

Palmerston North Dance Association

2023



24th Annual Dance Festival

Annual Newsletter

The Regent on Broadway

28 September - 4 October 2023



2023 Presidents Report ~ Maryanne Mecham



Kia Ora / greetings

Another year has passed, and our competition festival is upon us again. Starting where we left off in 2022.

The gala is hard to beat when it comes to highlights of the Sept/Oct competition festival. The troupe afternoon and evening must be up there as well featuring 127 group items over the two sessions. The troupes bring in the audience, which always adds to the performances.



Focusing in on the Gala, we were delighted to have the RNZB as guest artists adding excitement to the event and artistry to the already talented line up of ballet competitors. We enjoyed the presence of local City Councillors Rachel Bowen and Lorna Johnson, and MP for Palmerston North Tangi Utikere. Turid Revfeim former ballerina and ballet tutor from RNZB, also special friend to PNDA was able to join our PNDA members, supporters, and other invited guests. All present bringing such positivity and appreciation for competitors and organisers. Thank you to every one of you, your encouragement and support for our event means a lot to us.



Our adjudicator Karen Ruske finally made it to our competition festival, if you remember in 2021, she couldn't leave Auckland due to covid lockdown. Karen covered all the genres, ably assisted by Yvonne Hocken our resident writer. The competition enjoyed good numbers over all the classes, Karen remained unfazed sharing with us afterwards that she just had to stick to her marking system and trust her process. With 890 items danced over the competition she certainly worked hard for us. We were very grateful for grants from the Lion Foundation, Central Energy Trust and PNCC Arts Event Fund. Without the support from our funders, we couldn't run our event at the Regent on Broadway.



With barely time to catch our breath We enjoyed a Mega Mega NYPA in October at the Regent on Broadway in Palmerston North. We had too many PNDA and gifted nominees over the solo and troupe classes in ballet modern and tap to list all the names here. But mention must go to DanceWorks Studio 'Unity' who made it into the troupe semifinal round, modern soloist Sophie Hunter who made it into the modern semi-finalist round and local tappers Camden Woodroffe and Emma- Katte Johnson who made it into the tap semi-final round with Emma-Katte going on to the finals. Awesome achievement.



We were lucky to be able to offer Monica Skinner Scholarships to Keearndra Tohill, Aylah Cooksley and a PNDA Incentive Award to Atawhai Kaa for 2023. Their profiles and inspiring reports are in the newsletter for you to read.



First up in 2023 we held our February Restricted and Open Tap competition, at the Globe Theatre. We offered a tap troupe nomination class, which was awarded to Dance Academy of Performing Arts "Move it".

Our February comp also offers three impromptu sessions, covering all the genres. Our tap adjudicator, Kaitlyn Weaver from Tauranga, new to adjudicating, was very decisive, her comments on the reports were very supportive and helpful. Thankyou Kaitlyn, we received good feedback from the competition, which is always pleasing. Yvonne Hocken, (resident writer) was the victim of flight cancellations from Australia. We would like to thank our 'fill in' writers Tracey Horman and Minami Strachan who covered the weekend for us at short notice. Acknowledgment and thanks to Pub Charities for a grant for Venue, Adjudicator fees and Accommodation.

In March we covered restricted ballet and modern, with open duo trio and groups. We held our modern solo and group nomination NYPA classes as per the back to normal PACANZ NYPA rotation. Our adjudicator was Sue Beu from Northland another absolute "Gem" from the adjudicator world. Each competition has its own complexity, the adjudicator's role is never an easy one, but pivotal to the competitions success. We had nine troupe items entered in the NYPA troupe class, so we were able to offer PNDA nominations to, The Academy of Dance and Stage School 'They don't really care about us' and Step out Dance Company 'Invisible man', a gifted nomination from Ashburton Competition Society, went to Judith Fuge "Armour". Our two PNDA modern nominees for 2023 were Nataya Lumluksanaphaidoon & Jake Maskill, gifted nominations received from DanceNZmade went to Alyssa Narayan & Tara Snowsill. We are very grateful again for funding support from NZCT for Venue, Adjudicator fees & Accommodation.

