

QUEENSLAND THEATRE

30 September 2017

Judges announced for Queensland Premier's Drama Award 2018-19 as deadline for entries nears

With just one month before entries close on October 30 for the prestigious Queensland Premier's Drama Award (QPDA), names of the five judges have been announced.

The five include **Ian Lawson**, Artistic Director/CEO at Playlab, **Lee Lewis**, Artistic Director at Griffin Theatre Company and **Sam Strong**, Artistic Director at Queensland Theatre together with newcomers to the panel in **Isaac Drandic**, Resident Dramaturg, Queensland Theatre (based in Cairns) and **Matt Rigby**, Executive Director of Integrated Communication and Protocol for the Department of the Premier and Cabinet (biographical information available on request).

Now in its 15th year, the QPDA assists writers and performance makers develop their first drafts or concept sketches into a world premiere professional production, with the winner being programmed into Queensland Theatre's 2019 Season, and continues a legacy of successful partnership between the Queensland Government and Queensland Theatre.

Artists across Australia are invited to submit their entries for the 2018-19 cycle, which will be judged by the panel announced today. The award covers a two-year cycle. In the first year, three finalists are selected and their works undergo creative development with industry professionals prior to judging and the announcement of the winner. The second year involves further development of the winning play followed by the professional world premiere production.

The deadline for submissions is Monday 30 October 2017, with finalists selected in January 2018. The winning entry will be announced in July 2018. Groups, as well as individual artists are encouraged to apply.

Previous winners include:

2016-17 Michele Lee for RICE

2014-15 Daniel Evans for OEDIPUS DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE

2012-13 Maxine Mellor for TROLLOP

2010-11 Marcel Dorney for FRACTIONS

2008-09 Richard Jordan for 25 DOWN

2006-07 David Brown for THE ESTIMATOR

2004-05 Adam Grossetti for MANO NERA

2002-03 Sven Swenson for ROAD TO THE SHE-DEVIL'S SALON

HOW TO APPLY:

The conditions of entry and more information can be obtained by visiting Queensland Theatre's website at www.queenslandtheatre.com.au/QPDA or by contacting Shari Irwin, Producer of New Work and Development, on 07 3010 7607.

For further information, imagery or interviews and more, please contact Kath Rose & Associates 0416 291 493