



THE PLATFORM

NEWSLETTER: VOLUME 21 ISSUE 3

NOVEMBER 2018

Our 75th birthday year may be almost over, but the celebration of this auspicious occasion is still fresh in our minds and can be read about below. Another special event which was also held recently was the annual Bruce Piper Monologue Competition.

2019 Festival dates may be booked now, but please take note of the slight changes in the fees for next year.

In this issue we also profile three ladies who made outstanding contributions to the Speech and Drama Association during their lifetime, and whose named bursaries are awarded during the year.

The December holidays in Durban would not be complete without KickstArts annual pantomime, which this year is the evergreen story of *Cinderella*. Miss it and you'll miss out!

Once again, thank you to all our members - schools, studios, and our team of adjudicators - for your support this year. I wish you all a happy holiday season and look forward to hearing from you in the New Year.



Vyvienne Ball

FESTIVAL 2018

During this year our team of 24 adjudicators travelled the length and breadth of KZN to adjudicate 105 festivals. These were held at schools in Matatiele, Eshowe, Gingindlovu, Estcourt, Harding, Howick, Newcastle, Winterton, Underberg and Mooi River as well as in Durban, Pietermaritzburg, and up and down the North and South Coasts.

Thank you to all involved in the successful organisation of the festivals, and to the school principals who encourage teachers and pupils to participate.

Unreliable postal deliveries led to a number of schools not receiving stationery on time (or at all)! If you have not yet received your festival certificates please contact the office immediately as all certificates have been posted.

Bursaries have been finalised and these, together with certificates, have also been posted to the relevant schools. The names of all the bursary recipients will appear in the first issue of *The Platform* in 2019.

Please look out for your 2019 Membership Form and accompanying correspondence, which will be emailed to all members soon after schools reopen in January.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

We welcomed the following three schools and a studio as new members of the Association this year: Drama 4 All, Germiston; Capulum College, Hilton; Nova Pioneer, Sandton and Wendy Young Homeschoolers, Umhlanga.

Port Natal Primary School joined its High School as a member of the Association this year, and we welcomed back St Henry's Marist College and Highbury Prep School (S.P.School) after several years break.

Our team of adjudicators was increased this year with the addition of Murray Angus-Leppan, Lovell Heathcote and Liam Hurlly. However, with mixed feelings, we bade farewell for the time being, to one of our long-standing and loyal adjudicators, Lynn Ellis, who will be studying in the USA for the next couple of years. Although we will miss Lynn, we wish her every success and happiness with her new venture.



SYLLABUS

There is no change in the syllabus for 2019, so please continue to use the 2017 - 2019 syllabus next year. Additional copies of the syllabus, in all three languages, may be ordered from the office at R100 each.

The English syllabus is also available on CD.



75TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

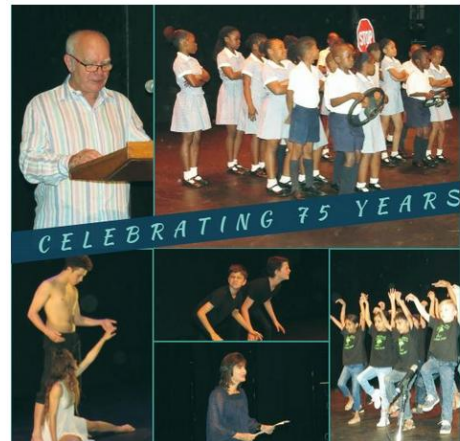
12 SEPTEMBER 2018

An audience of 300, made up of parents, teachers, adjudicators and special guests, attended the Showcase Evening at the Elizabeth Sneddon Theatre where they were treated to performances by 133 pupils from nine schools, as well as performances by local artists, Marion Loudon, Iain 'Ewok' Robinson and Rowin Munsamy.

The evening opened with a lively Choral Verse performed by the Grade 4 pupils from North Crest Primary School in Redhill. This was followed by a warm welcome from the Chairman of the Association, Dr Mervyn McMurtry, who gave an interesting account of the beginnings and growth of the Speech and Drama Association since it's founding in 1943 by Elizabeth Sneddon. Presentations of poetry from the earliest syllabi were presented by members of the Executive Committee.

Further items of Choral Verse, as well as Poetry, a Mime, a Monologue, Story Telling and Dramatic Movement, all categories from the syllabus, were presented by pupils from Crawford Prep School La Lucia, DPHS, Ethembeni School, Highbury Prep School, Port Natal Hoerskool, Sherwood Primary School, St Mary's DSG and Tree Tops Primary School.

Photographs taken during the evening by Chris Coyne can be viewed on the Gallery page of the Speech and Drama Association website, or just [click here to view](#)



2019 FEES AND BOOKINGS

Schools will be contacted by email at the beginning of 2019. Please complete the Membership Form that is sent to, you as soon as possible, so that any changes in school staff or contact details can be updated on our system.

The 2019 Membership Fee has been increased from R425 to R450. There is, however, no increase in Entry Fees. Individual items remain at R30 per item, group items at R75 per group, and group items with less than 3 candidates still costing R25 per candidate.

Workshops are a great help in preparing for the festival and each school workshop is structured to suit a particular school's needs. The workshop is held at your school at a date and time that suits you. The cost of a workshop for approximately 20 teachers is R600 per hour. If you would like to have a workshop for your staff or pupils, contact the office to book before your 2019 festival.

Several schools have already booked their 2019 festival dates. Email or phone the office with your chosen dates, use the booking form on the website or [just click here](#)



BRUCE PIPER AWARD MONOLOGUE COMPETITION

This annual event - the 16th - was held on Saturday, 13 October, at Glenmore Primary School.

11 students, from Eden College, Grosvenor GHS, Northlands GHS, Port Shepstone High School and St Anne's College presented monologues that had earned them outstanding results in their school festivals earlier this year.

Nasiphi Mkhize (Port Shepstone High) and Camille Bessey (Eden College) were announced joint winners by the adjudicators, Mervyn McMurtry and Philippa Savage, who congratulated all the contestants on the exceptionally high standard of work.



2018 candidates



2018 BURSARY RECIPIENTS

The names of all the 2018 bursary recipients will be included in the next issue of *The Platform*.

Thank you to the following schools for their donations to the bursary fund, which enabled us to award bursaries to pupils from their schools:

- Atholl Heights Primary School
- Aston School of Arts
- Brighton Beach S.P. School
- DPHS
- Hillary Primary School
- Manor Gardens Primary School
- Westville JP School
- Westville SP School

Nominations have been received during the year for the Elizabeth Sneddon, Jilian Hurst and Hazel Meyer bursaries, and these will be finalised shortly.

If you would like more information about the awarding of bursaries, please contact the office.



WHO ARE THEY?

ELIZABETH SNEDDON founded the Speech and Drama Association in 1943 and started the annual festival which is held in schools to this day.

JILIAN HURST was Senior Lecturer in the Department of Speech and Drama at Natal University (now UKZN) until her retirement in 1997.

HAZEL MEYER was secretary of the Speech and Drama Association for over 20 years. When she retired in 1990, she offered her services as an adjudicator and particularly enjoyed adjudicating very young children. The Hazel Meyer Bursary is usually awarded to a Junior Primary school pupil.



Bust of Elizabeth Sneddon by Hannah Lurie, on display in the foyer of the Sneddon Theatre.



DON'T MISS OUT!

CINDERELLA

THE WORLD'S FAVOURITE FAIRY TALE!

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY
STEVEN STEAD
DESIGNED BY GREG KING

ELIZABETH SNEDDON THEATRE
6 DECEMBER 2018 - 6 JANUARY 2019



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