Despite the growing interest in competitions around the country and pop-up comps appearing here there and everywhere our competitions continue to be well supported.

Our ballet and contemporary workshops were held in June at the Regent on Broadway with Tutors Turid Revfeim and Callum Phillips. It is hard to avoid clashes with dance studios and their exam schedules. Despite this the workshops were well supported and feedback from those able to attend was very positive. Refer to the pics in the newsletter. The workshops are a biennial event supported by the PNCC Arts Heart Educational Development Fund. We are very grateful for this ongoing support which covers the tutor fees and contributes towards the Regent hire age. We can make use of the proximity of Wellington based RNZ Ballet Company and the School of Dance to secure top tutors mentioned above.

Our newsletter once again provides a pictorial review of our 2022/2023 year. Thank you to Katrina who captures most pics for the newsletter supported by Dion and for the 2022 Competition Festival Graham from Wanganui. A big acknowledgment to all teachers, competitors, and care givers, for your combined efforts and willingness to participate at our competitions and events.

Thank you to our members and supporters who have been on the journey with us. New members are always welcome. See membership material in newsletter.

Finally, this year the PNDA is hosting the Manawatu Performing Arts Competition Association 100 years Celebration at our Gala 2023. This is an extraordinary achievement for the MPACS organisation and for the Performing Arts Community in our City, it is something we can all take pride in and is well worth supporting. The gala is on Wednesday 4th October, at the Regent on Broadway Palmerston North, commencing at 1pm and 7pm respectively. Featuring Guest Artists in both afternoon and evening from the Manawatu Performing Arts Competitions Society and PNDA Ballet championships Junior and Intermediate in the afternoon and Senior in the evening.

We hope you can join us for this event, we would love to see anyone who may have performed or supported the Manawatu Competitions at the Opera House or at other venues across the city over the years.

Kia kaha /Go well.
Maryanne Mechen On behalf of PNDA





2022 Gala Evening



Sir Jon Trimmer Trophy
Best Demi Characterisation
Emma Lu
Adjudicator— Karen Ruske

2022 Junior Ballet Championship
1. Melody Langstraat
2. Emma Lu
3. Niyah Henare-Pearson



2022 Intermediate Ballet Championship
1. April Langstraat
2. Mackenzie Waters
3. Malaya Hinks





2022 Gala Evening



Royal New Zealand Ballet Guest Artists

Mayu Tanigaito & Laurynas Véjalis



2022 Senior Ballet Championship

1. Skylah Langstraat
2. Ayla Cooksley
3. Nicola Sutherland-Smith





2023 PACANZ Nominees National Young Performer Awards

Pacanz PNDA Troupe Nomination 2023

The Academy of Dance & Stage school
(They don't really care about us)

Step out Dance Company
(Invisible Man)

Ashburton Comp Society Gifted Nomination

Judith Fuge
(Armour)



Pacanz Tap Troupe Nomination 2023
Dreams Academy of Performing Arts (DAPA)

Pacanz PNDA Modern Nomination 2023
Nataya Lumluksanaphaidoon
Jake Maskill

Dance NZ Made Gifted Nominations
Alyssa Narayan
Tara Snowsill



Performing Arts Competition Association of New Zealand Inc

National Young Performer Awards * PALMYPROUD 2023

20-22 October

**Regent on Broadway - The Speirs Centre
The Globe Theatre - The Abbey Theatre**



Amber Griffin
PHOTOGRAPHY

2023
#PalmyProud

Final Awards
7.30pm
22nd October
Regent on Broadway

www.pacanz.co.nz 021 417 872

admin@pacanz.co.nz

Hosted by Palmerston North Dance Assn & Manawatu Performing Arts Competitions Society



