

Dramatic

DRAMA NEW ZEALAND NEWSLETTER

#57: April 2024

AGM INVITATION

DATE
13 April, 2024

TIME
At 10:00 AM

PLACE
Studio 77, Wellington

- Elections
- President's Award
- Life Membership
- and more...



Lest We Forget



In this issue: Upcoming AGM, News about a DramaNet replacement, Conference Info, and more...

Dramatic is proudly brought to you by:

Drama
NEW ZEALAND



Mahi Whakaari
O AOTEAROA

Note From The President

Kia ora Drama NZ whānau,

This Dramatic is full of lots of news from around the regions. It has been a busy term for everyone. Primary Schools have been grappling with new demands of literacy and numeracy teaching, secondary teachers with the new NCEA changes, and tertiary with running programmes on limited funds and resources. We hope that Drama NZ's resources, workshops, and support networks have offered some help with these fast moving and challenging times.

Our AGM is on April 13th – grab a cuppa and join online, or if you are in Wellington, come on down to Victoria University and see what Drama NZ have achieved in the last year and our plans for 2024/5. We will elect officers and share our challenges and achievements from the last year.

We are working hard to ensure that Drama kaiako are well supported. After Anna Richardson resigned her position at the Ministry we have seconded her onto the National Executive and welcome her expertise with our mahi. We have been supporting the online webinars on NCEA changes and also the webinars on Mātauranga Māori concepts in the level one standards. We are maintaining positive relationships with the Ministry at this implementation level. We welcome Vicki Lambert, Jo Veen and Tania Roxborough working for the Ministry in different parts of the motu supporting Drama. If you want to raise issues or have some ideas on how we can support members further, please write – we would love to hear from you.

With the closing of DramaNet and TKI we have been working to get an alternative up and running as soon as we can. You can read more about that in this Dramatic. Our Conference, *Kia Tōnui - Flourish*, will be a wonderful chance for us all to unite with our Australian colleagues. Register now to ensure your place, we can't wait to see you all again.

I have just received some wonderful letters from students I had the privilege of working with last year: It is lovely to be reminded how much Drama can inspire writing and critical thinking no matter the age. I'm taking the small moments of aroha at the moment and focusing on them as much as I can.

Mā te wā,

Annette Thomson, President



2024 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT - Annette Thomson
President@drama.org.nz

VICE PRESIDENT - Nick Meissel
VicePresident@drama.org.nz

TREASURER - Samantha Wehipeihana
finance@drama.org.nz

PRIMARY REP - Judy Norton
Primary@drama.org.nz

Samantha Bates
Samantha.Bates@drama.org.nz

Emma Bishop
nex@drama.org.nz

Cory Hare
cory.hare@drama.org.nz

Kimberley Fridd
kimberley.fridd@drama.org.nz

Bridget Crooks
bridget.crooks@drama.org.nz

Anna Richardson
anna.richardson@drama.org.nz

CONTACT US

Email Admin@drama.org.nz

Mentorship Programme
Mentorship@drama.org.nz

National FB
<https://www.facebook.com/DramaNewZealand/>

Primary Edition FB
<https://www.facebook.com/dramanzprimary/>

Instagram
[@drama_nz](https://www.instagram.com/drama_nz)



AGM

INVITATION



DATE
13 April, 2024



TIME
At 10:00 AM



PLACE
**Te Whanganui a Tara / Wellington
University of Victoria Studio 77
77 Fairlie Terrace, Kelburn (Gate 10)
or Zoom**

[REGISTER OR
SUBMIT APOLOGIES
HERE BY 11 APRIL](#)

- *Elections*
- *President's Award*
- *Life Membership*
- *and more...*

AGM 2024

Annual General Meetings are a not just an important part of your Drama NZ Membership. They are a chance to connect with other members from around the country, find out what your Executive team have been up to and have planned for the future of the Association, and celebrate our successes and the individuals who are so key to that success. It is a chance to have a say in the future direction of the Association and its leadership.

We love seeing your faces on Zoom, but especially revel in the chance to catch up with those of you who can make it in person. This year the AGM is right in the heart of Wellington at Studio 77 in the University of Victoria Campus. We hope some of our Wellington and Massey members can come and enjoy a cuppa and a catch up with us. Please register by Thursday at <https://forms.gle/de8bgH9aEWUYTsX8>



BODYFX WORKSHOPS

TAKE YOUR
CREATIVITY
TO THE NEXT
LEVEL

FACE PAINTING - SPECIAL FX - AIRBRUSH & MORE

REGISTER NOW FOR YOUR
20% DISCOUNT CODE

EMAIL: DONNA@BODYFX.CO.NZ

WWW.BODYFX.CO.NZ

Conference 2024

Kia Tōnui-Flourish

The 2024 Drama New Zealand
Drama Australia Combined Conference



CONFERENCE SCHEDULE Important Dates to Mark

30 April – Early Bird registration ends

1 September – Registration Closes

27 September – Conference Pōwhiri, International Welcome, and Special Keynote: 5.30pm

28 September – Conference Starts

- Registration desk opens: 8.45am

- Opening and Keynote: 9.30am

30 September – Conference Closing Farewell: 11.30am

CONFERENCE PRICING

**FULL WEEKEND (Saturday -
Monday)**

(Prices are excluding GST)

Early Bird (Through 30 April)

Member: \$390 + GST

Non-member: \$460 + GST

Australian / International: \$320

Presenting Member \$300

Presenting Non-Member \$375

Australian / International
Presenter \$275

Full Price (1 May - 1 Sept)

Member: \$450

Non-member: \$520

Australian/ International: \$320

**SINGLE DAY ATTENDANCE
Saturday, Sunday, or Monday**

Member: \$130

Non-member: \$155

Australian/ International: \$110

Member: \$130

Non-member: \$155

Australian/ International: \$110

REGISTER NOW

Kia Tōnui-Flourish

The 2024 Drama New Zealand
Drama Australia Combined Conference



CONFERENCE LOCATION

Te Whanganui-a-Tara, Wellington, New Zealand
WELLINGTON EAST GIRLS' COLLEGE
131 Austin Street, Mount Victoria, Wellington 6011

PRESENTERS

This year's Drama NZ conference is not only an international combined conference with our Australian counter part, Drama AUS, it is a sensation of seminars, workshops, and presentations brimming in creativity, pedagogy, and diversity.

