



CRITERIA AND BOARD POLICIES

Shakespeare Globe Centre New Zealand's vision is to transform lives by mentoring potential through experiencing Shakespeare. Essentially a voluntary, not-for-profit organisation it was established in 1991 with a major focus on education, encouraging the performance and study of Shakespeare from an early age. Its objectives are **Manaaki** – to provide opportunities for personal and professional development; **Pūkenga** – to develop life skills; **Hauora** – to build resilience and wellbeing; **Whanau** – to connect people, regionally, nationally, and globally; **Tautoko** – to include and unite people from diverse backgrounds; **Mahi hou** – to inspire creativity and innovation; **Atawhai** – to cultivate empathetic communication; **Mana** – to enhance confidence with gravitas. It has strong links with Shakespeare's Globe in London.

SGCNZ is most grateful to the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Youth Development, Raye Blumenthal Freedman Trust, Wellington City Council, Venues Wellington, Vega, Sofitel Hotel, Trinity College London, Sheilah Winn Charitable Trust, Wellington East Girls' College, Otago Community Trust, Lion Foundation, Vega Works and other sponsors and personal donors for assistance towards SGCNZ's annual Shakespeare Festivals. We also gratefully acknowledge the essential further assistance from other venues and sponsors nationwide, donors of awards, the Regional Representatives and thousands of volunteers, teachers, students, parents and others whose help is vital to facilitate these Festivals.

THE PROCESS

SGCNZ Regional Shakespeare Festivals (SGCNZ RSF)

DATES: By the end of Term 1 i.e. no later than Friday 11 April 2025.

The Regional Festivals (SGCNZ RSF) are held in 24 centres throughout New Zealand coordinated nationally by the SGCNZ CEO supported by Regional Representatives who facilitate each Regional Festival.

SGCNZ RSF website: Dates on website: regionals.sgcnz.org.nz

From each of these a 15-minute adult- or student-directed scene, and a 5-minute student-directed scene, are selected by one or more Assessors to be performed at the National Festival. If selected, book fares and accommodation as early as possible to get the best deals. Groups from schools, home school clusters, and unity drama groups, Year 7-13, aged 11-19, may participate. NB Performances are eligible for NCEA assessment.

In order to capture an outstanding student not in a group selected to attend SGCNZ's National Shakespeare Festival (SGCNZ NSF), *one student over 15 years old on 1 March 2025 may also be chosen from each Regional Festival for Direct Entry to SGCNZ's "life-changing" National Shakespeare Schools Production.*

SGCNZ National Shakespeare Festival (SGCNZ National SF)

DATE: King's Birthday Weekend, Thursday 29 May – Monday 2 June 2025

For the five stimulating days of SGCNZ's National SF approximately 650 students from 24 regions gather in Wellington to perform their 15 minute and 5 minute scenes to their peers and the public. They also participate in workshops taken by leading theatre exponents and practitioners, attend talks and make enduring friendships. Three Assessors provide oral feedback and written reports, and make awards, assisted by some of the award donors. Throughout the duration of this Festival three SGCNZ National Shakespeare Schools Production (NSSP) Selectors observe the designated eligible students to assess them for compatibility, willingness to learn and suitability for selection for NSSP.

All students selected to participate MUST attend ALL of the National Festival as defined in the Schedule. Any group wanting to skip parts of it will be replaced by one eager to be there all the time.

SGCNZ NATIONAL SHAKESPEARE SCHOOLS PRODUCTION (SGCNZ NSSP)

DATE: 21– 29 September 2025 (during the school holidays) at St Pat's College, Silverstream, Hutt Valley, Wellington.

At the SGCNZ National SF approximately 22 additional students will be selected to attend NSSP - a 9-day-long intensive workshop studying aspects of Shakespeare with leading tutors and, with three directors, working on scenes from three of Shakespeare's plays. These 46 students, chosen from some 5,000 nationwide, conclude the week with 2 public performances. They are joined by the Supreme Winners of the SGCNZ Costume Design and SGCNZ/Morrison Music Trust Shakespeare Music Composition Competitions. The cost is \$1,300, plus travel.

