

RIVERLAND YOUTH THEATRE

A YEAR OF RENEWAL

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



RIVERLAND
YOUTH THEATRE

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BOARD AND STAFF

BOARD JANUARY - MAY

CHAIRPERSON
David Langdon

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Kate Strahan

TREASURER
John Dawes

VICE TREASURER
Megan Taylor

SECRETARY
Hugh Schuitemaker

EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE & PUBLIC OFFICER
Danyon De Buell

BOARD MEMBERS
Hannah Boyle
Nikita Boyle
Terry Marter

ACCOUNTANTS
Sue Bennett (Jan - November)
Sonia Adamczyk (December)

BOARD MAY- DECEMBER

CHAIRPERSON AND PUBLIC OFFICER
David Langdon

VICE CHAIRPERSON
John Dawes

TREASURER
Megan Taylor

SECRETARY
Hugh Schuitemaker

EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE
Fleur Kilpatrick

BOARD MEMBERS
Fiona Giles
Balwinder Kaur
Jo Stone

EMPLOYEES
CREATIVE PRODUCER
Danyon De Buell (January - June)
Fleur Kilpatrick (July - December)

ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT
Molly Murphy

ABOUT RYT



Riverland Youth Theatre (RYT), based in Renmark, enriches the lives of young people in the South Australian Riverland and Mallee through creativity, theatre and play. For 37 years we have been making art with and for our community, empowering children and young people as artists, learners and doers. Our tiny company (1.5 FTE) provide artistic leadership and learning opportunities for children and young people, opportunities for parents/carers to interact creatively with their children, community arts-based projects, professional development and support for teachers, and, crucially, a safe place for all children and young people to be themselves.

RYT is deeply embedded in and responsive to the needs of our community. Creative Producer Fleur Kilpatrick and Administrative Assistant Molly Murphy work closely with children, parents, councils, community groups and local organisations to ensure we listen to the needs and aspirations of the Riverland and respond with creative, accessible, and diverse offerings.

RYT's mandate extends across three Local Government Areas (LGAs): Renmark Paringa, Berri Barmera and The District of Loxton Waikerie. Core funding is provided by the South Australian Government through Carclew Youth Arts (\$105 000 pa); Local Government provide some core and project funding and in-kind

support (eg office space and facilities); other activities depend on grant funding and donations. Fees for participation in programs and activities are kept at a minimum (eg \$50 per term or \$5 per session) and many activities are free or donation based: in a financially vulnerable region, we never want cost to be a barrier.

RYT is a Not For Profit, supported by skilful and generous volunteers including the RYT Board of Management. Our Board is reflective of the diverse and talented Riverland community and includes expertise in finance, Human Resources, governance and community. Our volunteers have assisted in classes, community events, fundraisers, working bees, organisation of our costume and prop storage, grant writing, props making and office administration.

2021 was a year of change. The company said goodbye to Danyon De Buell who served the company in many roles since the late 1990s. For the last year and a half, Danyon ran the company as Creative Producer, navigating the challenges of Covid-19, funding and structural changes. We are deeply grateful for Danyon's leadership through challenging times and in awe of her ability to roll with the changes that came her way. Whilst Danyon has left RYT, she continues to work as an independent artist and producer in our region.

ABOUT RYT

Under new Creative Producer Fleur Kilpatrick (commenced July 2021) RYT has a renewed focus on diversity, children and families experiencing disadvantage and at risk, and partnering with others to strengthen and build community. RYT is extending its reach across the region and delivering and developing diverse offerings that increase access and participation, including for LGBTIQ young people, those with disability and mental health challenges, families with complex needs, and smaller, more isolated communities.

After our year of change, RYT is excited for the future. Every week our community grows and strengthens, new families walk through the door and tell us how we can help. Our relationships with our community have been renewed, the doors are open, and the conversations and collaborations are vibrant. We continue to celebrate and advocate for play, art and creativity and to be a safe space for young people to find their community.

ACCESSIBILITY

At Riverland Youth Theatre, we are deeply committed to providing a space that is safe, inclusive, and joyful for all children. Inclusion, accessibility, and affordability is central to how we work and the activities we offer. We acknowledge that there are many barriers that may prevent young people and their families from engaging with art. We proactively work to dismantle these barriers, embrace difference and welcome our beautiful, diverse community. If you have questions about how we can facilitate you or your child's involvement with RYT, don't hesitate to reach out.



CHAIR

DAVID LANGDON



I am delighted to introduce our Annual Report for 2021 and to tell you that, in my second term as Chair of the RYT Board, I have seen tremendous progress in the company's ongoing development and delivery of its shared vision of supporting the children and young people of the Riverland to enjoy and benefit from a learning engagement with the performing arts. This report reveals the ongoing story of a difficult but rewarding period during the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic, when RYT never lost sight of its mission to inspire and nurture artistic creativity among our children and young people in the Riverland. Reflecting on this time, it is clear to me that regional youth arts was tremendously beneficial to support our young people, especially those who were vulnerable and most at risk during this challenging period.

There were a number of significant milestones achieved during the year which will have far-reaching implications for RYT in the years ahead. Firstly, RYT's long-serving Creative Producer and former Company Manager, Danyon De Buell, retired mid-2021 after seven years heading up our artistic programs and keeping everything on track during some difficult times. We will miss Danyon, but we are very fortunate to have recruited a highly talented and experienced playwright, arts educator, and passionate advocate for the arts and youth as the new Creative Producer. Since her appointment in June, Fleur Kilpatrick has stepped in and supercharged the workshops, theatre makers, pre-school and school holiday programs and many other new and amazing activities. We see great things ahead with Fleur's creative leadership – the future looks bright!

