



## THE ACTORS WORKSHOP



Queensland Training Awards 2004  
State Winner

### The Philosophy

The artist is a continual student, learning from the experiences of life. This allows the artist to contribute to society, by reflecting a creative awareness back into their community. A community that embraces creativity has a higher potential for a fulfilling, prosperous and compassionate future.

### The Graduates

The school offers the support, knowledge, training and conditions to prepare the actor for the commencement of their individual career. Graduates of the school find work in feature films, television shows, commercials, corporate video, role-play work, street theatre, festivals, fringe and professional theatre.

### The History

The Actors Workshop commenced training actors in October 1994. In 1999, the school benchmarked accredited training for actors with the qualification, Advanced Diploma of Film, Television and Theatre Acting. It is the first qualification to incorporate equal, dedicated training streams to both the live and camera mediums, for the entire duration of the training strategy.

### The Training

#### **Technique**

The training strategy is underpinned by a core stream of acting technique. The technique addresses the craft on the emotional, psychological and physical levels necessary for truthful and engaging work. Technique is then applied in application to both the live and camera mediums.

#### **Film and Television**

The Film and Television content of the training is delivered via weekly camera classes, throughout the two year period. The successive competencies prepare and skill the actor in the technical nature of the medium, as well as integrating their developing application of Technique, with the practicalities and nuances of camera work.

#### **Theatre**

The Theatre program is a broad based exploration of the theatrical form, continually examined and experienced on the premise of defining contemporary relevance and application. The theatre program reflects the practical nature of the curriculum through in-house performances at the end of each training semester.

### **Voice and Movement**

Vocal and physical presence is vital to the integrity of the actor's work. This stream of the training includes improvisation, voice production, monologue work, American accent, stage combat and movement skills.

### **Professional Development**

The Professional Development program addresses the transition from student to working actor. Skills included in this stream range from understanding and applying writing structure, critical analysis of film production, workplace health and safety, industry awareness and auditioning techniques.

## **The Commitment**

### **Contact Hours**

Students attend up to 28 contact hours of training per week, over two years.

### **Work Experience**

All students are required to undertake work experience opportunities, presented to them by the school. These include short films and role-play work. Students must be prepared to allocate time outside of training hours to complete the work experience program.

### **Homework Assignments**

Most subjects will require homework assignments from students on a weekly basis as well as end of semester assignments. Students are advised to allow time for non-contact workload.

### **Rehearsal**

Students are required to rehearse for productions outside of school hours, including some evenings and weekends.

## **The Qualifications**

### **Advanced Diploma of Film, Television and Theatre Acting**

The Advanced Diploma covers the five streams of training listed above. Students attend up to 28 hours of classes a week over four semesters (2 years). Students wishing to attain the Advanced Diploma must hold, or concurrently attain, the Diploma of Film and Television.

### **Diploma of Film and Television Acting**

The Diploma includes all of the training streams listed above, excluding the Theatre Program. Students attend 16 to 20 hours of classes per week over four semesters (2 years). Students wishing to attain the Diploma must hold, or concurrently attain, the Certificate IV in Film and Television.

### **Certificate IV in Film and Television Acting**

The Certificate IV is designed as an entry level qualification for working as an actor in Film and Television. Students attend 12 contact hours per week over 2 semesters (12 months). Timetables for the Certificate IV also run as evening classes, to accommodate students with full time work or family commitments.

## **The School**

The school is housed in the historic Foresters Hall. The hall itself includes original stage and lighting grid, costume and props store, front of house bar, and service kitchen. The kitchen is fully equipped and maintained for student use. Adjacent to the hall is the camera studio, library and administration offices. The under cover courtyard and garden offer recess areas for students. Notice boards keep students updated on excursions, screenings, openings, auditions, competitions, festivals, industry news, share accommodation, specials and networking opportunities. As well as providing vocational training for actors, the school acts as a resource centre, bringing together young writers, filmmakers and directors. The studios of the school are utilised for rehearsals, readings, auditions, productions and more. The collaboration between students of the school and the emerging production sectors has led to award winning films, independent productions, stage plays and long standing relationships between networking artists.

## **The Location**

Situated in Trinity Lane, Woolloongabba, the school is very central and accessible. Within a 15 minute radius of Trinity Lane you will find South Bank Parklands, Queensland Convention Centre, Queensland Performing Arts Centre, State Library, State Museum, State Art Gallery, Griffith University's Queensland College of Art, QPIX film industry resource centre, Woolloongabba Stadium, multi cultural dining, bars, pubs, clubs and cafes.

Trinity lane is adjacent to Stanley Street and is easily accessed from both the north and south bound freeways as well as by traffic coming south bound over the Story Bridge. Limited, short term street parking is available in Trinity lane and adjacent streets. The Mater Hill and Woolloongabba bus stations are within 5 minutes walk from the school and the Vulture Street and Park Road train stations are within 10 minutes walking distance. River Cat Ferries stop at South Bank (10 minutes walk from the school) and the Goodwill Bridge across the Brisbane River allows student access to the Botanical Gardens and the city CBD within a 15 minute stroll.

## **The Principal**

Lyn Kidd has been teaching Acting Technique and Voice Production for over 30 years, leading to her developing the Advanced Diploma of Film, Television and Theatre Acting, listed on the Australian Qualifications Framework in December 1999.

