



Volume 1 | Issue 4
December 5 2020

Drama Australia
ABN: 39 677 369 326
PO Box 1205
Milton Qld 4064
AUSTRALIA
admin@dramaaustralia.org.au



Drama Australia Conference – Vision 2020

Drama Australia is looking forward to the national conference

8-10 April 2021

A new program will live stream presentations from La Boite Theatre; there will be live workshop sessions and pre-recorded sessions. Conference participants can curate their own experience with a mix of face to face and digital offerings.

If you have any questions, please refer them to [Katrina Torenbeek](mailto:Katrina.Torenbeek@conference@dramaqueensland.org.au), Conference Manager, via email -

conference@dramaqueensland.org.au

Communiqué

Share with your associations ~ opportunities to be published and celebrated

Drama Australia acknowledges the deep history of this country and First Nations Peoples' unbroken connection to country and culture. We acknowledge the elders, of the past, the present, and the emerging leaders in our educational and artistic spaces.

Advocacy for the development of empathy in education

'In a world shaped by artificial intelligence, education is no longer just about teaching people something, but about helping people build a reliable compass and the navigation tools to find their own way through an increasingly volatile, uncertain and ambiguous world. Tomorrow's schools will need to help students think for themselves and join others, with **empathy**, in work and citizenship. They will need to help students develop a strong sense of right and wrong, a sensitivity to the claims that others make on them, and a grasp of the limits on individual and collective action.

At work, at home and in the community, **people will need a deep understanding of how others live, in different cultures and traditions, and how others think, whether as scientists or artists'.**

(PISA 2018 Insights and Interpretations by Andreas Scheicher 2019)

Advocacy

A large part of Drama Australia's role is to advocate for equitable and excellent drama education for every Australian learner. Each Communiqué will start with a piece around advocacy to bolster the profile of drama within our schools and incorporate rigorous research to share compelling messages. The above quote is the last paragraph of a report on the 2018 Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) results that show that education in the future will need to explicitly build empathy in their students. Drama education is known to develop empathy through role playing, imaginative characterisation and the embodied engagement with the idea of 'other'.

What's been happening?

OCTOBER

The Drama Australia board met with Helen Champion and Robyn Carmody of ACARA as part of the national review of the *Australian Curriculum*.

The Drama Australia Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held and the 2020/2021 board was appointed.

NOVEMBER

The Drama Australia board Strategy Meeting was held using a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) process to refine strong and achievable goals for next year.

The Fourth 2020 Combined Meeting of Councils (CMC) Meeting also used the SWOT process to identify successful ways of working and areas for improvement. We also had **Robin Pascoe** (Outgoing President of IDEA (International Drama Education Association)) and Richard Sallis (Outgoing Director of Publications of IDEA) attended to urge members of Drama Australia to consider nominating members for the IDEA executive committee as there has always been a strong Australian presence in the IDEA leadership. Richard noted that the norms and practices for IDEA is like 'Drama Australia on steroids' to which DA practitioners like Kate Donelan and Jenny Simons contributed. Robin urged as many of us as possible to think about attending IDEA in 2022 in Reykjavik, Iceland.

Dalliance with the DALOS was held with most DALOs attending and the wonderful Mary Mooney; a minor miracle considering the time of year. Each DALO told their story and it was fascinating to see the commonalities (usually a strong love of theatre and drama from a young age and being inspired by the superstars of drama education including John O'Toole, Julie Dunn, Brad Haseman, Sandra Gattenhoff, Michael Anderson and Kelly Freebody) and the fascinating differences (training overseas, working as actors, leaving school early and coming back to education later in life, travelling interstate to work and being an association President and now a DALO).

It was a lovely opportunity to get to know each other a bit better and we will have our next Dalliance in February.

DECEMBER

Drama Australia is hosting an **Academic Publishing Webinar** on **Wednesday 2nd December 2020**, to support and encourage people to publish in our academic, peer-reviewed journal, NJ.

DRAMA TEACHERS

ADEM published November 2020

We are delighted to be able to share with you the Australian Drama Education Magazine (ADEM) **Our Changing World 2020**.

ADEM is published by Drama Australia annually and is free to members of Drama Australia. It is distributed as a PDF to members via state and territory associations. This edition provides articles, reports and Drama curriculum ideas related to all the themes and changes drama educators have responded to in this extraordinary year of 2020. ADEM features contributions from every state and territory, through association reports. It's a great way to get a sense of the vibrancy of drama education across Australia, and will provide you with some refreshing and thought-provoking summer reading. We hope you enjoy ADEM 2020.

A call for contributions will be sent out early in the New Year, and we hope that you will consider contributing an article to ADEM in 2021.

ADEM on-line in 2021

In 2021 we will be putting up past editions of ADEM on-line for you to access via the Drama Australia website. These editions are filled with great drama teaching ideas, with many early issues of ADEM based around important themes of continuing relevance.

Associate Editor ADEM—Inviting Expressions of Interest

We are seeking Expressions of Interest in the role of Associate Editor of ADEM for 2021. The associate editor will work with the Director of Monographs & ADEM and support them in the process to produce a quality publication for Australian drama teachers. The process includes the call for submissions/articles, reviewing articles, and copy editing. This role presents a wonderful opportunity to contribute to and support the drama education profession at a national level.

For further information or to express interest in this role please contact:

jo.raphael@deakin.edu.au

Director Monographs & ADEM: Dr Jo Raphael (VIC)
Associate Editor ADEM 2020: Tamara Sweetman (NSW)

DRAMA ACADEMICS

Calling drama education researchers and academics to publish in our internationally respected peer reviewed academic journal. This is an opportunity to heighten the drama research profile, especially if you have presented at recent symposiums or conferences.

Keep sharing call for papers through member associations.

<https://dramaaustralia.org.au/national-journal-2/>

Contact s.davis@cqu.edu.au Director of Publications
and admin@dramaaustralia.org.au



ADEM on-line in 2021

Associate Editor ADEM - EOI