A second milestone was that, after careful consideration of our existing external financial accounting and reporting, financial control, and payroll arrangements, the Board resolved to move to a new in-office accounting service provider who would improve efficiencies and enable more direct and regular engagement with RYT staff at the Institute headquarters. Following this important change, it has been gratifying to see that we now have more systematic bookkeeping and flexible reporting in place that has freed up time for the staff, allowing Fleur and Molly to focus on the key objectives of the company. The Board and I are acutely conscious of the dedication and hard work of our two staff members and how vital it is to enable them to make the most of their limited time and resources.

A third and most critical milestone was achieved in December at the culmination of the Board's negotiations with Renmark Paringa Council for renewal of its lease for the Renmark Institute building and hall facility, which has been the home of RYT virtually since its inception in 1985. Thus, a new, mutually-agreed lease was signed which enables RYT to continue its great work at the institute for a 5-year term with a further 5-year renewal extending the arrangement until October 2031.

Moreover, the agreement, which formerly required RYT to pay a substantial rental fee, will be converted to a peppercorn lease mid-2022, enabling RYT and Council to enjoy a more mutually-supportive partnership.

CHAIR

DAVID LANGDON



Renmark Paringa Council has been a key supporter of RYT for many years and my Board is grateful to have such a strong, cooperative relationship with our local governments and community. The new lease effectively ensures that our theatre company will be operating from its homebase at the historic Institute for many years to come.

The RYT Board itself is made up of great people who freely volunteer their time and energies. I am proud to say that my Board was quite active during the year and adapted surprisingly well to the difficult and worrying conditions during the worst of the COVID-19 pandemic, which interrupted our public events, volunteer activities, and mobility. There were 10 meetings of the full Board during the year, each with 80% or higher attendance, and another 12 committee meetings dealing with matters of finance, strategic planning, fundraising, succession planning, and policy. In addition, the Board undertook some important initiatives in good governance, including major policy updating and a review of the Strategic Plan 2019-2022, which was revised in accordance with a changed organisational structure and objectives necessary to meet new challenges posed by the pandemic.

A formal Board member skills audit was also undertaken which identified some gaps in the composition of the Board. This led to recruitment and co-opting of three additional members who brought with them knowledge and competencies in the areas of legal and corporate practice, small business, ethnic diversity, and First Nations culture.

An excellent example this year of Board members working together was the Charity Golf Day fundraiser sponsored generously by the Barmera Golf Course and organised by Vice-Chair, John Dawes, which raised money and was great fun for over 60 enthusiastic golfers. All agreed it is to become an annual event that will draw more support each year. I want to thank my fellow Board members for their consistent and unselfish service, particularly those who took part in committees and participated in fundraising and other events. It is an honour to work with you all.

Finally, on behalf of the Board, employees, volunteers, members, youth participants, and families, I want to express our thanks for the support of the South Australian Government through Carclew and Country Arts SA, as well as Riverland Local Government bodies, including Renmark Paringa Council, Berri Barmera Council, and Loxton Waikerie Council. We are also grateful for the generosity of our many other supporters, partners, and benefactors, who are acknowledged elsewhere in this report. We look forward with optimism to working together with our community of friends and supporters in the coming year and beyond to ensure young people in the Riverland are empowered to quickly rebound from the restrictions they've been under, and to develop their creative expression, artistic talent, performance, and technical skills.



David Langdon

David Langdon Chair



CREATIVE PRODUCER

FLEUR KILPATRICK



It is an honour to be heading up this valuable, vulnerable company. I write this report 10 months into my role as Creative Producer. It has been ten months of learning, making, doing, guessing and constant conversations with my new community.

To introduce myself, I have been a playwright for 17 years, a theatre director for almost as many and teaching is a key part of my practice. My plays have been performed all around Australia, with performances by State Theatre Company and Co-Opera as my most recent South Australian productions. I was a lecturer in theatre and performance at Monash University for five years and in 2020 I won the MSA Arts Faculty's award for teaching excellence and was shortlisted for the university-wide Above and Beyond award for my work through Covid. When Covid hit, I was undertaking a PhD in how we teach care.

Then the world was shaken like a snow globe – and I landed here, a bit dizzy from all that swirling around, and came to rest in the beautiful Riverland of South Australia. I could not be luckier. I brought with me a passion for community building, care, creating accessible and affordable opportunities for all, many tins of tea, and a pair of scruffy dogs.

My guiding words in my first months were 'opening' and 'welcoming.' My default answer to any request was 'yes' and the default response to a knock on the door was to put the kettle on. At times, the progress felt slow, but each poorly attended event was a lesson: why are these classes booked up but not these ones? Is there a better day of the week or age group to aim at? An initial discovery – that parents and carers need more school holiday activities – was quickly refined to the following: parents and carers need more school holiday activities for children under 10 so we'll offer things for older children during the term.

We found the joy of activities that children are already experts in, like building pillow forts or 'floor is lava' obstacle courses. Many of our best activities were those where we simply created a space for play and stood back to see what would happen.

Our learnings and conversations have paid off: when I arrived, there were just five children a week enrolled in RYT's classes. In term one of 2022 we had 85 children a week with an additional 25 parents who attend with their children or volunteer in classes.

Throughout this period of discovery, Molly Murphy, our administration assistant, has been invaluable. She was my guide as I navigated a new job and community and everything we do at

CREATIVE PRODUCER

FLEUR KILPATRICK

Riverland Youth Theatre is a conversation between the two of us. Her workload has increased (and she was given a pay raise in December to acknowledge this) but so too has her passion, creativity and the leadership skills she brings to the job each day. Molly's lived expertise as the mother of a child with ASD and ADHD is also of great benefit to our community. We work constantly with families navigating NDIS, disability and neurodiversity and Molly shares her knowledge with generosity, compassion, and kindness. Seeing her rise from administration assistant to the crucial other half of RYT has been one of the great joys of my first year at RYT.

