

Murwillumbah Festival of Performing Arts Soc. Inc.



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Committee of Murwillumbah Festival of Performing Arts

President: Simone Wong

Vice Presidents: Mary-Anne McShane, Heather Martin OAM

Secretary: Deidre Houlton

Treasurer: Lynnette Kee

Convenors Speech – Simone Wong

Music – Vikki Armour, Heather Martin OAM

Dance – Helen Green

Trophy Coordinator: Annette Simpson

Public Office Lynnette Kee

Minutes Secretary: Mary-Anne McShane

Committee of Management:

Vikki Armour, Beth Brooks, Amanda Cossins, Helen Green, Deirdre Hulton, Bryanne Jardine, Lynnette Kee, Peter Kelly, Beryl Lawther, Michele Lourie, Lisa McCrone, Mary-Anne McShane, Heather Martin OAM, Lyn Pond, Annette Simpson, Debbie Tietzel, Di Wilder, Simone Wong.

Message from the President

Simone Wong On behalf of the Committee, I am thrilled to invite you to enter another exciting year for the Murwillumbah Festival of Performing Arts in 2025.

This year all genres return to the beautiful and newly renovated Murwillumbah Civic Centre and we look forward to welcoming you all there. The Festival provides a platform for young people to experience the excitement of being on stage and performing for an audience of both our locals and visitors to enjoy. We are proud to offer this opportunity within the backdrop of the beautiful Tweed Valley.

As always it is important to acknowledge the year-round work that goes into making this one of the most popular, and (we believe) friendliest Festivals around. The amazing committee, our sponsors and you, our competitors and audience, all contribute to its success and longevity. We look forward to welcoming you in 2025. Warm wishes, Simone Wong

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DANCE SESSIONS: SATURDAY 5th JULY - SUNDAY 13th JULY 2025

DANCE GROUP DAYS – SATURDAY 5th JULY – MONDAY 7th JULY 2025

SOLO, DUO/TRIO DAYS – TUESDAY 10th JULY – SUNDAY 13th JULY 2025

JJ RICHARDS BALLET SCHOLARSHIP – TUESDAY EVENING 10th JULY 2025

(Please note that dates may vary depending on group and solo entries)

MUSIC SESSIONS: 27th JUNE – 3th July 2025

ENTRIES CLOSE:
DANCE - Friday 23rd May 2025
Entries through: Comps-Online

SCHOLARSHIPS / AWARDS

Our thanks to the many sponsors who every year continue to give their support to
the Murwillumbah Festival of Performing Arts Inc.

Regulations and Guidelines referring to the following awards and scholarships.

- a) The scholarship winner is to be chosen by the adjudicator with no consultation or discussion with committee members except for Music if more than one adjudicator is used.
- b) The adjudicator's decision is final. The Committee will not enter into correspondence regarding any outcome.
- c) The scholarship should be awarded to the most outstanding performer.
- d) It is recommended, but not required, that the scholarship be awarded to a senior student with overall excellence in 3 or more sections in the current Festival.
- e) Each scholarship may only be awarded once to each awardee, except for Music.

1. ALTON BUDD MEMORIAL AWARD: VOICE *Presented at the performance.*

- a) An award of \$10,000 annually is donated by the family of the late ALTON JAMES HAROLD BUDD for singers aged 18-35 years inclusive. If, in the judgement of the Adjudicator, the standard of performance is not high enough to warrant the award, it may not be presented.
- b) The Adjudicator's decision is final.

2. J.J. RICHARDS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP: SPEECH AND DRAMA *Presented at the performance.*

A perpetual trophy and an award of \$600.00, donated by Idwall Richards and family in memory of J.J. Richards, a prominent Tweed Citizen Rotary Club of Mt Warning AM Runner Up Award: \$100.00. A minimum of four competitors is required for this section.