Dance Workshop 2023

Ballet and Contemporary Workshop—Sunday 11th June 2023

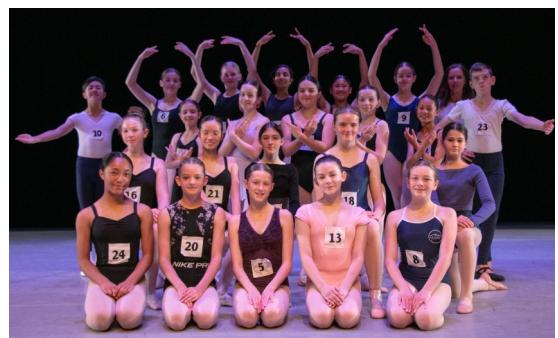
Classical Tutor—Turid Revfeim (Classical Tutor NZ School of Dance)

Contemporary Tutor—Callum Phipps (Contemporary Tutor NZSOD Trained)

Attendance of 60 dancers from around the region attended the workshop in levels Junior (Grade 3,4,5), Intermediate (Int Foundation/Intermediate) and Senior Advanced 1 & 2), Ballet Students learnt a piece from the Ballet Repertoire Coppelia with Contemporary focusing on technique.

Turid Revfeim

Turid is an esteemed member of the New Zealand dance community. She trained at the NZSOD, danced as Soloist with the RNZB and with Theatre der Stadt Koblenz in Germany. On retiring she took up the position of Artistic Co-ordinator with the RNZB and in 2003 Turid was appointed Ballet Mistress, making her mark in the role for 11yrs. Turid is now a classical tutor at the NZSD and Artistic Director and Producer of the Ballet Collective Aotearoa.



Callum Phipps

Originally from Newcastle, Australia, Callum moved to New Zealand to train at the New Zealand School of Dance. Callum graduated from the New Zealand school of Dance in 2019 and joined the Ballet Collective Aotearoa for their first season Subtle Dances performing in the Auckland and Dunedin Arts Festivals. He has also performed with Primarily Dance in their Grooves season, and guested with Ballet Nelson and EnPointe Dance Studio's Performances.



Membership

We are a non-profit, incorporated organisation and our objectives are

- To encourage, foster and promote the practice and appreciation of all dance forms
- To encourage, foster and promote all cultural and education activities of all dance forms
- To inculcate in the individual a sense of responsibility and of sportsmanship to fellow members and associates

Download our [**2023 Membership Form**](#) from our web site <https://pnda.nz> or contact our president

Maryanne Mechen at maryanne.mechen@xtra.co.nz

Internet Banking – Westpac 03 1522 0013110 00

Membership is due by the end of February each year

Benefits of membership

- Members are issued with one free Festival pass to our September competitions (currently Festival passes are \$25, giving you a wonderful bonus for supporting us)
- PNDA newsletter celebrating local dancers, dance schools and activities
- Discounted rate to events including our biennial Workshops/Dance 2000 series
- Contacts and networking as members of the dance community
- PNDA is a member of PACANZ which means we can offer nominations in Ballet, Tap and Modern Dance, and are covered for APRA (music copyright fees)
- Consideration for a travel subsidy to such events as Winter School and other dance education opportunities. This is always dependent on funds being available
- We have launched a Gala Evening event as part of our September dance competitions. This is run to highlight and support ballet dancers participating in the championship classes. Members are invited to be part of this entertaining, social and networking occasion

Annual membership

Family Membership \$20

Individual Membership \$10

Teacher Membership \$20

Local Dance Teacher financial members are offered the opportunity to take part in our biennial Regent Dance day where they can have their studio perform an item in conjunction with other dance studios from the area. On alternate years we offer workshops which, in the past, have included ballet, contemporary, jazz, musical theatre and impromptu dance skills.

We are a hard working committee, dedicated to providing dance opportunities to local dancers and their teachers. While we have ballet, modern/jazz, contemporary and tap styles of dance as our priority, we are trying to extend our networking as time and resources allow.

