



THE DERBY AMATEUR THEATRE AWARDS **(“THE EAGLES”)**

AIMS

To promote, recognise and celebrate the levels of achievement by the amateur companies and their members.

To encourage ever-increasing standards of excellence within the companies and to develop the amateur theatre culture.

To encourage attendance at events throughout the year.

To foster and maintain mutually beneficial relations between professional and amateur theatre workers.

To broaden the appeal of amateur theatre throughout all sections of the community.

OBJECTIVES

By administering, producing and presenting one high-profile, celebratory theatre awards event each year.

By facilitating an adjudication process which is rigorous, regular and impartial.

By promoting and profiling the “Eagle Awards” and their associated Amateur Theatre programmes periodically throughout the year.

By ensuring a composition of the judging panel which has significant expertise and experience in a wide range of theatrical areas.

By providing a central focus for the amateur theatre community through which participants can connect, communicate and celebrate.

By utilising part of Derby City Council’s investment in produced theatre for administering, facilitating and delivering the year-round programme.

By ensuring a significant presence of professional practitioners at the annual celebratory event.

By ensuring that at least one senior member of Derby LIVE staff is on the judging panel.

By programming diverse artists at the annual celebratory event who otherwise might not have the opportunity to showcase their abilities.

METHOD

Awards Event

The awards event will be held annually in a Derby LIVE venue. Prior to the event taking place in the main auditorium, all nominees will have their achievement recognised and will be presented with an appropriate certificate. There will be a ticket charge for all those attending excluding nominees, presenters, guests and judges who will be given complimentary tickets. Evening dress is desirable.

The event will be administered by Derby LIVE's Learning and Inclusion Manager and relevant Derby LIVE staff will assist in the facilitation of the event. The Learning and Inclusion Manager will be responsible, via the relevant societies, for notifying all nominees of their achievement and for reserving appropriate seats at the event for nominees and their consorts.

The MCs for the event and the presenters of awards will be selected by the Eagles judges. The Learning and Inclusion Manager will then be responsible for securing their attendance. In the event of unforeseen absences, the Learning and Inclusion Manager will assume delegated responsibilities for sourcing appropriate substitutes. The same process will apply for artists delivering showpieces at the event.

All technical and logistical elements concerning the event will ultimately fall under the responsibility of the Learning and Inclusion Manager. This will include such features as:

- booking of all relevant venues/spaces
- sourcing, retrieval and distribution of the awards including the Crown Derby Eagles and the certificates
- liaison with relevant Derby LIVE Production and Technical staff over technical requirements
- liaison with showpiece performers over logistical and technical requirements and feasibilities
- liaison with Front-of-House (F-O-H) and Marketing and Communications departments
- selection and facilitation of chaperones for presenters
- ensuring that all aspects of the awards event conform to Derby LIVE's Child Protection Guidelines
- liaison with all relevant hospitality providers.

Any efforts by the companies to promote and publicise the Eagle Awards (Derby Amateur Theatre Awards) would be greatly appreciated. In particular, it would prove extremely beneficial to all concerned if companies included in their programmes a half-page advertisement for the presentation evening, perhaps something to the effect: *This production has been entered for the Derby Amateur Theatre Awards which will be presented at Derby Theatre on Sunday July 15 2012 at 7.30pm. The Awards Evening is open to all members of the public and features high-quality live entertainment from the*

Derby/shire theatre community. Tickets are available from the Derby LIVE Box Office on 01332 255800.

It would also greatly assist the success of the awards if each company could consider purchasing a minimum of TEN TICKETS for the presentation ceremony.

