

Rose Bowl

News



Challenging times

Well, hasn't the past few months been a truly difficult time for the theatre industry? I know that many of you will have faced many challenges in your personal lives and may have been touched by the impact of Covid 19. We would like to extend our heartfelt sympathies to any of you who have faced illness or loss over the past few months.

And, of course, those of us who are so used to being involved in the performing arts, have been so sad to see productions cancelled as theatres

and performing spaces have had to close. We know from speaking to many of you that your plans for shows through the spring, summer and autumn of this year have all faced postponements. Indeed there were some in production that had to cancel their runs half way through.

Whilst we have been in lockdown, the Rose Bowl Awards Committee has been discussing what is best for the Awards 2019/2020 Season and we wanted to give you an update.



*What
happens
now?*

Our plans for this season

Before the theatres went dark, 43 productions had been adjudicated and reports sent out to the clubs who had entered. Unfortunately we then had the news of the lockdown. We recognise all the efforts that clubs throughout the South West have put in, rehearsals attended, costumes made, sets built and the hard decisions that have had to be made. We understand that in most cases, productions have been postponed but unfortunately a few have had to be totally cancelled due to Licences not being available for next year. We are so sorry for those who will not be able to see their hard work through to fruition.



We would like you to be assured that any adjudication fees paid for a production that has been cancelled can either be refunded or can be carried forward. Where an Adjudicator had already been assigned to a particular production, that Adjudicator will be given the re-scheduled dates first to see if they can still attend and, if this is not possible, an alternative will be arranged.

With all that has happened and with uncertainties about when theatres will reopen, the Committee has made the decision to extend this season through to August 2021. This means that any nominations that are made from the 43 productions so far this season will be carried forward until next year. As we don't know when performances will be allowed to begin again it seems the right thing to do. We hope you agree.



Now some good news

While we have all been in lockdown, we have heard about so many Clubs and Societies doing their bit to keep their groups going, from online rehearsals, play readings, singing together and virtual performances. It is so lovely to know that communities are still working together and achieving creative results to keep our spirits up. This being so, we would like to announce a special and one off Award (to be presented in the extended 2019/2021 Season only) The Lockdown Award, for 'virtual activity' during the lockdown. This gives all of our Clubs and Societies the opportunity to show us what you've been up to, whether that is individual performances, virtual rehearsals, promotional activity for future shows, or footage of a show that has had to be shelved for the time being.

Your entry should be a 3 minute (max) video, showing what you have been doing during these unprecedented times. You can send it as a YouTube film, a recorded Zoom piece, or simply a film that you've made on your phone. I hope that you enjoy making these and I am sure that they will prove interesting recollections of 2020 that we won't ever forget.



Your questions answered

In order to keep you up to date and connected with the Rose Bowl, we will be recording a Q&A session with three members of the Rose Bowl Committee, Caroline Whitehead, Steve Blackmore and Brian Fisher, answering questions you may have about the Awards during lockdown, or you may have a more general question. We can't

guarantee to answer all the questions sent in but will get through as many as possible. This recording will be available to watch on all our Social Media platforms. Please send your questions by email to Liz-Anne at secretary@therosebowlawards.org.uk by the 8th of July.

.....until we meet again!