

GET READY FOR THE BEST START TO THE NEW YEAR WITH YOUR ITA January 3rd... it starts with THE FINLEY NOMINEE'S PARTY

Entertainment, finger food and soft drinks (for \$15 per head) or include wine & beer (for \$25 per head)..

This is a great opportunity to catch up with friends and fellow cast members and to find out who is on the list for one of those coveted (by many) Finley awards.

The ITA will announce the Finley Nominees (not best play or musical), thank the 2008 Finley Adjudicators and introduce the Finley Adjudicators for 2009 during this Party (good excuse to dress up in your party frocks or smart casual attire) on January 3rd 2009 at Lotteries House West Perth from 7.30pm.

Come along and join us in starting the Community Theatre New Year with a bang.

Tickets can be purchased by contacting 9335 2255 (Mon-Fri 10 - 3pm) or itaperth@gmail.com with payment by paypal (all you'll need is a bank account or credit card) or cheque etc, but get in quick this event will be popular.

GET READY FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE NEW YEAR WITH YOUR ITA January 17th THE FINLEY AWARDS NIGHT

Perth's premier Community Theatre event, The Finley Awards promises to be bigger and better than ever in 2009. A new approach and a chance to say thanks to some of Perth's most accomplished performers, directors and crew. Mark your diaries - Saturday January 17th 2009 at the Lady Wardle Performing Arts centre, St Mary's Girls School, Karrinyup.



*** WARNING ...reading this article could seriously damage your ego BUT it's supposed to be humorous and not to be taken too seriously!**

DEAR MURRAY, or, BOY, is HE in for a shock!!

Dear Murray,

I read your article on the script learning habits of Perth actors with considerable interest. I am a director. You are an actor. From your point of view it is apparently obvious that our aims and interests will never coincide. Maybe. Let's examine some of the points you raised.

Procrastination.

You seem to feel that you have exclusive rights to this behaviour, and that it is entirely unreasonable for a director to expect anything else. Believe me, we not only factor this into our expectations – we INVENTED it!! Most of us were (or still are) actors too.

Stupidity.

None of us would argue with this. Yes, actors are stupid. This too is a given. Stupidity, however, is no real bar to learning lines. Just find one of your friends who knows how to read and speak at the same time, and get them to record your lines for you. Then you can learn them by LISTENING to them in the car, and still be able to answer your mobile!

Lack of motivation.

Ah! Now we're getting somewhere. Much more difficult to deal with. Allow me to digress for a moment.

You say we are all destined to become old, shattered, nervous wrecks. Destined?? We already ARE old, shattered, nervous wrecks. That's WHY we're directors ! You say that actors are like cats, (agreed) and directors are dogs, 'obedient, looking to be loved, faithfully sticking around even when abused'.

Now this is where you have gone wrong. Of course, I can't speak for the other directors around the place, but for me..... No. A dog? Yes, I'm a dog, if you like. But I'm a nasty, little, old, fat Pekingese. I used to be a ginger one, but now I've gone white. I'm short tempered, and snappy. I have sharp little teeth. I certainly don't look to be loved – there's never been a rule that everyone has to like Sue Hayward, which is a damn good thing, because there are many who do not. I do not accept abuse, I hand it out.

I HAVE WAYS OF GETTING YOU MOTIVATED TO LEARN YOUR LINES.

All of this you would know if you had ever worked with me, but you haven't.....YET. Now I come to think of it, you have said you'll audition for me in a few weeks. Hmmm!

Love you Murray, really, I do. See? I'm wagging for you.....

Until the 15th.

Sue.

YEAR 2008 ITA COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Recorded Thurs lunchtime . Barbara Zahari, 4 Chapman St,
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Your comments are very valuable and we'd love to hear them, email itaperth@gmail.com or send it them to the ITA, City West Lotteries House, West Perth WA 6005

Free Publicity & Advertising . ITA Website: www.theatre.asn.au . Over 40,000 people visit per month. Details can be published in the "What's On" section. Email: theatre@theatre.asn.au or ph: 9420 7242

ITA Membership Fees (July '08 to June 09) Metro Clubs \$90; Country Clubs \$50; Individuals \$25. The ITA Office is open on a part time basis.