3. J.J. RICHARDS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP: DANCE *Presented at the performance.*

A perpetual trophy and an award of \$1000, both donated by Idwall Richards and family in memory of J.J. Richards, a prominent Tweed Citizen. Prudence Bowden J.J. Richards Runner Up Prize Trophy + MFPA \$300.00
Kingston Family – J.J. Richards 3rd Prize Medallion + \$200.00
Margaret Peate – J.J Richards 4th Prize Medallion + \$100.00

4. G.H. STAINLAY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP: MUSIC

An award of \$750 with a perpetual trophy and Medallion donated by the Stainlay family, in memory of their father, the late George Herbert Stainlay (A Foundation Member of the Murwillumbah Musical Festival Society in 1923), for the Music Sections of the Festival. Runner Up Award of \$250.

5. MURWILLUMBAH CENTRAL ROTARY SCHOLARSHIP: SPEECH AND DRAMA

Halpin Family Perpetual Trophy & Medallion

An award of \$500 will be made by the Murwillumbah Central Rotary Club with the Halpin Family Perpetual Trophy and Medallion for the Speech & Drama Sections of the Festival. \$300 will be awarded to 15 to 17 years aggregate winner; and \$200 to the Runner-up. Murwillumbah Central Rotary Club also provides \$250.00 for purchase of Encouragement Trophies for each age group in Speech and Drama.

6. ROTARY CLUB OF MURWILLUMBAH SCHOLARSHIP: DANCE

Maryann Swift Perpetual Trophy & Medallion An award of \$750 will be made by the Rotary Club of Murwillumbah, with the Maryann Swift Perpetual Trophy and Medallion for the Dance Sections of the Festival. There is a Runner Up Award of \$250.

7. PAT and KEITH HAYDON MEMORIAL AWARD: MUSIC

An award of \$600 and a perpetual trophy will be made to the Most Promising Pianist of the Festival.

8. TWEED VALLEY MOST PROMISING COMPETITOR

Music – Kate Carter Perpetual Trophy and MFPA prize \$150

Dance - Mt Warning AM Rotary Perpetual Trophy and \$150

9. TWEED VALLEY Jazz and Blues Inc AWARDS

- a) Perpetual Trophy, Individual Trophy, \$200 for bands.
- b) Perpetual Trophy, Individual Trophy, \$100 for each gold medallist in an individual competition.

10. ARTHUR HOLMES OAM MEMORIAL AWARD: DANCE

Arthur Holmes OAM Memorial Perpetual Trophy for the most entertaining performance of the Festival in Dance, plus the Murwillumbah Festival of Performing Arts prize of \$150, as determined by the committee in consultation with the adjudicators

11. MURWILLUMBAH THEATRE COMPANY SENIOR SPEECH & DRAMA AWARD:

Trophy + \$200.00

12. PETER AND DIANE KELLY TROPHY plus \$50.00 - Outstanding Performance across the festival alternating genres: 2025

PLEASE NOTE: ALL perpetual trophies are presented to the awardees for photographs and then RETAINED by the MFPA for engraving.

GENERAL FESTIVAL REGULATIONS

1. GENERAL MANAGEMENT

- In these regulations, the word 'Committee', shall mean the Committee of the Murwillumbah Festival of Performing Arts Society Inc.
- The Committee reserves the right to refuse any entry.
- Programming positions will be strictly observed (unless change by the Convenor or Committee)
- In **OWN CHOICE** competitions, marks will be awarded for quality of selections.

2. BREACH OF REGULATION

Any competitor deemed to be in breach of a section's regulations will be furnished with an Adjudicator's Report containing comments only.