The Awards

The award is known as an EAGLE and is given in each of the following categories:

THE *DERBY EVENING TELEGRAPH* AWARD FOR THE BEST PRODUCTION OF A PLAY

THE *GORDON BEWLEY* AWARD FOR THE BEST PRODUCTION OF A MUSICAL

THE *MALCOLM SIRCOM* AWARD FOR THE BEST PRODUCTION OF A PANTOMIME

THE *TIMOTHY DALTON* AWARD FOR THE BEST PERFORMANCE IN A PLAY

THE *GWEN TAYLOR* AWARD FOR THE BEST PERFORMANCE IN A MUSICAL

THE *PHIL TREECE* AWARD FOR THE BEST PERFORMANCE IN A PANTOMIME

THE *BRIAN GLAZEBROOK* AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

THE *JO DAVISON* AWARD FOR BEST NEWCOMER

THE *KEN and BARBARA PIPES* AWARD FOR EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTION TO AMATEUR THEATRE

There will be a short list of up to **four nominations** in each category except for the *Ken and Barbara Pipes Award*. The recipient for the Ken and Barbara Pipes Award will be selected by the judges.

Each Eagle will be retained for one year. In the event of the postponement or abandonment of the awards, the Eagles will remain the property of Derby LIVE. It will be the responsibility of Derby LIVE's Learning and Inclusion Manager to collect in all the awards.

The Judging Process

Derby LIVE will endeavour to maintain a panel of a minimum of 5 judges and a maximum of 7.

The judges:
Gillian Brewin

*Wyn Hinks
Gary Johnson
Pete Meakin
Andy Miller
Stefan Osvath
Bernadette Roberts*

At least 3 judges will see each nomination. However, all judges will endeavour to see all nominations. If for any reason less than 3 of the judges are available then the Learning and Inclusion Manager will make up the numbers. Each judge will normally see a minimum of 12 productions per year. Consequently, we ask you to set aside sufficient tickets for all judges, possibly attending different performances. The Learning and Inclusion Manager will endeavour to give you the earliest possible notice of the exact number of tickets required. Also, each judge will require a complimentary programme for the show.

Judges will normally meet on a quarterly basis to review and assess all productions seen in that quarter. Potential nominees for all categories will be discussed and recorded. All judges will utilise the accompanying scoring matrix in order to assist transparency, rigour and equity. Following each judges' meeting, the Learning and Inclusion Manager will collate individual scoring matrices into single master copies for each production. The Learning and Inclusion Manager will calculate average scores for each category and potential nominee. Each judge must not miss two or more judges' meeting in any one year except under exceptional circumstances.

Election and Selection of Judges

The Learning and Inclusion Manager will distribute the attached skills matrix to all current judges for completion. Gaps in expertise will thereby be identified. The judges will then seek to address these gaps through identifying appropriate potential judges with the requisite skills-set. The identified person or persons will then be invited to join the judging panel. Each judge will commit to at least one year's adjudication. Derby LIVE will look to awarding each judge an honorarium to cover expenses.

At the re-launch of the Eagle Awards in 2009 people will be invited to submit interest in joining the judging panel. Relevance to the judging criteria will be considered. Membership will be reviewed annually or as needed.

Criteria for Nomination

The production must be performed for at least **3 performances within the city boundary**. The nominated performer or company must be performing in a non-professional capacity. School, college, youth and university productions, concerts and reviews are excluded. (For the purposes of these awards, previous participation in such productions does not exclude nomination in the *Best Newcomer*, or any other, category.)

Entry Process

Companies will inform the judges directly of productions (c/o Kim Miller, Derby LIVE) using the accompanying entry form (or a photocopy of it). Any company performing in a Derby LIVE venue must enter and they must also complete

the form. The entry must come through the company's committee and be endorsed by two officers.

On the entry form companies will notify the judges of all *newcomers* (**i.e. people operating for the first time in a particular capacity**) in the production. Please note: this does not include people who are simply "new" to a particular company or "new" to the locality. Companies will also include on the form the names of any members involved in the production who **CANNOT** or who **DO NOT WISH** to be considered for nomination. Entries should arrive at least 4 weeks before the opening night. No members of the adjudication panel should be directly involved in nominated productions or hold a committee position for a participating company.

Time Parameters

Nominated productions must be performed in Derby between **1 July and 30 June the following year.**