Lyn first trained as an A.M.E.B. Speech and Drama teacher and then trained in the Stella Adler Technique under the tutelage of Jone Winchester and Brian Syron. Lyn was twice the recipient of the prestigious Peter Summerton Foundation Scholarship, studying Acting, Direction, Script Analysis and Voice Production with internationally recognised Master Teachers, Rowena Balos and Yevgeny Lanskoj. Lyn is also the co-author of *The Jungle of Sounds: A Journey Through the Magic of Language*, published by Antipodean Educational Enterprises.

Lyn has been an international guest teacher to both the Philippines and the Solomon Islands and also works extensively with the Queensland community sector. In 2003 Lyn was presented with a shield for Excellence in Education by the Commissioner of Queensland Emergency Services, in recognition of the contribution she has made to the assessment strategies of community training organisations.

Since opening her school, Lyn has consistently invested time, energy and resources in supporting the emerging film makers of Queensland, including TAFE, Tertiary and Independent short films, documentaries and feature films. This has led to a succession of awards won by projects made in association with her school.

In 2004, Lyn was presented with the Kinetone Award at the 18th Annual Warner Roadshow Studios Queensland New Film Makers Award. The Minister for Education and the Arts congratulated Lyn on being the first woman and the first educator to receive the Kinetone. This prestigious award is given each year to an individual in recognition of their contribution to the Queensland Film and Television industry.

At the 2004 Queensland Training Awards, Lyn was honoured with the award for Small Training Provider of the Year.

## **The Difference**

### **Quality Assured Training**

As a registered training organisation, the school complies with the principles of the Australian Quality Training Framework, so our students are assured the highest standard of accredited training.

### **Fee Support**

Students enrolling in each of the qualifications offered by the school are eligible for Centrelink support.

### **Industry Recognition**

The school enjoys a high reputation throughout industry and the majority of our students find the school through industry referrals.

### **Enrolment Cap**

The school recognises the limited employment available for actors and maintains a limited number of enrolments each year to ensure a high student to resource ratio.

### **Work Experience and Training Alliances**

Over the years the school has developed a unique and extensive work experience program, involving alliances with tertiary, community and training organisations. As well, the school supports a vast amount of projects in the emerging film industry. This gives students opportunity to apply what they learn, as they learn and to accrue credits for their resume and actual production footage for show reels.

### **Structured Training Strategy**

Every hour of every class is structured within the training and assessment strategies of the school. Competencies are layered in prerequisite and concurrent stages, so the further the student progresses in the course the higher the complexity and deeper the foundations of their training.

### **Professionalism**

A large focus of the philosophy of training involves developing a realistic appreciation of the actors craft and industry. The school holds a high reputation for down to earth, creative and hard working graduates.

### **Quantity**

Students training in the Advanced Diploma undertake over 2000 hours of training. This represents up to three times the amount of training offered by other private colleges.

### **Dual Mediumship**

No other acting school offers the ratio of dedicated practical experience of both the camera and live mediums, throughout the entire duration of the course. This means our graduates have the competitive edge of working in both mediums with ease.

### **Articulation**

Credit attained from the Certificate IV and Diploma may be articulated towards attaining the Advanced Diploma. This allows students to start one program and upgrade when they are ready.

### **Awards**

Since 2000, the school has been associated with a host of awards won by staff, graduates and emerging film makers who seek casting and production support from the school. The following list represents a selection of these awards. For a full list, visit the school's website.

#### **Awards Received by Staff**

- |      |                                      |   |
|------|--------------------------------------|---|
| 2005 | Queensland New Filmmakers Awards     | -Best Independent Drama 10 to 30 minutes. |
| 2004 | Queensland Training Awards           | - Small Training Provider of the Year     |
|      | Queensland New Filmmakers Awards     | - Kinetone Award                          |
| 2003 | Queensland Emergency Services Shield | - Excellence in Education                 |

**Awards Received by Graduates**

- 2004 Queensland New Filmmakers Awards - Best Actor  
2003 Queensland New Filmmakers Awards - Best Actress  
- Best Director  
2001 Queensland New Filmmakers Awards - Best Actor  
- Best Actress

**Awards Received by Films cast by The Actors Workshop**

- 2005 Queensland New Filmmakers Awards - Best Director  
2005 Queensland New Filmmakers Awards - Best Independent Drama under 10 minutes  
2004 Queensland New Filmmakers Awards - Audience Choice Award for Most Popular Film  
2003 Queensland New Filmmakers Awards - Best Overall Film  
- Best Independent Film  
Melbourne International Film Festival - International Critics Fipresci Award  
2002 Queensland New Filmmakers Awards - Best Overall Film  
- Best Independent Film  
2001 Queensland New Filmmakers Awards - Best Overall Film  
- Best Independent Film  
2000 Queensland New Filmmakers Awards - Best Overall Film  
Courier Mail What's On Film Festival - Best Film

**Admissions:**

Applicants should contact The Actors Workshop for an enrolment application form. All applicants are required to have an interview with the Principal of the school. Applicants from outside South East Queensland may be interviewed by phone. Applicants are invited to attend an audition workshop, held in December, with selected staff and graduates of the school.

**Campus Address:**

**Foresters Hall  
18–20 Trinity Lane Woolloongabba Qld Australia**

**Postal Address:**

**PO BOX 9 CLAYFIELD QLD 4011**

**Phone and Fax Contact:**

**(07) 3891 1411**

**Web Contact:**

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