



City of Newcastle Drama Awards

Notice of Changes

12/02/14

The treasurer's report at the annual general meeting on 12/02/14 indicated that CONDA Inc was in a financial debt of approximately \$7000. This money has kindly been loaned to CONDA Inc by Don Mitchell in order to cover the costs of the 2013 awards ceremony.

The Newcastle City Council no longer offers sponsorship of the awards ceremony and corporate sponsorship is difficult to acquire because we can offer very little expose in return.

This grim reality is a catalyst for many changes that will need to occur in order to sustain the CONDA's.

Changes to the judging of CONDA shows have been made and were announced at the CONDA Inc annual general meeting on 12/02/14. The changes include:

1. Inclusion of high school productions

High School Productions will now be eligible for the CONDA's providing:

- The school holds public performances.
- They are staging a fully scripted dramatic or musical production (variety concerts or student devised performances are not eligible).
- The school has formally invited the judges.
- The school has supplied the judges with complimentary tickets and programs.

Performers in school productions will be eligible for the under 18 acting categories. The creative and production team will be considered for the open categories in their field.

* This is a trial program, with a review to be undertaken in Nov 2014.

2. New CONDA inclusion boundaries

Productions that are staged within a 40km radius of Newcastle are now eligible for the CONDA's. This now includes some areas of Maitland, Port Stephens and Lake Macquarie.

The point of reference for the 40km measurement is Newcastle Post Office.

- It is hoped that sponsorship can be obtained from various councils.

3. Functional Realignment of Categories

A new structure of categories has been created by the judges in consultation with the CONDA committee. The new categories replace all old categories and will be used in the current CONDA year.

The new structure:

- Allows for more consistency in categories from year to year.
- Separates many categories that were previously combined. (eg: music and movement).
- Removes the language of 'professional' and 'non-professional'.

Please see the attached list of new CONDA categories.



City of Newcastle Drama Awards

List of Judging Categories

12/02/14

- *Outstanding Achievement & Contribution to Theatre*
- *Best Dramatic Production*
- *Best Musical Production*
- *Best New Play or Musical*
- *Best Special Event*
- *Excellence by a Director (Drama or Comedy)*
- *Excellence by a Director (Musical)*
- *Excellence by a Choreographer*
- *Excellence by a Musical Director*
- *Excellence in Costume Design*
- *Excellence in Makeup & Wigs*
- *Excellence in Set or Prop Design*
- *Excellence in Lighting Design*
- *Excellence in Sound Design*
- *Excellence by a Male Actor in a Leading Role (Drama or Comedy)*
- *Excellence by a Female Actor in a Leading Role (Drama or Comedy)*
- *Excellence by a Male Actor in a Leading Role (Musical)*
- *Excellence by a Female Actor in a Leading Role (Musical)*
- *Excellence by a Male Actor in a Supporting Role*
- *Excellence by a Female Actor in a Supporting Role*
- *Excellence by a Male Actor- Under the age of 18*
- *Excellence by a Female Actor- Under the age of 18*
- *Excellence by a Performing Ensemble*