I'm grateful for Molly and the Board, who have not only embraced but celebrated the changes, energy, ideas and (as you see above) rather definitive opinions I that have brought with me to RYT.

I am incredibly proud of the progress we have made, the increased attendances, diversified program and open-door policy that we have implemented in the last 10 months. I love the way families drop in and out of our office and the confidence with which toddlers and teenagers alike fling themselves down on the bean bags like they own the place... because they do own the place! We are here to serve them, and, after the epic work of 2021, they know this.



Fleur Kilpatrick
Creative Producer



NEWS FLASH

MARCH 21ST

Riverland kids dancing to a cultural beat

HUGH SCHUITEMAKER

PASSING on cultural traditions to a new generation was the focus of recent dance workshops run for young Riverlanders.

Local children last week took part in dance workshops – taught by Djuki Mala dancer Wakara Gondarra and Janelle Egan – run in partnership by Riverland Youth Theatre (RYT) and Country Arts SA.

Ms Egan said working with Riverland children was a personally rewarding experience.

"Teaching might seem like a lot, but when you find the one thing you like to teach it's overwhelming how the kids make me happier," Ms Egan said. "I'm pretty happy to be here."

Ms Egan said participants displayed high levels of confidence in learning, and performing, the hip hop and contemporary dance styles.

"The contemporary indigenous class is more based around cultural aspects, like gathering and hunting," she said.

"It was like the kids already had a lot of training. We did a lot of warm ups with them and they were good, then we improvised the last section."

"It makes you seek more about your identity and have respect towards it."

Country Arts SA first nations creative producer Nikki Ashby said the workshops ensured indigenous traditions would be learned by younger generations.

"The good thing about both of these



Local children participated in indigenous dance workshops taught by Djuki Mala dancer Wakara Gondarra and Janelle Egan at RYT last Wednesday.

PHOTO: Hugh Schuitemaker

styles is once they are taught... it gives the young people a sense of pride, belonging and connection to country," Ms Ashby said.

"They feel like they are on the right path, and they are being inspired by high-calibre professional dancers and teachers."

"They think it's something they can aspire to be in a few years' time and then come back to teach (their) own community."

"That's what culture is all about. It's about the teaching and passing on of knowledge so the next generations can do the same, and it continues to evolve."

Further information on RYT programs can be found by visiting the website (www.ryt.org.au/).

In 2021, Riverland Youth Theatre had a significant presence in local and state media. We had 36 articles or interviews appearing in the following outlets:

Murray Pioneer, ABC Riverland, ABC SA, Australian Arts Review, Arts Hub, Magic 93.1 Radio, 5RM Breakfast, 5RM View From the Sidelines and TV is Furniture (Youtube).

RYT would also like to acknowledge the support we receive through and with social media from participants, community and supporters.

MARCH 5TH

Step back in Riverland time with RYT

YOUNG Riverlanders wanting a look back in time at the region's theatrical history have been encouraged to register for a new two-month workshop series.

Riverland Youth Theatre's (RYT) Becoming Now workshops will explore some of the organisation's scripts from the 1980s, 90s and early 2000s, to "devise a new script for 2021 informed by these archived treasures".

"Young people will have a lot of fun contrasting life for RYT-ers back in the days before the internet, mobile phones, social media and COVID-19," said RYT creative producer Danyon De Buell.

"To reach this goal, each week RYT will offer something different."

RYT's Becoming Now workshops will be run for two age groups – five to 12, and 13+ – at the Renmark Institute, 54 Ral Ral Avenue, Renmark, every Thursday for two months, from 4.30pm to 6pm.

Registration – which remains open – costs \$120 and further information can be found by visiting the website (<https://ryt.wufoo.com/forms/becoming-now/>).

As part of RYT's Nunga Rhythms program, and in partnership with Country Arts SA, the organisation will also be holding free workshops this month at RYT's home venue – the Renmark Institute – on March 17.

The 2020 workshop with Djuki Mala dancers was cancelled due to travel restrictions, however, these workshops are led by Wakara Gondarra – himself a Djuki Mala dancer – and the awesome Janelle Egan.

There are three workshops on offer and participants can attend one, two or all three.

Registrations are essential and can be made by phone on 05863437 or 0499778410, or by email (danyon@ryt.org.au).

Contact RYT with any further enquiries.

JUNE 30TH



Riverland indigenous residents participated in a series of podcasting workshops run by RYT and the SAFC at the Renmark Institute earlier this month. PHOTO: Hugh Schuitemaker

RYT puts local indigenous on the air

HUGH SCHUITEMAKER

ENABLING indigenous Riverlanders to share stories in a modern way was the aim of a workshop program held recently by a local theatre organisation.

Riverland Youth Theatre (RYT) – in partnership with the South Australian Film Corporation (SAFC) – earlier this month held a series of podcasting workshops in Renmark for local indigenous residents.

SAFC First Nations industry development executive Nara Wilson said the workshops were

run by award-winning Adelaide-based artist Raymond Zada.

"It's the first time we've been in the Riverland delivering a project from the South Australian Film Corporation, so we were really excited to come here," Ms Wilson said.

"It's going really well. Raymond Zada is our leader and facilitating the program, and he's an absolute legend."

"What they're learning is such a small amount of time is amazing. There's the technical components like editing, and we did interview skills."

"It's all being delivered in three days, which is pretty amazing."

Ms Wilson said participants were able to develop their own ideas for podcast programs during the workshops.

"Podcasting is more accessible and so much more affordable to get our stories out there," she said. "It's the way of the future and another way of storytelling, that's accessible nationally and internationally, to find an audience and a community."

