



# GALA EVENT

Wednesday 2nd October 2024



## 2023 Senior Ballet Championship Class

with Hannah Watts (Adjudicator)

Front Row: Nicola Sutherland-Smith (2nd),  
Amelia Simpson (1st), Mackenzie Waters (3rd)

Back Row: Erin Parker, Emily Sutherland,  
Caitlyn Montaperto-Wells, Jade Anderson, Ivy Yang

# Our Adjudicator

## **Peta Spooner**

**F.I.D.T.A.**

**I.D.T.A. Examiner -Ballet, Contemporary,**

**Modern Jazz, Freestyle.**

**R.A.D Registered Teacher**

Peta has lived, breathed and taught dance for more than 54 years and she still feels very passionate about this wonderful art form.



Peta moved to Levin and started her Levin Dance Centre, then moved to Wellington to teach for the Tarrant Ballet Studios and finally to settle in Nelson where she continued her passion for teaching, establishing the Peta Spooner Academy of Dance and The Wakatu Dance Theatre. Over the past five decades, Peta has taught thousands of pupils, guiding, and preparing them for exams, competitions, and shows! "It has been fabulous to see their progress".

Not only has Peta been a dedicated dance teacher, she has also served 18 years on the Danz Board (Dance Aotearoa New Zealand, for three terms Peta was on the Advisory Panel for the profession (New Zealand School of Dance) and also on the Nelson City Creative Communities Local Arts funding scheme.

Peta is a qualified teacher of classical ballet and contemporary modern jazz; she is an examiner and is able to examine throughout Australasia. Peta has taken dance groups overseas to Finland and Jamaica participating in Da.Ci (Dance and the child international) conferences. Teacher training is an important aspect of her work, with many of her pupils having become teachers themselves.

## **PNDA Committee:**

**Patron:** Deirdre Tarrant

**President:** Mary-Anne Mechen

**Vice President:** Yvonne Hocken | **Secretary:** Lauren Francis | **Treasurer:** Kathy Geange

**Competition Convenors:** Lauren Francis, Mary-Anne Mechen

**Dance Teacher Representative:** Michelle Robinson

**Committee:** Christine Booker, Dayle Campbell, Pam Fowler, Ashley Hodges, Tracy Horman, Lisa Procter, Katrina Rose

**Life Members:** Yvonne Hocken, Michelle Robinson, Michelle Bowater

**Acknowledgement to Deceased Life Members:** Moira Cruikshank, Zoe Holloway

# PROGRAMME FOR THE AFTERNOON

Commencing 1.00pm

Welcome - Mary-Anne Mechen, Palmerston North Dance Association

PNDA Performance by - **Ballet Group** - under 13 years  
NZ Telephone & Cable Trophy

**Junior Variation** - Own Choice - 11 under 13 years  
Mary Rogers Dance Academy Trophy

**Novice Variation** - 13 years & Over (On Pointe)  
Mekah Dunn Trophy

## Junior Ballet Championship

**Classical Ballet** - under 11 years  
Julia Francis Trophy

## Intermediate Ballet Championship

**Classical Ballet** - 11 & under 14 years  
Zoe Bailey Rose Bowl

## Presentations

# Junior Ballet Championship

## Julia Francis Trophy

Sponsored by Encore Dancewear

01	Adalyn Minty	9	Alisha Gabrielson	Paraparaumu
02	Harriet Collins	7	Davinia Dearmer	Lower Hutt
03	Georgia Sage	8	Chantal Pinquet	Levin
04	Hayley Brightwell	10		Feilding
05	Emily Joe	7	Michelle Robinson	Palmerston North
06	Adaire Lawrence	6	Michelle Robinson	Palmerston North
07	Bella Mercado	9	Chantal Pinquet	Levin
08	Avis Scott	10	Michelle Robinson	Havelock North



### 2023 Junior Ballet Championship Class

Back Row: Niyah Henare-Pearson (2nd)

Hannah Watts (Adjudicator), Melody Langstraat (1st), Adalyn Minty (3rd)

Front Row: Emily Joe, Georgia Sage, Hayley Brightwell

# Intermediate Ballet Championship

## Zoe Bailey Rose Bowl

Sponsored by Encore Dancewear

Set variation on flat in costume.