SGCNZ YOUNG SHAKESPEARE COMPANY (SGCNZ YSC)

DATE: 3-22 July 2026 (mostly during mid-year school holidays)

Throughout NSSP week, the students will be assessed for compatibility, willingness to learn and suitability to be chosen as one of 24 to form SGCNZ YSC 2026. This group, at their own expense (around \$11,800), will travel to the UK for a comprehensive two and a half-week study tour, coordinated by the SGCNZ with Travel Agent, Kerry Maher, and Shakespeare Globe Education, London. The schedule includes being rehearsed by a Globe Director and performing on the Globe stage, theatre tours, Shakespeare walks, attending performances, workshops, talkshops; then historical Shakespeare 'scene setting', tours and performances in Stratford-Upon-Avon.

SGCNZ TEACHERS GO GLOBAL

This outstanding professional development course will take place again in 2026. The 2024 cohort loved it; their Reports are available to learn more about it! Applicants should apply with an Expression of Interest and receive updates about it. A commitment, including deposit, needs to be made by 1 September 2025, as flights and accommodation need to be secured by our Travel Agent, Kerry Maher then – ie just before the SGCNZ YSC 2026 is selected. Whilst they are discreet courses, there are a few components which are combined.

ALLIED Competitions: Costume Design, Music Composition, Static Image, Poster, Video Title Card, Essay – Criteria and Entry Forms can be found on sgcnz.org.nz/Competitions

Cost to Participate in Festivals & Competitions –School Friends subscription of Shakespeare Globe Centre New Zealand \$220 (including GST) per school or Home School Cluster/Community Group sub of \$115 (including GST) covers all entries. Schools/Home School Cluster/Community Groups must be financial members at the time of participation in their Regional Festival.

Subscription year 1 January - 31 December 2025. For this Friends receive four newsletters – *Accent on Shakespeare* - per annum, event discounts and other information and opportunities, including 10% discount on Shakespeare's Globe online shop; code # available on your receipt and from SGCNZ office.

2025 SGCNZ Regional & National Shakespeare Festival

AIM: To mentor, enrich and enhance life skills through the study, production and performance of Shakespeare's works by facilitating SGCNZ Regional and National Shakespeare Festivals, as an integral part of Shakespeare Globe Centre New Zealand's (SGCNZ) educational programmes;

To also encourage inclusivity of people of diverse ethnic backgrounds in casts and settings of scenes, gender diversity, creativity and innovation.

ENTRIES - Registration is now available online at <https://regionals.sgcnz.org.nz> - start registering your entries as soon as possible. You can go in, fill in all you can, making sure that every required field with an asterisk beside it has something in each box. Then click on Modify to update your registration form and change information once known and confirmed. Remember to save your Access ID number and Password in a safe place! The website has closing dates for each region. Note these are often updated by Regional Reps.

CRITERIA - Do read these carefully, and visit our website [sgcnz.org.nz/SGCNZ SF FAQs](https://sgcnz.org.nz/SGCNZ_SF_FAQs) for further information

- Home School Clusters and community drama groups may enter in their own right, within the same parameters as school students.
- Students must be from Year 7–13; ages no younger than 11 nor older than 19. The proportion of Year 7 & 8 students must not exceed 20% of the cast - and have an extra supervising adult accompanying them.
- Students wishing to be considered for selection for SGCNZ NSSP must be aged **15 or over on 1 March 2025**
- Performances may be set in any context, period or place - as long as the essence and integrity of Shakespeare's play is retained ... this means that contemporary or alternative settings and costuming are encouraged
- Assessment is on understanding and delivery of the text, interpretation of characters and theme, vitality and overall impression
- Familiarity with the whole play is vital - ideally read it entirely
- Appropriate inclusion of other performing art forms, as well as acting, is encouraged
- Attention should be paid to connection with the audience, mindful that the plays were written for audiences in full view of, and acknowledged by, the actors
- Consideration should be given to use of space and movement
- Schools, Home School Clusters and community drama groups choose the region in which they perform, but may participate in only one region eg In Canterbury participants must choose either the Canterbury ki te Raki or Canterbury ki te Tonga Region.

