



MEDIA RELEASE

The Hon Verity Firth MP
Minister for Education and Training

21 December 2009

SPOTLIGHT ON TOP HSC DRAMA STUDENTS

Minister for Education and Training Verity Firth today announced 60 HSC Drama students have been selected to perform in the 2009 OnSTAGE season.

Ms Firth said students were chosen from across the State for their exceptional individual and group performances, set and costume design, script writing, theatre review, promotion and program, and video drama.

“Congratulations to all of the HSC students selected to perform and exhibit in OnSTAGE, which will run from February 6 to 12 at Sydney’s Seymour Centre,” Ms Firth said.

“These students represent a sample of the world-class talent emerging from our schools.

“They have explored a range of sophisticated and diverse themes, such as genetic engineering, making the most of life, greed, the universal need for fulfilment and the economy.

“Being chosen for OnSTAGE gives each of these students an excellent opportunity to present their work to a wide audience in a professional setting.”

Ms Firth thanked the teachers and parents who have nurtured the state’s talented young performers throughout the year.

“Having provided so much support and encouragement behind the scenes I’m sure they will enjoy the opportunity to take a seat front of house to see the spectacular results,” Ms Firth said.

The OnSTAGE season also features:

- Writers OnSTAGE – rehearsed readings by professional actors and directors of two scripts by HSC students;
- Writers OnSCREEN – the screening of three exemplary videos; and
- An exhibition of individual projects in set design, scriptwriting and critical analysis.

OnSTAGE is presented by the Board of Studies NSW in partnership with the NSW Department of Education and Training.

A full list of students and their selected performances and projects is attached.

Contact: Lyndell Coutts 0407 412 269

Individual performances

Apparently I've Committed an Horrendous Crime
Jonathan Dutailis, Armidale High School (Armidale)

The Last Days of Judas Iscariot
Paul Whiddon, Newtown High School of the Performing Arts (Quakers Hill)

The Princess and the Problem
Leigh Scott, Wollongong High School of the Performing Arts (Oak Flats)

Winnie
Eliza Owen, Tara Anglican School for Girls, North Parramatta (Castle Hill)

A Low Opinion of Reality
Freya Sombroek, Abbotsleigh, Wahroonga (Roseville)

Bleak House
Claudia Carroll, SCEGGS Darlinghurst (Camberay)

Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf
Olivia Crawl, Newtown High School of the Performing Arts (Enmore)

Iphigenia in Orem
Daniel Downing, Wollongong High School of the Performing Arts (Mangerton)

Exhibition

Critical Analysis – director's folio
Mikaela Higgins, Ravenswood School for Girls, Gordon (Lane Cove)

Critical Analysis – research
Sharon Niles MLC Burwood (Epping)

Critical Analysis – theatre criticism
Stephanie Allen, Ascham School, Edgecliff (Bellevue Hill)
Katrina Allman, Oxley College, Bowral (Bowral)

Design – costume
Catherine Flynn, Ravenswood School for Girls, Gordon (Pymble)
Julia Gorman, St Scholastica's College, Glebe Point (Rozelle)
Louisa Hall, Kincoppal - Rose Bay School of the Sacred Heart (Austinmer)
Timothy Ronald, SHORE - Sydney Church of England Grammar School, North Sydney (Quirindi)

Design – lighting
Alexander Abbey, Canberra Grammar School (Griffith)

Design – poster and program
Hannah Frawley, Kincoppal - Rose Bay School of the Sacred Heart (Castlecrag)
Oliver Ree, St Andrew's Cathedral School, Sydney (Birchgrove)

Design – set
Shalyce Corney, St Clare's High School, Taree (Tinonee)
Peter Hoolihan, Mackillop Catholic College, Lake Haven (Jilliby)
Thomas Studholme, Canberra Grammar School (Sutton)

Writers OnSTAGE/OnSCREEN

Scriptwriting
Rachel Button – *Shelf Life*, Kirrawee High School (Gymea Bay)
Joseph McKenzie – *The Truthmakers*, St Aloysius College, Milson Point (West Ryde)

Video drama
Samuel Leighton-Dore – *L' Etranger*, International Grammar School, Broadway (Newtown)
Eli Hochberg – *It Takes Two*, Moriah College, Bondi Junction (Dover Heights)
Mitchell Bainton – *Remembering You*, St Aloysius College, Milsons Point (Mosman)

Group Performances

Mr Economy, Armidale High School
Brittany Roach (Armidale)
Michael Brazier (Armidale)
Joseph Brown (Armidale)

The Last Letter, Barker College, Hornsby
Cameron Hawthorne (Thornleigh)
Amelia Scott (Normanhurst)
Lucy Terrell (Wahroonga)
Samuel Monk (Pymble)

Seek & Ye Shall Find, Newtown High School of the Performing Arts
Kate Kazokas (Marrickville)
Laura Hespe (Petersham)
Britnie Johnston (Mortdale)

To A De (Greed), St Aloysius College, Milsons Point
Alexander Cubis (Lane Cove)
Adrian Forrest (Roseville Chase)
Charles Newton (Clontarf)
Ciaran Tobin (Beacon Hill)

The Task, Xavier Catholic College, Ballina
Eleanor McCreedy (Lennox Head)
Patrick Aiken (Mullumbimby)
Tess Hoinville (Byron Bay)

Fruit of the Loins, Hunter School of the Performing Arts, Broadmeadow
Declan Egan (Cardiff Heights)
Matthew Predny (Eraring)
Jake Nielsen (Cameron Park)
Alicia Buck (Charlestown)

The Cause, My Soul, Barker College, Hornsby
Christopher Jones (Turramurra)
Gretel Maltabarow (Denistone)
Lucy O'Brien (Pymble)
Ryan Yeomans (St Ives Chase)

Luxury, Newtown High School of the Performing Arts
Tessa Kerans (Petersham)
Rachel Howell (Padstow Heights)
Lillian Silk (Dulwich Hill)
Henry Moss (Birchgrove)
Alexander Thew (Hornsby)

Killing Time, Sydney Girls High School, Surry Hills
Ruby Cornish (Earlwood)
Harriet Hope Streeter (Bronte)
Sarah Zikmann, (Maroubra)

*Student's home suburb listed in brackets