



THE PLATFORM

2016 is now well underway with the holidays fast becoming a distant memory for most of us. Nevertheless, we hope they have left you feeling rested and, like us, ready for another exciting year of speech and drama.

This first issue for the year contains information relevant to this year's activities, and the names of the 2015 bursary recipients. These can be found on page 2. Festival News follows on page 3, while page 4 has poems written by Grade 7 pupils.

Two very important events, which we hope will be well attended, are highlighted below. Notices for these meetings will follow shortly.

Volume 19
Issue 1

First Term 2016

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**Important
dates to
diarise**



THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SPEECH AND DRAMA ASSOCIATION OF S.A.

DATE: Monday, 7 March 2016
TIME: 16h30
VENUE: Sherwood Primary School

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

FULL DETAILS TO FOLLOW SHORTLY

ADJUDICATORS' MEETING

Date: Saturday, 9 April 2016
Time: 09h30 - 11h30
Venue: Sherwood Primary School



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2015 Bursary Recipients

Congratulations to the following schools and their pupils
who were awarded bursaries last year:

ELIZABETH SNEDDON BURSARY

Ashton Welthagen - Chelsea Preparatory School

JILIAN HURST BURSARY

Ibrahim Rajah - Hartley Road Primary School

HAZEL MEYER BURSARY

Lisanda Zondi - La Lucia J.P. School

Emilio Ebrahim - Hillary Primary School

Thank you to the schools listed below for their generous donations to the Bursary Fund:

Samke Nebe	-	Atholl Heights Primary School
Chané Lemon	-	Brighton Beach Senior Primary School
Anna Hamilton	-	Curro Hillcrest Christian Academy
Eva Champion	-	Curro Hillcrest Christian Academy
Nadine Kroep	-	Darnall Primary School
Matthew Mountford	-	Durban Preparatory High School
Noah Jackson	-	Durban Preparatory High School
Emilio Ebrahim	-	Hillary Primary School
Megan Tyrer	-	Howick Preparatory School
Jessica Jolley	-	Manor Gardens Primary School
Mari Relling	-	Westville Junior Primary School
Kara Jansen van Vuuren	-	Westville Senior Primary School
Andrew Bremner	-	Westville Senior Primary School
Teagan Moolman	-	Westville Senior Primary School
Matthew Jacobs	-	Westville Senior Primary School
Anna-Rose Munn	-	Winston Park Primary School

For information about donating to the Bursary Fund please contact the Festival Director.

Festival News

By now schools, studios and adjudicators should have received the letters that were sent out in January. Please let me know if you have not received anything. Membership Forms and annual membership fees were due by the end of January. If you are experiencing difficulty in opening the new forms, it might be because you have an older version of Adobe. You can download the latest version for free or print the forms and fill them in by hand. Entry forms will be emailed in the same way unless you particularly request them to be posted.

Schools that have Festivals booked for the first and second terms should also have received their entry forms by now. If you have booked dates and have not received your entry forms, please contact me immediately.

The closing date for entries for festivals in the second term is Friday, 18 March. If you do not submit your entries on time please include the late entry fee of R250 with your payment.

You will see from the fee schedule below that there has been no increase in entry fees. However workshop fees have had to be slightly increased. We believe this is still good value, as the benefits to staff are really worthwhile. If you would like to find out more about having a workshop at your school, please contact me.

During the course of this year our syllabus committee will be compiling the 2017 - 2019 syllabus and once again we ask you to kindly share your favourite tried and tested poems, for possible inclusion in the new syllabus.

Please make a note of the date for the Annual General Meeting and do try to attend - we would love to see you there.

I look forward to hearing from you and wish you a happy year of speech and drama.

Vyviemme

2016 FEE SCHEDULE

Annual membership fee - R385 per school

Individual items - R20 per item

Group items - R70 per item (where there are less than three in a group they pay R20 each)

Accommodation/travel levy - R700 per day per adjudicator (where applicable)

Workshop fee - R500 per hour

THANK YOU

*A big thank you to
Loud Crowd Media
for programming our new forms.
We hope you enjoy using them as much as we do.*



Original Poems

THE SONGS OF MY ONE-TIME SELF

By Michael Ryan

Grade 7, Hillcrest Primary School

Climbing higher, higher, higher

Feeling on top of the world.

Excitedly reaching for the next branch

Looking out, across the lawn I see

The sun casting a haze across it.

Birds chirping, my heart beating,

A car rumbling by.

The dry, tacky tree sap sticking to my hands,
the smell infiltrating my nose.

Rough, fresh bark awakening my senses,

My guava juice's taste, still lingering in my mouth.

I thought this feeling of happiness

Would last for all eternity.

SUDDENLY!!!

The adrenaline coursed like venom through
my veins

As I hung by my hands in the high up tree.

Dangling, dangling, losing my grip,

But my will to survive still held me there.

As my palms became sweaty,

Just as my hands felt like they were going
to abandon my life,

I felt two strong hands close around my wrists.

I looked up to see my faithful friend

Hauling me up with all his strength.

I managed to get a foothold against the tree.

The surprising shock, the frightening fear,
resided like the serene ocean at low tide.

The feeling of relief washed over me
like a gentle wave

Rolling up against the rocks outside
a lofty lighthouse.

Then I felt that excitement once again.

MY LAST YEAR IN PRIMARY SCHOOL

By Mbali Shandu

Grade 7, Eshowe Junior School

My last year in primary school

It just feels so sad

But one thing I'm sure of

Is that the memory makes me glad.

Just a few years ago

I started grade one

It seemed pretty easy

And a lot of fun.

But now I'm almost finished

With the primary experience

It's helped to build who I am

My personality and appearance.

The friends I've had, the memories made

Will go with me through life

And the people who've hurt me

Who stabbed me in the back with a knife.

The people who said I wouldn't succeed

Look at me today

I've always tried to give my best

In each and every way.

I'm thankful for the time I've spent

And the people that I've met

My last year in primary school

Is one I won't forget.

