholarship applications close 1st June.

Drama NZ Scholarships
Drama NZ are offering two scholarships to the value of $500 to be used towards registration, accommodation or travel.

To Apply:
Please send an email to dramanzprimaryed@gmail.com including:

- Name,
- Institution and position,
- A paragraph telling us how you would benefit from receiving this scholarship,
- A statement from your Senior teacher or Principal stating their support in your attending the conference.

Applications close 31 May 2019.
Engaging Learners Through Drama – Whakamana, Mana Reo

This course, for NE-Year 8 and ECE teachers, will explore creative ways to engage children in a rich variety of language learning using drama.

Drama draws on children’s experience, their culture, their whanau, and their love of exploration and play. It is a text rich learning area that brings together multiple literacies and modern learning practices. Research shows drama boosts literacy including writing.

At this course there will be opportunities to learn about:

- developing strategies to improve children’s listening, speaking, and social learning;
- using drama processes to support literacy learning;
- fostering whakamana and capability to learn;
- stimulating children’s creativity and love of story;
- challenging children to ask questions and think critically about the world around them;
- the experience of drama as an active way of learning;
- extending children’s natural artistry and imaginative play.

**Course details:**

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<th>Dates:</th>
<th>2 – 4 October, 2019</th>
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<tr>
<td>Venue:</td>
<td>Kelburn Normal School, Kelburn, Wellington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Director:</td>
<td>Charles Bisley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning Committee:</td>
<td>Charles Bisley, Danielle Sanders, Judy Norton, Juliet Cottrell</td>
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</tbody>
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**Registration fees:**

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<tr>
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<th>Early Bird fee</th>
<th>Full fee:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Early Bird fee applies if paid on or before 2 August 2019.</td>
<td>$380.00</td>
<td>$480.00</td>
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<td>Registrations close:</td>
<td>30 August 2019</td>
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Registration fee includes course, catering during course time and the course dinner on Thursday 3rd October.

**Accommodation costs:**

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<tr>
<td>Accommodation – Single</td>
<td>$460.00</td>
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<td>Accommodation – Twin Share</td>
<td>$270.00</td>
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Accommodation at CQ Hotel, Upper Cuba Street, Wellington for the nights of 2nd and 3rd October, including breakfast and transport to and from the course venue.

**Travel subsidy:**

TRCC subsidise teachers’ travel as per our travel policy (see website for details) for the first 20 Early Bird paid registrations for this course.
# Engaging Learners Through Drama – Whakamana, Mana Reo

**2 – 4 October 2019, Kelburn Normal School, Wellington**

## Programme:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Wednesday 2 October</th>
<th>Thursday 3 October</th>
<th>Friday 4 October</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:20am</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Bus leaves hotel</td>
<td>Bus leaves hotel</td>
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<td>8:30am</td>
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<td>9:00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30am</td>
<td>Mihia Whakatau</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td><strong>Morning tea</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30am</td>
<td>Story Telling</td>
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| 11:00am | **Process Drama Workshop**
Delegates will participate in a process drama with an experienced Primary drama practitioner. | **Morning tea**
Workshops
- ECE-Year 2: Play Based Learning
- Primary Year 3-6: Using picture books
- Senior Primary & Intermediate: Devising and making a play | **Morning tea**
**Keynote John Saunders**
Lunch
Workshop and Performance
Participants make and perform a short multi medium theatre work.
| 12:15pm |                      |                    |                 |
| 12:30pm | Lunch                |                    |                 |
| 1:00pm  |                      |                    |                 |
| 1:15pm  | **Process Drama Workshop**
(continued) | **Artist Workshops**
Mime, movement and singing | Sharing
Poroporoaki |
| 2:30pm  | Using apps for reflection |                    |                 |
| 3:00pm  | Afternoon tea        |                    |                 |
| 3:15pm  | **Talanoa Panel discussion with experts in the field** | **Tataiako Cultural Competencies for teachers of Maori learners.** | Course concludes |
| 3:30pm  |                      |                    |                 |
| 4:00pm  | Wine and Cheese      |                    |                 |
| 5:30pm  | Bus returns to hotel - course concludes for the day | Conference dinner | |
| 6:00pm  |                      | Play at Bats Theatre |                 |
| 8:30pm  |                      |                    |                 |

