



**BOOST YOUR STUDENTS' SKILLS AND ENJOY BEING PART OF ONE
OF MELBOURNE'S GREAT
EDUCATIONAL TRADITIONS!**



Ern Ainger was an honoured past president of the Rotary Club of Richmond who valued - in himself and others - the art of effective communication. The Ainger Public Speaking Award named in his honour – now proudly in its thirty-second year – is open to secondary school students in Melbourne.



In 2019 this popular competition was renamed the Ainger Peck Award in recognition of the significant contribution Rotarian Nigel Peck AM and his company NHP have made to the success of the Award over the past 29 years.

This much-loved and admired competition is all about teaching and celebrating effective speaking, where the ability of the speaker to communicate and engage with the audience is being judged, and not the content of their speech. It is not a writing or a debating competition – it measures the skill and compelling presentation of a young individual.

Why have such a competition? As Cicero noted, ***“Often an argument of greater merit will be defeated by an argument of lesser merit which is better presented”***. We want to equip Australia’s young people with the skills to *“stand their ground”* in public discussion, as well as equip themselves for the very many times they will inevitably have to present in public in their future career.

It is not a competition to see how many points you can score or how much information you can include in the time allotted; nor should it be delivered as a “lecture”. In this competition, the subject matter and the scope of an argument is relatively unimportant; rather, it is the manner of delivery and the effect on the audience that are the major considerations.

Delivery should be as natural as possible, the competitor speaking “with” the audience rather than “at” them. The speaker needs to demonstrate passion and that the topic is clearly of importance to them. Important enough that they will take the brave step of expressing their views to an audience of their peers, and strangers!

We do hope you will encourage your students to participate. This competition is designed to develop speaking skills in the next generation of leaders of industry, the community, even our country.

So do *you* have a future Leader in your midst? Encourage them to enter!

Kind regards

Ben Hosking
Chair
Ainger Peck Award



Useful Further Information

1. Schools are invited to nominate the entry of up to three secondary students.
2. Entries must be made online. To register students go to Eventbrite - Ainger Peck Award Heats 2022. Early registration will ensure a student gets a heat night of their choice. Parents, teachers and friends are warmly invited to attend the heats.
3. Heats will be held on May 9,10,11 and 12 in the Library at Melbourne Girls' College, 55 Yarra Boulevard Richmond. Entrants need to be in attendance by 7.15 pm.
4. **This will be a safe COVID-19 environment with strict vaccination requirements complying with information and guidelines from the Department of Health and Human Services Victoria and Department of Education and Training Victoria .**
5. We suggest that entrants from the same school select different heats to enter as this may maximise the finalists from that school.
6. Most entrants wear school uniform, but we express no preference and it isn't taken into account in judging.
7. Each heat will have approximately 20 entrants. The prizes for the initial round are: 1st \$100, 2nd \$75, 3rd \$50 and an Encouragement Award of \$40, all kindly donated by NHP Electrical Engineering Pty Ltd. All contestants will receive an attractive certificate as a record of their participation in the Ainger Peck Award .
8. The heat winner and runner-up of each heat are invited to the final, as are the best of the 3rd placegetters, held at Amora Riverwalk Hotel, 649 Bridge Road, Richmond on Monday May 23 from 6.30pm. They will be our guests to share a meal and compete for the first prize of \$400, and to have their name inscribed on the Ainger Peck Perpetual Trophy. The second prize-winner receives \$300 and the third place-getter \$200. There will also be an encouragement prize of \$125. The meal will be \$42 pp for parents, teachers and friends however there is no charge to the finalists as they are guests of the Club.
9. The entrants may speak on any subject that interests them for up to 4 minutes.
10. The Rotary Club of Richmond will provide skilled and experienced adjudicators. Our adjudicators have evolved a marking system that measures the following:
 - Tone & Tune
 - Pace & Pausing
 - Volume
 - Articulation & Pronunciation
 - Word and Phrase Emphasis
 - Fluency of delivery



- Good Grammar
- Imagery and “ Word Pictures “
- Enthusiasm & Involvement
- Gestures, Stance & Posture
- Eye Contact & Facial Expression
- Card Use & Microphone Use
- Audience Engagement

Please remember our prime purpose is to make an objective assessment of the art of convincing the audience to listen, understand and remember.