We appreciate your support of our efforts on behalf of the dancers, by showing your commitment through becoming a current financial member of PNDA.



2023 Monica Skinner Scholarship

The Monica Skinner Scholarship is offered by the Palmerston North Dance Association when funds are available, to assist a dancer who is to further their dance experience through tertiary study at an acknowledged tertiary institution. The applicant's proposal can include further study or training in dance. The Scholarship may be undertaken in New Zealand or overseas. Applicants are required to demonstrate how their study will help them to enhance dance excellence. Monica was a valued committee member as well as a hardworking secretary of PNDA from 2004 until 2009. Her diligent achievements in securing funds to further dance education are the impetus for this scholarship in her name.

2023 Application forms are with your Dance Schools—please ask your teachers for a form if you'd like to apply.

Previous Recipients Are

2022 Keearndra Tohill and Ayla Cooksley
2021 Aylin Atalay and Mārie Jones
2020 Isabella Jones
2019 Shavaun Tohill
2018 no applicants
2017 Charlotte Gilmour and Tobyn Gregory
2016 Megan Morrison
2015 Luke Cooper and Daniel Hardcastle
2014 Michelle Geange and Emily Hancock
2013 Kara Imrie
2012 Nicola Morrison
2011 Ashley Hodges
2010 Emma Martin



Te Atawhai Kaa—PNDA Excellence Award

I was the 2023 recipient for the PNDA Excellence Award. 2023 has been a really amazing year so far as I started with the NZ School of dance in Wellington as a Contemporary Major. I am completing my Advanced Diploma in Dance though the school and have loved every minute of it. We have worked with so many talented artists both international and national such as Tristan Carter, Holly Newsome, Felix Sampson, Jai Popham and many more still to come. At the end of term 2 my self choreographed solo was chosen to be featured in the insight performance. The school has offered amazing opportunities throughout the year and I have learnt so much already. We are just now starting to prepare for the World of Wearable Arts in which the first year contemporary cohort are a part of. I am so grateful to PNDA for this award and the contribution it has made to my dance training.





2022 Monica Skinner Awards Winners

Ayla Cooksley

I have been thoroughly enjoying my time here at Newcastle Ballet Theatre so far this year. My Pre-Professional course has me dancing between 5 – 8 hours per day, 6 days a week and includes ballet, pilates, contemporary, pas de deux, gyrotonics, repertoire, cross-training, solo coaching and dance appreciation classes. I have several teachers, all with professional backgrounds from around the world (USA, Germany, UK, Australia) and the knowledge, expertise and experience they all bring to the programme is amazing. I have learnt so much from them already and love how all, both challenge and support me through all my classes.



This year I will complete Certificate IV in Dance from the ATOD before moving on to the Diploma of Professional Dance next year. I have ongoing assessments that cover various topics such as anatomy, principles of conditioning, choreography and movement skills, music, partnering and performance techniques. I fit this study in on top of the daily dance routine so am quite busy most days.

I am flatting in Cooks Hill, 2 blocks back from the beach, with other students from Australia, Sweden, France, Denmark, and China, so our house is a pretty interesting mix of cultures. With easy access to the bus, train and shopping centres, it's a great location. Plus, it's only a 2.5hour train trip to downtown Sydney.

With my full-time course being part of a studio, I have access to the after-school classes so have joined in with the lyrical, contemporary, jazz and ballet troupes. We have competed in a few competitions which have been so much fun. I love performing on stage, especially with my dance mates. We have had several NBT alumni visit recently. They are current professional dancers from all over the world (Moulin Rouge, Milwaukee Ballet, Ballet De Catalunya) and it has been so interesting and valuable learning from their dance journeys and different experiences. They have made me aware there are so many more different opportunities for dancers around the world than what I had realised, so it's awesome to have connections with these current professionals while I start to plan the next phase of my career.