**Keynote: John Saunders.** John is Director of Education and Community Partnership at Sydney Theatre Company. John has extensive experience in Arts Education and has been a teacher and Head of Department in schools. John is currently: President, Drama Australia; Chair, Australian Major Performing Arts Group (AMPAG) Education Network; Drama representative, National Advocates for Arts Education and Drama Advisor to ACARA. John is an Honorary Associate at the University of Sydney where he is also completing his PhD exploring the impact of drama-based pedagogy on English and literacy learning.
Thank you so much everyone for coming to conference and for making it a special place to be, it really felt like whanau. A special thanks go to the team, Annette Thomson, Peter Rutherford, Fiona Brownlie, Ginnie Thorner, Joanne Clarke, Chris Cheesman and Samantha Boyce-Da Cruz. Plus Emma Bishop and Teresa Callaghan from the executive who helped us out with finances, trades and keeping us on track!

We hope that you were inspired, felt a part of the Drama NZ team and came away with lots to take back to your regions and schools. It was wonderful to see all the sharing happening – and remember we are all human trying to do the same job; educate our students about the magic of Drama.

Annette Thomson - Conference Chair

Our creative artwork for conference was created by Chris Cheesman and depicts our region. It shows a geographical depiction of the area as a ‘person’ from the forests of Marlborough, to the Southern Alps, sands of the West Coast and the plains of Canterbury with the braided rivers to the east.

A big thank you goes to Peter Rutherford and the team from catering, maintenance, boarding and the students at Rangi Ruru Girls’ High School that helped make our conference such a success. This was once again a superb venue that fulfilled our requirements perfectly.
Thanks to our amazing associates

We were overwhelmed with all the product and giveaways from our amazing tradies and associates. Here are some of the winners with their prizes from:

- Origin Theatrical
- Playmarket NZ
- John Herber Theatrical
- ESA Publications

CONFERENACE 2019
2018 National Executive Annual General Meeting

We will send the official minutes to all members in the next week but in the meantime here are some of the key points from the meeting.

Discussions were held around three main points:
Firstly - annual EJournal.
Over the past few years the number of submissions has greatly declined.
As a means of ensuring the EJournal lives on we have decided to appoint a working group of four to six experts to investigate the EJournal and come up with ideas on how to carry it forward.
This group will report back to the National Executive by June at which time their report will be discussed and implemented as deemed appropriate.
Secondly discussion was around expenses for National Executive Members.
As you are all aware we are all volunteers. Currently we cover our own expenses for accommodation and travel to our annual face to face meeting and National Conference.
It is felt that to maximise opportunities to develop the association we would like to increase the annual face to face meetings to two per year and introduce an annual face to face for the Regional Representatives. As well as this we feel it is important for all executive to have the opportunity to attend the National conference and be present for the AGM.
Therefore the following motions were passed:
- That the Drama NZ Executive increase face to face executive meetings to two per year and that all expenses for the members are covered by the annual budget.
- That an annual face to face be implemented for the Regional Reps and that all expenses for the members are covered by the annual budget.
- That the expense of attending conference - registration, travel and accommodation for National Executive members be covered by the annual budget.

A third discussion was tabled by the Canterbury Branch.
That was in regards to the annual membership and its dates. Canterbury Branch tabled that the annual year change from Jan - Dec to April to March to allow for the year to settle. This was especially an issue for those moving schools and learning the way processes are done.
The executive explained the need for AGM to be held by the end of May due to the current constitution. Also that for that to happen the annual accounts needed to be completed and reviewed prior to the AGM.
To move forward the Executive will investigate the possibility but that if a change was to be made it may require a constitution change. We will report back to the members on this in a future newsletter.