With topics ranging in devising, epic theatre, Māori and indigenous story telling, dramatic pedagogy and more, there is something for everyone! Over 60 presenters are coming from all over New Zealand and Australia to bring together combined knowledge and passion to this year's conference: Kia Tōnui. Primary, secondary, and tertiary are all represented to ensure a wide breadth of professional development and connection can occur. This is one conference you don't want to miss out on! Early bird pricing ends April 30, 2024 - register now!- **Full announcement and abstracts coming soon!**

ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS

We are excited to welcome you to our combined conference hosted by Drama NZ and Drama Australia. Wellington is our capital of Aotearoa, and a vibrant, exciting city to visit and explore.

Below is a list of hotels that are near or around the conference location which is Wellington East Girls College. There are some great websites and apps that you can use that offer deals on accommodation such as Hotels.com, Expedia.com, or AirBnB.co.nz.

**Walking: 15 - 25 minutes/ Driving (Uber/Taxi):
5-10 minutes in little traffic**

Microtel by Wyndam Wellington
U Boutique Hotel
Ramada by Wyndam Wellington Taranaki St
Cambridge Hotel
Halswell Lodge
Apollo Lodge Motel
Ascot Motor Lodge
Southgate Motor Inn
Willis Wellington Hotel
Naumi Studio Wellington
QT Wellington
Oaks Wellington Hotel
Sojourn Apartment Hotel

**Walking: less than 10 minutes/ Driving (Uber/
Taxi): 2 minutes in little traffic**

Marksman Motor Inn

REGISTER NOW

CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIPS



KIA TŌNUI - FLOURISH

COMBINED INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2024

28 - 30 SEPTEMBER | WHANGANUI-A-TARA, WELLINGTON

Drama NZ are offering four scholarships of \$500 each for four successful Aotearoa New Zealand applicants to enable them to attend this year's national conference.

Scholarships are available for:

- **NZ RURAL TEACHER** - for a teacher in a rural location from any sector
- **NZ BEGINNING TEACHER** - for a teacher in first or second year from any sector
- **NZ PRIMARY TEACHER** - for a teacher working in years 1-8
- **NZ TERTIARY STUDENT / PRE-SERVICE TRAINING TEACHER** - for a student of theatre or education

To apply email conference24@drama.org.nz
please include the following details:

- Your full name
- Institution / school name
- Which scholarship you are applying for
- A statement regarding how you would benefit from being awarded a scholarship
- A Principal or Senior Leaders letter of endorsement. For pre-service teachers or tertiary students this can be a lecturer or associate teacher

Applications close Friday 19th April 2024

EXHIBIT AT CONFERENCE

Aotearoa is hosting this years Combined International Conference!

Drama New Zealand invites you to flourish among guests from overseas at this year's conference. Along with our co-hosts, Drama Australia, we have put together a welcoming, educational, and enlightening conference that will be like no other.

Conference will be hosted at Wellington East Girls College in Te Whanganui-a-Tara/ Wellington, the heart of Aotearoa. The Trade Expo location this year is front and centre, right beside the registration desk and cafe, where delegates will be greeted every morning, enjoy morning tea and lunch, and decompress between sessions. You'll have an opportunity to promote your products to experienced and new teachers alike, including our international guests and co-hosts.

Join us and let your business flourish among Aotearoa and Australia's education professionals!

Perks and Benefits

This years combined Conference is Drama NZ's main event for 2024. When you register to be a Trade Expo participant you'll be taking advantage of all the perks and benefits!

- Promo in Drama NZ's *Dramatic* bi-monthly newsletter which goes out to 550+ members,
- Product or flyers included in all delegate packs,
- Morning tea and lunch provided for manned displays, as well as a VIP invite to the Saturday evening mix and mingle with all delegates.

REGISTER TODAY

Pricing Options

Manned Booth

Interact with Aotearoa's and Australia's education professionals in-person at this years conference. Meet with them and learn more about their needs and potential opportunities. Prices below are for one staff member to attend, additional staff members may attend for an extra fee.

- Associate Members: \$275
- Non-associate Members: \$350
- Membership Fee Included: \$425

Unmanned Booth

Can't be there in-person but still want your company or organisation front and center? Don't worry we can help with that!

- Associate Members: \$175
- Non-associate Members: \$225
- Membership Fee Included: \$350

[For further information please email: conference24@drama.org.nz](mailto:conference24@drama.org.nz)

CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP

Come and flourish as a sponsor at this years international conference!

Drama New Zealand invites you to flourish among guests from overseas at this year's conference. Along with our co-hosts, Drama Australia, we have put together a welcoming, educational, and enlightening conference that will be like no other. By becoming a Conference Sponsor you'll increase your visibility with key educators across sectors, as well as throughout Aotearoa and Australia. No matter the size of your sponsorship there's something for everyone!

Perks with Sponsorship

All sponsorship levels will be entitled to the following perks.

- Logo placement and mention in welcoming speeches and keynotes,
- Promoted visibly in printed conference materials,
- Mentioned in speeches and presentations throughout conference,
- Logo or business placement in Drama NZ External Communications (EG: Dramatic Newsletter),
- Promo placement on Drama NZ social media and in emails.

Additional perk entitlements included in levels of sponsorship on top of the above mentioned.



Sponsorship Levels

There are a variety of different ways to get involved and become a sponsor at this years combined international conference.

Corporate Promotional Sponsor: \$100 - \$249

At this level of sponsorship you'll be marketing your company through providing key services or products for the conference. This could be the sponsorship of tote bags, lanyards, giveaways in delegate packs, or other promotional items to enhance the conference experience.

Sponsor a Workshop or Panel: \$250 - \$499

Get your business front and center-stage by sponsoring a workshop or panel during the conference. You'll get key naming rights, the opportunity to introduce the speaker, and a free unmanned trade expo space (retailed at: \$225).