15 Minute SCENES - Adult- or Student-directed for two or more speaking actors (NOT only monologues)

Scene/s selection: Each entry must comprise Scene(s) from any one of Shakespeare's plays or poems or up to three Sonnets – interacted between two or more actors (ie not just recited)

Script: Script may be edited - ie cut, but must be Shakespeare's words from only one play. Strongly text-based performances are encouraged, though other art forms may be included and translations into other languages

Timing: **No less than 10 mins; no more than 15 mins**

Fifteen minutes from curtain open to close (or lights on to lights off at the end) must not be exceeded

Scenes at Regional Festivals which are outside these times will not be eligible for selection for the SGCNZ NSF

*Scenes at the National Festival outside these times **will not** receive awards – individuals may be selected*

5 Minute EXCERPTS - Student-directed only, for two or more speaking actors (NOT only monologues)

Scene/s selection: Short scene(s) or duologues from any one of Shakespeare's plays, poems or up to three interacted Sonnets

Script: Script may be edited - ie cut, but must be Shakespeare's words from only one play. Strongly text-based performances are encouraged, though other art forms may be included and translations made

Timing: **No less than 4 mins; no more than 5 mins**

Five minutes from curtain open to close (or lights on to lights off at the end) must not be exceeded

Scenes at Regional Festivals which are outside these times will not be eligible for selection for the SGCNZ NSF

*Scenes at the National Festival outside these times **will not** receive awards – individuals may be selected*

PROPS & SCENERY

~ Simplicity is most effective – “*let imaginary forces work*”

~ All scenery and props must be set up and struck afterwards within two minutes

~ No sharp knives, swords or other dangerous objects, including real guns

~ A Health and Safety briefing will be given to each group

~ Tables and chairs will be provided

~ Mess (eg pillow feathers, petals) must be thoroughly cleaned up by the group creating it within the 2 minutes changeovers

LIGHTING

~ Simplicity is again encouraged

~ Basic lighting only is available and an operator supplied – there is not enough time for complex lighting changes to be plotted

~ No naked flames, including candles nor smoke machines may be used

MUSIC

~ The use of live music, own instruments, singing and dance are strongly encouraged

~ Setting to music Shakespeare's words, only from the play being performed, is allowed

~ Sound system is available

TRANSLATIONS

~ Partial or complete translation of Shakespeare's text from the one play being performed may be made into any language

~ At least two weeks before your Regional Festival, a copy must be sent to the Regional Representative for checking by a person proficient in that language, or another appropriate person.

TRAVEL: SGCNZ may provide a very limited amount towards cost of travel in hardship cases. Profit from door takings at Regional Festivals should be used to assist groups travel to the National Festival. Other fund-raising should begin by groups immediately on selection at their SGCNZ RSF.

ACCOMMODATION: A list of inexpensive accommodation is on our website sgcnz.org.nz/SGCNZ University of Otago Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Festival.

WARNING: Drugs and other illegal substances are strictly prohibited. Police will be notified of anyone found in possession or under the influence, with offenders banned from attending the remainder of the Festival. No smoking, vaping or alcohol is permitted within any of the venues.

SGCNZ NATIONAL SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL 2025 SCHEDULE



Assessors:Tbc
Tbc
Tbc

- Senior Stage & Screen NZ Actor
- Senior Stage & Screen NZ Actor
- SGCNZ YSC Alum Actor/Tutor

NSSP Selectors:
Tbc
Tbc
Tbc

- SGCNZ YSC Alum/Director
- SGCNZ YSC Alum/Actor
- SGCNZ YSC Alum/Tutor/Actor



MINISTRY OF
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO TAIOHI
Administered by the Ministry of Social Development



