

ADFAS POKOLBIN - Young Arts Report

For Committee Meeting - MONDAY 24th September, 2018

Visual and Performing Arts Scholarship 2019

Collection of Applications

On Friday 7th September, in my role as Young Arts Coordinator, I visited Mt View High School and collected six Scholarship applications from Liz Alder who was our Mt View contact person as relieving head of CAPA this year. Prior to this I attended the Mt View Showcase night for their HSC CAPA students for 2018.

The 2018 Scholarship winner, Bowen Cavanagh, had his HSC photography on display which he agreed to allow us to share on our website if we choose to.

This occasion also provided me with an opportunity to meet the CAPA Staff in an informal setting and also to enjoy the students' talent. At this event, the possibility of extending the Scholarship Application date to the second week of September was suggested to avoid a clash with the due date for HSC Major works.

The students are reliant on the teachers for their support and encouragement with their applications.

This would take some last-minute pressure off the staff.

Evaluation of the Applications

On Wednesday 12th September Heather Wilson and I met to review the applications. Although a valiant effort was made, Heather McKendry was unavailable to attend due to an intensely busy and exciting period of family commitments during this time.

Heather and I spent two hours or so diligently working through the applications which included accessing many works on flash-drives, evaluating the students' cover letters, teachers' letters of recommendation and cross referencing the teachers' comments with the Academic records.

We found Ryan Dixon's application to be a stand out due to his excellent portfolio of work, his well-written cover letter and his teacher's recommendation. He is our choice for the Scholarship for 2019.

We also decided to award an Encouragement Award of \$250 to a young cellist, Lillian Taylor, whose musical journey has been quite unique due to personal circumstances but throughout she has maintained her level of commitment to her music and was highly recommended by her music teacher.

Communication of Results

Our Committee's letters of congratulations to our Scholarship and Encouragement Award winners as well as letters of appreciation to the remaining applicants will be delivered to the school the last week of this term.

Letters of appreciation have also been prepared for the Principals of Mt View and Cessnock High Schools as well as the coordinating teachers. We reconfirmed our commitment to supporting the Creative and Performing arts students of both schools for the Scholarship for 2020.

The Presentation

We hope to have both Ryan and Lillian in attendance at our final lecture on 8th October to receive their awards. We also extended the invitation to their family and friends. Both students have been asked to say a few words regarding their use of the award money in support of their HSC.

The Principal and staff of Mt View High have also been invited. We also hope to be able to present a short video produced by Ryan prior to our lecture.

Debra McGuigan
ADFAS Pokolbin
Young Arts Coordinator