



THE PLATFORM

Volume 21
Issue 1

First Term 2017

It's been a busy start to the year for us, and of course for all teachers and schools as well. It's hard to believe that we are into the second month with Workshops and Festival plans already well underway.

If you are having a Festival in the second term please take note of the reminder below with the closing dates for your entries.

Another important date to diarise is the Annual General Meeting on 13 March. The details are at the bottom of this page, but do look out for the Notice of Meeting that is attached separately.

On page 2 you will find important information relating to the Festival, including changes to the Syllabus. Page 3 lists the 2016 bursary recipients, followed by a reminder of the procedure for donating to the bursary fund. There are also thumbnail sketches of the three people for whom the Association bursaries are named.

We welcome three new members on page 4, congratulate Wembley College on its special anniversary, and introduce our 2017 adjudicators.

We are always interested to hear your school's news, so if you are celebrating a special anniversary or have any other news that you would like to share on these pages, please send us the information for printing in the next issue.

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FOUNDER
Professor Elizabeth Sneddon

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Loshani Puymann
David Spiteri
Jean van Elden

FESTIVAL DIRECTOR
Vyvienne Ball



SECOND TERM FESTIVALS:

Please submit your entries on time
to avoid the late entry fee.

- ◆ If your Festival is **before** 20 May, the entries must be in by 17 March.
- ◆ If your Festival is **after** 20 May, the entries must be in by 28 March.

2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: Monday, 13 March 2017
Time: 16h30
Venue: Board Room, 450A Che Guevara Road, Glenwood, Durban



Festival News



Welcome to a new year and Festival 2017. I hope you find the information in this article helpful as you organise your Festival.

As usual our year began with a letter to all current members from our Chairman, Mervyn McMurtry, inviting you to participate in the Festival. Accompanying that letter was your 2017 Membership and Booking Forms, as well as a letter from me. If you have not received this correspondence please let me know immediately so that it can be resent.

Thank you to everyone who has submitted their Membership Form and paid the annual membership fee. The procedure for entering the Festival is explained briefly in the letter that was attached with your Membership Form, but you are welcome to contact me if you would like anything clarified, especially if you have just taken over the role of Festival Convenor for your school.

Once you have paid your annual membership fee you will receive a free copy of the current 2017 - 2019 English Syllabus. You may choose to have it in book form as in the past, or on CD. Your preference may be indicated on the Membership Form. Additional copies of the English Syllabus, in either form, as well as the Afrikaans and isiZulu books, may be ordered at a cost of R100 per book/CD.

The Afrikaans syllabus has been re-printed although the contents are the same as in the previous book, while the Zulu syllabus has been completely revised and updated with new poems.

Please make a note of these important changes in the syllabus:

- ◆ *EXPERIMENTAL INTERPRETATION* has been taken out of both the Individual and Group sections. Provision has been made for creative items that children may want to enter. However, if you are not sure into which category a particular item fits, please contact me for suggestions.
- ◆ *SHOW AND TELL* is now allowed up to Grade 7.
- ◆ *CHORAL VERSE*: The minimum number of candidates allowed for a High School Choral Verse is six. The minimum number for Primary Schools remains at eight.
- ◆ There are slight changes to the criteria for some of the categories and these can be found at the front of each Syllabus.


 NEW

The 2017 Fee Schedule was printed in the previous issue of *The Platform*, and has been sent to schools with the Membership Form. Contact me if you are not sure of the new fee structure.



The ideal time to have a Workshop for your staff is prior to your festival, especially if there are several new members on your staff. Workshops are individually structured to suit the needs and special requests of your school. The cost is R600 per hour and the suggested length of a Workshop for approximately 20 delegates is 1½ to 2 hours. The Workshop is held at your school and you may choose the date and time to suit your timetable.

If you would like more information or want to book a Workshop, phone me to chat about it or email me with your queries.

Don't forget to book your Festival and Workshop dates well in advance. I look forward to hearing from you as the year goes on.

Vyvienne

2016 Bursary Awards

Thank you to the following schools for their donations to the Bursary Fund and congratulations to all recipients.