"There's so much freedom of creativity you have, in terms of

what podcast you want to do."

Ms Wilson said utilising the podcast medium allowed indigenous Riverlanders to share their culture with a wide audience.

"Telling our old, and current, Aboriginal stories, using new technology gives us so much reach," she said.

"We're recording on a smart phone, so we can implement these skills... and once we leave Renmark they have the skills to make podcasts and whatever stories they want to tell."

"It's absolutely merging the old stories with new technology."

APRIL 8TH

Cirkidz returns to Waikerie for school holidays

YOUNG performance enthusiasts across the Riverland have been invited to take part in upcoming workshops focusing on circus skills.

The South Australian Circus Centre, in partnership with Riverland Youth Theatre (RYT), will run a series of Cirkidz workshops in Waikerie during the April school holidays.

A South Australian Circus Centre spokesperson said the sessions would help participants develop "a variety of fundamentals in various circus disciplines including tumbling, juggling, trampoline, acrobatics, balance and more".

Cirkidz April school holiday workshops will be held at the Waikerie Lutheran Primary D'Vine Hall, from Tuesday,

April 13, to Thursday, April 15. Daily sessions for "tackers" (ages five to eight) will run from 10am to 1pm, and for "twins" (ages nine to 12) from 2pm to 5pm.

Each session costs \$15, with a community performance day – at 5.30pm on Thursday, April 15 – closing the workshops.

For further information and bookings visit the RYT website (www.ryt.org.au).



NEWS FLASH

JULY 21ST



Award-winning playwright Fleur Kilpatrick – pictured with her dog Betty – was earlier this month appointed Riverland Youth Theatre's new creative producer. Photo: Hugh Schuitemaker

CREATING a welcoming space for young Riverlanders to develop their arts and performing skills is the target for the new head of a local theatre organisation.

Riverland Youth Theatre (RYT) earlier this month appointed Fleur Kilpatrick as the organisation's new creative producer, taking over from outgoing creative producer Danyon De Buell.

Ms Kilpatrick said educating others through her art had been a continual goal. "I've been a playwright for 17 years, and a theatre director and educator," Ms Kilpatrick said.

"I've taught theatre at Monash University and produced works for educational purposes there for about the past five years.

"Education is such a core part of how I approach making theatre. It's always with the purpose of learning, be it public speaking, communication skills or listening.

"So this feels like a very natural next step."

Ms Kilpatrick – whose works have won multiple awards – said she aimed to make RYT accessible for all young locals.

"Community is everything," she said.

"I make art for community, and with community. Every show I make the outcome isn't just about the production, it's about us connecting with people on the way and learning things together, and building stronger connections.

"I think of myself as a community builder,

as someone who always had the door open at my other jobs, and tries to create a welcoming and safe space for everybody."

Ms De Buell said Ms Kilpatrick possessed the necessary creative experience to develop young performers in the region.

"It's lovely to see a new creative person coming into RYT," Ms De Buell said.

"Having been with RYT since 1995, I've seen the organisation evolve and develop, and it's exciting to know Fleur will be able to continue our work in a new direction."

Ms Kilpatrick encouraged young Riverlanders with all levels of performing experience to join the organisation.

"If you want to be an actor, or if you want to be a writer, come have a chat," she said.

"If you just want to have fun, play games and get better at communicating with others through interpreting the world around you, theatre is amazing for that."

"It doesn't just have to be for those people who want to make it their career, it's about learning those skills that will be applicable for all careers."

"Right now is a great time to join up and become a member, so you can be in the conversation about what direction you want to see us going in."

Ms Kilpatrick said she would structure RYT programs around the needs of the local community.

"I have a lot of plans, but I want to spend some time here in the community first," she said.

"I want to make this a really welcoming hub and invite the community in."

"Environment is really important to me... I think this landscape is really inspirational and precious."

AUGUST 16

ARTS hub

Lessons learned on the job

Riverland Youth Theatre's new Creative Director reflects on her role and what she's learned about young people's wants and needs in her first week.

16 Aug 2022

Fleur Kilpatrick



Participants in a Creative workshop at Riverland Youth Theatre. Image supplied

In my first week running **Riverland Youth Theatre**, I am almost manic with ideas and new information. Notes are jotted on pieces of paper, plans sketched on collenders, and conversations noted in Word documents with helpful names like 'Document5' or emailed to myself with titles like 'DO THIS WEDNESDAY'. To record and cherish the most important things, I start a document: 'First and Best Lessons'.

OCTOBER 13TH

New leases granted for community groups

HUGH SCHUITEMAKER

THREE community organisations that continue to provide social outlets for local members have been granted new leases by a Riverland council.

Renmark Paringa councillors passed a motion at last month's general meeting to grant new leases to the Renmark Rowing Club, the Riverland Woodworkers, and Riverland Youth Theatre (RYT).

Renmark Paringa Mayor Neil Martinson said the new lease would cover planned expansions for the rowing club.

"The idea of the new lease is to offer them a facility that will allow them to expand as they've indicated to council," Mr Martinson said.

"They use the river side of their main building to move their skiffs.

"When they bring their

skiffs in and out of the water, it will give them a bit more flexibility in using that common space."

Mr Martinson expected membership for the rowing club – located next to the Jarrett Memorial Gardens – to continue growing.

"The rowing club is (over) 100 years old and has seen a significant increase in membership over the last five years," he said.

"Now they've got the arrangement with the new Catholic high school that will allow students to participate in rowing, and possibly with teams from Adelaide."

The Riverland Woodworkers will continue to occupy the craft building at the former Renmark High School site, while RYT will remain based at the Renmark Institute.

Mr Martinson said the woodworkers group benefited both its members, and the

surrounding community.