The appointment of officers was successful with no requirement to vote.
We thanked Emma Bishop who stepped down as President after a five year term and welcomed Kim Bonnington into the role.
We also acknowledged Angela Clayton who stepped down during the year.
Stepping onto the executive is Pradha Ravi - Head of Engagement at Toi Whakaari.

During the meeting we expressed the need for another member and our hope we could find someone from South Island. We were happy that following the meeting we were able to welcome Nick Meissel- Dunstan High to the Executive.

We ended the meeting by drawing our amazing AGM Prize sponsored by Masks4Schools which was won by Jex Moore from Marrizpan.

Thank you to Jo Matheson for stepping in to take the minutes. Also we wish to thank everyone who attended. The Association is your association and the Executive run it on your behalf. It has been truly pleasing to see the increase in numbers attending over the past few years. We thank you for caring about your association and for supporting the development of it.
Having established junior Drama at my school only two years ago with the aim to build a senior course next year, attending the conference in Christchurch was invaluable. Firstly it enabled me to connect with a wonderful network of Drama teachers in my region and speak with them about what shows were touring and what events were coming up.

Also they were very generous with their knowledge and experience with any questions I had regarding NCEA. It was also wonderful to reconnect with the teachers and practitioners I have met along my teaching journey and chat with them about their endeavors.

Secondly, the workshops were great. I wanted to return with resources and ideas I could use in the classroom and I felt like I have achieved that.

The conference was very professionally run from the welcoming on the Friday night, to the fabulous dinner and show on the Saturday night, through to all the workshops. The people involved did an outstanding job making everyone feel very welcome and at ease. Thank you so much for such a fun weekend and I will definitely be back next year for more informative workshops and re-connecting with such wonderful people.

Kylie Hodgkinson - Cromwell College

What stood out to me the most was the collegiality. Not just simply friendliness but the openness and willingness to share thoughts, ideas, planning, units, games and more. I also had the pleasure of staying onsite at the beautiful Rangi Ruru Girls’ High School and therefore was able to make some great connections and contacts with some of the other attendees. This allowed us the time to discuss and unpack the sessions we had been to and share ideas and resources from the ones we didn’t.

There was such a great range and number of speakers to choose from in each session that catered for the differing sectors.

Katy Wild - Kamo Intermediate

Both of these scholarship participants also won trade prizes from Music Theatre International - Australasia
It’s been a great Term 1 for Heavenly Bodies with two schools licensing the play from Playmarket. Last year before being published, it also received two school licenses. We think this is very exciting news as the play is both ambitious and definitely not sledge hammer P.C. If you are looking for a teenage play that stirs both the heart and head, then Heavenly Bodies written by Kerry Lynch - Drama NZ Life Member could be the one.

“NZ Artists travel to the South of the World to Bring Climate Change Messages back to New Zealand”

Christchurch writers Vanessa Wells and Jared Corbin have been on a once-in-a-lifetime experience to visit the icy continent, but it wasn’t just a cool experience. They are now writing a comedy play that will tour primary schools across New Zealand and Australia. The tour has been announced today (Monday).

“We’ve been given the chance to make a crazy idea a reality. Our mission? To travel to Antarctica and bring back a cool multi media story that we could share with primary school kids, bringing theatre and science together,” says Wells.

Christchurch-based theatre company New Zealand Playhouse has picked up the show to tour. It will be their 22nd production and producer Michael Bell believes they will be successful in bringing the show and its messages to students. “We’re really looking forward to bringing this important message to schools.”

Bell is also excited to be collaborating with Antarctica NZ and the International Antarctic Centre. “Their support of this project has been fantastic. It’s not compulsory but I really hope a lot of schools choose to study Antarctica in 2020. New Zealand is the best place in the world to be studying Antarctica, particularly Christchurch. It’s also an increasingly important time to be discussing climate change.”