3. ENTRIES

- No entry will be accepted unless accompanied by the full fee as per Schedule.
- Entries should be through **Comps-Online**. Please be sure that **ALL** particulars are provided.
- ENTRIES CLOSE** – Speech & Drama – Monday 5th May 2025
Music – Friday 11th April 2025

DANCE – Friday 23rd May 2025

4. COMPETITIONS

- No competitor will be allowed to perform the same item in more than one section, unless otherwise stated.
- Due to time commitments or unnecessary repetition, the Adjudicator may 'ring off' a competitor before completion of the performance. This does not necessarily signify disapproval or rejection.
- All competitors in Championship Sections must enter and perform in their corresponding age or open sections. (Restricted sections not accepted.)
- Please keep Props to a MINIMUM and be sure they are able to be handled by the stage hands. All props to be removed from the precincts of the stage at the conclusion of each session.
- Persons required to manipulate props or to play music will be allowed in the stage wings, but only during the relative performance.
- Sections may be split or combined if warranted, at the discretion of the convenor.
- The competition is open to amateurs only, not professionals or teachers. (A professional is defined as a person who earns a major part of their income from the practice of the art, or who uses the art as a primary means of livelihood.)
- Persons with disabilities are encouraged to enter the competitions. Please advise on your Entry Form if wheelchair access to the stage is required.
- The proposed programme of competition is:

SPEECH and DRAMA – 19th June – 26th June 2025

MUSIC – 27th June – 3rd July 2025

DANCE – **SATURDAY 5th JULY – SUNDAY 13th JULY 2025**

6. MUSIC for DANCE

All Music for DANCE will be required to be uploaded through the Music Upload system

6. AGE LIMITS & COMPETITOR AGE

Age for competitors in Dance as at:

Solo, Duo/Trio - 31st March 2025

Groups – 1st January 2025

Dance maximum age limits:

Solo, Duo/Trio is 20 years

Groups is 25 years

7. TIME LIMITS

a) Time limits have been specified throughout this schedule. In fairness to all and in the interest of accurate programming, **PLEASE COMPLY WITH THESE LIMITS**. Should time limits be exceeded, the adjudicator may penalise.

b) A timer will be used for the festival.

8. PRIZES

a) The adjudicator's decision is final and he/she will have the power to withhold or divide prizes according to merit.

b) The adjudicator may also be entitled to recommend the awarding of a second prize only, if the performance has not sufficient merit to carry a first prize.

8. PROTESTS

a) Protests need to be lodged with the CONVENOR, in writing, within one hour after the completion of the relevant section and must be accompanied by a deposit of \$10.00, which shall be forfeited if the protest is deemed to be unfounded.

b) The DECISION of the Committee in ALL questions arising out of, or not provided for by these regulations, shall be FINAL.

c) 'Lack of knowledge' regarding Regulations will not be accepted as a bona fide reason for infringement of any Regulation.

d) ALL competitors compete entirely at their OWN RISK.

9. PHOTOGRAPHY

a) Flash photography is not allowed. For Dance, professional photographs and videos are available, at a reasonable cost.

b) Photography is NOT allowed in the Dressing Rooms. The Committee has the right to remove any person who contravenes this direction.

10. PETS

Animals are not permitted in the Auditorium except for Guide Dogs and Assistance Dogs. In the case of Assistance Dogs, a Handler's Identity Card may be requested.

11. REGULATIONS IN THE PROGRAMME

a) The General Regulations and Competition Rules specific to each of the disciplines are printed in the SCHEDULE and most will **NOT** be repeated in the PROGRAM

b) Make sure you read the General Regulations and Specific Regulations as changes may occur.

12. PRAMS AND STROLLERS

PRAMS and STROLLERS are **NOT** permitted backstage, on the stairwells, or in the dressing room

13. UNCLAIMED ITEMS / PROPERTY

a) Lost property will be kept for 2 weeks and then given to charity.

b) Unclaimed Adjudicator's Reports, Music CDs and USB sticks/drives will be kept until the completion of the Festival.

14. UNAUTHORISED PERSONS

Unauthorised persons and parents **are not to remain** backstage, or in the Announcer's area.

15. EFTPOS

EFTPOS is available at the auditorium, but NO cash out.

ENTRIES CLOSE:

DANCE: FRIDAY 23rd MAY 2025

Entries through: Comps-Online