

Young Arts Update March 2023

ADFAS MP provided financial support for arts programs for young people in a range of activities in 2022 including music, art, choir, drama and dance. Students across dozens of schools participated in the programs.

We rely on donations from our members to provide this support and we are extremely grateful for your generosity.

YOUNG ARTS PROGRAM 2022

The following activities were funded by ADFAS Mornington Peninsula during 2022:

- \$1000 for two choir workshops arranged by the Mornington Peninsula Choral Festival . Further details were provided in the February 2022 Young Arts Update.
- Artist talk and children's workshop conducted by Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery - \$1000 for the artist fees and materials. Further details were provided in the February 2022 Young Arts Update.
- Southern Peninsula Music Camp - funds of \$1200 for financial support for students who may not otherwise have been able to attend. Further details of how the camp operates were provided in the June 2022 Young Arts Update. Photos of the 2022 camp are below.
- \$2500 to Dreamhouse Youth Theatre Company, as follows: \$1800 towards their 2022 annual production 'The Snow', consisting of \$900 for a sound designer/musician and \$900 for a projection artist; and \$700 for a Youth Workshop Assistant/Mentee for the Dreamhouse Primary-Aged Weekly Workshops for one semester. (more details of the production below)
- \$1400 to Spark Productions for a stage manager and costume designer (both young people being mentored by an experienced person) for Spark's major dance production called *Granuaile* held on 29 and 30 September 2022 at the Frankston Arts Centre. (more details of the production below)

SOUTHERN PENINSULA MUSIC CAMP

The Southern Peninsula Music Camp is conducted by a group of enthusiastic music teachers. The camp has been a continuous annual event since 1985, only stopping for lockdown. It is a multi-age, multi-school event, with many campers growing up and giving back to the camp by becoming tutors. A number of ex-campers have gone on to make music their profession, both in Australia and around the world. The organisers say that what makes them most proud is the thousands of children who have come to camp feeling a little nervous and unsure, then performed at the concert with confidence and pride with all their new friends just three days later.



Photos from the 2022 camp

DREAMHOUSE THEATRE PRODUCTION





The Dreamhouse production for 2022 was 'The Snow' by Finegan Kruckemeyer and directed by Carole Patullo. A cast and crew of 29 young people aged 13-22 brought this whimsical and heartfelt story to life in July, after a five month rehearsal period. Utilising sustainable theatre practices: recycled and repurposed sets, costumes and props, this wonderful tale was visually arresting, at the same allowing the poetic text to shine.. Below are interviews with two cast members. All photos by Yanni Creative.

Leah Reaper



Leah is a year 10 student at Balcombe Grammar school. She joined Dreamhouse theatre as a result of her mother knowing Carole Patullo, the Artistic Director. Leah did two workshops during the year and was then selected to take part in the Dreamhouse 2022 production, The Snow, as one of the warriors. Leah plans to stay involved with Dreamhouse for a few more years.

Leah's comments:

'Before Dreamhouse I was very quiet and very shy, and not into acting. Being involved with Dreamhouse took me way out of my comfort zone. My character in The Snow was very stressed, and at times very abrupt - opposite to my personality. Doing the role helped me identify and expand other aspects of my own personality. Being part of Dreamhouse is great fun, and you form great connections and friendships.'

Ashton Gorman-Scott



Ashton (centre in photo) is a student at Rosebud Secondary College. He joined Dreamhouse Theatre Company 4-5 years ago on the recommendation of his drama teacher. Ashton was selected to performed in 'The Snow', having performed in three other Dreamhouse productions. He also acted in a Universal Studios Move, Woody Woodpecker II, and in an advertisement, because of Carole Patullo. He would like to continue to be involved in acting but not as his primary focus as it's so hard to get on in that field, but said he would like to give it a go.

Ashton's comments:

"Being in Dreamhouse provided a lot for me. It took me out of my shell, and helped me interact better with the public; I now have the confidence to go up and speak to anyone. I have learnt so many skills at Dreamhouse - better memory, how to project your voice, how to plan, how to analyse your character. Carole is so calm, never raises her voice, can hold a crowd and have everyone working together. Dreamhouse has been good for so many - people mature, they understand they have a responsibility. For some who don't have friends, they can go every Wednesday and feel a part of that group. If I'm having a bad week, I think, on Wednesday I'll feel good. They are the most supportive people in the world.'

SPARK YOUTH DANCE COMPANY



Spark Youth Dance production

The Spark dance production for 2022 was Granuaile, a collaboration of contemporary dance and live orchestra, which told the true story of Grace O'Malley, a rebellious leader and pirate queen who challenged the political waves of 16th century Ireland.

Spark Productions Australia is a non-profit Australian arts organisation driven by youth under 25. Based on the Mornington Peninsula, it provides a platform for young dancers and creatives to create new dance works together. Below are photos from the production. Photos by Yanni Creative.



The ADFAS MP Committee is proud - on behalf of you our members, and as a result of your generosity - to provide this support across a spectrum of arts activities and to a wide range of young people. These activities can be transformative, leading to a life-long love of the arts in our younger generation - and perhaps future careers in the arts. With your support we will continue to fund programs for young people throughout 2023. Our heart-felt thanks to you all.

Vicki Long

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