Scholarship opportunities: \$500 - \$1,500

Provide a scholarship for a teacher to attend conference this year! There are four (4) Drama NZ Scholarships available to fund, and are awarded to a rural, beginning secondary teacher (in their first or second year of teaching) and a primary teacher. ***This level of sponsorship also comes with a free manned trade expo booth (retailed at: \$350).***

CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP

Have your name in lights as a Spotlight Sponsor!

Looking to take a leading role in this years combined international conference? Then our spotlight sponsorship opportunities are just for you. These two levels of sponsorship are key in making this years conference a success, and you can play an integral part in making that happen. These sponsorship levels include all perks listed above plus additional special perks only available to Spotlight Sponsors.

Leading Role Sponsorship

This sponsorship is all about bringing in talented, educational, and inspirational speakers to be the keynotes throughout the conference. Priced at \$2,000 per keynote, this sponsorship covers the key costs of hosting keynotes that are engaging and current to provide a lasting impression to our delegates.

If you decide to take a leading role in providing funding for our keynotes your sponsorship will cover their flights, accommodations, and per Diem for meals.

As an extra bonus, at this sponsorship level, you'll receive:

- Additional promotional spots throughout the conference, including the keynote sponsored addresses,
- A manned trade expo booth with 1 additional staff member included,
- And two (2) free tickets to our International Pōwhiri and Welcome on Friday 27 September.

There are four leading role sponsorship opportunities available. Commit today, so we can start spreading the news!



Directors Chair Sponsorship

Take the directors chair and bring your vision to the big stage! Companies and organisations have the opportunity to sponsor an entire event at this years combined international conference.

Available events to sponsor are:

- Conference morning teas - \$500 (each)
- International Pōwhiri and Welcome Event - \$5,000
 - Sponsor just catering: \$2,500
 - Sponsor just drinks: \$1,500
 - Sponsor just venue hire: \$1,500
- Saturday Evening Social: \$1,500

This sponsorship opportunity gives the company or organisation additional perks including:

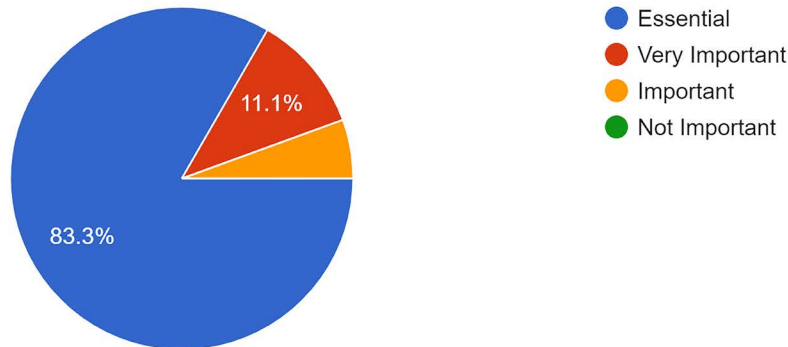
- Naming rights to the event they sponsor (E.G.: The International Pōwhiri and Welcome Evening proudly sponsored by [Your Company Name]),
- An unmanned trade expo booth with the option to upgrade to a manned booth at a discounted price,
- Additional digital marketing on Drama NZ's social media channels,
- Conference programme advertising placement.



DramaNet

How important is it to have an online community to be able to ask questions and share resources?

144 responses



Thank you for your notices of concern to Drama NZ about the list serve 'DramaNet' closing on March 15th - and thank you to the 144 kaiako and associates who filled out our survey.

We too are deeply concerned at the absence of communication from the Ministry and the distressing lack of an alternative platform for kaiako across Aotearoa to access at a national level.

We have voiced our results from the survey to the Ministry and Minister with our concerns.

We are committed to advocating for a platform to continue.

We are looking into alternatives to be hosted by Drama NZ with the following concerns:

Many kaiako see DramaNet as an essential, useful tool that supports national conversations. Setting up an alternative is costly and requires time and energy. While Drama NZ is the likely supporter for an alternative, there are huge issues to be addressed at a time when our kaiako need professional and timely support, the closing of this platform with no alternative seems contrary to the Ministry's and Minister's ideals.

Some of our issues and concerns with setting up a new platform:

-It costs money to host a platform on our website - our Drama NZ website at present doesn't support this kind of platform

-A moderator would need to be paid to ensure professional, quality support is offered around discussions and questions

-NEX funding, while being extended to June, has no provision or time frame for continuing, and therefore we cannot justify setting up an alternative when we don't know if this is sustainable moving forward.

-The setting up of ad hoc alternatives by separate associations doesn't ensure that every learning area has equitable access to quality, Ministry-led support.

Drama NZ is gathering emails so that we can set up our own 'DramaNet' to ensure further support can be offered with an online platform. If you would like to sign up for this future online community please register here:

<https://forms.gle/p8WSPWdLhVdXLUwx8>

NOTE: Anyone is able to put their name down for notification about an alternative to DramaNet.

What survey respondents had to say about the DramaNet Closure

"This year, being one of huge change, it is more vital than ever that we have our stability in a familiar forum, to navigate the new standards together. This profession is tough. This year will be tough. Why take this away from us?"

"I particularly feel for those isolated in small towns or new teachers who haven't built up their drama teacher connections. Removing this forum will be a huge loss and will create further disconnection and isolation for those teachers. It's absolutely ridiculous that there has been no transparent consultation about this decision. To take away the only connection to drama colleagues some teachers have, during a year when new standards are being introduced, seems incredibly shortsighted"

This has saved me with planning headaches and trying to find usable resources for teaching drama in New Zealand. I wouldn't be the teacher I am right now without it.

"As a PCT having the ability to ask questions in a community with experienced teachers is essential, as well as viewing questions and responses of ideas for behaviour management in a specialist classroom and curriculum. It would be a disaster to shut DramaNet down and it's effects will be felt by all teachers and students."

"The ability to reach out to the knowledgeable community of Drama teachers is absolutely essential in what is often a sole teacher position. The isolation of having no one in your subject area to ask questions of is debilitating. The resource sharing and collegiality is second to none. The resource is vital to the health and well-being of our members and the growth of our subject."



