

80 Davenport Square, Glenwood, Durban P O Box 59194, Umbilo, 4075 Tel: 031 201 6356 Fax: 086 516 0245 Email: vball@speechanddrama.co.za www.speechanddrama.co.za

THE PLATFORM

In this issue we explain how bursaries are awarded. This will be helpful to schools whose festivals are still to be held, particularly those entering for the first time this year.

On page 2 you can also read about the outstanding achievements of Durban based Rising Star Performing Arts Theatre School.

Turn to the back page to find details of the Witness Hilton Arts Festival *Jongosi* - A Theatre Experience Tailored for Scholars, and book early for this exciting experience.

Please take note of the tips and reminders in *Festival News*; and at the bottom of this page, a bit of news about the *Association AGM* that was held in March.

We hope you enjoy visiting our website www.speechanddrama.co.za

78 schools and 7 studios are listed on the MEMBER page. If you are not one of them, but would like to be added, send your details, including your

school badge or logo in jpeg format, to the office. Photos from Festivals will also be very welcome.

Previous issues of *The Platform* can be downloaded from the NEWSLETTERS page.

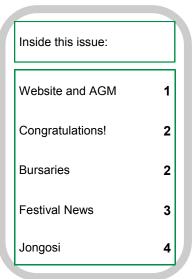
The 2014 Annual General Meeting was held at Eden College, on Monday, 10 March.

The Minutes of the meeting, as well as the inspiring Chairman's Report, have been sent to members of the Association.

All ten members of the Executive Committee were available for re-election and Professor Mervyn McMurtry and Mrs Eleanor Stewart were unanimously re-elected as Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

Volume 15 Issue 2

Second Term 2014



FOUNDER Professor Elizabeth Sneddon

HONORARY LIFE VICE-PRESIDENT Professor Pieter Scholtz

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Professor Mervyn McMurtry (Chairman)

Eleanor Stewart (Vice-Chairman)

Roslyn Glen Rosanne Hurly-Coyne Helana Olivier Loshani Puymann David Spiteri Dean Unger Jean van Elden Charli Wiggill

FESTIVAL DIRECTOR Vyvienne Ball



Congratulations
to Gill Brunings,
talented and dynamic
orincipal of Rising Star
erforming Arts Theatre
School, whose play,
"Christmas in Africa"
has been selected
Trinity College, London,
and will be published
its 2014 International
Playwriting Collection. principal of Rising Star Performing Arts Theatre by Trinity College, London, in its 2014 International Playwriting Collection.

WELL DONE!

Congratulations to Sinikiwe Sifumba, 2012 recipient of the Elizabeth Sneddon Bursary and a finalist in the 2012 Bruce Piper Award Monologue Competition, on being selected by the National Theatre Scotland to represent South Africa, performing with the International Performing Company, at the 2014 Commonwealth Games.

Other countries represented are Australia, Canada, Bangladesh, England, India, Jamaica, New Zealand, Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland.

The participants will have the experience and privilege of working with professional directors, composers, creative specialists, designers, choreographers and technicians to create interactive installations and site-responsive street theatre at the Games in July 2014.

Sinikiwe is a pupil at Grosvenor Girls' High School and a student at the RSPA Theatre School.

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We left someone out!

Congratulations to Cara Benade from Darnall Primary School, who was awarded a bursary in 2013. Thank you to Darnall Primary School for its generous donation to the bursary fund.

HOW BURSARIES ARE AWARDED

- Bursaries are optional as is the amount donated.
- Should a school wish to offer a bursary the amount donated should be paid on submission of your festival entries.
- After the festival the adjudicator puts forward nominations for the bursary to the school. The final decision on the bursary recipient rests with the school.
- The Speech and Drama Association reviews all other nominations that are submitted during the year and selects additional recipients for the Elizabeth Sneddon, Jilian Hurst and Hazel Meyer Bursaries.
- The bursaries are to be used for speech and drama tuition only.

For more information about bursaries please contact the Festival Director.

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Festival News

32 of the 43 festivals being adjudicated this term are being held in May. With such a busy month ahead we are very pleased to welcome three more adjudicators to our panel, Lynn Ellis, Barbie Meyer and Roxanne Larkan.

We also welcome the eight schools and studios that joined the Association this year: Charter College, Clifton Preparatory School, Colenso Primary School, Little Star Montessori School, Drama Dynamics, Kuswag Skool, Port Natal Skool and Werda Skool.

SYLLABUS REMINDERS

- If a pupil enters more than three different individual items he/she may have **one free** individual item.
- All three syllabi, English, Afrikaans and isiZulu, are compiled for first language speakers. If a pupil chooses a poem from any of the syllabi for presentation in a first or second additional language, he/she may choose from one grade lower.
- One free item
 for three
 individual items
 entered
- When choosing your own poem be guided by the corresponding grade in the syllabus with regard to length and content.
- Show and Tell may only be entered up to Grade 3.
- From Grade 4 candidates should enter Prepared Speech or PowerPoint instead of Show and Tell.



Show and Tell
is for
Grades R to 3
only

ORIGINAL POETRY

We are looking for budding poets who have written original poems for the festival. Please send your poems for possible printing in the August and October issues of *The Platform*.

REMINDER ABOUT DELAYED / LOST POST

Don't wait too long to check up on overdue post.

2014 FESTIVAL BOOKINGS STILL OPEN

If you have not yet booked your festival there is still time.

Entry forms have been posted to schools that are having festivals next term but it's not too late to have a festival or workshop in the third or fourth term. Contact the office to book your dates or submit the booking form directly from the website.

