



THE PLATFORM

2015 has got off to a positive start with almost half of our festivals for the year already booked. We also welcome on board three new schools.

Congratulations to the 2014 bursary recipients, and our very sincere thanks to the schools whose donations to the Bursary Fund have, once again, made these annual awards possible. The list of recipients, and their schools, is on page 2.

Reading further, you will find *Festival News* with the 2015 fee structure, a free book offer, and the closing dates for festival entries. Our final page advertises an exciting new venue for dance and drama that has opened in Umbilo.

If you would like to advertise your school, studio or a forthcoming event, in future issues of *The Platform*, please send the details to the office.

We invite you to join us for our AGM next month. It is an opportunity for us to get together and be able to put faces to the voices we know from phone calls. The socialising, with refreshments afterwards, is always very enjoyable. Do make a note of 9 March and look out for further details which will follow shortly.

Volume 17
Issue 1

First Term 2015

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**The 72nd Annual General Meeting
of the Speech and Drama Association of South Africa
will be held on Monday, 9 March 2015, at 16h30,
at Sherwood Primary School, Durban.**

ADJUDICATORS

2015 Panel Forms have been sent to all current adjudicators.

Please return your forms before the end of February.

If you have not received a form, and would like to adjudicate this year, please contact the office.

FOUNDER
Professor Elizabeth Sneddon

**HONORARY LIFE
VICE-PRESIDENT**
Professor Pieter Scholtz

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Professor Mervyn McMurtry
(Chairman)

Eleanor Stewart
(Vice-Chairman)

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

FESTIVAL DIRECTOR
Vyvienne Ball

2014 Bursary Recipients

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Cara Schilt	Atholl Heights Primary
Robyn MacKinnon	Brighton Beach SP
Shaun Matthysen	DPHS
Zidayne Chinapoyaar	Glenashley Prep
Phiwo Mzobe	Hillary Primary
Rachel Tyrer	Howick Prep
Julia Mills	Manor Gardens Primary
Erin Lombard	St Mary's DSG
Jonathan Garner	Westville JP
Hayley Scott	Westville SP
Nina Relling	Westville SP
Joshua Pienaar	Westville SP
Kriti Rambrinitch	Westville SP
Abigail la Reservee	Winston Park Primary
Anne-Rose Munn	Winston Park Primary



Naledi Mpeke	Impact Christian Academy	<u>Elizabeth Sneddon Bursary</u>
Andile Khuboni	New Germany Primary	<u>Jilian Hurst Bursary</u>
Nikiwe Ngcobo	Rosehill Primary	<u>Hazel Meyer Bursary</u>
Joaquin Ntshangase	Rosehill Primary	<u>Hazel Meyer Bursary</u>

Open this link to visit our [website](#)



FESTIVAL NEWS

Although we are already in the second month of the new year I take this opportunity to wish those of you that I haven't already spoken to, a very happy 2015. Welcome to another year of speech and drama festivals.

By now you should have received your 2015 Membership Forms which were emailed and posted last month. If you have not yet received anything please contact me. It is important to receive the Membership Form so I can update any new details. Please return the form even if details have not changed.

The 2015 annual membership fee is R350 per school or studio, individual entry fees are R20 per item for all grades, and group entry fees are R70 per item for all grades. As in previous years, if a pupil enters three or more different, individual items he/she may have one free individual item. The full fee schedule is included in the Booking Form that was sent to you. Please note the closing dates for your 2015 entries so that you too can plan ahead.

Thank you for your early bookings. It makes planning a lot easier, especially for those busy weeks in May and August. Nine schools are having festivals this term and schools that have booked festivals in the second term will receive their entry forms shortly. If you prefer to receive your entry forms by email please indicate this when you book your dates.

We are still using the 2014 - 2016 Syllabus. If you did not receive it last year, or if you wish to order additional copies in English, Afrikaans or isiZulu, you may do so on your Membership Form or directly from the office.

We have a number of 2011 - 2013 Syllabus books in English and Afrikaans that are available, free, to any school that would like to have extra copies. Please arrange to collect them from the office.

Finally, a very warm welcome to the following new members, Curro Embury College, Morningside, Clifton Preparatory School, Nottingham Road and Parkside Primary School, Queensburgh.

<u>CLOSING DATES FOR FESTIVAL ENTRIES</u>	
(unless otherwise arranged)	
First term	11 February 2015
Second term	31 March 2015
Third term	26 June 2015
Fourth term	18 September 2015

NEW ARTS PRECINCT IN UMBILO!

Contrary to popular belief, the Arts in Durban are alive and well! A wonderful new venue has recently opened at 106 Williams Road in lower Umbilo. This beautiful venue is a little gem located in an industrial area that promises to become Durban's coolest Arts venue.

The Rickshaw Collective, based at Precinct 106, is primarily a dance venue but also offers drama classes and has rehearsal space for hire. The venue is on the third floor of a factory warehouse, which was the original Rickshaw depot and repair compound. It has toilet and shower facilities and secure parking.

Some of the Ballet classes on offer are Ballet Bridge (basic ballet techniques), Neo-classical Ballet (a class that draws on the technical mastery of Classical Ballet and the expressive freedom of Contemporary Dance. Ballet experience needed) and Ballet Extension (open classes for technically accomplished ballet dancers who are in search of extension work that goes beyond set syllabi.) Other styles are Movement, Musical Theatre, Mime, African Contemporary, Afro-fusion, Contemporary, Booty-Shake, Bollywood and Hip Hop. There are a number of practitioners teaching at this amazing venue, however there are still available slots for teachers who would like to get involved. Come along and be inspired by Shelby Strange, Thobi Maphanga, Julia Wilson, Vusi Makhanya, Daisy Spencer, Bronwyn Botha, Krazy Kayzo, Sashin Kandhai and Winsome Fuller. There are also Body Conditioning classes that aim to keep the body flexible, strengthen the core and raise fitness levels. Yoga classes will be available in the near future.



**DURBAN'S
HOTTEST
ARTS
CENTRE**
**RICKSHAW
COLLECTIVE**
**106 Williams
Road, Umbilo**

For any information about classes, costs or hiring the facility please contact Shelby on 072 896 0882 or email on strangedays1@gmail.com

Drama classes for 9 - 15 year olds are on Wednesday afternoons.
To book phone Jean on 082 560 7185 or email on jeanvanelden@gmail.com