I am excited for the rest of my time here at NBT. I feel like I have progressed so much already so I know I am in the right place for this stage of my dance journey. I am truly appreciative of the support and encouragement the PNDA Committee has always shown me over the years and am so grateful to have been selected as a recipient of the Monica Skinner Memorial Scholarship this year. It has not only contributed to me moving to Australia for dance but to keep my dream of dancing professionally a reality. Thank you.

Keearndra Tohill

Where do I start? What do I say? Well, my starting point would have to be thank you to PNDA for the very generous Monika Skinner Scholarship that I received last year towards my full-time dance training at Dynamite Studios here on the Gold Coast. I had planned on training in Wellington but when my dad got a job transfer to the Gold Coast, I immediately knew that is where I wanted to do my training, so I got in touch with Dynamite Studios and auditioned via sending in my videos. We as a family moved over to the GC in December and I started my training in January. The studios here at Dynamite blew my mind, they are amazing. We have several dance studios, a specialised acro room, a singing room (yes, we must do singing and to my horror I must even sing solo this term). They also have air con, yay. My day is certainly different to what I am used to where I was only five minutes to the two studios I attended. Instead, I leave the house by 7.20am to walk to the station where I get a 30-minute bus ride to dance. My day doesn't stop when I finish course as I spend a lot of time in the evenings and weekends doing my academic studies as that is part of the course too. This is all part of getting my Cert IV in Dance, and next year my Diploma. At course we cover multiple genres including ballet, hip hop, tap, showgirl, jazz, contemporary, acro, signing, acting and preparing for cruise ship auditions etc. We also get guest tutors come in and teach us. I have even been given the opportunity to dance in a music video which will be released later this year. I miss my time attending competitions as that was my life for many years. However, later in the year we will be attending troupe competitions, including going to Sydney to attend Australian Dance Festival where our troupe will compete as well as take workshops with some amazing choreographers. My advice to everyone is to keep dancing, keep believing in yourself and keep striving for your goals. My short-term personal goal is to keep learning and improving, with my long-term goal (when I finish my training) is to have my dance career taking me around the world. Once again thanks PNDA for the scholarship, I miss you all.





Around the Dance Schools



Maximum Dance Zone has been thriving and celebrating many successes over the past year.

Congratulations to Ying Ying Yong, Ivy Yang, Alana Holroyd, Lily McDonald, Alysha Smith & Sashini Punchihewa who received NZAMD nominations for 2022. Both Sashini Punchihewa and Alysha Smith have received their Solo Performance Diploma for Contemporary. Congratulations to Emma Carey who now has her NZAMD teaching certificate.

In Term 4 2022 Ivy Yang danced beautifully as a soloist for Ballet at PACANZ, Dancia Ward shone on stage as a soloist for Tap at PACANZ and our Senior crew 'Super Market' flowers made us very proud also.

We had an amazing 2022 Recital of 'The Chocolate Factory' which also celebrated Miss Maxene's 30th year of running a dance school.

Devon Zhou has had a great experience having a mentor-ship through the RNZB this year. Azaziah BatachEl received the Scholarship at the NZSOD Winter school 2023. We are so proud of all of our dancers and thrilled to see them deserving recognition for their hard work.

Our Adult classes have had a lot of interest and we are excited to see them growing and to see the joy of dance being spread.



Looking ahead, in term 4 we will be dancing 'Under the Sea' for our recital in 2024. Four of our teachers are looking forward to attending the RNZB teachers programme. We are looking forward to welcoming back Miss Emma-Jane from Maternity leave. In April 2024 we have a group of 30 who will be traveling to LA with 'Sheshineson' to dance at Disney land along with training and experiencing dance in LA.



A special Thank you to all of the highly trained staff at MDZ who are constantly providing the best training for our students. And a massive thank you to all of the wonderful families who make up Maximum Dance Zone - we have such a family friendly studio- a very caring and supportive group that make it a pleasure to be there.