But Wells says the play isn’t just about the heavy subjects - it also does some light hearted myth busting. “Did you know that one of the biggest pet peeves of scientists at Scott Base is just how many people think polar bears live in Antarctica? So we’ll be having fun with that too.”

Wells and Corbin, along with Christchurch cinematographer Richard Lord who has shot multimedia footage for the play, were selected for Antarctica New Zealand’s arts programme which sends artists to Antarctica each year. Bell was not chosen to go on the journey and was instead tasked with the job of writing media releases, which he claims is “just as fun”.

![Image of artists in Antarctica and Christchurch writers](image-url)
Tena koutou,

First of all the Ugly Shakespeare Company hopes those of you who attended the Drama NZ Conference enjoyed the dinner that we were proud to sponsor.

We would like to continue to support the great work that you do in schools nurturing the next generation of theatre practitioners in Aotearoa New Zealand.

We are finishing our 2019 Tour in Auckland this month and still have some gaps in our schedule and would love to come and present Taming of the Shrew.

The Ugly Shakespeare's all woman team takes on this challenge head on, unpacking the script and bringing our own hilarious, fast paced and Uglyfied version of this great play.

"Excellent and really lovely actors... Generous, kind and professional. Wonderful role models."
- Columba College 2019

"Themes are relevant in today's society and this was explained to students in the play. It opened their eyes as well as being easy for them to understand."
- Central Southland College 2019

"This was one of the best shows I've seen from the USC. Great performance, lots of energy and a great show for our young people."
- Trident High School 2019

We have limited space until the end of May, please contact Marianne, USC Tour Manager at thebardoffice@gmail.com or book directly through our website, www.ugly.org.nz

We look forward to bringing some great New Zealand theatre to your schools in the future and beyond.

Nga mihi māhāna,
Richard Green

NZ’s LONGEST RUNNING THEATRE IN EDUCATION TOURING SHOW – www.ugly.org.nz

WATCH THIS SPACE

2019 DRAMA NZ PRACTICE EXAMINATIONS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE SOON!!!!
Subject Association Forum
15-16 April 2019

For those of you who aren’t familiar with this event, it is an annual opportunity that is funded by the PPTA to get all of the Subject Associations together to network and meet with the Ministry and NZQA.

This year Drama NZ was represented by Kim Bonnington.

NCEA review

It was explained to us that the review came about due to the following concerns:

• Maori and Pasifika students not being served by the system. While achievement has increased the quality of achievement is not good with some students achieving NCEA through Standards that don’t require high expectations of students.
• Literacy and numeracy isn’t being served well.
• A concern that students are coming out lacking in employability skills
• A concern about cohesiveness; is the system better suited for those heading to university than others?
• A concern over the general wellbeing of teachers and students.

There was supposed to be a review of the Standards but this has been deferred until 2020 while this review is underway.

Consultation has been extensive. The next round of consultation will occur from June to October and the Exec will be looking at forming a response, and we will be encouraging the regions to do so as well.

They are looking at aiming for fewer, larger Achievement Standards in an effort to reduce workload but they realise that any long term change will have a work load increase in the short term. The following timeline was put forward:

2019  Discussions with Subject Associations and how planning can be cross curricular.
2020  Look at matrices and draft level 1 Achievement Standards.
2021  Trial Level 1. Draft Level 2.
2022  Implement Level 1 (Schools can opt out). Trial level 2. Draft Level 3.
2023  Level 1 fully implemented. Implement Level 2 (Schools can opt out). Trial level 3.
2024  Level 2 fully implemented. Implement Level 3 (Schools can opt out).
2025  Level 3 fully implemented.

One of the good things that was announced was that they are employing curriculum specialists to work alongside Subject Associations in the work. This means that the Association has to now think about how we will do this and I will be making sure that it has been taken into account when we set our goals for our strategic plan for the next 5 years.

