



NALEDI THEATRE AWARDS RE-IMAGINED FOR 2019

Monday 7 January 2019 | It is with great pleasure that we announce the Judges for the 2019 Naledi Theatre Awards Panels.

The 2019 Naledi Theatre Awards (for productions staged during 2018) will be held at the prestigious Mandela Stage at the Joburg Theatre on Monday 20 May 2019.

The Naledi Theatre Awards now in their 15th year have constantly re-evaluated the theatrical landscape in South Africa as it has developed considerably during that period. The new Board of Directors, led by TV star and Law degree expert, Chairperson, Kgomotso Christopher, have been hard at work in re-imagining and re-structuring the Awards to reflect the essential transformation of theatre in our industry.

Founder of The Naledi Theatre Awards and CEO, Dawn Lindberg, (with over 50 years' experience in the business of Show business), gave an overview of the re-structuring of the panel of judges: "Over 100 professional shows are produced and staged throughout Gauteng each year, which makes it challenging for our existing panel of judges to see the requisite 80%. We have therefore created 6 new panels of judges specialising in each of the essential genres; they will be required to see and judge only the productions pertaining to their specific fields of expertise. These changes have necessitated the inclusion of nearly 50 new judges to the Naledi Awards Panels!"

Executive Director and Legal, Lihan Pretorius: "Judges for each panel have been carefully selected, maintaining a good mix of age, genders and cultures. Each panel is led by a convenor and we will facilitate a special one day workshop for the Convenors of each panel, as well as interested judges and industry participants, to explain and clarify our vision and modus operandi. We will also create liaison links with Theatre producers to assure them that they will not be inundated with judges clamouring for tickets!"



This all important and ground breaking workshop will be held on **Saturday 26 January at 1.30 for 2pm -5pm** followed by Q&A. Seats are limited and bookings are essential. These can be made through the Admin Manager, Kealeboga Tshene on 010 900 4581 or <info@naleditheatreawards.org.za>

Continuing in his role as Chairperson of Judges, Renos Spanoudes, in ongoing consultation with the Board and Category Convenors, will ensure that the judging and eligibility criteria for each of the panels is strictly adhered to, as well as offering advice and guidance throughout the year. All panels will be re-assessed after 6 months.

THE NEW CATEGORIES AND PANELS FOR PRODUCTIONS STAGED DURING 2019 ARE AS FOLLOWS:

PLAYS

(including comedy, drama, farce) in Main Stream theatres with a minimum of 10 performances during the year under review.

Neka da Costa – CONVENOR

André Odendaal

Annelize Hicks

Chris Avant-Smith

Dawn Lindberg

Drew Bakker

Gopala Davies

Gregory Goss

Helen Heldenmuth

Henriëtta Gryffenberg

Jenni Newman

Johan van der Merwe

Josias Dos Moleele

Kailin Pillay

Khutjo Green



PLAYS (continued)

Lihan Pretorius
Maishe Maponya
Marie-Heleen Coetzee
Matthew Counihan
Obett Motaung
Renos Spanoudes
Rowan Bakker
Tiffany Higgo
Thea Gafin

MUSICAL THEATRE

Produced in Main Stream theatres, created in SA. Excluding compilation shows and variety shows. (Minimum of 10 performances).

Lance Maron - CONVENOR

André Schwartz
Annelize Hicks
Chris Avant-Smith
Dawn Lindberg
Drew Bakker
Gregory Goss
Helen Heldenmuth
Jenni Newman
Johan van der Merwe
Josias Dos Moleele
JT Medupe
Kailin Pillay
Kealeboga Tshenye



MUSICAL THEATRE (continued)

Khutjo Green
Lihan Pretorius
Maishe Maponya
Matthew Counihan
Neka da Costa
Renos Spanoudes
Rowan Bakker
Zwai Bala

THEATRE FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG AUDIENCES (Aged 0-12/13-1)

Produced in Main Stream theatres, created in SA. Excluding compilation shows and variety shows. (Minimum of 10 performances).

This section is proudly supported by ASSITEJSA, an international organisation specially created to encourage young people to experience and enjoy theatre; they are the audiences of the future! (minimum 8 performances in the year under review including school tours and Festivals for young audiences)

Thea Gafin - CONVENOR

Callie Fields
Dorianne Alexander
Eghard Basson
Kgomotso Christopher
Nompumelelo Mtshali
Ratanang Mogotsi
Renos Spanoudes
Shira Milstein
Tsholofelo Shounyane
(ASSITEJSA rep)



DANCE AND PHYSICAL THEATRE

Including all forms of professional contemporary dance and festivals; excluding Ballet Minimum 6 performances.

Ignatius van Heerden – CONVENOR

Bailey Snyman

Dawn Lindberg

Gladys Agulhas

Gopala Davies

Herman M. Tema

Khutjo Green

Pinto Ferreira

Sonia Radebe

Trish McKenna

INDEPENDENT FRINGE THEATRE

For small productions in new pop-up theatre venues by dynamic new (professional) producers and directors. Minimum of 5 performances.

Khutjo Green - CONVENOR

Akhona R. Mlaza

Bailey Snyman

Callie Fields

Chubeka Nongwana

Herman M. Tema

JT Medupe

Marie-Heleen Coetzee

Maishe Maponya

Neka da Costa

Obett Motaung



INDEPENDENT FRINGE THEATRE (continued)

Quintin Wils
Renos Spanoudes
Senzo Zama
Sifiso L. Moyo
Themba Mahlangu

TERTIARY STUDENT / INCUBATOR THEATRE

For non professional students or graduates in established performing Arts institutions.
Minimum 5 performances.

Tiffany Higgo - CONVENOR

Bongani Maseko
Eghard Basson
Henriëtte Gryffenberg
Khutjo Green
Lihan Pretorius
Nompumelelo Mtshali
Obett Motaung
Quintin Wils
Ratanang Mogotsi
Renos Spanoudes
Senzo Zama
Vianney Farmer



SAVE THESE DATES

Nominations Reveal: Tuesday 12 March 2019 @ the Fringe Theatre @ The Joburg Theatre Complex

The **2019 NALEDI THEATRE AWARDS EVENT** for productions staged during 2018: Monday 20 May 2019 on the Mandela Stage @ the Joburg Theatre

Press release ends.

For further info please see the guidelines on our webpage:
www.naleditheatreawards.com

For further information, interviews per telephone, for radio and TV; live interviews, print, and social media, please contact:

CHRIS AVANT-SMITH: Straight2media@gmail.com

INFO: info@naleditheatreawards.org.za

NOTES TO EDITORS

The Naledi Theatre Awards have been in existence for 15 years and are recognised as the premier Awards event on the Gauteng Theatre Calendar. Its mission is to recognise and reward excellence in the Performing Arts, to raise the profile of Live Theatre and to create awareness of the abundant talent alive and well on our SA stages.

The Naledi Theatre Awards have honoured over 100 Lifetime Achievers: veteran artistes, technicians, and administrators who have dedicated their lives to SA Theatre, and also pays tribute to people in the arts who have taken their final bows during the year under review.

The Naledi Theatre Awards covers all mainstream professional productions from the period 1 January - 1 December of the previous year and the Naledi judges typically evaluate over 100 productions in approximately 27 categories. The Naledi panel of judges consists of informed and regular theatre-goers, academics and members of the media covering the arts in Johannesburg.