



THE PLATFORM

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Fourth Term 2012

In this issue we pay tribute to the late Jessica Perritt, long time friend and adjudicator for the Speech and Drama Association.

As usual there's feedback on the festival and an original poem, possibly inspired by the London Olympics, for your information and enjoyment. With the school holidays rapidly approaching you may be thinking about holiday entertainment. Details for KickstArt's musical production, *Beauty and the Beast*, which will run at the Elizabeth Sneddon Theatre from November to January, are on page 3.

Our annual monologue competition will be held on Saturday, 3 November. We would love to have teachers, pupils and adjudicators attending this event and supporting the candidates. See below for details.

Finally, on behalf of the Chairman and Executive Committee I would like to wish all our readers a happy holiday and peaceful festive season.

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Join us and support the qualifying high school candidates at the
Bruce Piper Award Monologue Competition.

Date: Saturday, 3 November 2012

Time: 2pm

Venue: Studio 5, Drama and Performance Studies,
UKZN Durban

Free entrance and refreshments!

All welcome!

For more details and directions phone 031 201 6356.



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Another year of successful festivals is almost behind us, with a few schools and studios still to be adjudicated. Altogether 114 festivals will have been held this year, two of which were outside KwaZulu-Natal, in Johannesburg and Mossel Bay.

Although workshops are offered at the lowest possible cost, only nine schools, including one studio, took advantage of this during 2012. There are huge benefits for teachers as well as pupils, so do consider having a workshop before your festival next year.

There is no change in the syllabus next year but we will be starting work on the 2014 - 2016 syllabus during the course of the year so once again will be appealing to you, teachers and adjudicators, to send your favourite poems to us for the new syllabus. Please keep this in mind as you tidy up at the end of the year.

The fee schedule for 2013 is listed below with just two increases in the fees - the annual membership fee and individual items for Junior Primary pupils. This means that there is only one entry fee for all individual items which should make collecting monies and balancing your remittance simpler. We are hoping that when you work out your time tables you will allow plenty of time for the junior primary entries so that adjudicators can spend more time giving them individual verbal feedback immediately after their presentations. Their enthusiasm for speech and drama starts at this level and we want to do all we can to foster and nurture it.

We welcomed the following eight schools and studios as new members in 2012; Bluff Christian Academy, Buccleuch Montessori School (Johannesburg), Hillview Secondary School, St Dominic's Priory (Port Elizabeth), The John Thomas Education Centre, Umhlanga Jewish Day School, Sterland Studio (Mossel Bay) and The Amojee Academy.

Thank you to all the festival convenors, school and studio principals, secretaries and clerks, for all you have done to organise and run the festivals at your schools and studios this year. You know how much it benefits your pupils to enter the festival and I am sure they and their parents appreciate all you do as much as we do.

I wish you all happy and restful holidays and look forward to welcoming you to Festival 2013.

2013 FEES

2013 FEES

Annual membership fee R275

Workshops per hour R300

Entry fees:

Individual items (all grades) R15

Group items (Grades R to 3) R55

Group items (Grades 4 to 12) R60

JESSICA PERRITT

02/09/1919 - 07/08/2012

Jessica was born in Australia, and settled in South Africa after meeting her husband, Ian, while touring Europe. After several years spent in mining communities in the Transvaal they moved to Westville where Jessica became involved in the Westville Dramatic Society. It was at this time that she obtained her Licentiate from Trinity College and began teaching at various schools, as well as adjudicating for the Natal Eisteddfod and the Durban Speech and Drama Festival - the forerunner of our Speech and Drama Association Festival.

Jessica was a highly respected adjudicator for the Speech and Drama Association until, in her eighties, she retired from adjudicating. She remained a stalwart supporter of the Association and its activities for many more years and will be remembered with love and admiration for her professionalism, dedication and contribution to speech and drama in this province.

KickstArt presents Disney's Broadway musical hit

Beauty and the Beast

Get ready to be swept away by one of the most popular and romantic stories ever told!

Following the sold out successes of their recent family Christmas productions, KickstArt are preparing their biggest, most ambitious project yet: a dazzling production of Disney's enchanting musical, *Beauty and the Beast*.

This multi award-winning show brings to life the beloved "*tale as old as time*" with a burst of theatrical magic, following the story of a small-town girl who is taken prisoner by a reclusive Beast who is actually a human prince under a spell.

With music by Alan Menken and lyrics by Howard Ashman and Tim Rice, this musical hits all the right notes as perfect entertainment for the whole family.

Heading the cast will be the sparkling Georgina Mabbett as *Belle*, the beautiful title character, and the brooding but romantic *Beast* of the title will be played by Sascha Halbhuber, who last astounded Durban with his talents as Emcee in KickstArt's *Cabaret*.

Lyle Buxton plays the fiendishly handsome villain of the story, *Gaston*, with Rory Booth as his idiotic sidekick, *Lefou*.

The enchanted occupants of the Beast's castle include Charon Williams Ros as the kindly tea pot, *Mrs Potts*, Bryan Hiles as the debonair French candelabra, *Lumière*, Liesl Coppin as the saucy feather duster, *Babette*, and Darren King as the fusty old mantle clock, *Cogsworth*. Peter Court plays Belle's eccentric inventor father, *Maurice*.

The spectacle will be directed by Steven Stead, with sets and costumes designed by Greg King. Choreography will be by Janine Bennewith, musical direction by Shelley MacLean, and lighting design by Tina le Roux.

The show will run from 27 November - 6 January
at the Elizabeth Sneddon Theatre.

Performances are Tues, Wed, Thurs, Sat and Sun at 2.30pm,
Fri and Sat at 7pm.

Tickets range from R100 - R200.

Book at Computicket.

For block bookings of ten or more, and for early bird group booking specials before 1 December, contact Ailsa Windsor of Going Places:
0832502690 or editor.goingplacessa@gmail.com

Swim for Zoë

The images of people in the stands are a blur,

The sounds from the crowds is no more than a stir.

I clear my head and focus my mind,
Ready to dive, leaving the race behind.

As I enter the water and we both become one,
A mysterious relationship until we're all done,

A resulting bond of hours together,
Implants a memory lasting forever.

I don't aim to be good, as I'm going to be great,
The timekeeper's watch will determine my fate.

Sometimes enduring the wet and the cold,
The ultimate goal is to win Olympic gold.

A silent prayer for this moment of glory,
A God-given talent - this is my true story.



Zoë Kaitlin Frank
Grade 4
Ashton International College

August 2012

KickstArt

Presents



27 Nov - 6 Jan
Elizabeth Sneddon
Theatre

BOOK AT COMPUTICKET