"It's unfortunate it's taken so long to finalise the lease, but we had issues with the education department because they own the land," he said.

"The woodworkers group sublets to the quilters as well, so there's a couple of fantastic community organisations that are putting a lot of effort into raising funds, raising awareness and encouraging older people to participate in activities."

Mr Martinson said young Riverlanders continued to develop new skills through RYT's workshops and productions.

"(RYT) provides a great opportunity for the youth of the Riverland to participate in the arts and theatre," he said.

"We think it's fantastic for our youth that we continue to make that building available for them."

SEPTEMBER 22ND

RYT's new holiday stage

HUGH SCHUITEMAKER

YOUNG Riverlanders have been invited to explore new ways to participate in theatre at a local arts company.

Riverland Youth Theatre (RYT) will begin its new school holiday program with a pillow fort building day at the Renmark Institute, on Saturday.

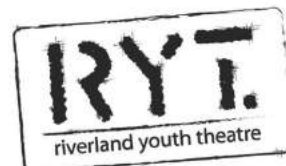
RYT creative producer Fleur Kilpatrick said the organisation aimed to host several new activities for young participants.

"Inspiration for the pillow fort day actually came from my colleague Molly's son," Ms Kilpatrick said.

"He came in and instantly started climbing on the back of the couches.

"Some kids are just full of energy and want to do something fun. I think of our role as a theatre is not just about acting and plays, but really to be advocates for play and fun in the Riverland."

"It's about trying to find all the different ways of playing that might engage young people in the region."



Ms Kilpatrick said hip hop dance workshops, and an online Minecraft theatre event, would also highlight the program.

"Just about every day we have activities on," she said.

"It's about giving the community as many options as possible, welcoming people into the space, and showing everyone what we can do."

"This is what your youth theatre can be."

Further information regarding the RYT school holiday program can be found by visiting the Facebook page (www.facebook.com/riverlandyouththeatre), or by phoning 8586 3437.

NOVEMBER 3RD

RYT's day on the green

LOCALS have been invited to take part in a day of golf while also supporting a local theatre organisation this weekend.

Riverland Youth Theatre (RYT) will this Sunday host its inaugural charity golf fundraiser at the Barmera Golf Club.

The event will be structured as a four-per-

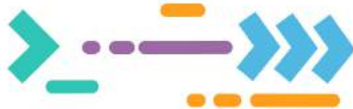
son ambrose, with tee off possible anytime before 10am.

An RYT spokesperson said participants could "support the creative youth of the Riverland while enjoying a great day out on the greens". Bookings can be made by phoning the Barmera Golf Club (8588 2350).

DATA JAN-JUNE



Event	Medium	Start Date	Cost	Average Age	Classes	Participants
TERM 1 RYT	Class	Feb 26th	\$120	10	10	6
Dance W/S Nunga Rhythms	Workshop	March 17th	free	13	3	6
Lighting W/S Chaffey Theatre	Workshop	April 1st	free	11	1	5
CIRKIDZ Waikerie	Workshop	April 13th	\$15	8	6	70
TERM 2 RYT	Class	Aril 27th	free	11	10	7
Euphoria Behind the sceanes	Meet and Greet	April 28th	free	27	1	8
FLIGHT Acting MFS	Volunteering	June 15th	free	39	1	8
Podcast SA FILMS	Workshop	June 16th	free	24	1	10
ADT Contemporary Dance	Workshop	June 16th	free	12	1	9
TOTAL		9 Events			34 sessions	129



DATA JULY-DEC



EVENT	Medium	Start Date	Cost	Average Age	Classes	Participants
Nunga Oog	workshop	August 10th	Free	10	1	6
DAGZ Dungeons & Dragons	workshop	August 23rd	\$70.00	12	7	5
Playful Writing	Online workshop	August 24th	\$20.00	22	5	5
TERM 3 RYT	Class	August 26th	\$10	10	8	14
Prof Development Sensorium Theatre	workshop	August 27th	\$40.00	32	1	2
Sensorium Theatre	Performance (Collaborations)	August 31st	\$30.00	20	1	4
Skill Share Saturday	Meet and Greet	September 11th	\$-	30	1	2
Waikerie Higschool	workshop	September 11th	\$-		2	15
Pre- school craft RYT	Meet and Greet	September 13th	Gold Coin	-	3	20
Pillow Fort Renmark	Event	September 25th	Gold Coin	6	1	30
Theatre Makers / Starters Holidays	Class	September 27th	\$10.00	7	5	15
Hip Hop Dance W/Nikki Ashby	Class	October 4th	\$10.00	7	4	45
Acting through song	workshop	October 6th	\$20.00	14	1	7
Special school workshop	workshop	October 6th	Free	10	3	12
Minecraft	Online	October 7th	\$20.00	11	3	6

DATA JULY-DEC



EVENT	Medium	Start Date	Cost	Average Age	Classes	Participants
Pillow Fort Barmera	Event	October 10th	Gold Coin	7	1	30
Music & Movement	Class	October 11th	Gold Coin	4	8	30
Term 4 RYT	Class	October 21st	\$10 or \$5	8	8	10
Artist in Residence	In person	October 25th	\$-	30	4	1
Spooktacular Monash	Performance	October 26th	Free	11	1	10
Bhangra Dance	Class	November 2nd	\$60.00	9	11	12
Renmark Highschool	workshop	November 8th	Free	13	1	10
Restless Dance Workshop	workshop	November 11th	\$10.00	12	1	10
How to do this for the Long Haul	Online workshop	December 1st	\$25.00	23	1	5
Dead women on stage	Online workshop	December 5th	\$40.00	20	1	6
Renmark Highschool	workshop	December 9th	Free	14	2	5
Games day	Event	December 13th	Free	10	1	20
OSCH Games Day	Class	December 14th	\$350.00	7	1	50
Baby Disco- Moski Mouse	Event	December 17th	\$5.00	5	2	37
Theatre Games Picnic	Event	December 24th	Free	9	1	45
TOTAL	30 Events				90 Sessions	466

HIGHLIGHTS



THE OPENING UP OF RYT:

- We reconfigured the office to make it a warm and creative space for children. We now have a craft space and giant piles of donated toys, books and games.
- Community groups used the space for collaborations with RYT, most notably Riverland Punjabi Dee opened with RYT hosting Punjabi dance classes on Saturdays, taught by the Riverland Punjabi Women's Association and Dungeons and Dragons for 10-12 year-olds taught by a wonderful 19-year-old.

