



Connecting communities creatively  
Te huihuinga mai i ngā hapori wairua auaha

## **Musical Theatre NZ Annual Programme Competition Guidelines for Judges**

A theatre programme serves several functions. It should heighten anticipation for the show to come; give information needed about the cast, etc. and hopefully become a souvenir of the show.

Factors which will be judged in programme competitions include the following:

### **Impact**

This is the first impression gained by the judge. At a glance, does it look interesting? Are the important points easily seen?

### **Readability**

This means the readability in a theatre-like lighting. Dimmer lighting calls for greater contrasts. Take care with the use of colour, both of paper stock used and ink colour in such stock. Certain colours do not have the same impact under incandescent light as they do in daylight.

### **Typography**

Choose a typeface and type size which is easily read in the theatre. Do not overcrowd the page. Make sure captions are clear and accurate.

### **Accuracy**

Too often a programme is left to the last minute. Be sure that your material is accurate before it goes to the printer. The accurate spelling of names is important. Make sure proofs are read by someone who has had little to do with the production.

The categories are as follows, although this may differ from year to year. The awards are presented by people chosen by the MTNZ Executive and not presented by the judges. However, judge's comments are most welcome and will be put into the AGM presentation if available:

### **Multi A**

- Usually the programmes submitted for this are from the larger societies and are big, glossy programmes for shows such as Les Miserables, 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, CATS as an example, and usually designed and printed by professionals.
- The original trophy for this category was from the Association of Community Theatre and if there are any representatives from ACT, they present the award.

### **Multi B**

- Usually the programmes submitted for this category are from the smaller societies and are for their major shows. They are not as expensive-looking, designed by a professional or glossy as the entries in the Multi A Prize.
- The original trophy for this category was from the New Plymouth Operatic Society and if there are any representatives from NPOS, they present the award.

### **Multi C**

- Colour cover and black and white inside, one or two colour photos

### **Multi D**

- Colour cover and black and white inside, one or two colour photos – smaller shows usually, or plays.

### **Single Sheet**

- One or more colours of ink may be used.
- May be folded, creased and/or die-cut to any shape but must remain a single sheet.
- Currently sponsored by iTICKET

The host society is asked to provide bios/CVs for the programmes to the MTNZ office

The Multi C and Multi D categories are MTNZ Memorial Awards which honour two members of our community that have left us during the year.

## Other Competitions/Awards

### **The MTNZ Merit Award**

- This award is to honour those people in your society for outstanding achievement and contribution to musical theatre in our communities.
- The nominee needs to have been an active member of one or more MTNZ member societies for at least 20 years
- One nomination may be made by a Society in any one year
- Nomination needs to be received by MTNZ office by 31 January each year.
- Nomination needs to be accompanied by a brief CV supporting suitability for the award

### **The ETNZ Community Theatre Technical Achievement Award**

- This award was introduced to recognise achievement in the area of community theatre productions
- This award is open to all ages, however if you are nominating someone for the youth award, the youth nomination cannot be considered for the general award
- What is technical? Wardrobe, props, set design, lighting design and/ or operation, sound design and/or operation etc.
- A letter and application need to be received by the MTNZ office with a supporting CV outlining technical achievements by 31 January each year.

### **The ETNZ Community Theatre Technical Achievement Youth Award**

- This is the same as the previous award, but it is for someone who is under the age of 25

### **The Nola Speir Patron's NextGen Encouragement Award**

- There is no length of service required, however, the keywords need to be 'attitude' and 'commitment'. This award recognises younger members of MTNZ societies for their contribution to musical theatre.
- One nomination from your society each year.
- Letter, photo and application needs to be sent to the MTNZ office with a supporting CV by 31 January each year

### **The Origin Theatrical Poster Competition**

- Send two copies of your poster to the MTNZ General Manager by 31 December each year
- If there is no correct or no copyright billing on the material, it will not be considered

### **The Playmarket NZ Work Poster and Programme Competition**

- This is for New Zealand written work only.
- Send two copies of your poster to the MTNZ General Manager by 31 December each year
- If there is no correct or no copyright billing on the material, it will not be considered

### **The John Herber/NZ FireShield Showbill Competition**

- The object of the showbill is to depict a show so that it can become a visual record for societies in years to come.
- What is depicted on the showbill is up to individual societies, however the judges will be looking at different areas, such as colour etc.
- You need to take your showbill to conference not send it to the MTNZ office in Wellington