Venues: **Toi Whakaari:**NZ Drama School, 11 Hutchison Road, Newtown, Wgtn 6021;
Wellington East Girls' College, Paterson Street, Mt Victoria, Wellington 6011;
St James Theatre, 87/77 Courtenay Place, Wellington 6011

Dates: Thursday 29 May to Monday 2 June 2025

Schedule:

Thursday 29 May Venue: Toi Whakaari:NZ Drama School, 11 Hutchison Road Newtown, Wellington 6021

4.00-5.30pm **SGCNZ National Shakespeare Festival Registrations & Welcome Reception**
Evening **Available for theatre going**

Friday 30 May Venue: Wellington East Girls' College, Paterson Street, Mt Victoria, Wellington 6011

*8.30am-9.10am ***Registrations**
8.45am-9.00am **Special Session** for non-Group attendees
9.15am-9.25am **Mihi Whakatau & Notices**
9.30am-11.00am **Workshop 1**
11.15am-12.45pm **Workshop 2**
11.30am-12.15pm **Regional Representatives' Meeting with DJS**

Venue: St James Theatre, 87/77 Courtenay Place, Wellington 6011

1.00pm-7.15pm **Placing Calls & Health Safety Briefings – St James Theatre**
on stage (specific times as scheduled)

Venues: Optional Tours of Parliament, Te Papa, Wellington Museum, Toi Whakaari,
Te Auaha - Whitireia/Weltec & other venues

Evening **Available for theatre going**

Saturday 31 May Venue: St James Theatre, 87/77 Courtenay Place, Wellington

8.45am-9.00am **Special Session** for non-Group attendees
8.45am-9.15am **SGCNZ YSCs' Session** – Kerry Maher, DJS & Tour Leaders
9.30am-5.30pm*****Scene Performances**
Evening **Available for theatre going**

Sunday 1 June Venue: St James Theatre, 87/77 Courtenay Place, Wellington

8.30am-8.45am **Special Session** for non-Group attendees
9.00am-4.00pm*****Scene Performances**
4.00pm-5.00pm*****Special Guest Presenters & Inspiring Alumni**
5.00pm-6.30pm **Dinner break** – own choice of restaurant
7.00pm-9.30pm*****SGCNZ YSC Performance, Competition Prize-Giving, Scene Award**
Ceremony - MC Hon tbc & other VIPs

Monday 2 June Venue: tbc

9.30am-10.30am **Scene Assessors' & NSSP Selectors' Feedback** – for students, teachers,
supervisors, SGCNZ & WSS members & sponsors
11.00am-11.50am* **Public by Invitation–Guest Speaker**
11.50am-12 noon **Whakamutunga & Karakia**

Full attendance at the Festivals is a requirement for all performing groups from * to**.

***Open to the Public – book at Ticketmaster for St James * Enquiries re Talk to 04 384 1300 or dawn@sgcnz.org.nz

Minor changes may be required - updates to the Schedule will be posted on the website and included in the SGCNZ National Festival Pack.

Subject to change – check the SGCNZ website: www.sgcnz.org.nz

SGCNZ NATIONAL SF AWARDS

Although there are awards which acknowledge the time, research, leadership, effort, excellence, energy and various other skills qualities, we emphasise that this is a **Festival**, rich in creative learning, enjoyment in participation and gaining transferable skills. Do not think of it as competition.

Groups outside the stated time limits will be ineligible to receive scene awards.

Recipients will be selected by the Assessors, or by their donors or nominees. Awards have been generously donated by: Nicole Barker & Tessa Ratcliffe, Johan Barton, Christopher Finlayson, Paul Foster-Bell, Jan Fraser, Dale & Nina Hendry, Curly Del'Monte (Memorial Award), Drama New Zealand, Frona King (Memorial Award), Julie Nevett and the Morrison Music Trust, Nanette Wright, Nelson Colleges 1995 Theatre Arts Class & Theatre New Zealand, SGCNZ Organisers, Glenda Pearce, Patricia Smyth (Memorial Award), Speech New Zealand, Peter Vere-Jones (Memorial Award), Sam Wanamaker (Memorial Award), Wellington Shakespeare Society, Sheilah Winn CBE (Memorial Award), Toi Whakaari: NZ Drama School, Tony Wolf, Trinity College London. We reserve the right to withhold awards if there is no suitable recipient.

