

HISTORY OF DRAMA SOUTH AUSTRALIA



DATE ASSOCIATION COMMENCED

24/06/1974 under the South Australian Association for Drama in Education (SAADIE)

KEY PURPOSE OF THE ASSOCIATION

DSA is committed to creating a supportive, sustainable and inspiring drama community which connects, enriches and empowers (South Australian) teachers and practitioners / or our members. We believe that drama offers important and intrinsic collaborative and individual learning experiences that help students discover themselves and their world.

MAIN FOCUS AREAS

- DSA will advocate for the positive value of drama in the curriculum, across all schools and for all students.
- DSA will provide exciting and relevant opportunities for professional learning, resource acquisition and effective teaching strategies.
- DSA will proactively identify current drama practices, issues and research for their impact on students and teachers.
- DSA will collaborate with other organisations to share knowledge, to create cross forums and activities whenever appropriate.

LEVELS OF CARE AND EDUCATION

Early Years, Primary and Secondary

KEY EVENTS

Hosting State and National conferences and providing ongoing professional learning and advocacy to Drama Eduactors in South Australia

HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS/ACHIEVEMENTS

- The South Australian Association for Drama in Education (SAADIE) was founded on the 24th of June 1974 with a pro tem executive council, to work on a consultation and set a date for the first Annual General meeting, which was held on the 23rd of September 1974.

- Gordon Foulds and Gwen Phillips invited representatives from the states to attend a meeting in Adelaide to discuss the notion of establishing a National Association. To provide a national forum which would represent and speak for Australian drama in education both in a national context and in a world forum . This initial group became the working party for the inaugural National Association for Drama in Education (NADIE) (Now Drama Australia) Conference held in Adelaide in September 1974
- In February 1977, the R-12 Drama Curriculum Committee, convened by Garth Boomer, Principal Education Officer, was established by the South Australian Education Department. The brief of the committee was to formulate guidelines for Drama in schools from Reception to Year 12.
- Drama South Australia convened the national drama conferences in Adelaide in 1976, 1980, 1992, 2000, 2008, and 2017.
- The South Australian Association for Drama in Education (SAADIE) changed its name to Drama South Australia (DSA) Incorporated on the Seventeenth day of May 2022. Incorporation Number: A9137
- Drama South Australia has been awarded the EdSA Innovative Association Award and several other EdSA individual and association Awards.
- Wendy Danforth and Graham Cox were both awarded the Drama Australia president's Awards. The recipient of a Drama Australia President's Award demonstrates: Significant, long-term service and commitment to Drama Australia (formerly NADIE) and drama/theatre education in Australia, significant service, and commitment within a state/territory member association (including service on state/territory association management committees/boards and/or sub-committees) and a contribution to drama/theatre education at an international level.

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS (LAST 5 YEARS)

- EDSA Innovative Association Award for the use of technology to better meet members needs.
- Changing the association's name, developing a new constitution and leading our new mentorship program to support early career teachers.
- Achieving the 50 year milestone and an incorporated professional teacher association.

KEY PEOPLE OVER THE YEARS STARTERS, DRIVERS, CHANGERS

Gordon Foulds
Gwen Phillips
John Holmes
Wendy Danforth
Graham Cox
Julie Orchard

LIFE MEMBERS AND OTHERS DRAMA SA HAS RECOGNISED

Graham Cox
Tess O'Callaghan
Julie Orchard

WE ARE EXCITED ABOUT THE FUTURE OF DRAMA SA, BECAUSE...

Continuing to support and respond to our members' needs through consultation and innovation.



GET IN TOUCH WITH US!

info@dramasa.org
dramasa.org