

SGCNZ Competition Finalists 2026

Placings will be announced on Sunday 31 May at the Award Ceremony of the SGCNZ Victoria University of Wellington National Shakespeare Festival from 7.00pm, St James Theatre, Wellington Names are listed alphabetically below - NOT in winning order.

SGCNZ / Dawn Sanders SHAKESPEARE COSTUME DESIGN COMPETITION

Judges: Nicole Barker, Tina de Bes, Paula Smith McKnight, Dawn Sanders ONZM, QSM

Finalists:

Carla Anderson | Long Bay College
– Prospero, *The Tempest*

Anya Taylor | Diocesan School for Girls
– Mercutio, *Romeo & Juliet*

Xiah Te Awarangi Nesbitt | Paraparaumu College
– Witches, *Macbeth*

Arna Vincent | Howick College
– Ariel, *The Tempest*

Highly Commended

Ming Cai | Epsom Girls' Grammar School
– Shylock, *The Merchant of Venice*

Sonya Liu | St Margaret's College
– Nick Bottom, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Amy Zhang | Woodford House
– Lady Macbeth, *Macbeth*

Commended

Abi Du | Diocesan School for Girls
– Lady Macbeth, *Macbeth*

Casey Ferguson | Howick College
– Desdemona, *Othello*

Luella Kershaw | Solway College
– La Pucelle, *Henry VI*

SGCNZ / IDA GASKIN SHAKESPEARE ESSAY COMPETITION with English at VUW

Judges: Jake Arthur

Prizes donated by *The Gaskin Family, Victoria University of Wellington, NZSA & Michelle Linterman, Hay Bequest*

Finalists:

Category 1

Keliduwa Gamage Methmi Mandara

Jayampath | Avondale College

Aliya Symister | Howick College

Maya Timlin | Carmel College

Category 2

Betty Shen | Long Bay College

Eassin Wang | St Cuthbert's College

Category 3

Maika Bonifant | Diocesan School for Girls
– Category 3a

Ife Ehalaiye | Palmerston North Girls' High School

– Category 3a

Lowenna Haskell | Champion College
– Category 3a

SGCNZ / MORRISON MUSIC TRUST SHAKESPEARE COMPOSITION COMPETITION

Judges: Michael Vinten & Garth Wilshire

Prizes donated by - *Julie Nevett for Morrison Music Trust*

Category A: Shakespeare related Vocal Composition

Finalist:

Shixuan (Marcus) Liu | Saint Kentigern College

– *Three Witches' Rite*

Category B: Shakespeare related Instrumental Composition

Finalists:

Ofri Earon | Paraparaumu College
– *Soundscapes for Othello*

Matthew Lee | Kristin School
– Vox Populi

Bruno McLeod | Orewa College
– *The Tales of Titania*

Benjamin Viljoen | Palmerston North Boys' High School

– *The Suicide*

Ada Zhang | Kristin School
– *The Balcony*

SGCNZ / ADAM FOUNDATION SHAKESPEARE VIDEO TITLE CARD, POSTER & STATIC IMAGE COMPETITIONS

Judges: Lucas Neal, Dawn Sanders ONZM, QSM, Brian Pearl, Peter Mahoney, Craig Christensen, Théia Maxon

Prizes donated by *The Adam Foundation*

VIDEO TITLE CARD

Finalists:

Ivy Greenslade | Samuel Marsden Collegiate School

Xanthe Maugham | Havelock North High School

Sienna Worsnop | Diocesan School for Girls

Highly Commended

Anya Taylor | Diocesan School for Girls

POSTER DESIGN

Finalists:

Abigail Deng | Avondale College
– *Othello*

Lulu Smith | Diocesan School for Girls
– *Romeo & Juliet*

Stacey Zhao | St Margaret's College
– *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Highly Commended

Xanthe Maugham | Havelock North High School

– *The Tempest*

Natalie Stuart | Diocesan School for Girls
– *Macbeth*

Commended

Lucy Smale | Diocesan School for Girls
– *Romeo & Juliet*

STATIC IMAGE

Finalists:

Ivy Greenslade | Samuel Marsden Collegiate School

– *Antony and Cleopatra*

Sariah Hooker-Mason | Howick College
– *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Grishma Kichavadi | Macleans College
– *Macbeth*

Charlotte Zhao | Macleans College
– *Macbeth*

Highly Commended:

Georgia Dalbeth | Howick College
– *The Tempest*

Karl Nathan Liwanag | Avondale College
– *The Tempest*

Claire Stanley | Havelock North High School
– *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Jessica Tsui | Macleans College
– *Macbeth*

Claire Zhao | Macleans College
– *Macbeth*

Commended:

Sofia Berrios Roman | Albany Junior High School

– *The Taming of the Shrew*

Amélie Hanham | Havelock North High School
– *Macbeth*

Ariadne Windarc | Spotswood College / Windarc Music Academy
– *Titus Andronicus*

For further information contact:

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