It has been a long time since we have had someone specific in the MOE to contact about curriculum specific issues and while there is no guarantee that person will be there beyond 2025, there was a lot of recognition during the discussion about the NCEA and Tomorrow’s Schools review about the need for subject specific curriculum support and PLD.
Tomorrow’s Schools Review – Bali Haque

We were reminded that the first iteration of the report was just that; a series of recommendations. Bali Haque spoke of his frustration that the way it was received wasn’t in keeping with the main ideas and issues they were trying to resolve; the team see this change as cultural change, rather than structural. Since that report they have had 3,200 submission via a survey and 25 oral submissions. The final report is due at the end of June.
You can read more at https://conversation.education.govt.nz/.

NZQA and the Assessor Support Model

Moderator workshops will occur on request; you need 10 people to run a workshop if there is a school to host it. If you want to host a workshop, NZQA will help via their facebook page. You can either be invoiced as one school or NZQA will invoice all of the schools individually to help make it easier.

NZQA are also offering Transferring Assessment Praxis (TAP) workshops. This is a 9 week online programme that’s available 24/7 for $120. It aims to assist teachers to change assessment resources to better meet the needs of their students and explore different ways of collecting evidence for assessment (includes case studies).

There was a discussion about integrated assessment ie where work student work is assessed in a cross curricular fashion. It was reiterated that you don’t have to identify which aspects you are assessing in your subjects; the Moderator will do that.

NZQA and online assessment

Online assessment is being introduced using the SAMR model to underpin what they are doing so at the moment they are pretty much just substituting what has always been doing with the External exams with the electronic system. The subjects that currently have electronic exams are those that are most easily substituted and have come first and it will continue to be that way for the near future. The modification stage is still something they are unsure as to how it will look and those changes will need to be in consultation with teachers and subject experts.

With that in mind I asked about Drama; given that our External Exam was designed to be in a written format because that was all that was available, does that mean that with the opportunities for modification that we could see an Exam that was more practical and assessed more skills than Drama literacy? He admitted that he had no idea but it does raise an interesting question about the current focus and content of the External examinations for Drama and whether there could be a change of focus if modification was possible under a digital format. This could be something we could look at in the future so that we can be part of the consultation.

To download a free copy of a manuscript become a subscriber at playmarket.org.nz ($40). All other inquiries contact: info@dramamagic.com

Most of the plays listed below have either been drama workshopped or produced by schools.

**Full Length Play:**

**A Colonial Devotion**
- Cast: 30 without doubling.
- With doubling: 7 F, 8 M
- Newly-wed and pregnant Jane Deans arrives at Riccarton from Scotland in 1853, little knowing that her promised life to a successful Canterbury farmer will require every ounce of fortitude she can muster to survive. [First performed by Riccarton High School, Year 11 Drama, 2018]

**One Act Play:**

**Mocked**
- Cast: 6 Female, 1 Male, 2 Either
- Lucinda recalls a boy related texting war between herself and former friend, Nina. Satirical style. Themes: Misuse of Social Media, Fear of Gossip, Fear of Criticism

**Dramatic Comedy Sketches:**

**Kiwis in Paradise**
- 2 Female, 1 Male
- American tourists, Bob and his wife Stacey encounter an enthusiastic Save the Kiwi collector, Amy, at the Franz Josef glacier Visitors' Centre. [A 2016 Saving Endangered Species International Playwriting Competition finalist.] Themes: Conservation, Tourism.

**Virtual Reality**
- Cast: 1 Female, 1 Male, 1 Either
- Gina is alone in her apartment with her virtual friend, when the Capitol Strangler comes calling. Themes: Anger, Fear of Isolation, Fear of Violence.

**Mortified**
- Cast: 3 Either
- Frankie’s loyalty to Aidan is tested when Morgan belittles Aidan. Themes: Embarrassment, Death, Loyalty.