Female – Kirov version Peasant Pas de deux from Giselle Act 1

Male – Kirov version Peasant Pas from Giselle Act 1

01	Lotta Peachey	11	Leanne Umbers	Hawkes Bay
02	Livia Laird	11	Leanne Umbers	Hawkes Bay
03	Azaziah BatachEl	13	Maxene Jeffares	Palmerston North
04	Ellarose Brooker	11	Deborah Lees	Waipukurau
05	Jolene Liu	12	Michelle Robinson	Palmerston North
06	Hayley Xu	13	Leanne Umbers	Hastings
07	Emma Campbell	12	Michelle Robinson	Feilding
08	Sara Codd	12	DanceWorks Studios	Palmerston North
09	Paityn Angove	13	Rose Brownlie	Pahiatua
10	Niyah Henare-Pearson	11	Chantal Pinguet	Levin
11	Annabelle Lister	12	DanceWorks Studios	Palmerston North
12	Laura Pham	12	Michelle Robinson	Palmerston North



### 2023 Intermediate Ballet Championship Class

Back Row: Hannah Watts (Adjudicator)

April Langstraat (1st), Azaziah BatachEl (2nd), Paityn Angove (3rd)

Front Row: Piper Golds, Emma Campbell, Sarah Codd

# PROGRAMME FOR THE EVENING

Commencing 7.00pm

*Welcome - Mary-Anne Mechen, Palmerston North Dance Association*

***Video Screening - Dedicated to Sir Jon Trimmer***

*Ballet Group - over 13 years  
Broadway Radiology Trophy*

***Guest PNDA Performances by***

*Junior Ballet Championship Winner*

*Intermediate Ballet Championship Winner*

*Junior Jazz Championship Winner*

*Intermediate Jazz Winner*

*Senior Jazz Championship Winner*

*Demi Character - Sir Jon Trimmer Award*

*Senior Ballet Championship*

*Presentations*

# Senior Ballet Championship

## PNDA Variation Silver Tray

Sponsored by Encore Dancewear

**A – Set Piece – (Female) Pas de trois Second Girl's variation from Swan Lake**

**Practice Leotard with no adornments, short chiffon practice skirt allowed**

**Set Piece – (Male) Male – Pas de trois male variation from Swan Lake**

**Tights with Singlet / T-Shirt**

**B – Own Choice – In Costume**

01	Jade Anderson <i>Gamzatti</i>	16 yrs	Palmerston North	Michelle Robinson
02	Caitlyn Montaperto-Wells <i>Esmeralda</i>	17 yrs	Napier	Diana Shand
03	MacKenzie Waters <i>Hebe</i>	15 yrs	Auckland	Liza Gibbons
04	Emily Sutherland <i>Peasant Pas</i>	17 yrs	Palmerston North	Maxene Jeffares
05	Lina Peachey <i>Aurora's Birthday</i>	15 yrs	Havelock North	Leanne Umbers
06	Sara Wilson <i>Giselle's Friend</i>	17 yrs	Palmerston North	Michelle Robinson
07	Erin Parker <i>Hebe – Awakening of Flora</i>	15 yrs	Palmerston North	Michelle Robinson



**2023 Senior Ballet Championship Winners**

Nicola Sutherland-Smith (2nd), Amelia Simpson(1st), Mackenzie Waters (3rd)

# *Sir Jon Trimmer Award*

## **For best Demi - Characterisation 2023**

Linda Gray President MPACS, Lily -Ann Van Wyk

Hannah Watts Adjudicator



Lily - Ann Van Wyk, performing  
Pinocchio. Sir Jon Trimmer  
Award 2023, Demi Character

## *2023 Ballet Championship Winners*



From left to right:  
Melody Langstraat (1st) Junior  
April Langstraat (1st) intermediate



### 2023 Junior Ballet Championship Winners

Niyah Henare-Pearson (2nd), Hannah Watts (Adjudicator)  
Melody Langstraat, (1st) Adalyn Minty (3rd)