If a matter is urgent contact 0424 926 438 **Advertising in the ITA LINK** Present and forthcoming production/audition information is published free to member clubs. Rates for other ads in ITA Link are available from the secretary or the editor.

THEATRE SEASONS AND USEFUL DATES FOR 2009

Garrick's 2009 seasons

Some Enchanted Evening - 05/02/2009 - 20/02/2009
Tip Toe Through the Tombstones - 03/04/2009 - 18/04/2009
The Unexpected Guest - 29/05/2009 - 13/06/2009
Get Smart - 24/07/2009 - 08/08/2009
One Act Season - 28/08/2009 - 05/09/2009
The Crucible - 16/10/2009 - 31/10/2009
The Admirable Crichton - 04/12/2009 - 19/12/2009

OLD MILL THEATRE 2009 seasons;

March - Romeo & Juliet by Wm Shakespeare
director Stephen Lee (Tragedy)
May - We Happy Few by Imogen Stubbs
director Simon James (Comedy)
July - A Streetcar Named Desire by Tennessee Williams
director Danni Ashton (Drama)
October - The Shape of Things by Neil La Bute
director Susan Lynch (Drama)
Nov-Dec - A Night on the Tiles by Frank Vickery
director Hywel Williams (Comedy)

MELVILLE THEATRE COMPANY 2009 seasons;

February - Doctor in the House by Ted Willis
director Jeff Hansen (Comedy/Farce)
April - Absent Friends by Alan Ayckbourn
director Susan Hayward(Comedy)
June - The American Plan by Richard Greenberg
director Geoffrey Leeder (Drama)
August - Winter Warmers-One Act Season Various
October - A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to The Forum by
Stephen Sondheim (I think)
director Lars Jensen
Nov/Dec: The Farndale Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild
Dramatic Society's Production of a Christmas Carol by David
McGillivray & Walter Zerlin Jnr
director Jodie Hansen

YouthFest, DramaFest & the South West Drama Festival

The ITA's 2009 YouthFest will be 19th and 20th September and 2009 DramaFest/ State Drama Festival will be 25-28 September. More info from itaperth@gmail.com. Maureen Eaton and Doreen Relph will be coordinating the 2009 SW Drama Festival in Bunbury on the weekend of 11,12,13th September for more information on this contact dmrelph@westnet.com.au

ITA Annual General Meeting 2009

Will be held at Lotteries House, West Perth on
SUNDAY FEBRUARY 15th at 2.30 pm.

If you'd like to help Community Theatre in WA you should consider joining the ITA, it's a great way to meet people and make a difference. All Committee positions come up for re-election, that's Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary and Committee Members and LINK Editor. To nominate or vote you must be a member of the ITA or be representing a member club.

If you are unable to commit to a full year on the committee but would like to offer your services from time to time, send an email to itaperth@gmail.com.

If you are willing, enthusiastic and prepared to commit to a year (that's 12 monthly meetings plus associated work for festivals etc) then email itaperth@gmail.com for a nomination form and a information pack.



The ITA recently heard about a professional actress in Perth, who is keen to get some community theatre experience. A recent immigrant to Australia, she is also keen to make friends and find a community to which she can belong. We thought we'd let clubs know about her, as actresses of middle eastern descent, especially ones with extensive experience, are a little difficult to find. Vida lives in the Mosman Park area.

Vida and her husband arrived in Australia as Iranian refugees on the 12th of June 2008. They were granted refugee status whilst in Turkey and the Australian Government accepted their request to be settled permanently in Australia. Unfortunately Vida's husband split from her not long after arrival in Perth and Vida was left alone without friends or family to support her. Vida has expressed a strong desire to become involved in theatre performances in Perth and hopes to continue to build an acting career which she had to cut short in Iran.

Vida studied Drama for four years in Tehran at University level and graduated with distinction. She is currently in the process of having her Drama Degree assessed for Australian equivalency. In Iran Vida had both screen and theatre acting experience. She was a main character in a television drama series called *The Light In The Night* and also performed major roles in several plays including an adaptation of *The Infernal Machine* by Jean Cocteau which received acclaim in Tehran. In addition to acting experience Vida is also familiar with other technical jobs related to theatre and television.

