national DRAMA FESTIVALS association

NEWSLETTER
February 2018

IMPORTANT NOTICE

It is with great regret that we must advise that the planned 45th All Winners Drama Festival, which was scheduled to be held in Rugby in July 2018, will now not take place. After several months of constructive discussion with the trustees of Rugby Theatre it became clear that the objectives of our two organisations were not as common as we had thought or hoped. Thus, rather than compromising the quality of the event experience for the participating teams, as well as exposing the NDFA to a very high financial risk, it has been decided to cancel the festival for this year.

This decision was obviously not taken lightly, but with an event described and intended as the annual showcase of the best of the best, the performance venue must offer both excellent technical facilities and a willingness by the host team to participate fully in the spirit and enthusiasm that characterises the British All Winners Festival. Sadly, it latterly became obvious that neither offerings were going to meet the NDFA expectations, and so, rather than risking damaging the festival's hard-won reputation, this decision has been taken.

On a more positive note, plans have already been started for 2019, with a very welcome return to the Rhoda McGaw Theatre in Woking. Dates and further details will be shared with members in the next few months.

As you will know, the Annual General Meeting of the NDFA usually takes place towards the end of the week of the All Winners Festival, and so this year's AGM will now be held elsewhere, and probably at a different time. Further details will be circulated very soon.

NEW PLAY PRIZE WINNER – Jamie Laktriz

The winner of the George Taylor Playwriting Competition for 2017 has now been decided, and it is Jamie Laktriz with *The Start of Something*, which was submitted from the Woking Drama Festival.

As well as the physical trophy, Jamie has won a cash prize of £250, sponsored by Stagescripts Limited, and the offer of a guaranteed publishing deal for the play. Congratulations to Jamie!

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