Maxene Jeffares

www.maximumdance.co.nz



Enrolments for Dance Studio can now be taken

for the rest of this year:

Studio 100 Campbell Street

info@michelledgedance.co.nz

www.michelledgedance.co.nz



Hold on Tight by Ashley Hodges featuring
Sofia Leong, Mimami Stachan and Mekaela
Anderson



Gwen Gibbs Memorial Scholarship 2023
Emily Jo and Abigail Franklin Browne



Around the Dance Schools

THE ROSE ACADEMY

of Dance and Performing Arts Ltd

wait to share our recent triumphs and upcoming adventures.

In June, our dancers graced the stage in our production of 'Time after Time'. The dedication, hard work, and countless hours of practice paid off as they mesmerized the audience with their skill, precision, and passion for performing. We were thrilled to see the remarkable reviews and hear the enthusiastic applause from our supporters. A huge thank you to our dancers, families, and all the behind-the-scenes heroes who made this production possible.



Earlier this year we introduced the Lyra (aerial hoop) into our repertoire, adding an exciting dimension to our dance offerings. Aerial dance not only builds strength and flexibility but also enhances our dancers' creativity and artistic expression. We just love seeing our students develop dynamic new skills; gracefully suspended in the air, defying gravity and pushing the boundaries of dance.

As we progress through the second half of the year, our dancers are diligently preparing for their upcoming exams. The Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) ballet, Acrobatic Arts, and International Dance Teachers' Association (IDTA) jazz and theatre craft exams are right around the corner. Our talented dancers have been working tirelessly to perfect their techniques and showcase their skills. We have no doubt that they will excel and earn the recognition they truly deserve.

We encourage all our dancers to stay focused, believe in themselves, and continue to embrace the joy of dance as they approach these important milestones in their dance journeys. Remembering, it's not just about the destination; it's about the beautiful journey of self-discovery and growth that dance offers.



As we move forward, we're excited about the countless opportunities and challenges that lie ahead, especially for our students competing in the Palmerston North Dance Association competitions. We're grateful our dance community is a place of inspiration, connection, and endless enthusiasm for young dancers.



Rose Brownlie

www.theroseacademy.co.nz

Hip Hop Crew from Palmy to contest World Championship

Taking a team of 24 students to Portugal competing against other countries from all over the world.

'Roar' a hip hop mega crew will represent New Zealand at the Hip Hop Unite World Championships in Portugal in October 2023. Coached by Jay and Sydney Pelman the dancers range age from 14-22 years will represent New Zealand.



Jay and Sydney Pelman

www.anomalydancestudio.co.nz





Around the Dance Schools



Dance Unlimited is very proud to have 3 HipHop groups 'Rumble', 'Hoodie Goodie Gumdrops' and 'Magnum' representing NZ at World Supremacy Battlegrounds in Sydney on 1 October.

All 3 of these groups received a top 3 placing in their category at the New Zealand competition in Hamilton, qualifying them for Worlds.

Over the 3 groups we have 19 dancers ranging from 12-17 years old travelling to Sydney to compete - a huge achievement for this group and their teacher/choreographer Rebecca Pugmire.

The teams are working hard to perfect their routines and can't wait to make their mark on the world stage.



Carmen Davidson

www.danceunlimited.co.nz



RED STAR DANCE are enjoying another year doing what we love! From 9am each morning our wonderful dance exercise classes, 9 per week, cater to a totally inspiring group of mainly retired people who are getting more flexible, fit and fantastic in life by the day! Our days continue with all our children's and adults classes in all genres!

The Freedom and Joy dance brings, class after class, as we all 'make our move' - how lucky we are!

Dance Group Finesse nomination to PACANZ



Take care everyone.



RED STAR DANCE

For life is for dancing, Dean Mckerras
www.redstardance.co.nz
Creator & Director of Red Star Dance,
DanceNZmade & Dance Down Under

Dean Mckerras
www.redstardance.co.nz



Around the Dance Schools

LEVIN THE *movement* DANCE STUDIO

Levin The Movement has had a huge year of excitement and changes as Chantal Pinguet has taken over Kate Martin School of Dance.