Recipient	School	Donor
Taitum Park	Atholl Heights Primary School	Atholl Heights Primary School
Andiswe Khuluse	Brighton Beach S.P. School	Brighton Beach S.P. School
Brandon van Tonder Luca Robinson	D.P.H.S.	Durban Prep. High School
Krisanne Chendriah	Hillary Primary School	Hillary Primary School
Jade Rindlisbacher	Howick Preparatory School	Howick Prep. School
Madison Opland	Manor Gardens Primary School	Manor Gardens Primary School
Carmen Berry	St Mary's D.S.G.	St Mary's D.S.G.
Zayna Mirza	St Raphael's School	Aston School of Arts
Deborah Brooks Dylan Saunderson	Westville Junior Primary School	Westville J.P. School
Logan Haw Fabiana Meloni Chloë Morrow	Westville Senior Primary School	Westville S.P. School
Phillip Weber	Port Natal Hoërskool	Speech and Drama Association Elizabeth Sneddon Bursary
Tyler Gibson	Winston Park Primary School	Speech and Drama Association Jilian Hurst Bursary
Shanna Coertze	Maritzburg Preparatory School	Speech and Drama Association Hazel Meyer Bursary

Bursaries are awarded for speech and drama tuition, based on the Adjudicator's recommendation during the Festival. Donations to the Bursary Fund may be made by the school when the Festival entries are submitted. The amount donated is optional, but as a guideline R500 would allow for lessons for at least one term at most drama studios. For more information about donating to the Bursary Fund contact the Festival Director on 031 201 6356.

Professor Elizabeth Sneddon was the founder of the Speech and Drama Association, and Honorary Life President, until her death in November 2005 soon after celebrating her 98th birthday.

Jilian Hurst was Senior Lecturer in the Department of Speech and Drama at Natal University until her retirement in 1997.

Hazel Meyer was Secretary of the Speech and Drama Association for over 20 years until her retirement in 1990, after which she offered her services as an adjudicator for many more years particularly enjoying adjudicating very young children.

Congratulations!

to Wembley College, Greytown on its 20th anniversary this year. We are proud to be a part of the special activities that are planned to celebrate the occasion, which started with a four-hour Speech and Drama Workshop for all the pupils in January.

Welcome

to the following new members to our Association.

Kammaland Primary School, Greytown

New Hanover Preparatory School

St Gregory Primary School, Estcourt

OUR ADJUDICATORS

For most schools the face of the Speech and Drama Association is the person who adjudicates your Festival. This is the person who brings his or her personality to your Festival, interacts with pupils and staff, makes an impression on everyone involved in the Festival and who is remembered from one year to the next.

Thanks to the services of our loyal and dedicated adjudicators, a total of 105 Festivals were held during 2016.

Trudie Niehaus, who lives in Wilderness, is perfectly situated to adjudicate Sterland Vocal and Drama Studio in Mossel Bay, and was a welcome addition to the panel last year.

On the North Coast Pam Couperthwaite, Danita Kliem and Di Paterson are kept busy travelling as far north as Eshowe and Melmoth to adjudicate, while the South Coast schools have the services of Loretta Holz and Barbie Meyer.

We are also grateful to have Pieter Brits, Sandra Fourie and Sherlee Wade in Northern KZN and the Drakensberg Region where they are always in great demand by the many schools in those areas.

The number of Festivals in the greater Pietermaritzburg area is growing all the time, so we are very happy to welcome Justine Lawrance and Melissa Wessels to the 2017 panel. They will share adjudications in this area with Pam Paul and Ann Walmsley.

In Durban Catherine Hampton has joined the group of active adjudicators, who currently are: Felicity Auld, Brett Beiles, Lynn Ellis, Roz Glen, Allan Hagan, Dawn Haynes, Stephanie Jenkins, Denise Lord, Margie Marnewick, Koveni Naidoo, Mbali Nguse, Helana Olivier, Rahila Paruk and Eleanor Stewart.

Wishing all adjudicators and schools happy Festivals this year.

Vyviene