**Petrified**
- Cast: 2 Either
- Alex’s offer to buy the pizzas on a first date turns into a vegan nightmare for Jesse. Themes: Relationships, Beliefs, Fear of Rejection, Self-Image.

**Dropped**
- Cast: 2 Either
- Max’s exam fears meet Bobbie’s desire to avoid humiliation and friendship loss. Themes: Fear of Failure, Achievement, Friendship, Self-Image.

**On the Game**
- Cast: 1 Female, 1 Male, 2 Either
- Mrs Swift’s careers’ meeting with Jamie goes awry as they talk at cross purposes. Themes: Misunderstanding, Hope, Dreams, Sexuality.

**Mates Rates**
- Cast: 1 Female, 1 Male, 1 Either
- Jace’s attempt to corrupt a newbie skateboarder is thwarted by super sleuth, Sage. Themes: Age, Popularity, Deception, Fear of Rejection.

**Quagmire Blues**
- Cast: 4 Either
- Elliott’s tramping group becomes bogged down on the mountain. Themes: Allegiances, Safety fears, Temperament, Skills.

**Waltzing Matilda**
- Cast: 2 Either
- History student Jules learns important lessons from an elderly Miss Matilda. Themes: Relationships, Loves, Family History, Age, Social Class

**Bird Brained**
- Cast: 2 Female, 2 Male, 3 Either
- Quarrelsome birds band together to save Kelly Kiwi from a certain death. Themes: Intelligence, Fears, Conservation, Prejudice

**Teaspoons of Life**
- Cast: 3 Female
- Vulnerable Doreen’s keepsake is stolen by an unscrupulous family member. Themes: Aging, Deception, Family Jeuds, Hobbies

**Normal**
- Cast: 2 Female, 1 Either
- Avery’s fixation with normality erupts when Puck has some lunchtime fun. Themes: Fear of Gossip and Rejection, Prejudice

Susan began writing plays for students she taught at Greymouth High School because she could find nothing to direct that came close to fitting their needs, and nothing in the curriculum that reflected the local community’s social history. Susan is a Life Member of Drama NZ.
It's been a great Term One for Heavenly Bodies written by Drama NZ Life Member Kerry Lynch (HOD Otahuhu College) with two schools licensing play from Playmarket. Last year before being published, it also received two school licenses.

We think this is very exciting news as the play is both ambitious and definitely not sledge hammer P.C. If you are looking for a teenage play that stirs both the heart and head, then this could be the one.

A five-day physical theatre intensive for artists & educators

New Zealand

STOMP

ARTIST’S RETREAT Hanmer Springs

29 September – 3 October, 2019
The Junior Theatre Celebration is back in 2019!

13 - 14 September

Victory Convention Centre, Auckland, New Zealand

Want the chance to be part of an amazing weekend developing your skills whilst celebrating what you love - MUSICAL THEATRE?

Has your school, studio or society produced a Broadway JR, KIDS production in the past 12 months or are you about to do one in the next 12 months? Or perhaps a full production of one of the JR or KIDS titles?

Would you and your staff like to learn more about putting on a musical?

If you responded YES to any of the above then the Junior Theatre Celebration NZ is for YOU!

Each participating group will present a 10 minute extract from your Broadway Jr show for adjudication and then enjoy the drama workshops and celebration event.

We are super excited for the return of Tim McDonald, Marty Johnson, and Cindy Ripley (ITheatrics, New York), with Stuart Hendricks (Music Theatre International - Australasia)

This year the event starts on the Friday evening with our official opening and a showing of the 2019 JTNZ Pilot Programme.

Then Saturday is a day filled with:

- Adjudications
- Workshops for directors, teachers and students
- Professional development opportunities
- A final celebration including
  - Awards
  - An AllStars performance
  - Local and National Guest Artists
  - and more......

Find out all you need to know about attending as a Group, Individual or attending Professional Development by downloading the information pack at https://www.amicitrust.org.nz/junior-theatre-new-zealand/celebration-day/

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