### 2023 Intermediate Ballet Championship Winners

Hannah Watts (Adjudicator), April Langstraat (1st)  
Azaziah BatachEl, (2nd) Paityn Angove (3rd)

Welcome to  
Palmerston North Dance Association  
Patron 2024



**Deirdre Tarrant**  
CNZM; MNZM

Founded Footnote Dance in 1985 following a background in ballet beginning in Wellington with the Royal New Zealand Ballet. Tarrant travelled extensively both dancing and teaching before returning to New Zealand. Recently retired from her role as Artistic Director of Footnote and also from her role as an international examiner for the Royal Academy of Dance, Deirdre is Director of Tarrant Dance Studios. She was made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for her services to the community in 2000, a Distinguished Alumni of Victoria University in 2006 and received an Absolutely Positive Wellingtonian award and was Arts Wellingtonian of the year in 2012. In 2013 she was made a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to contemporary dance.

Since resigning from Footnote Dance Deirdre continues to teach and is now running Tarrant Dancers from Te Auaha Creative Centre - still on Cuba Street - and continuing to work on arts events in the community. She currently also Chairs the Advisory Board of the National Women;s Health Research Centre Aotearoa at Victoria University and loves being available for grandchildren! She is thrilled to continue her connection with Mary Anne Mechen and the Palmerston North Dance Association.

# *Sir Jon Trimmer*

*Sir Jon Trimmer KNZM MBE 1939-2023*

*Patron and Friend PNDA 2000 - 2023 RIP*



The Palmerston North Dance Association has shared a special relationship with Sir Jon Trimmer, dating back to the Association's early beginnings in the 1970s when fundraising Concerts were held around the country to assist the, then struggling, NZ Royal Ballet Company. Funding had been reduced by the NZ Arts Council to support 8 company members. Without the determination of Poul Gnatt, the Trimmer's and others and the support of provincial New Zealand (Manawatu worthy of mention in that), the company would not have survived. Wonderful relationships were forged at that time.

In 1999, Sir Jon was Knighted and in 2000 he accepted the offer to become Palmerston North Dance Association Patron.