GRANTS

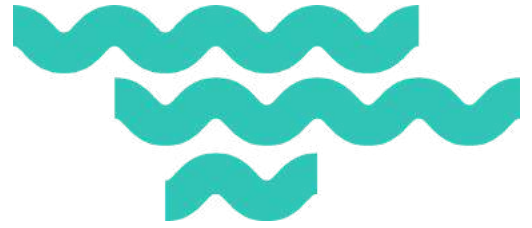
- The amount of grants we are applying for has significantly increased. In the second half of 2021, we applied for twice as many grants as the company applied for in 2020 and we have already exceeded this amount for 2022 as of March.
- Whilst many of the grants applied for in the final months of 2021 are still pending due to State elections, we did have some wins:
 - \$10 000 from FRRR Heywire Youth Initiative to fund a project for queer youth, entitled There I Am

- A quick response grant from Berri Barmera Council for \$500. Whilst this was a very small amount to cover a single activity, it started a conversation with this Council about changing the way they think about their funding of RYT. In our recent Berri Barmera Budget Bid we have applied for both \$5000 towards our core funding and \$2500 towards school holiday programs.

RELATIONSHIPS:

- Relationships were built or strengthened with local organisations, Headspace Berri, AC Care, Fit To Fly, The Department of Human Services (Renmark Children's Centre) & Part of Things.
- Renmark Paringa Council significantly increased their financial investment in our work. They renewed our five-year lease of the Renmark Institute, making it a peppercorn lease of \$1 (when asked) per year. They also funded many of our school holiday activities including the wonderful (and expensive) Monski Mouse's Baby Disco Dancehall for the Christmas Holiday.
- We have strengthened and renewed relationships with local schools and teachers through offering activities such as a Teacher Skill Share and working with Riverland Special School, Glossop High School, Renmark High School and Waikerie Secondary School.

HIGHLIGHTS



- We have begun discussions with our fellow theatre companies, D'Faces and Arena Theatre Company and Fairfax Youth Initiative about a collaboration to be developed in 2022 and performed in 2023.
- A visit from Restless Dance Theatre was a particular highlight and a wonderful new relationship. Their workshop at RYT helped show our community that children with disabilities are welcome here. Participants who came for this workshop stayed on for future classes.
- We established a volunteer program with the help of Volunteering SA & NT. By the end of 2021, we had two volunteers each working 10 hours a week with us as well as a volunteer running our pre-school music and movement program.



OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

- The August and December school holiday programs were packed and well attended, featuring Hip Hop, Pillow Forts Renmark and Barmera, Theatre Making, Acting Through Song, Grass is Lava Picnic, Dungeons and Dragons, a Games Day, Monski Mouse's Baby Disco Dancehall, Minecraft Theatre and Pre-school craft.
- Our Pre-School Music and Movement was a smash hit! We regularly opened the door on a Monday morning to 40 babies and toddlers with their big people. It is such a loved part of our program and is helping strengthen our relationships within the community.
- Nunga OOG, in collaboration with the Office of the Guardian for Children and Young People was a very special art event with First Nations children living in care designing symbols of child safety.
- The Board held a Golf Day Fundraiser at the Barmera Golf Course, which raised close to \$2000. Another \$1200 was raised via donations.
- Euphoria Behind the Scenes Skills Development was successful and the show was celebrated by locals. Ella Winnall, Deputy Mayor of Berri Barmera Council commented that "I have never felt so seen by a work of theatre."

CHALLENGES

- The low level of core funding received remains a significant challenge and a major limitation. There are rapidly increasing opportunities, requests and ideas and the need across our large region (three Local Government Areas) is enormous.



- Multiple short Covid shut downs in the first half of the year led to cancellations, exhaustion and a community wary of signing up for events. Cancelled events included
 - Now and Then
 - Nunga Rhythms – Travelling Through Creativity was postponed due shut downs followed by artist availability. The concept has now been re-worked with new artists and is set for completion September 2022.
 - The Riverland Field Day, a much loved community event, at which RYT always has a strong presence, was cancelled for the second year in a row.

TESTIMONIALS



RYT Classes:

"Thanks for incorporating what works for him from the start. His words afterwards on the way home were "I did really well", "I want to go back already" and "I'm not going to be so worried next time." - Mum of workshop participant

"My granddaughter is a lot happier now she's found where she fits." Dean, grandparent of workshop participant

"It is fun and creative, with loving people there" - J, 10-year-old member

"The highlight of my week" - R, Teen member

"It was so beautiful to see them smile like themselves again" - Nat, mother of Teen member

"We made friends and theatre! I've never done a play before and now I've done it and it was fun!" M, 12-year-old member

"RYT makes me feel welcome and happy." K, 11-year-old member

"My daughter had the most amazing time. She just loved it. What a great partnership!" - Mother of a circus workshop attendee

"

Alumni:

"It's a great way for the youth in the Riverland to help with relationship building, self esteem issues and public speaking." - Helen Geyer

Spooktacular:

"Kids loved it. Family friendly events are very appreciated and needed in the community." - Narelle, parent

Euphoria:

"Creating pathways and access for Riverland young people to explore and express their creative voice." - Alysha Herrmann, parent and local artist



TESTAMONIALS

Cirkidz workshop:

“Skilful and creative leaders and workshops.”