National Organiser Dawn Sanders ONZM, QSM

– SGCNZ Founder/Chief Executive & Member Shakespeare Globe Council, London,

SGCNZ, P O Box 17 215, Wellington 6147, Tel: 04 384 1300 (w) /04 476 8369 (h) Mob: 027 283 6016

Email: dawn@sgcnz.org.nz Website: sgcnz.org.nz



Sheilah Winn Trust
via the





Shakespeare Globe Centre New Zealand's Board Policies

in relation to

**SGCNZ's Shakespeare Festivals
SGCNZ National Shakespeare Schools Production
SGCNZ Young Shakespeare Company**

SGCNZ Shakespeare Festivals (SGCNZ RNSF)

New Policy 2023

Number of Scenes per school/Group:

A limit of 12 scenes per school/homeschool cluster/Community Drama Group in Regional Festivals

In response to many remarks, that having too many entries from one school is deterring others from participating, as they 'don't have a chance' with their one or two scenes, caused the Board to approve the above restriction to a maximum of 12 scenes per school. Whilst there is no reason why an outstanding scene from a school with only one entry cannot be spotted and selected, it is true that if more scenes from a single school are entered, it increases the chance of one of theirs being selected. Having 'Prologue SGCNZ UOSWSF Festivals' internally in schools, where more want to be involved, is encouraged. Those figures of participants are invaluable as well.

Clarified Policy 2022

Music in scenes:

Live music, rather than recorded, is preferred

Putting Shakespeare's words **from the play being performed**, to music or sung, is permitted

Use original and royalty-free music

If APRA royalty fee applies, it is the responsibility of the group to gain permission and pay to use the music if necessary

New Policy 2021

Community Drama Groups:

Groups from Community Drama Groups are now eligible to participate in the Regional and National Festivals on condition that the students are:

- Between 11 and 19 years of age
- Year 7 – Year 13 – with the same %s applying of Years 7 & 8
- Not already in a production from a School or HomeSchool Group

The SGCNZ Group Friends Fee will apply, under which as many scenes can be entered as they wish.

All other Criteria and Rules also apply.

i) Small Regional Festivals:

A limit has been placed on very small Regional Festivals regarding the number of groups which may be selected.

Policy: In regions in which only two schools are participating with less than a total of 15 scenes, only one group may be selected to perform at the National Festival.

This may be either a 5 minute or 15 minute scene.

ii) Large Regional Festivals:

Conversely, greater representation is permitted for very large regions.

Policy: If there are either 300 or more individuals participating, **or** more than 15 different schools, **or** 50 or more scenes in a Regional Festival, the Assessors are permitted to select 3 groups to attend the National Festival.

iii) Scene durations:

Time durations of scenes **must** be adhered to by performers and assessors alike. Scenes are of 5 minute or 15 minute duration.

Policy:

15 minute scenes - must be no more than 15 minutes and no less than 10 minutes

5 minute scenes – must be no more than 5 minutes and no less than 4 minutes

Scenes over or under these times are ineligible for selection for the National Festival.

If over or under at the National Festival, they cannot receive any scene awards.

Individuals may still be selected for awards or SGCNZ NSSP.

iv) Participant Age limits:

Policy: Students in groups selected for the National Festival must be a minimum of 11 years and under 20 years old. There may be up to 20% of Year 7 and 8 students in a scene and an extra supervising adult must accompany them.

Higher percentages of younger students may participate in scenes in Regional Festivals, should the Regional Representative choose to accommodate them, but those groups would be ineligible for selection for the National Festival.

v) Homeschoolers:

Policy: It was agreed that Homeschoolers be allowed to participate in SGCNZ's Competitions and in its Festivals as groups in their own right, with their Cluster being required to join as a Group Friend of SGCNZ.

vi) SGCNZ Friends Fee:

Policy: Schools and Homeschool Clusters participating in SGCNZ Regional and National Shakespeare Festival must pay the relevant SGCNZ Friends Fee to SGCNZ - **no other charge should be levied by other parties.**

Policy: Individuals entering SGCNZ's allied Competitions in Costume Design, Music Composition, Video Title Card, Poster, Static Image Design and Essay may enter under their School's/Homeschool Cluster Group Friends' Fee or as individual Student Friends.