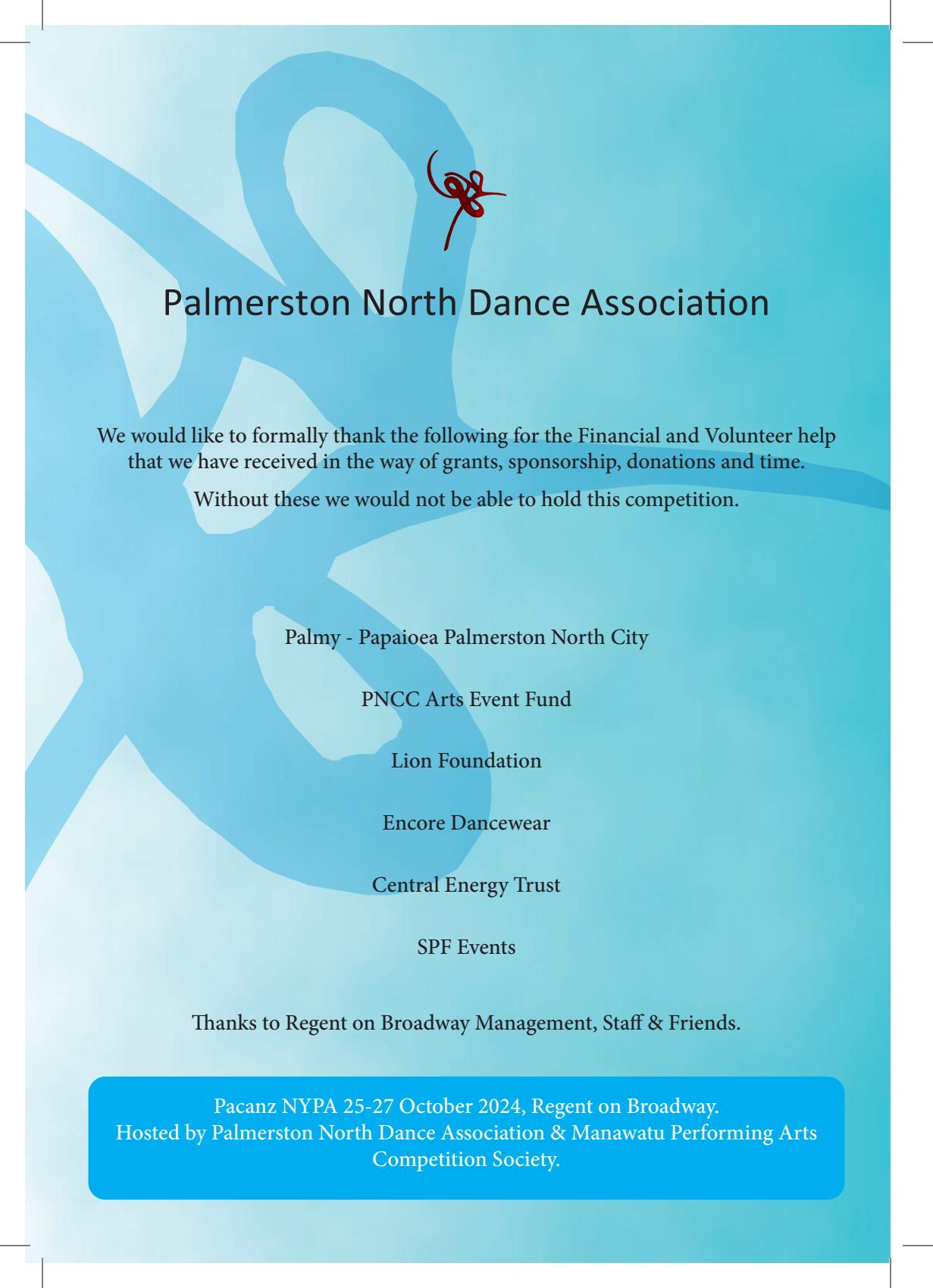
In 2008, to honour Sir Jon's 50 years with the Royal NZ Ballet, the local Friends of the Ballet, with the Palmerston North Dance Association, hosted a dinner and a concert at the Regent on Broadway, involving the local dance Schools, to celebrate and honour Sir Jon's achievements and commitment to dance across Aotearoa. At this event, PNDA were presented with the Sir Jon Trimmer Award for the Best Demi Characterisation, this to become an adjudicator's choice award, to be awarded at the PNDA yearly competition festival.

The Association has been honoured with the presence of Sir Jon and Lady Jacqui at their yearly Galas, which started in 2010 with the formalising of the PNDA championship classes and launching the PNDA Monica Skinner Scholarship. The Gala also provided a platform for the awarding of the Sir Jon Trimmer trophy by Sir Jon. The Gala has also hosted Guest artists from RNZB and the NZ School of Dance.

The Gala's intention was to bring people together to celebrate what is achieved together in our local community, with performers and their supporters, past and present, teachers, organisers, funders and special dignitaries who support Arts in our city and beyond.

Having the Trimmers present at our Gala Event has been such a gift to all present. Sir Jon's apologies are every bit as endearing and heartwarming as his presence.

There have been many wonderful tributes to Sir Jon since his passing. Our PNDA tribute is very local. We have pulled together as many pictures as we could find in our files at this point. This display isn't complete, but it will give you a taste of his ability to be present to everyone, his great humility, and generosity of spirit, always happy and willing to help out and do what we needed. We will miss him as the national icon that he was and will remain, but he will be missed and remembered by us as our Patron and Friend of the Palmerston North Dance Association.



# Palmerston North Dance Association

We would like to formally thank the following for the Financial and Volunteer help that we have received in the way of grants, sponsorship, donations and time.

Without these we would not be able to hold this competition.

Palmy - Papaioea Palmerston North City

PNCC Arts Event Fund

Lion Foundation

Encore Dancewear

Central Energy Trust

SPF Events

Thanks to Regent on Broadway Management, Staff & Friends.

Pacanz NYPA 25-27 October 2024, Regent on Broadway.  
Hosted by Palmerston North Dance Association & Manawatu Performing Arts Competition Society.