Vida is very eager to become involved in local theatre groups and would be grateful for the opportunity to audition for any role that may be considered suitable for her. Her English language skills are very good though she may require minor assistance with more complex vocabulary. If you think Vida would be suitable for something you have coming up or if you'd like to help her get established in your theatre then contact the ITA itaperth@gmail.com and we'll send you her contact details.

Vida has promised to pen an article on the stage and her life in Iran, I know I'm really looking forward to that one. Keep watching your LINK Newsletter.



Audition Tip from Mike1 www.theatre.asn.au

Be gorgeous it is your first impression that counts. Wear really comfy shoes though, so important to have your balance right when singing and acting, and wear something that is you. When we're famous we can look like we don't care... if you get my drift. Make the effort you'll feel fab as well. *pretty sensible, don't you think? Ed*



WHAT'S ON IN AND AROUND PERTH FOR THE FIRST COUPLE OF MONTHS OF 2009 courtesy of Kimberley JANUARY

Sleeping Beauty, By Charles Perrault, adaptation and lyrics by Jim Eiler, music by Jim Eiler and Jeanne Bargo, Manpac, January 15-24, Traditional Fairy Tale, Mandurah Performing Arts Centre, Bookings 9550 3900

Snugglepote and Cuddlepie, by May Gibbs, Be Active and Prompt Corner, January 2 - 19, Australian Children's Classic, Kings Park Botanic Garden, Saw Ave and May Drive Kings Park, Bookings BOCS 9484 1133 www.bocs.com.au

Giselle, Music by Adolphe Adam, Be Active and Perth City Ballet, January 14- 17, Directed by Diana Waldron, Quarry Amphitheatre, City Beach, Bookings BOCS 9484 1133 www.bocs.com.au

FEBRUARY

Life x 3, by Yasmina Reza, Wanneroo Repertory, February 12 - 28, the non-dinner party from hell, Limelight Theatre, Civic Drive, Wanneroo, Bookings 9571 8591 or www.limelighttheatre.com

Tutankhamun, by ?, Darlington Theatre Players, February 27- March 14, musical performed by young adults, Marloo Theatre, Marloo Rd, Greenmount, Bookings Gwyne 9255 1783

Doctor in the House, by Ted Willis, Melville Theatre Company, February 27 - March 14, Comedy directed by Jeff Hansen, Roy Edinger Theatre, Stock Rd and Canning Hwy, Palmyra, Bookings 9330 4565

Look Who's Talking, by Derek Benfield, Kwinana Theatre Workshop, February 20-28, Mistaken identity, misunderstanding and post alcoholic amnesia, Kwinana Theatre in the Koorliny Arts Centre, Sulphur Drive Kwinana, Bookings 9439 0290.

Gone A Million, by Peter Flanigan, Stirling Players, February 20 - March 7, Comedy about the corrupting effect of easy money, Stirling Theatre, Morris Place, Innaloo, Bookings BOCS 9484 1133 www.bocs.com.au

The Year of Magical Thinking, by Joan Didion, Black Swan State Theatre Company, February 7 - 25, Pulitzer Prize Winning Memoir, Dolphin Theatre, University of Western Australia, Bookings BOCS 9484 1133 www.bocs.com.au

The Elixir of Love, by Gaetano Donazetti, West Australian Opera - Opera In the Park, February 7, Romantic Comedy, The Supreme Court Gardens, Perth, Free Event.

A 10 Minute Play Competition

Short + Sweet Melbourne 2008



Can you write a play that lasts no more than 10 minutes, then read on.....

Presented by the Arts Centre, St Kilda Rd, Melbourne, Short + Sweet is the biggest and best annual 10-minute theatre competition! Every year hundreds of writers, actors and directors get involved and 2008 will prove to be no exception...

Short + Sweet is a competition, based on 10-minute works of theatre, that encourages the participation of writers, directors and performers from the community to explore their creativity in a supportive professional environment. Short + Sweet is held annually at the Arts Centre. Short + Sweet starts with call for scripts from writers around Australia, followed by auditions with actors and interviews with director, and culminates in performances of 50 of the chosen works. Short + Sweet has helped launch and further the careers of countless theatre professionals - writers, directors, actors, designers and technicians - and lifted the profile of many independent theatre ensembles.

