



THE PLATFORM

Volume 12
Issue 3

August 2011

www.speechanddrama.co.za

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This issue contains lots of exciting opportunities for teachers and pupils. A storytelling assembly, speech and drama lessons, a poetry book for children and educational theatre for schools are just some of the things you can read about.

An item on page 2 is a reminder that the Speech and Drama Association has been in existence for 68 years, while page 3 brings you current festival news with some important tips and information. Please read this carefully.

Beverley Cook-Tonneson's innovative company, *Page-to-Stage*, offers a number of services including an educational theatre programme that will be touring to primary schools from September. Read about it on page 4 and about Mama Nomusa's storytelling assembly programme for schools on page 5.

Page 5 also highlights poetry - Brett Beiles' award-winning sonnet, *Omissions*, and details of Irene Emanuel's latest anthology of poems.

The Rising Star Academy is a fast-growing performing arts academy with classes held at various venues in and around Durban. More details about this dynamic academy can be found on page 6.

I hope that from amongst this variety you will find something that is of particular interest to you and your school.

BRUCE PIPER AWARD MONOLOGUE COMPETITION

Teachers, adjudicators and students who would like to see some of KZN's top high school drama pupils perform their monologues from the festival should diarise the date for the 2011 Bruce Piper Award Monologue Competition, to be held on Saturday, 22 October at 2pm at UKZN Durban.

Final details will be sent to the candidates' schools and posted on our website.

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FESTIVAL DIRECTOR
Vyvienne Ball

A Link with the Past

Sixty-one years ago, at the age of 9, Peter Terry-Lloyd entered what was then called the Durban Speech and Drama Festival, the forerunner of today's Speech and Drama Association Festival. He received reports and certificates much like today's candidates. It's interesting to compare his reports below with those written by our current adjudicators! Peter went on to become a teacher and headmaster so the ability and confidence to speak in public was always very important in his career.

Thank you to Peter for sharing his reports with us, as well as for accommodating our adjudicator, Pam Couperthwaite, when she adjudicated at Arboretum Primary School in Richards Bay last term.

DURBAN SPEECH AND DRAMA FESTIVAL

Subject Schools Set Piece Section A13(6) No. _____
 Candidates No. 468 Class _____
E.P.S.C.P. 6970.1.48

REMARKS:

You missed out some of the words. A good try! Speak up!
 R. Vander Sout

DURBAN SPEECH AND DRAMA FESTIVAL

Subject Light Reading Section I 39(a) No. _____
 Candidates No. 984 Class 2 id
E.P.S.C.P. 6970.1.48

REMARKS:

A good try! You will read well with practice
 R. Vander Sout

New Contrast, the South African Literary Journal, is a Non-Profit Organization which features most of South Africa's contemporary writers of poetry, flash fiction, short stories, reviews, essays and bits of prose.

Since 1960 *Contrast* and *New Contrast* have brought many of this country's best writers to public notice; famous names like Nadine Gordimer, JM Coetzee, Antjie Krog, Zakes Mda, Ingrid Jonker and Breyton Breytonbach. It has provided a platform for many writers to publish their work.

To find out more about *New Contrasts*, to support them with your subscription or to contribute your own writing, visit their website <http://www.newcontrast.net>

Festival News

55 Festivals are booked for this term and 11 so far, for the fourth term, while requests for workshops continue, with another four being held this term

Feedback from schools and adjudicators indicates that children are eagerly entering the new category, PowerPoint Presentation. To allow them the benefit of entering a variety of categories, please inform parents and pupils of all the relevant categories in the syllabus. If you need guidance on any of the sections, please contact me. A copy of our booklet with explanations and teaching guides for Choral Verse, Mime, Theme Programmes and Dramatic Movement can be posted to you on request.

Schools that completed their Festivals last term should have received their certificates by now. If you haven't, please let me know. You will have noticed that certificates are being issued in English only with space on the certificate to print the language in which it was achieved.

The Poetry section now includes Original Poetry, (as well as sonnets and lyrical poetry for high schools), so continue to encourage pupils to write and enter their own poems. The presentation of the poem and not the writing will be adjudicated.

In answer to the frequently asked question about whether movement is permitted in poetry - it is. However it should be natural movement that enhances the meaning of the poem and does not detract from the words.

Despite very careful proof reading, a few glitches crept into the syllabus, so please note the errata alongside this column.

Enjoy your festivals this term.

Vyviene Ball

Festival Director

Original Poetry is still part of the syllabus - it is included under Section 1.

Ensure that parents and pupils are aware of ALL the categories in the syllabus.

