

The DLI Annual Play-writing Award 2019

2019 AWARDS

Overall winner: Dead Men's Bells by Meabh de Brun

Highly commended: A Beginner's Guide to Madness

by Barry McKinley

The Aftermath by Alice Lynch

Inspiring excellence in writing plays

To promote, support and encourage improvement in play writing on the one-act circuit in Ireland, entries for the competition for new work which will be presented for the first time on the circuit should be received **before Monday 30 September**.

Eligibility criteria:

Those playwrights who were born in Ireland, have gained Irish citizenship or who have lived in Ireland for a minimum of three years.

An original play which is being performed on the one-act circuit for the first time in the current year, at whatever level, in a festival which is recognised by the DLI/ADCI committee.

The judging panel:

The judging panel will be made up of 3 members selected by the 6/6 committee.

There will be an independent chairman, a member of DLI and a member of ADCI who will oversee the judging of the competition. The panel for the 2019 competition will be: Chair Walker Ewart, Anne Mekitarian representing DLI and Sean Corcoran representing ADCI.

Judging the plays:

The play will not be judged on the adjudications received on the festival circuit but on the quality and potential of the writing.

The judging panel will provide the playwright with short feedback.

As well as an overall winner, at the discretion of the judges some plays may be 'highly commended.'

The award: The overall winner for the year will be announced on the final night of the All-Ireland One-act Finals. The decision of the judges, overseen by the 6/6 committee, will be final.

The panel reserve the right NOT to award the prize where the overall quality is deemed to be not sufficiently good.

A copy of the play, of whichever draft, should be forwarded by e-mail to Walker Ewart (walker.ewart@gmail.com) . Please see the attached notes to aid your application.

Guidelines on the Presentation of Entries to the Play-Writing Competition 2019

General

It is permissible to send a draft of the play which may change as rehearsals go forward.

All entries should be typed in Arial size 12.

Please ensure that there is a complete list of cast members.

There should be a clear delineation between the lines of each character, with any stage directions either in brackets or italics.

Front page

The front page should have the title of the play with the name of the author.

At the bottom of the page please have the name of the group which will be performing the play and, if known, the festivals entered.

Introductory page

It would be useful for the panel to have:

some background to the author (e.g member of a particular group? How long writing? Any other published pieces? First time attempt?);and

some information as to the themes explored within the play and why you chose to write it.

The judging is based on the potential of the writing and not on how well the play does on the festival circuit. There will be 4 categories judged and it may help you to consider them as you review your writing: (a) development of character: 40%; (b) situations/scenes creating dramatic effect: 35%; (c) lighting/sound/technical: 15%; (d) overall appeal: 10%.

An area which needed more thought in the entries last year was that of lighting/sound/technical. Is there a particular effect you would like the director to achieve within your play? What guidelines can you give on the technical side of things?