AmY Lloyd, parent

“RYT provide Great opportunities for young people to discovery, improve and showcase their talents and passion.” Tim Hensel, parent

“I love that you offer this opportunity for country kids.” – Jolie Zadow, parent

Music and Movement:

“Both my children love dancing and singing with their friends. My youngest can’t wait till it’s ‘Move it, Move it’ day.” - Renee, Music and Movement parent

“Thank you to everyone involved in running M&M this year. How lucky our children are to have this fantastic opportunity.” – Music and Movement parent

“Thanks so much for allowing us to use the space. Perfect space for M and M!” – Music and Movement parent after our first session

“Amelia’s face when I told her it’s back! Well see you there!” Music and Movement Parent



FINANCIALS

Riverland Youth Theatre Inc

**Audited Financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021**



RIVERLAND AUDIT SERVICES
Professional Independent Assurance

Riverland Youth Theatre Inc

ABN: 75 618 631 015

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Riverland Youth Theatre Inc

ABN: 75 618 631 015

Committee's report

For the year ended 31 December 2021

Your committee members submit the financial report of Riverland Youth Theatre Inc for the financial year ended 31 December 2021.

Committee members

The names of the committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

David Langdon
John Dawes
Hugh Schuitemaker
Megan Taylor
Fleur Kilpatrick
Joanne Stone
Balwinder Kaur
Fiona Giles

Principal activities

The principal activity of the association during the financial year is:

Facilitate the involvement of the Arts to the Youth of the Riverland Region

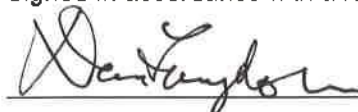
Significant changes

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

Operating result

The surplus of the Association for the financial year amounted to \$11,621.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the members of the committee:



David Langdon (Chairperson)



Megan Taylor (Treasurer)

Dated *5th May 2022*

Riverland Youth Theatre Inc

ABN: 75 618 631 015

Income statement

For the year ended 31 December 2021

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Income		
Carclew Youth Arts Program Funding	115,003	105,000
Cash Flow Boost	-	22,364
Donations	45,641	19,531
Fundraising and Other Income	5,941	11,766
Interest Received	874	2,818
Jobkeeper Subsidy	-	36,000
Net Returns from Projects	5,671	4,736
Profit on Sale of Non Current Asset	24,291	-
Revenue SA \$10k Grant	-	10,000
	197,421	212,215
Expenses		
Administration Costs	24,318	15,976
Audit Fees	3,200	3,200
Bad Debts	195	168
Bank and Government Charges	783	556
Consumables Board and Venue	942	843
Depreciation	4,086	4,944
Employment Costs	137,857	113,581
Event / Production Expenses	789	2,044
Insurance	4,168	3,295
Interest Paid	2	-
Motor Vehicle Expenses	2,455	4,093
Printing & Stationery	1,063	1,376
Rent and Power	4,573	2,136
Repairs & Maintenance	1,368	3,282
	185,800	155,492
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	11,621	56,723
Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year	271,031	215,165
Retained earnings at the end of the financial year	282,651	271,888

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report of BVMS Chartered Accountants.

Riverland Youth Theatre Inc

ABN: 75 618 631 015

Balance sheet

For the year ended 31 December 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	252,458	263,222
Trade and Other Receivables		5,347	215
Total current assets		257,805	263,437
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	4	35,528	40,323
Total non-current assets		35,528	40,323
Total assets		293,333	303,760
Current liabilities			
Other Creditors		8,449	9,196
Unexpended Grants		-	9,680
Provision for Employee Benefits		2,233	12,995
Total current liabilities		10,682	31,872
Total liabilities		10,682	31,872
Net assets		282,651	271,888
Members' funds			
Retained earnings		282,651	271,888
Total members' funds		282,651	271,888

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report of BVMS Chartered Accountants.

Riverland Youth Theatre Inc

ABN: 75 618 631 015

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

The financial statements cover Riverland Youth Theatre Inc as an individual entity. Riverland Youth Theatre Inc is a not-for-profit association incorporated in South Australia under the Associations Incorporation Act 1985 ('the Act').

The principal activity of the association for the year ended 31 December 2021 is:

Facilitate the involvement of the Arts to the Youth of the Riverland Region

Comparatives are consistent with prior years, unless otherwise stated.

1 Basis of preparation

In the opinion of the Committee of Management, Riverland Youth Theatre Inc is not a reporting entity since there are unlikely to exist users of the financial statements who are not able to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy specifically all of their information needs. These special purpose financial statements have been prepared to meet the reporting requirements of the Act.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards and Accounting Interpretations, and the disclosure requirements of AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements, AASB 107 Statement of Cash Flows, AASB 108 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors and AASB 1054 Australian Additional Disclosures.

Significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and are consistent with prior reporting periods unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless stated otherwise, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

2 Summary of significant accounting policies

Income tax

The association is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

Revenue and other income

Revenue is recognised when the amount of the revenue can be measured reliably, it is probable that economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the Association and specific criteria relating to the type of revenue as noted below, has been satisfied.

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and is presented net of returns, discounts and rebates.

Riverland Youth Theatre Inc

ABN: 75 618 631 015

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

Interest revenue

Interest is recognised using the effective interest method.

Rendering of services

Revenue in relation to rendering of services is recognised depending on whether the outcome of the services can be estimated reliably. If the outcome can be estimated reliably then the stage of completion of the services is used to determine the appropriate level of revenue to be recognised in the period.

