

## CONVENOR'S CORNER



As theatres slowly recover and navigate the challenges of Covid-19, we acknowledge and appreciate the extra levels of safety they are all having to go through – finding extra front of house staff to take temperatures/ make sure audience members 'sign in'/ supply hand disinfectant and masks where necessary etc.... It's hard enough sometimes to get a show on the stage, and all the additional tasks make for a very busy time for theatre companies.

On the border of Gold Coast and Northern NSW we are seeing companies having to rehearse understudies and swings in case the actors cast are unable to come across the border to perform, and in our case, we have had to replace judges at shows when the confirmed people are not able to travel. As Ned Kelly said – 'Such is Life!'

On a positive note, plans are well under way for our 2021 Presentation Night, with a few changes necessary in this Covid year... We have confirmed the date as **MONDAY 6th DECEMBER**, again at **Dracula's Cabaret Restaurant** (opposite Pacific Fair in Broadbeach, Gold Coast.) Tickets for Presentation Night will go on sale on **Monday 8th November**. Even though this is before nominations are announced, if you want a good seat, get in early!

Remember, it's a big-time dress-up night, so let's welcome theatre back with our highest fashions!

The link for booking is **HERE**.

With the number of people allowed at an indoor gathering changing almost daily, we have not gone firm on a Finalists' Cocktail Party this year. Watch this space for news of that. We will have to run things a little differently this year, with little chance of visits from VIPs interstate etc. However, alternative plans are exciting!

Our final Judges' Meeting (where all nominations are discussed and numbers totted up to find our Finalists) is on Sunday 21st November, with final shows to be judged Friday/Saturday/Sunday 12, 13 and 14 November. As in previous years, all Finalists will be published at midnight on Monday 22nd November. We have seen some incredible theatre this year, despite Covid, and the standard is at an all-time high for the Gold Palm Theatre Awards.

Let's end the year with a bang!

Kate Peters OAM

# GOLD PALM THEATRE AWARDS

## 2021 PRESENTATIONS

**MONDAY 6 DECEMBER 2021**

**DRACULA'S CABARET RESTAURANT**

1 Hooker Blvd, Broadbeach

**DRESS**

Welcome back theatrical glamour  
in our highest fashions!

**TO SECURE YOUR SEAT!**

**BOOKINGS Open 8 November 2021**

**CLICK HERE!**

# What we have seen in 2021

## December 2020

Ballina Players *Downtown*

## January 2021

Redcliffe Musical Theatre

*Mamma Mia*

Mates Theatre Genesis *Sailing*

*South*

NAPA *Downtown*

## February 2021

ROAR Academy (Redcliffe)

*Moana Jr*

Tugun Theatre Co.

*The Butler Did It*

Gold Coast Little Theatre

*Bye Bye Birdie*

Sunnybank Theatre Group

*Xanadu*

Mates Theatre Genesis *Gather*

*Round, Hear our Voices*

## March 2021

Spotlight Theatre Company

*Jersey Boys*

Moreton Bay Theatre Co.

*Fame*

Ballina Players

*Girl's Weekend*

**Prima**

(Pine Rivers Musical Assoc.)