With new mirrors, dance floor, barres and uniforms we have been working hard in the studio and having lots of fun in our ballet, jazz, hip hop, acro, contemporary and tap classes.



For many of our dancers, it was the first time they have sat exams in these styles and syllabi.

A special congratulations to Niyah Henare Pearson, Kasey Jensen, Isabella Mercado and Georgia Sage who achieved 'Diamond Level' (98%-100%) in their IDT exams.

We have enjoyed travelling with our competitive teams around Te Ika-a-Māui and are thrilled to have received a NYPA nomination for our teen lyrical team. Another highlight was our fundraised trip to Dance NZ Made exchange in Taupo where Ayla-May Paparoa, Te'Jahrr Paraku and Laila Moore won scholarships at the workshop.

We are now looking forward to watching Emmy-Lee Moore on stage performing the main child role in this year's World of Wearable Arts show in Wellington, and Emmy-Lee, Isabella Mercado and Georgia Sage performing as child extras in the Royal New Zealand Ballet production of Hansel and Gretel.

Our dance school show, celebrating 1 year of Levin The Movement, will be on the 12th of November at The Regent.

Chantel Pinguet
www.levinthemovement.co.nz





Celebrating 100 Years MPACS-100 years



CELEBRATING 100 YEARS MANAWATU PERFORMING ARTS COMPETITION SOCIETY



2023 CENTENARY EVENTS

COMPETITIONS

DANCE

10-14 APRIL - SPEIRS CENTRE

SPEECH & DRAMA

1-2 JULY - THE GLOBE

HIGHLAND DANCING

26 AUGUST - TERRACE END SCHOOL HALL

VOCAL

24-25 JUNE - FREYBERG HIGH SCHOOL

MUSICAL THEATRE

12 AUGUST - GLOBE 2

CENTENARY GALA CELEBRATION

WEDNESDAY OCT 4TH | REGENT ON BROADWAY

HOSTED BY PALMERSTON NORTH DANCE ASSOCIATION

If you have any old programmes, memorabilia, or pictures you'd like to share, please contact Maryanne Mechen 02102269355 or Carol Millward 0210487813

SPONSORED BY:

Palmerston North City Council
Community-Led Initiatives Fund

PALMY
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Celebrating 100 Years MPACS

Bravo!!

What an achievement MPACS- 100 years of annual competitions for aspiring performers. It is staggering to think of how many volunteer hours, planning meetings and preparation have gone in through the years to culminate in a celebration of 100 years. Unfortunately, I can't be there with all of you but I wanted to pass on my congratulations to you and share my journey with MPACS for those who are new to the performing arts competitions.

My first encounter with MPACS was at five years old. I was a wee highland lassie, dancing in the Under 6 Irish Jig. Little did I know that my Highland MPACS association would continue for another 11 years until 2013 where I received my first nomination to PACANZ. My brother Stafford also gained a nomination that year, and just the other day my Facebook memories reminded me of this by flashing up a photo of the two of us in Invercargill!

In 2007, I began ballet competitions with MPACS at the Globe Theatre and I danced most MPACS competitions through until 2012. I gained a lot from these competitions but the most important being a love of performing for the audience enjoyment.

In 2014, I entered my first Vocal Competition with MPACS in the 16-18 section at the Speirs Centre. I gained three firsts and a third (not too shabby as a young musical theatre singer!). My singing went from strength to strength and in both 2016/2018 I gained vocal nominations to PACANZ at the MPACS competitions. These were both held in Palmerston North.

My participation throughout these early years of my life in the MPACS competitions has undoubtedly led me to pursue my passion for performing. To be able to represent MPACS three times in two of the genres as a PACANZ nominee were amazing opportunities that I was extremely appreciative of. I can only hope that those hoping to pursue a future in the performing arts are as fortunate in opportunities to perform with MPACS in years to come.

