

Off to Pastures New!

Our Arts Development Manager Fiona Rogan will be leaving SCDA in July to take up a new post at Rosslyn Chapel Trust. The chapel is currently in the middle of a £12 million restoration project, and Fiona is going to set up its new Education and Audience Development Centre.

Fiona told us that she has very much enjoyed her time at SCDA, despite having to take the organisation through some challenging legal changes such as the introduction of OSCR and Child Protection legislation, not to mention all the rules about weapons on stage etc. And of course the silly bans that have frustrated drama groups up and down the country, such as one Council's ban on selling home made cakes at fetes and other events on their premises. Watch out for a council near you banning raffle prizes in case someone drops a bottle of wine on their toes!

SCDA Chair Keith Robinson is currently planning how Fiona's work will be covered after her departure, so watch this space for information. Sam Rankin, who was employed as Fiona's assistant for some of our Theatre Maker projects in Stornoway and Orkney, is joining us for 12 weeks. She will be in National Office two days per week from Wednesday 24 June.

Free Stage Make Up / Other Free Stuff - Your club could benefit from the SCDA office clearance!

SCDA National Office has some special effects make up left over from workshops. They are free to any member club that wants it. Contact Fiona for any or all of the items below:

Bottles of Kryolan stage blood - transparent and water soluble.

Small Kryolan Clown wheels - white, red, blue and yellow oil based colour, suitable for painting adult faces but probably not suitable for children or adults with very sensitive skin.

2 bruise wheels- Kryolan oil based make up kit containing the colours needed to make authentic bruises. Stipple sponge included - can make stubble or bruises and scrapes.

2 bottles of Ben Nye Silver Aqua Glitter - suitable for painting on body and face.

12 latex make up sponges.

Other Free Stuff

Fiona has a copy of Office 2003 for Dummies that she no longer needs now that her

home and work computers are using 2007 version. This self-help guide takes you through Word, Outlook, Powerpoint, Excel, Access and Publisher - all in Office 2003 version. If you have Office 2003 on your computer and often wish you knew how to use all its features, this book could be for you. Fiona paid £20.95 for it but is happy to give it away to a good home.

SCDA office also has a couple of gold crowns with red lining. Very cheap and tacky - they came from Poundland. Suitable for kids fancy dress or a panto. We'll throw in a pair of red devil horns and a tiara.

We have some white blank face masks (like the ones used for robotics). They can be used blank for mime work, or painted to create commedia or pantomime characters. They are flimsy and would not post easily, so these are best for groups who can come into the office and collect.

For all of these offers, call Fiona on 0131 558 8464. First come, first served.

Borderline Theatre are giving away costumes

Borderline in Ayr is clearing out its costume store. They are trying to have it clear by June, but if you want to check out what they have left, call Emma McKee on 01292 281010

On offer : panto/period/contemporary costumes, shoes, hats, accessories, masks, props etc.

Where are the Amateur Theatres?

Does your drama club have its own theatre? SCDA would like to know about it. We are compiling a list of clubs that have their own theatre. The kind of information we want is as follows:

Where is your theatre? How many seats has it? Is there disabled access for audience and/or performers? Do you hire it out to other groups? Do you have a separate rehearsal space, set building area or costume store? Do you lend or hire costumes or props to other groups? Do you have trained lighting and sound people? Would you be willing to host technical workshops in return for free places for your members? Is there any special training that you would like for the volunteers that run your theatre?

Please send all information to Sam Rankin at SCDA, either by post or to theatremaker@scda.org.uk

McLellan Award 2009 for plays in living Scots.

Location: Scotland

Deadline: 15 August 2009

The McLellan Award Play Competition is now in its third year. The competition is open to all. Plays must be in a living Scots dialect - urban or rural - though they may be set in any period. The running time should be a minimum of 40 minutes and a maximum of 50 minutes and the play should be for up to 3 actors. The rules state that the play must not have had a previous professional production, though it need not be new and submissions will be accepted from previous competitions. The closing date for entries is 15th August 2009.

The winning playwright of the 2009 competition will receive prize money of £1000 as well as the McLellan Award 2009 created by sculptor, Marvin Elliot and, funding permitting, the opportunity to workshop their play with Nutshell Theatre Company culminating in a performance reading at the McLellan Festival 2009 and a further performance in Glasgow in 2010.

For further details please visit the website www.mclellanawards.co.uk or contact Heather Gough at gough.carlo@virgin.net

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