SGCNZ must be notified if you are no longer wishing to retain Friend Membership and receive the inherent benefits. *(NB An online version of our magazine is now an option, only for our Friends)*

vii) Use of text:

Policy: Use of Shakespeare's text is imperative. Permission must be gained from the CEO for any deviations, even for those deemed essential for sense purposes.

Policy: Translations into other languages are permitted as long as they remain faithful to the text.

viii) Translations:

- 1) Use of translations of Shakespeare into other languages is acceptable
- 2) ...with the proviso that a full script is given to the Regional Rep a minimum of 2 weeks in advance
- 3) ...that the Reg Rep has a fluent speaker of the language 'vet' the translation (to ensure that it is a fair and non-contentious translation)
- 4) ...that a speaker of the language is present during that scene's performance.

ix) Compulsory attendance at National Festival (SGCNZ National SF)

All those selected to attend/participate in the National Festival must attend every performance and scheduled component of the event.

Policy: Attendance from 4pm on Thursday 29 May 2025 is encouraged. It is compulsory at all sessions at the National Festival (SGCNZ NSF) from Friday morning 9.15am 30 May at Wellington East Girls' College till the end of the Award Ceremony at 9.30pm on Sunday evening 1 June.

Attendance is highly recommended till the end of the Feedback session on Monday 2 June at [venue to be confirmed], or preferably noon, in order to hear the Inspiring Guest Speaker.

The CEO has the discretion to make allowances only in very exceptional circumstances.

x) Health & Safety:

Policy: It is essential and vital for all groups, including their Supervisor, to attend the scheduled Health & Safety briefings at the SGCNZ SFs with the locally or SGCNZ appointed personnel.

xi) Damage:

Policy: Any student causing wilful damage at the SGCNZ Regional or National SF will be responsible for covering the repair costs involved and will be ineligible for awards or selection for SGCNZ NSSP.

SGCNZ Regional UOSWSF >

SGCNZ National Shakespeare Schools Production (SGCNZ NSSP)

i) Direct Entry to SGCNZ NSSP:

There is an opportunity for Regional Assessors to select one person to attend NSSP by direct entry. This may be done where there is an outstanding actor in a Regional Festival who is not in a scene chosen to be performed at the National Festival.

Policy: Direct Entry student and students selected for SGCNZ NSSP from the National Festival **must** be 15 years or more on 1 March of the year of NSSP.

Policy: If there is no outstanding actor outside a group chosen to attend the National Festival, no selection should be made (allowing more to be chosen from the top performers at the National Festival).

SGCNZ Young Shakespeare Company (SGCNZ YSC)

i) Attendance:

Policy: Attendance is required at all scheduled sessions of the SGCNZ Young Shakespeare Company programme in England. Special requests from parents and students wanting to undertake side activities and personal visits during scheduled times will be refused.

Our Travel Agent, Kerry Maher, is very willing to make bookings for students to arrive earlier or stay later in order to accommodate extra activities and personal visits.

Policy: All students must attend all scheduled sessions of SGCNZ YSC, whatever their nature. Personal activities and/or visits may be made in scheduled free time and then only with the knowledge beforehand of the Leader.

Consequences: Students who do not adhere to the above policy may be sent back to NZ, with the additional change of booking and any other resulting expenses paid by the student, parent/s or caregiver.

- SGCNZ Trust Board

7 December 2009 **Updated:** December 2012; December 2013; February 2014; December 2014; December 2015; December 2016; October 2017; May 2018; February 2019; December 2020; April 2021; Dec 2021; May 2022; October 2022; February 2023; 15 December 2023; 13 December 2024