The choices we made yesterday.
The difficult realities of tomorrow.

SCENES FROM THE
CLIMATE ERA

BY DAVID FINNIGAN

SCHOOL MATINEES
Wed 14 Aug, 11am | Fri 16 Aug, 11am
Wed 21 Aug, 11am

Q THEATRE

BOOK NOW | atc.co.nz/creative-learning

CO-PRODUCERS:

AUCKLAND THEATRE COMPANY **S L I**

VENUE:  PRINCIPAL FUNDERS:   CORE FUNDER:  

Auckland Branch.

2024
planning

Tāmaki Makaurau AUCKLAND



Term 1

Mahi Whakaari o Aotearoa
- Auckland Branch -

END OF TERM CHEESE AND CHATS

April 10th
- Wednesday Week 11 -
4:30 - 6pm
Mount Albert Grammar

A time to catch up and share something you
have been working on. Nibbles provided.

Drama Mahi Whakaari

Secondary, Intermediate, Primary all welcome.

Term Two

'The Machine Stops'

Working through Devising
processes and Literacy! With
Sheridan and Kasha
Suitable for Teachers of Upper
Primary, Intermediate and Lower
Secondary

TERM 2 AND 3

SCHOLARSHIP INTENSIVES

1. Intro to Scholarship for teachers
2. Intro to Scholarship for Students
3. In-person student workshop

This year we are stoked to have another teacher
join us with some 2024 exemplars to share!

DATES BEYOND TERM 1 TBC

T4

MEET MEET

EVENT AND ENTERTAINMENT
TECHNOLOGIES TEACHERS
CLUSTER MEETING - PLANNING
FOR 2025



TERM FOUR

Cross-Campus
Collaboration Planning
with Carmela

Term 2 and 3

End of Term
Cheese and
Chats



Term 4
Beer and Banter
Annual AGM

WHAT'S ON TĀMAKI MAKAURAU?



ATC's
'Red White and
Brass' June-July



SILO'S
'SCATTER GUN: AFTER
THE DEATH OF
RŪAMOKO' APRIL-
MAY



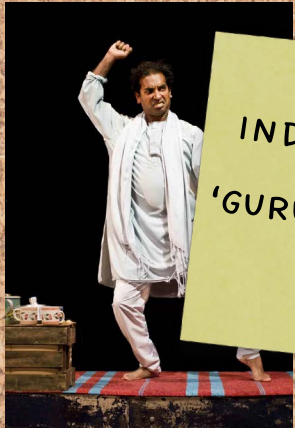
@ BRUCE MASON
SEPT-OCT

EVIL DEAD
THE MUSICAL

AUCKLAND MUSIC THEATRE
@ WESTPOINT THEATRE JULY



I LOVE YOU G
MASSIVE COMPANY
I LOVE YOU G - MAY
TE AO HOU - JULY



INDIAN INK'S
'GURU OF CHAI'
JUNE



'THE HANDLERS'
@ TE POU
MAY-JUNE



RED LEAP'S 'DAKOTA OF THE
WHITE FLATS' - MAY



'SCENES FROM
A CLIMATE ERA'
- ATC/SILO
AUGUST

BASEMENT THEATRE'S
2024 SHOWS



Canterbury Branch.

This has been a challenging term for Canterbury branch with the sudden passing of our much-loved branch secretary and friend, Samantha Boyce-Da Cruz. Sam passed away on 14th February, Valentines Day, and Annette is taking her classes while the school finds a special teacher to take over Sam's classes. Te Aratai College and Sam's students are grateful for the many wishes and support they have had from schools, teachers and also other Drama students from all over Canterbury. They are doing ok, the senior students are working on a production of *Revenge of the Amazons* which Sam was to produce early in the year.

Many of Sam's past and present students remembered Sam at a special memorial at Te Aratai College – many remembered her vibrancy and passion for life.

Canterbury Branch Primary Workshop

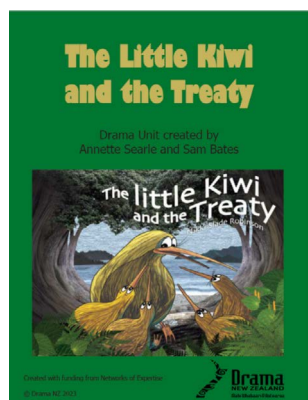
We had a wonderfully dedicated rōpū of kaiako who joined Annette Searle & Sam Bates for an after-school workshop. Our focus was to explore the use of picture books and plan drama to support each teacher's topic for their own teaching space. Using the themes chosen by each kaiako, we explored and connected suitable drama conventions to support deeper insights and understandings of the concepts within drama and across the curriculum.

Feedback from kaiako included:

"Awesome support to draft process drama units and starting points for tackling NZ History through dramatic inquiry."

"Great ideas - practical and able to use now."

"Fab ideas to take away to work with my children in my SENCO Role."



Canterbury Branch Primary Workshop for Initial Teacher Education Students

Annette Searle ran a wonderful session for 80 undergraduate 2nd year teacher education students at the University of Canterbury. They gained a 'snapshot' of the content from the DNZ Unit *The Little Kiwi and the Treaty*. The story of the Kiwis can be linked to the wider historical context of Aotearoa NZ and local community contexts. The themes covered in this unit include migration, identity, negotiation and treaties.

In the session, students actively participated in exploring these topics while gaining insight into how drama can engage ākonga into insightful understandings of different perspectives, values and motivations through dramatic inquiry. This unit and others are available on the Drama New Zealand website.

Regional News

We were not able to have our first full planning committee meeting for 2024 on 14 February and will be meeting on 27 March to plan the year and work out what else we can offer our members this year. Watch this space and, of course, our Facebook page.

I am available to support your planning, navigating the new Level 1 standards, and developing teaching and learning tasks and assessment. Happy to Zoom / Google Meet or visit you in your school. You can also get support from other members of the committee closer to your school. Tealy Lynch is the pod leader on the West Coast and she can be reached at tealyd.lynch@gmail.com or email our branch directly at canterburybranch@drama.org.nz.