If the outcome cannot be reliably estimated then revenue is recognised to the extent of expenses recognised that are recoverable.

Revenue from training services is generally recognised once the training has been delivered.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprises cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Leases

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all of the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease term.

Property, plant and equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment.

At the end of each annual reporting period, the depreciation method, useful life and residual value of each asset is reviewed. Any revisions are accounted for prospectively as a change in estimate.

Employee benefits

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Employee benefits expected to be settled more than one year after the end of the reporting period have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may satisfy vesting requirements. Cash flows are discounted using market yields on high quality corporate bond rates incorporating bonds rated AAA or AA by credit agencies, with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cash flows. Changes in the measurement of the liability are recognised in profit or loss.

ABN: 75 618 631 015

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

Impairment of non-financial assets

At the end of each reporting period, the association determines whether there is an evidence of an impairment indicator for non-financial assets.

Where this indicator exists and regardless for goodwill, indefinite life intangible assets and intangible assets not yet available for use, the recoverable amount of the assets is estimated.

Where assets do not operate independently of other assets, the recoverable amount of the relevant cash-generating unit (CGU) is estimated.

The recoverable amount of an asset or CGU is the higher of the fair value less costs of disposal and the value in use. Value in use is the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from an asset or cash-generating unit.

Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

Reversal indicators are considered in subsequent periods for all assets which have suffered an impairment loss, except for goodwill.

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

Riverland Youth Theatre Inc

ABN: 75 618 631 015

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
3 Cash and cash equivalents			
Bank SA Cheque Account		280	14,149
Bank SA Access Saver		90,161	84,999
Bank SA Term Deposits		51,160	51,160
CBA Term Deposit		107,004	106,340
Pay Pal Account		3,988	6,270
Visa Card		(230)	258
Cash Floats		53	46
Undeposited Funds		40	-
		252,458	263,222
4 Property, plant and equipment			
Property improvements			
Building Improvements		56,343	56,343
Less: Accumulated Depreciation		(35,748)	(34,962)
		20,595	21,381
Plant and equipment			
Plant & Equipment		53,606	93,936
Less: Accumulated Depreciation		(52,547)	(91,783)
		1,059	2,153
Motor vehicles			
Motor Vehicles		22,017	22,017
Less: Accumulated Depreciation		(17,440)	(16,387)
		4,577	5,630
Office furniture and equipment			
Office Furniture & Fittings		40,332	40,332
Less: Accumulated Depreciation		(31,035)	(29,173)
		9,297	11,159
		35,528	40,323

5 Events occurring after the reporting date

Riverland Youth Theatre Inc

ABN: 75 618 631 015

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

	Note	2021	2020
		\$	\$
No matter or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the association, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the association in future financial years.			

6 Statutory information

The registered office and principal place of business of the association is:

Riverland Youth Theatre Inc

Corner Ral Ral & James Avenue
RENMARK SA 5341

Riverland Youth Theatre Inc

ABN: 75 618 631 015

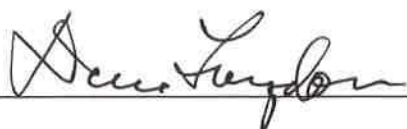
Statement by members of committee

The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 2 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee the financial report:

1. Presents fairly the financial position of Riverland Youth Theatre Inc as at 31 December 2021 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Riverland Youth Theatre Inc will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the committee and is signed for and on behalf of the committee by:



David Langdon (Chairperson)



Megan Taylor (Treasurer)

Dated 5th May 2022

Riverland Youth Theatre Inc

ABN: 75 618 631 015

Independent audit report to the members of association, Riverland Youth Theatre Inc

Report on the audit of the financial report

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Riverland Youth Theatre Inc (the association), which comprises the balance sheet as at 31 December 2021, the income statement, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and the statement by members of the committee.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Riverland Youth Theatre Inc for the year ended 31 December 2021, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year ended in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report section of our report. We are independent of the association in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of matter - basis of accounting

We draw attention to note 1 of the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report is prepared to assist the association in its decision making process. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is intended solely for the association and should not be distributed to or used by parties other than the association. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibility of management and those charged with governance

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Act 1985, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the association's financial reporting process.

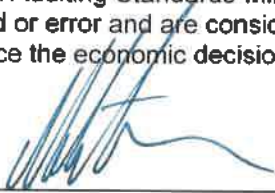
Riverland Youth Theatre Inc

ABN: 75 618 631 015

Independent audit report to the members of association, Riverland Youth Theatre Inc

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.



Markos Stavrou

19 White Street, WAIKERIE, SA, 5330

Dated *19th April 2022*

Riverland Youth Theatre Inc

ABN: 75 618 631 015

Certificate by members of committee

Annual statements give true and fair view of the financial position of incorporated association.

We, being the members of the Committee of the Riverland Youth Theatre Inc, certify that -

The statements attached to this certificate give a true and fair view of the financial performance and position of Riverland Youth Theatre Inc during and at the end of the financial year of the association ending on 31 December 2021.



David Langdon (Chairperson)



Megan Taylor (Treasurer)

Dated

5th May 2022

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



This annual report was written on River Murray and Mallee Country and I acknowledge the First Peoples of this region as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands and waterways where we live, work, and play. Since time immemorial, they have been the region's first creative artists, storytellers, songwriters, performers, and teachers of children and young people. We at Riverland Youth Theatre are proud to collaborate with First Nations artists and to walk alongside them in their journey. Today, I pay my respect to First Peoples and their Elders, past, present, and emerging, and I acknowledge their continuing spiritual connection to Country and to their living cultural traditions and knowledge

STRATEGIC PARTNERS



SUPPORT AND FUNDRAISING



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS





RIVERLAND
YOUTH THEATRE