*Life is A Cabaret*

Theatre Redlands

*Women of their Word*

## April 2021

Sunnybank Theatre Group

*The Sum of Us*

Gold Coast Little Theatre

*No Sex Please We're British*

Theatre Redlands

*One Day of the Year*

## May 2021

Moreton Bay Theatre Company

*The Breakfast Club*

Tugun Theatre Company

*The Kidnap Game*

St Hilda's School

*Matilda*

Redcliffe Musical Theatre

*Next to Normal*

Spotlight Theatre Company

*Beautiful - The Carol King Musical*

## June 2021

Wild Dreamer Productions

*VOID*

Sunnybank Theatre Group

*First Things First*

Ballina Players

*Smokey Joe's Cafe*

## July 2021

Mates Theatre Genesis

*Kitchen Diva*

Gold Coast Little Theatre

*Metamorphoses*

Redcliffe Musical Theatre

*School of Rock*

Lynch & Paterson

*Jesus Christ Superstar*

Toowoomba Choral Society

*Just So*

Top Hat Productions

*Welcome Back, Broadway*

Bangalow Theatre Company

*Rent*

Technicolour Theatre Company

*A Midsummer Night's Dream*

## August 2021

Spotlight Theatre Company

*Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*

Saint Stephens College,

Coomera

*Seussical Jr.*

Ipswich Musical Theatre

*Gallagher's Pirates of Penzance*

## September 2021

Gold Coast Little Theatre

*Green Days American Idiot*

Toowoomba Choral Society

*Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*

Sunnybank Theatre Group

*Eventide*

## What's coming up.....

### October 2021

Technicolour Theatre Co.

*Godspell*

Theatre Redlands

*Halloween Museum Tour*

### November 2021

Trinity College Lismore

*A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Ballina Players

*Clue (postponed to 2022)*

Tugun Theatre Company

*Così*

Sunnybank Theatre Group

*Little Red Riding Hood*

## FINAL JUDGING WEEKEND IS 12 - 14 NOVEMBER 2021

The following shows will be viewed in 2021 and included in the 2022 Gold Palms Theatre Awards:

Gold Coast Little Theatre *One O'Clock from the House*

Ipswich Music Theatre Company *Beauty & The Beast Jr.*

Lynch & Paterson *Les Miserables*

Technicolour Theatre Company *Pinocchio*

Ballina Players *Priscilla, Queen Of The Desert*

Ballina Players *Moana Jr.*

Tugun Theatre Company *Twist*

Spotlight Theatre *PUFFS...Or Seven Increasingly Eventful Year at a Certain School of Magic & Magic*

# JUDGES THOUGHTS

## The Importance of a Good Program



One of the categories of the Gold Palm Awards, is Best Program, based on layout, information given, creativity and originality. With modern desk top publishing most programs are nicely presented with good layout, but it is surprising how many ignore the importance of providing the audience with good information.

Every production tells a story. It might be a simple play or a full blown musical, but it still has to tell a story and it is important that the audience understands what that story is. Those involved in a production quickly become familiar with the story, but then seem to assume that the audience has the same level of familiarity. However well known a show might be, there will always be some in the audience who do not know the story and it is important for the program to provide that information.

Start with a synopsis. The majority of programs we see don't have one and immediately exclude themselves from that award. It must never be assumed that the audience is as familiar with the production as the performing company. Some of the best synopses are for ballet and opera which tell the audience, by Act and by Scene, exactly what is the story so that the audience fully understands the action on the stage.

There may be more to the story than just the stage performance. Giving the audience the history, or background will also add to their enjoyment. Not everyone knows that Miss Saigon is a modern adaption of Puccini's *Madam Butterfly*, or that West Side Story is adapted from Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. Would it help audiences to know that Ken Kesey based *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* on his own experience working in a veteran's hospital and experimentation with hallucinogenic drugs? I think so.

The Director's piece is also important. Acknowledging the contribution of the production team is important, but the audience might like to know more about the what was involved in creating the production. For example: why this production now? Does it vary from previous productions? What were the challenges faced and overcome? Explaining how the story came alive for the current production adds to the audience enjoyment.

So, when putting together the program, give the audience the whole story and maybe collect a Best Program award on the big night.

David Huddy

## OUR SPONSORS

The Gold Palm Theatre Awards gratefully acknowledges

HOTA - Home of the Arts

Friends of the Arts Foundation

Gold Coast Bulletin

Dracula's Comedy Cabaret Restaurant

Ramada Hotel Ballina

ADFAS - Australian Decorative & Fine Arts Society, Gold Coast

## GOLD PALM JUDGES



Mrs Kate Peters, Convenor and Founder



Mrs Judy Gadaloff



Ms Steffanie Gowland



Mr David Huddy



Mrs Katrina Lardner



Mr Mark Turpin



Mr Chris Hawkins



Ms Amy MacDonald



Dr Patrick Mitchell



Ms Kirri Adams



Ms Tracey Kriz

Page 3 of 3