Wonderful work is happening in our rohe and all around the motu because we, as Drama teachers, are generous with our time, experience, and expertise. Thank you to you all and let us treasure the time we have together.

Verity Davidson / Canterbury Regional Representative

Remembering Samantha

Annette Thomson remembers Samantha Boyce-Da Cruz or 'Cruizy' to her students at Te Aratai College in Ōtautahi, Christchurch.



Kia ora everyone. I knew Sam through Drama New Zealand, but before this we were in plays - creating drama together within the drama community here in Christchurch. Sam and I have been in plays together since 2009 in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. She was also very much a part of our Drama NZ community here in Canterbury. She was our Secretary and was on the team to run the National Conference in 2019. Sam was so vibrant, always greeted you with a huge smile or a hug if you wanted. She was sparkly and joyous and was willing to accept, support and give of herself in her work and life.

It is an honour to be able to hold her classes for a little while. I know from moderating her class performances that she was so proud of her students – and I could see their growth in her capable hands. Sam grew in confidence too, taking on leadership roles within the school, in the drama community and in teaching her students – bravely tackling material that was foreign so her students would learn alongside her.

Sam Scott from Massive Company ran a workshop that Sam attended in November last year. Sam Scott wrote to me on hearing of Sam's passing and said this:

“She was so vibrant in the day. It was such a pleasure to meet and work with her. I send her whānau and friends much aroha at this very sad time.”

At that workshop they worked with a text called *Hold Your Own* by Kate Tempest, one of my favourite poets, and I found it in the front of one of Sam's sparkly folders. It speaks so much of what we need to do everyday to hold on to those we love – and to ourselves as human beings in this crazy world. I would like to share part of that now:

But, when time pulls lives apart
Hold your own
When everything is fluid, nothing can be known with any
certainty
Hold your own
Hold it til you feel it there
As dark and dense and wet as earth
As vast and bright and sweet as air
When all there is is knowing that you feel what you are
feeling
Hold your own
Ask your hands to know the things they hold
I know, the days are reeling past in such squealing blasts
But stop for breath and you will know it's yours
Swaying like an open door when storms are coming
Hold
So, hold your own
Breathe deep on a freezing bench
Taste the salt of friendship
Notice the movement of a stranger
Hold your own
And let it be
Catching

To Sam's family, know that Sam was such a gorgeous part of a wider whānau of drama teachers and creatives in Canterbury and around the country and we will all miss her deeply. If you ever go to see a play or take a drama class – know that Sam touched lives far and wide and the people on the stage or up the front of the class will probably have known Sam.

Arohanui Sam, it is with such sadness I say farewell.

Good night, be at peace.

Massey Branch.

Kia ora koutou

It has certainly been an action-packed term one! Many have hit the ground running with school productions, SGCNZ and many other creative outlets and opportunities throughout the region.

With the implementation of the new NCEA L1, there have also been some fantastic professional development opportunities.

In February, Verity Davidson Zoomed into our region to walk through the new L1 resources available through the Drama NZ website. Her insights and expertise were so appreciated in the early stages of planning. In March, Tania Roxboroghs online presentation 'Drama and Drama and Mātauranga Māori' was hugely enriching and helped to unpack the concepts of 'Manaakitanga' and 'whanaungatanga'. We look forward to bringing more workshop and professional development opportunities into the Massey region in the future.

Mā te wā,

Ruby Masom / Massey Regional Rep

Upcoming events:



SGCNZ REGIONAL UOSWSF 2024

Red Leap Theatre 2024 Presents

TEACHERS' WORKSHOPS

Devising Workshops at Auckland Tāmaki Makaurau for theatre educators with one of New Zealand's leading physical theatre companies!

Auckland

Friday 10 May 4-7pm
Saturday 11 May 10-4pm

Email to book a spot
education@redleaptheatre.co.nz

Red Leap Theatre, an award-winning company celebrated for its unique blend of striking visual imagery & highly physical ensemble work.

Artistic Director Ella Becroft offers highly practical tools for the classroom.

Glen Eden Intermediate School
Titirangi, Auckland

Friday & Saturday
\$185.00 + GST

Saturday only
\$140.00 + GST

Otago/Southland Branch.

Dunedin Fringe

Congratulations on everyone across the region who have been involved in this year's Fringe Festival. What a fantastic line up highlighting all mediums across the Performing Arts. We are truly blessed to have such a talent from our city.



SGCNZ UO Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Festival

Final preparations are being undertaken across Otago and Southland for our regional festivals due to take place on Wednesday 27th March at James Hargest College and Thursday 4th April at Kings High School. We wish all our schools the best of luck for their performances.



A huge thank you to Debbie Vercoe and Aimee Marshall for all of their organisation surrounding the festivals.

Dunedin POD Update

On Tuesday 7 February the Dunedin POD met at Luna Restaurant. It was wonderful to see so many faces come together to socialise to start the new year.

Dunedin Schools are also all getting their Shakespeare items ready for the upcoming festival. We look forward to having the students getting together and sharing their love of Shakespeare!

A few of the local high schools are beginning to prepare for their musical season. Otago Girls' and Boys' High are into their rehearsals for *13*.



View from Luna overlooking Dunedin: Taken by Kimberley Fridd on her way to the meeting! How beautiful is our city!

Central Otago POD update

Wakatipu High School is about to open their musical *Hairspray* with a show season from Wed 3rd April – Sat 6th April.

Mount Aspiring has been preparing for *Legally Blonde Junior* being performed early in Term Two. A cast from across the school has been working really hard to get this together. Entertainment Technology students are leading all the back stage areas as part of their major assessment project for the year. Students have also been working toward Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Festival for the end of the term.

The teaching crew are hoping to get together for some sharing of new Level 1 course experience and resources in general.

The term has passed by very quickly!

Introducing our POD leaders

Dunedin POD: Erica Ward



Erica first began her teaching career at Grantlea Downs in Timaru, before moving to Wellington teaching at Bellevue School for three years. In 2018, Erica made the move back home to Dunedin. Erica is now Head of Drama and Dance at Trinity Catholic College.