Once again congratulations on reaching this milestone 100 years.



Madison Horman - Soprano.

Master of Music with Distinction - Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester UK

Congratulations. A milestone 100 years of Performing Arts Competitions.

Wow and incredibly, I had many years of performing at the Highland Competitions starting with my first on 24 August 1999. It was my third outing as a 6 year old and I won second place in the U14 Novice Fling. I took home the Fox Memorial Cup at the end of the day-Competitor most likely to benefit from encouragement. Mrs Barbara Tait was the judge and I looked up to her son dancing on the boards only a few years older than myself.

That encouragement obviously worked, as I went on to receive PACANZ nominations, in 2011 and 2013. Both trips to Invercargill. What an experience!

As a qualified Highland adjudicator myself, I certainly appreciate the hard work committees put in to run competitions to promote the arts and provide opportunities for the next generation of young performers. Long may it continue. Enjoy the Gala evening in your honour, You have earned it.



Stafford Horman

Dip. HNDB.

Bus Mgmt.



The year in pictures Ballet



2022 Junior Ballet Championship

1. Melody Langstraat
2. Emma Lu
3. Niyah Henare-Pearson

2022 Intermediate Ballet Championship

1. April Langstraat
2. Mackenzie Waters
3. Malaya Hinks

2022 Senior Ballet Championship

1. Skylah Langstraat
2. Ayla Cooksley
3. Nicola Sutherland-Smith







The year in pictures Modern



2022 Junior Jazz Championship

1. Niyah Henare-Pearson
2. Lily-ann Van Wyk
3. Emily Waugh

2022 Intermediate Jazz Championship

1. Mackenzie Waters
2. April Langstraat
3. Payton Waters

2022 Senior Jazz Championship

1. Jake Maskill
2. Skylah Langstraat
3. Amy Grayson







The year in pictures Tap



2022 Junior Tap Championship

1. Peyton Waters
2. Ava Duncan
3. Emily Pitham

2022 Senior Tap Championship

1. Emerald Jackson
2. Sharon Wei
3. Gabrielle Cabauatan





The year in pictures Hip Hop





2023

PNDA Annual Dance Competitions & Gala Evening

28 September — 4 October 2023. Regent on Broadway

PACANZ NYPA — Troupes, Instrument, Highland & National Dance, Modern, Speech & Drama

19—22 October 2023. Regent on Broadway. Hosted by PNDA and MPACS

Monica Skinner Memorial Scholarship : Applications close—

5pm 10th November 2023

PNDA AGM

3rd December 2023

2024

PNDA Restricted and open Tap Competition and Open Impromptus + PACANZ Tap Solo and Troupe Nomination offered

16-18 February 2024. Globe Theatre

PNDA Restricted Ballet & Modern Competitions + PACANZ Ballet and Troupe (except Tap)

Nomination offered

15-17 March 2024. Regent on Broadway

PNDA Dance 2024 -

9 June 2024. Regent on Broadway

PNDA Annual Dance Competitions & Gala Evening

27 September—3 October 2024. Regent on Broadway

PACANZ NYPA — Troupes,

25-28 October 2024. Regent on Broadway. Hosted by PNDA and MPACS

Palmerston North Dance Association Inc.

P O Box 655 Palmerston North

Patron: Sir Jon Trimmer MBE

President/ Convener: Maryanne Mechen

Vice President: Yvonne Hocken

Secretary/ Convener: Lauren Francis (euterpe@xtra.co.nz)

Treasurer: Kathy Geange

Dance Teacher Representative: Michelle Robinson

Newsletter: Katrina Rose

Photographer : Katrina Rose

Committee: Christine Booker, Rose Brownlie, Dayle Campbell, Pam Fowler, Ashley Hodges, Tracey Horman, Beth Jones, Lisa Procter, Katrina Rose,

Facebook: Palmerston North Dance Association

Website : PNDA.nz

Palmerston North City

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COMMUNITIES
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