AIMS OF SHORT + SWEET

- To encourage excellence in the presentation of short scripts that can stimulate, move and entertain audiences
- To showcase the work of aspiring writers, actors and directors and to give new talent an opportunity to surface with an emphasis on Australian artists.
- To make theatre more accessible and affordable to a wider audience.
- To inspire theatre practitioners of the future to better their artistic practice
- To encourage active participation in theatre making by aspiring writers, directors and performers in a supportive environment thus foster growth in the theatre.

SHORT + SWEET OVER THE YEARS

2008

You may have noticed the small change in the way we write Short + Sweet (no &&&) and the look of our Babushka will be bang-up-to-date... but, we have also decided to keep the focus on our own shores and will only be including Australian entries in 2008. Another exciting development is a week dedicated to Independent Theatre Ensembles. One of the Independent Ensembles will win a week of full development supported by the Full Tilt program to grow their production into a full length show! Watch this space!

2007

The 2007 competition opened in April and more than 1100 scripts were received from Australia and around the world. After the rigorous short-listing process, the final 60 works were performed in the competition held at the Arts Centre, Fairfax Studio from 5 - 22 December 2007.

The predominant themes made for a veritable menagerie, with an all-sort mix of goldfish, skewered pigs, ducks, leeches, lobsters and even the neighbour of the beast...

In response to feedback from the previous year there was no separate Gala Final in 2007 as participants felt that perhaps too much emphasis was placed on the Gala Final to the detriment of the rest of the season. Instead, Judges attended all programs of both Top 30 and Wildcards and the winners were announced following the evening performances on 22 December

2006

In 2006 we received 815 entries for the competition. There were a wide variety of themes for the plays, but most notable were scripts about relationships, sex and Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

Due to the sell-out success of the 2005 competition, the 2006 competition moved to a much bigger venue at the Arts Centre - the Fairfax Studio. The season was a huge success with strong attendances for all show. A new development for Short + Sweet was filming of the Gala Final by the Movie Network. The 10 Gala Final works were screened on the Movie Network in March 2006

2005

In 2005 Melbourne got in on the act for the first time with Short + Sweet being produced and presented by the Arts Centre. Over 800 scripts were received for the competition and the selected works for the competition in November/December 2005 were a huge success performing to sell-out audiences.

Short +Sweet Sydney

Short + Sweet has been staged in Sydney by Newtown Theatre since 2001. Over the past six years, the event has grown enormously in popularity by critics, participants and audiences alike.

Short + Sweet™ was conceived by Mark Cleary, developed by Alex Broun and first produced at Newtown Theatre, Sydney.

This article was reprinted from Short & Sweet's website <http://www.theartscentre.com.au/short-and-sweet.aspx>

Look out for an article by one of the writers and one of the directors of one of the entrants for this years competition, who knows they may be the winners!

AUDITIONS DECEMBER more info see www.theatre.asn.au

25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee December 14th, Director: Kimberley Shaw.

Playlovers, Hackett Hall, Draper St, Floreat, WA yakyakyak@inet.net.au

Elsie and Norm's "Macbeth" December 8th, Director: Susan Lynch. 7pm at Harbour Theatre, Princess May Theatre, Cantonment St (cnr Parry st), Fremantle. For information [call](http://www.call) Susan Lynch on (08) 9310 1448 or 0431 024 052.

I Hate Hamlet December 7th, Director: James Hough Neilson. Playlovers, Hackett Hall, Floreat. Info 9401 2558.

Jesus Christ Superstar December 20th, Director: Karen Francis. Mandurah Senior College, Education Drive, Mandurah. Please contact Karen Francis 95359396 for audition CD and requirements.

LOOK WHO'S TALKING 15th December, Director:

Susan Hayward. Kwinana Theatre [Workshop](http://www.Workshop), Koorliny Arts Centre, Sulphur Road, Kwinana. For further information, contact Director Sue Hayward on 9444 0986, or email her at justsuse2003@yahoo.com.au.

Romeo and Juliet 15 & 16 December, Director: Stephen Lee. AN EXCITING OPEN-AIR 2009 PRODUCTION auditions at Old Mill Theatre, South Perth. More info Norma Davis 0402.249.249 or email davisn@people.net.au.

The Merchant of Venice 13-14 December Director: Edgar Metcalfe. GRADS Further Info mforsey@cyllene.uwa.edu.au or 0400757123