Central Otago POD: Emily McRae



Emily McRae started teaching in 2001 at Rangiora High school and introduced the first ever Year 11 year in 2002 when the curriculum arrived. Since then she has taught at Wakatipu across the early 2000's and has been at Te Kura O Tititea since 2012. She teaches both

senior and junior Drama and senior levels of Entertainment and Event Technologies.

If you would be interested in assisting with any organisation of our region for Southland, Oamaru or Timaru areas, please do not hesitate to contact Erica Ward - otagosouthlandbranch@drama.org.nz.

If you would like to share what you are working on please head to the [Otago/Southland Drama NZ Facebook Group](#) or email otagosouthlandbranch@drama.org.nz. It is wonderful to hear what people have been working on and celebrate our exciting mahi across the region.

*Best wishes,
Erica Ward
Otago Southland Branch Representative*

Need drama resources? Nightsong has you sorted.



Fantastic online resources for assessment or general learning purposes. Fully updated to include the refreshed NCEA Level One.

"We love, love, love, LOVED this production"
- students Epsom Girls' Grammar

"My students are buzzing! Great play and so many possibilities for students to write in depth... And agree, the education pack is amazing!"
- Birkenhead College

Resources available:

Mr Red Light, Te Pō, A Stab in the Dark and I Want To Be Happy

Includes an in-depth education pack, full-show video and script.

For more details click [here](#)



Waikato Branch.

Kia ora,

It's been a very busy Term One in the Waikato. As one colleague put it, we are "surviving". The SGCNZ UO SWSF Regional Festivals are looming as well as school productions, class work, Showquest, theatre trips, and of course all the other school commitments students have that take them away from class.

Great to see the SGCNZ UO SWSF Regional Festivals rebuilding in our region. The Te Tairāwhiti Shakespeare Festival, hosted by Gisborne Girls' is happening on April 10th. It's got the most schools involved for about 5 years!! (Almost all high schools are involved in some way). Te Awamutu College hosted the Waikato Regional Festival on Friday 5 April, with 8 schools fielding entries.

Sam at Gisborne Girls' High School is currently prepping for a full scale performance of *The Diary of Anne Frank* with a full student tech crew (assistant director, stage manager, assistant stage manager, head of wardrobe, costume designers x2, student lighting designer and operator, student sound operator) plus a full cast of dedicated students. We wish them all "chookas" for their season and look forward to some production pictures and success stories.

It was great to hear that Sam had about 5 year 10s ask if they could help with anything when they saw them putting together part of the set for rehearsals. When Sam mentioned needing to assemble, build, and paint the set the students were 100% on board for that and for FOH. So exciting to have enthusiastic junior students. Here's to them continuing to be involved!

Tovah at St Peter's Cambridge has just finished the Children's Day Pantomime and has started working on live performance in school.

Louise Keenan at Morrinsville College has got her seniors working hard on their lines for Rosie next term. Wishing them all the best for the process and looking forward to hearing about their season.

Brendon Weatherly at Tauranga Boys' College has been working hard on *We Will Rock You*, as well as introducing the new Te Punga certificate course for Year 11 (basically a reworked NCEA Level 1). If anyone can lend him a hand he is "trying desperately to find an edited down version of *Threepenny Opera*", sounds like some awesome projects coming up in Tauranga.

Here at Te Awamutu College we are working on the new Live Performance assessment at level 1, having seen awesome performances of *Hyperspace* at ATC, *Te Tangi a te Tūi* at Te Pou Theatre, and *Hatupatu Kurungaituku: A Forbidden Love* by Taki Rua in Rotorua. Year 11s have also been learning to facepaint, taking their skills 'to the streets' for Children's Day celebrations in Hamilton and Te Awamutu.

Looking forward to next term, we are planning an evidence gathering workshop to support those doing the new Level 1 standards and develop evidence collection strategies for Drama teachers; that don't require us to do a whole lot of extra work. Look out for dates in Hamilton, Tauranga and Taupō.

We're also planning our AGM / teacher's get-together so that we can look at ways that Drama NZ can support the awesome work of teachers in our region.

Wishing everyone a successful end-of-term, and a restful holiday.

Nā tō rourou, nā taku rourou ka ora ai te iwi

Literal: With your food basket and my food basket the people will thrive

Metaphorical: This whakataukī encapsulates the notion that while working in isolation might result in survival, working together can take people beyond survival and onto prosperity.

Morag Carter / Waikato Regional Rep

primary corner

Drama
NEW ZEALAND
mahi whakaari o Aotearoa

PRIMARY

March Theatre Month

Every year, I prioritise enriching our students' Arts experiences by organising theatre excursions or hosting touring theatre companies at our school. This commitment remains a cornerstone of my budget allocation strategy. Over the past two years, I've orchestrated outings for our Junior School students to the Auckland Arts Festival, only to find ourselves as the sole audience members. It's disheartening because the Festival offers remarkable children's programmes.

Last year I observed numerous schools flocking to another show featuring their own students. The disparity lay in the clever marketing tactics of the latter, which involved personalised emails mentioning students involved, and soliciting support for their production, which I might add, was not cheap.

Recently, I've noted a similar trend at the Hawkes Bay Lift Off Festival, where ticket sales for their fantastic school shows have been disappointing. To counter this, they've initiated a 'pay it forward' scheme to offer students access to these enriching experiences.



In advocating for live theatre within my school, I encountered inquiries like: What's the significance of live theatre? How do theatre trips enhance learning? Do they offer educational benefits?

Live theatre offers a unique immediacy that screens can't replicate. It stimulates imagination, fosters creativity, and nurtures social and emotional development. For those seeking deeper insights, I recommend Kerry Palmer's article 'What is Quality?' in *Performing Arts for/by/with Children and Young People*, available on the PAYPANZ website.



'To take a child to the theatre, to places of community and to live art, is not just introducing them to the magic of storytelling or the wonder of other worlds, but also allows them to look within. It ensures that they are shown that understanding themselves is an act of empathy.' Eloquently expressed by Emily Tomlins, Associate Director at Polyglot Theatre.