ERRATA

Rubric:

- Category 10.
Solo Theme Programme:
Max time allowed should read 10 mins.
- Category 11.
The News at Eight.
Max time allowed should read 3 mins.

English Syllabus:

Page 16. Grade 2 Choral Verse:

The Sandwich

1st verse, 4th line should read "as big as can be!"

“ Movement may be used but should always enhance the meaning of the poem and not detract from it.”

Congratulations to Gillian Brunings and her husband, Yari, on the birth of their son, Elliott, on Monday, 25 July 2011.





Once Upon a Time ...

...a lively and imaginative adaptation of four classic Grimm's fairy-tales, aimed at **Junior and Senior Primary** students. 'Upcycled' props and costume pieces and a green linking theme make this show a perfect addition to your school's activities leading up to, during and following **Clean-up South Africa Week**, in September.

KING LEAR from page to stage

FOR IEB MATRICS:

Interactive revision workshop that lifts King Lear from the page, to the stage. Two hours - at a convenient time for your matrics, including evenings or weekends. Facilitated by international award-winning teacher and actor/director **Beverly Cooke-Tonnesen**, and South African/British actor and seasoned Shakespeare performer, **Byron Mondahl**.

CONTACT PAGE-to-STAGE:

pagetostage.sa@gmail.com

031 202-8414

Website:

<http://www.bevct.wordpress.com>

PAGE-to-STAGE is a company focused on entertainment and life-long learning.

We offer a range of top quality educational theatre productions and workshops for school students from Grade RR to Grade 12. We provide experienced adjudicators and moderators for your Drama exams and festivals. We also offer workshops for **staff development, individual training** and provide **motivational speakers**.

PAGE-to-STAGE is the initiative of international award-winning teacher and theatre director, **Beverly Cooke-Tonnesen**. As well as creating her own projects, Beverly partners with top theatre professionals and trainers to create high-quality, powerful products, under the **PAGE-to-STAGE** banner.

Poetry

Omission

Your words unspoken hurt the worst of all:
 they quench the love enunciation spawns
 and course by course create an unseen wall
 impenetrable spectre shading dawns
 of hope which soon are swallowed by the dusk;
 for in the shadows of omitted truth,
 suspicion festers on a rotting husk
 that once bore fruit of optimistic youth.
 Yet seeds of expectation still give heart
 in dreams unfolding from the vale of night
 to lives entwined as one upon our hearth,
 despite your secrets hidden from the light.
 So what is it that you have left unsaid?
 My fear is that your silence has misled.

- Brett Beiles

Winner of South African Writers' Circle Poetry Competition, Oct 2010,
 and Hildé Slinger Poetry Trophy 2011.

Count Catula of Shadoland

If you're looking for children's poems, particularly poems about cats, look no further than Irene Emanuel's latest publication, **Count Catula of Shadoland**.

This delightful book can be bought at Adam's Bookshop in Musgrave Centre and retails at R80.00.

It is also available directly from Irene, who can be contacted on 031 266 6223 or 082 633 8205.

Irene offers to talk to school children about poetry. If you would like to arrange for her to come to your school please contact her on the above numbers.



Storytelling

RHYTHM AND RHYME

IT'S STORYTELLING TIME!

African American storyteller, Mama Nomusa, offers her highly acclaimed storytelling assembly programme, **Rhythm and Rhyme It's Storytelling Time!**

This assembly programme of 45 to 60 minutes can accommodate up to 400 students and is designed to inspire, empower and entertain.

A seasoned professional, Mama Nomusa has captivated audiences worldwide at public and private schools, museums, libraries and universities. Share in her wealth of interactive stories, songs, raps and games.

Her wonderfully easy style, keen awareness and playful sense of performance makes her a highly sought after artist both nationally and internationally.

Where - Your school

When - Date and time of your choice

Suitable ages - Grade R to Matric



Children at Greenwood Park Primary School sit enthralled during Mama Nomusa's performance.

Bookings:

083 9743788

or e-mail mamanomusa@gmail.com

Cost - R3000 + transportation

RiSing STAR academy

- ★ SPEECH & DRAMA CLASSES
- ★ LIFE SKILL DEVELOPMENT – PUBLIC SPEAKING & SELF CONFIDENCE
- ★ SPECIALIZED TRAINING FOR STUDENTS INTERESTED IN A THEATRICAL CAREER
- ★ ANNUAL DRAMA FESTIVALS & PRODUCTIONS
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- ★ NEW STUDIOS OPENING IN 2011!

ANDREA 082 9940984 / GILL 083 3263257

ENQUIRIES@RISINGSTARACADEMY.CO.ZA

WWW.RISINGSTARACADEMY.CO.ZA