Advice from the Adjudicators

Please carefully study the briefing notes provided below. Additional copies are available from the Rotary Club of Richmond website at www.richmondrotary.org.au under Projects - The Ainger Peck Award .

Please also note that some entrants return year after year, honing their skills with each successive year. Our adjudicators are acutely aware of the need to engage, enthuse and educate the participants – a responsibility they take very seriously. They also provide empathetic feedback on their presentations. Over the years they learn and grow .

BRIEFING NOTES

Remember that an audience cannot absorb the spoken word delivered at a speed faster than 80-90 words per minute. That is MUCH SLOWER than normal speech.

This competition concentrates on the **effective delivery of the spoken word**, with a lesser concentration on the **argument** presented, or **matter**. *"It is important to remember that effective public speaking is not just making yourself heard but making people listen".*

The audience responds to effective delivery when they feel **personally addressed and involved** by speakers who convey enthusiasm for their topic, and the speaker's conviction that it is important and interesting, and whose delivery results in attracting undivided attention.

Maintaining eye-contact and using the full range of suitable gestures and voice to match the words and the message are essential ingredients. Above all contestants must be **themselves** rather than perform as actors. That is how to create attention.

Here are some guidelines for participants in the public speaking Award.

1. Speakers must choose their own topic **which should be based on fact**. It should be presented in a manner that will cause an audience to take an interest in a topic which may not initially appeal to them. In addition to the content, the speaker should use analogies, anecdotes and the music of the language to illustrate and enhance the delivery. The presentation should inform, convince and entertain in equal measure. There is a STRICT time



limit of 4 minutes.

2. **Notes** (used discreetly) may be helpful. Remember though notes are thought-starter headings. Thus unless you can make it seem like you are not, just reading an essay, do not work from a full script. Raise your notes rather lower your eyes. Have your notes on cards usually not larger than 20 x 15 cm, and written on one side only
- 3 Do NOT read your speech in a droning monotone. Use light and shade.
- 4 Do NOT read your speech, full stop. If you lose your place you will then stutter, stop, pause uncomfortably, until you can find your place again. Instead, use your notes as a memory jogger for points you know you want to make, and deliver those points as if in conversation, in a natural and unforced manner.
5. Speakers should establish and maintain good eye-contact with their audience.
6. **Plan the** presentation - how much can you really fit into 4 minutes? A common error is to cram too much into 4 minutes.
7. Pay strict attention to the **opening** - you need an attention-getting opening, e.g. Look for a more imaginative opening than "*Hi my name is so and so and the subject of my talk tonight is... ..*". . *90% of your lasting impact occurs in the first ten seconds.*
8. How are you going to close your presentation as impactfully as you started it?
9. **Above all feel enthusiastic** about your topic - if you are enthusiastic, this transmits to your audience and raises their attention levels . .
10. Remember that this is not a "*read your essay aloud*" competition, but a chance to speak directly to and engage an audience.
11. Draw "word pictures". Illustrate your talk. Make the audience SEE what you are talking about, not just HEAR it.
12. No matter how serious your topic- SMILE, At least once .

OUR WONDERFUL ADJUDICATORS

Stephen Yolland



Was born in the UK and holds a combined honours degree in English and Theology. He was the British Public Speaking Champion and also a finalist in the British Debating Championships. He was also runner-up in the European Speaking Championships in Finland. Stephen is constantly in demand as a motivational speaker.