So, how can we ensure primary and intermediate students have more access to live theatre? By championing drama in schools, sourcing high-quality theatre experiences, exploring financially feasible touring companies, supporting local Arts Festivals, and fostering collaboration with neighbouring schools, including potential performances from local high school students.



Judy Norton
Primary Representative

Drama NZ News

WHAT'S MY REGION?

As the Conference registrations have been flooding in, we have noticed that a number of people ticked that they don't know what their Drama NZ region is. We thought these little maps might help you to find your regional Drama NZ community. Now that you know where you belong we urge you to connect with your Regional Chair and make sure you are on their radar to receive information about all the amazing PLD and networking opportunities your regional committees offer all around the motu all year long!

Here is a list of all the regional reps, their email addresses, and Facebook groups.

Auckland / Northland / Tāmaki Makaurau / Te Tai Tokerau

Regional Representative: Emma Gillies

aucklandbranch@drama.org.nz

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/513523238796638>

Canterbury / Waitaha

Regional Representative: Jay Grubb

Canterburybranch@drama.org.nz

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/425374920934604>

Massey / Waitākere

Regional Representative: Ruby Masom

Masseybranch@drama.org.nz

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1470960373227577>

Otago / Southland / Murihiku

Regional Representative: Erica Ward

Otagosouthlandbranch@drama.org.nz

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/183907964993986>

Waikato

Regional Representative: Morag Carter

Waikatobranch@drama.org.nz

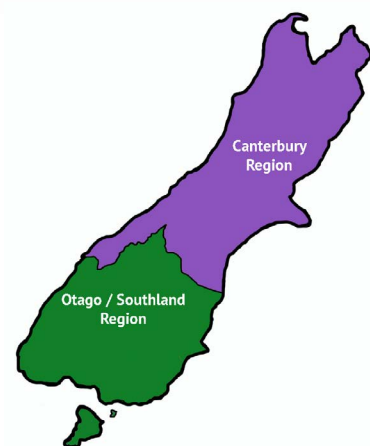
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/401441810044321>

Wellington / Te Whanganui a Tara

Regional Representative: Tama Smith and Beth Draper

Wellingtonbranch@drama.org.nz

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/752422148201084>



Professor Peter O'Connor among the latest cohort of Ngā Ahurei a Te Apārangi Fellows



Twenty-two new Ngā Ahurei a Te Apārangi Fellows and Ngā Ahurei Honore a Te Apārangi Honorary Fellows have been elected to the Academy of the Royal Society Te Apārangi. Fellowship recognises researchers, scholars, and innovators throughout Aotearoa New Zealand who have achieved excellence in their various disciplines across science, technology, and the humanities. Being made a Fellow is an honour that recognises distinction in research, scholarship, or the advancement of knowledge at the highest international standards. Fellows can use the post-nominal 'FRSNZ' after their name to indicate this honour.

Peter O'Connor is internationally recognised for his research and his utilisation of the arts for social transformation. He pioneered the field of applied theatre in New Zealand and expanded his interests to encompass arts-based research projects worldwide. In 2020, he founded the Centre for Arts and Social Transformation (CAST) at the University of Auckland, where he leads cross disciplinary teams in directing research projects on the arts and social change. O'Connor focuses on creating and investigating arts projects in a wide range of contexts, including prisons, schools, and disaster zones. He leads CAST projects that tackle social issues such as racism, the rise of populism, and mental health for children and young people. His theorising of the arts post-disaster has developed new understandings of the potential for the arts to heal communities after trauma.

We celebrate the mahi of one of our own, Professor Peter O'Connor, (Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland), who has been recognised in this list. Ka mau te wehi. Huge congratulations, Peter!



ColourSource
Affordable can be rich.

proudly distributed by
JANDS
jands.co.nz

Register now for our Term 2 NCEA Level 1 Workshops happening in a town near you.

Drama
NEW ZEALAND



Mahi Whakaari
O AOTEAROA

NCEA LEVEL 1 WORKSHOPS

27 April DUNEDIN 6 May CENTRAL OTAGO
20 May AUCKLAND 31 May CAMBRIDGE
31 May NEW PLYMOUTH 31 May CHRISTCHURCH
4 June NELSON

Wellington, Palmerston North, Taupo, Timaru,
dates to come

FIND OUT MORE AND REGISTER AT
<https://forms.gle/TZvuuWfHC1uVnEL79>

Our workshops facilitated by trained kaiako with support from Anna Richardson will cover key aspects of the Level 1 standards including mātauranga māori, evidence collection, conditions of learning, finding resources and more... Register at <https://forms.gle/coVYj1LV5YbRLydDA>

27 May DUNEDIN facilitated by Kimberley Fridd
6 May CENTRAL OTAGO facilitated by Kimberley Fridd
20 May AUCKLAND facilitated by Emma Gillies
31 May CHRISTCHURCH facilitated by Verity Davidson
31 May CAMBRIDGE facilitated by Morag Carter
31 May NEW PLYMOUTH facilitated by Lisa Simpson
4 June NELSON facilitated by Verity Davidson



Some titles Primary and Intermediate Teachers will LOVE!

Haphazardly Ever After

Wizard of Oz and Toto, Too!

Thirty-Three Little Pigs

Yo Ho Ho and a Wad of Gum

Jolly Roger and the Pirate Queen

The Ever After

The Stinky Feet Gang

Twice Upon a Time

Big Bad

The Epic Quest of Damsels in Distress

Game of Myths

*... and so many more! Need help
selecting a play? Get in touch!*

www.playbureau.com • info@playbureau.com

Associate News

Welcome new Associate Members:



Nightsong is dedicated to delivering unique and innovative New Zealand theatre with high production values. Their works are characterised by a blend of rich poetic language with music, visual arts, puppetry, illusion, and choreographed movement. They have a lineup of live and digital plays we would like to offer to secondary schools in New Zealand. Learn more at <https://www.nightsong.co.nz>

TheatreQC *Keeping Theatres Alive!*

TheatreQC passionately supports the arts. We take pride in being the foremost solution for Stage Curtain Fire Protection, ensuring strict compliance with New Zealand Building & IMO Fire standards.