He was also involved in politics in the UK, standing for Parliament for the Liberal Party and achieving a record result. Since moving to Australia in 1987 he has advised a number of Australian political, charitable and social organisations on their public presence and forged a highly acclaimed second career in advertising and marketing.

Stephen is something of a “marketing guru” and consults to the busy strategic and advertising agency Magnum Opus Partners based in Richmond. He also produces a very topical blog called *“Well This is What I Think”* which he describes as his take on interesting stuff and useful re-posts. He was also the author of a volume of poetry called *“Read Me”*, and editor of the acclaimed Australian business book *“I am the Problem”* by Soozey Johnstone. In his spare time, he curates a Facebook Page called *“Thought for Today”*. Stephen Yolland although not a Rotarian has been honoured by being named a Paul Harris Fellow by the Rotary Club of Richmond and this is Stephen’s eleventh year of adjudication of the Ainger Peck Award.

Jemma Munoz- Richards



platforms and stages .

Having been a student of Voice, Speech and Drama since the age of 7, it was a natural progression that Jemma would become a teacher of the same field. Throughout her time as a student she completed each grade level through Trinity Guildhall College of London. After completing her Grade 8 certification in 2003 she went on to complete her Associate of Teaching Speech and Communication Skills in 2009. Jemma has been teaching a wide range of students ever since. Throughout her years as a student and teacher she has had much experience on and off speaking

Alongside her teaching qualification, Jemma has also completed a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Psychophysiology and a Certificate IV In Mental Health at Swinburne University.

Jemma is Area Manager for Super Speak Public Speaking Program, and runs sessions with adults through her own practice Creative Speakers for speech writing and preparation.

With over 14 years teaching experience now under her belt, she balances this work with a science degree in Psychology and Psychophysiology, her volunteer work with Very Special Kids, and as part owner of a restaurant in Westgarth, Northcote.

This is Jemma's ninth year of adjudication of the Ainger Peck Award.

Delyse Weisz



Delyse has an extensive background in process drama, drama therapy and play production. Her proven capability of developing confident, communicative, self-disciplined and creative thinkers through the art of the spoken word in public speaking and performance is crucial in today's technological and 'me' centric world.

Delyse's passion for the theatre world began at age five. Her mentor and drama teacher realised her natural creative and directing skills with children, in particular her capability of nurturing timid children to discover their confidence in self-expression saw her entrust Delyse with taking classes from the age of 16. Delyse's tertiary education includes a B.A. from the prestigious University of Witwatersrand while simultaneously studying ATCL. LTCLC.(Trinity College London)

She won an award for directing Pirates of Penzance at the Grahamstown Festival in South Africa and established many acting and public speaking programmes for underprivileged students in townships, while working in the South African film industry as a special effect and make up artist. She studied the Stanislavski method of acting with LA award winner Alexander von Reumont. She worked at many prestigious schools teaching drama before immigrating to Australia.

She has taught at state and private schools in Australia with exceptional results at Eisteddfods, and Examinations. Many students have won acting and school scholarships under her guidance. She has operated Delyse's Drama Academy and Montessori Players for 26 years and in 2019 rebranded her studio to Dramawise Academy to reflect the evolution and development of exciting contemporary transformations in drama directing.

Delyse assisted in National and European Theatre tours as director, costume designer and wellbeing chaperone with high school students at Caulfield Grammar School and later with BYTE Ensemble. She has been a costume coordinator for many Disney musicals and productions, creating inspired and resourceful costumes for actors to perform in. She has produced and directed more than 50 full-scale theatrical productions. From Mulan, Wendy and Peter Pan, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory to Gangsta Granny, The Neverending Story, and more!

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More recently she has been chosen by Melba Inc to teach drama and direct a production empowering students of disabilities to shine with confidence. She prides herself in creating a collaborative, imaginative, inclusive, and vibrant space for her students to inhabit their characters and own every stage of the process.

This is Delyse's third year of adjudication of the Ainger Peck Award.