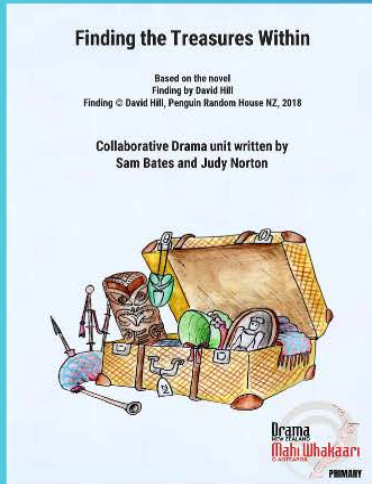
Founded in 2017, TheatreQC emerged from a deep-seated commitment to aid the arts and entertainment with fabric and stage curtain fire services. Our primary goal is to preserve the vitality of theaters by ensuring that stage curtains adhere to the rigorous regulations set by Australian & New Zealand Fire Standards, as well as IMO regulations for cruise ships.

From educational institutions to theaters, convention centers, and beyond, we are dedicated to delivering top-quality services for stage curtains and theater fabrics. As the leading provider of these services in Australia, we are thrilled to expand our operations into New Zealand in 2024.

We are happy to join Drama NZ because TheatreQC embodies a profound passion and unwavering commitment to #keepingtheatresalive. We are genuinely dedicated to offering our full support to the Arts and Entertainment industry in New Zealand. We are excited to continue contributing and assisting in achieving great success for the arts and entertainment sector in New Zealand.

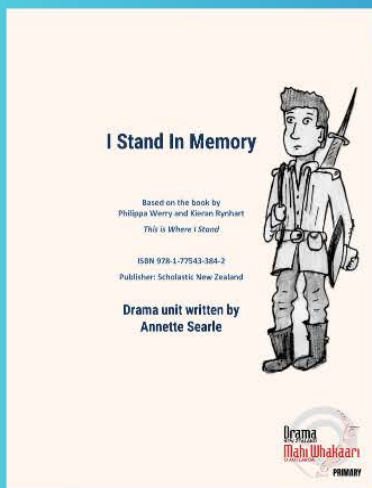
3

AWESOME RESOURCES



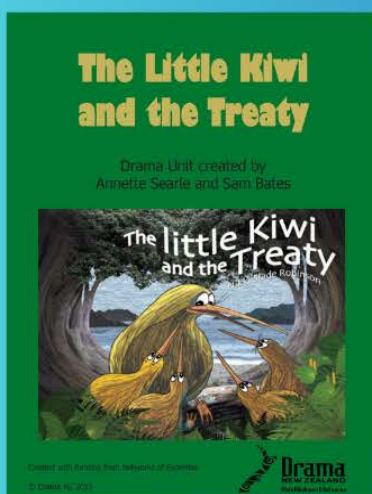
FINDING THE TREASURES WITHIN

Based on the young adult novel 'Finding' by David Hill. This story traces the fortunes of two New Zealand families over seven generations and through 130 years of adventure and discovery, tragedy and triumph.



I STAND IN MEMORY

Students are encouraged to step into the shoes of various community members to explore events reflected in this story, making connections with their own history. The story serves as a reminder that people in our past stood up for the ideals held by society. Sacrifices were made to give us the peace and freedom we experience today.



THE LITTLE KIWI AND THE TREATY

Students are encouraged to see themselves reflected in this story and make connections with their own history. The story of the Kiwis can be linked to the wider historical context of Aotearoa NZ and local community contexts.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Free NCEA Resources @drama.org.nz

AOTEAROA TIMELINES - 100 EVENTS IN OUR HISTORY

This is a rich resource of 100 important events in the history of Aotearoa including images and many suggestions on how these images may be used in your teaching.

WE LOVE THE FUTURE OF OUR KIDS

Participate in creative strategies to devise a drama. The context of this resource is nuclear activity in the Pacific, with a focus on the Marshall Islands.

ENSEMBLE IMPACT TOURS

Detailing the play combinations used in the various Ensemble Impact Tours. This resource consists of thematic compilations of Aotearoa plays, along with some scripts, images from the performances and a study guide.

TĀRAIA TE MAHARA, KA TĀRAIA AI TE RĀKAU - CARVE THE MIND BEFORE CARVING YOUR PATH

This pack of resources was developed to support learning Literacy in Drama.

TAHI FESTIVAL

Four polylogues (collections of monologues on a theme). Two of them are from extant work and two are new commissions by NZ writers, Sally Richards (Tahi Festival) and Murray Lynch (Playmarket).

TEMPLATES AND PLANNING DOCUMENTS

This theatre review booklet is versatile and suitable for all levels. This resource provides a structured approach to reviewing performances.

CHARACTER STRENGTHS IN THE DRAMA CLASSROOM

A comprehensive resource rich with ideas for text study and devising. It is based around the concept of Character Strengths.

WAYFINDING: ROUTES FOR EXPLORING STORYTELLING THROUGH DRAMA

teaching and learning activities for Level 1 NCEA Drama, assessment standard Drama 1.2 Level 1: Participate in creative strategies to create a drama, 91941

'PENINSULA' - EXPLORE THE FUNCTION OF THEATRE AOTEAROA

An ideal way to explore the function of theatre Aotearoa, through an examination of Gary Henderson's play, *Peninsula*.

THE AFTERMATH

This combined course outline focuses on the theme of 'The Aftermath' - exploring this theme through dramatic texts, performance, and creative strategies for a combined level class.

IRISH ANNALS OF AOTEAROA

This is a rich collection of activities that explore both Māori aspects and the Irish aspects of this play by Simon O'Connor.

IDENTITY AND BELONGING

Who am I? Who are we? What is my place in the world? How is identity formed? Personal Identity Vs. Collective identity

MĀTAURANGA MAORI IN THE DRAMA SPACE

This resource includes videos of the Zoom sessions with Tashiana, kēmu you can play with your ākonga along with video clips to explain the kēmu, and Power Points explaining key Māori kupu and tikanga.