



Gold Coast Theatre Alliance Inc

[Gold Coast Little Theatre is proud to be a founding member of the Alliance.]

The past two years of 2020 and 2021 and into 2022 have proved a historically turbulent time for all theatremakers and theatregoers. The Covid epidemic has proved dangerously disruptive to all communal activities. Whereby Alliance-scheduled delegate meetings and events have had to be modified, shuffled or even postponed so did some but not all executive meetings of the Alliance administration, which suffered the same disruptions (the executive also conducted business online).

Apart from the danger arising from member delegates coming together during the pandemic, the major annual member function of the Alliance had to be cancelled. This was the Gala Award Breakfast where theatre volunteers are recognised and honoured. It is generally referred to as the Hero Awards.

The proposed annual breakfast event had already been melded into one event for 2020 and 2021 but when the fully organised 2022 grand presentation function for it could not again be held, a new solution, sadly, had to be found. That solution has resulted in “Hero” badges and citations and special trophies that included Youth recognition awards being couriered to the home base of each recipient. As was the rare “Red Hat” award.

Visitor and leisure visitors are returning to the coast; to say nothing of housebound residents who are more than willing to once again venture out in coming months and are now returning to the Gold Coast. Braving the fact that late alterations and amendments to programs and schedules are still likely this year, the Alliance will still go ahead with a new Playlist Directory for June to December 2022. And of course, the Alliance website, www.goldcoasttheatre.com.au is assiduously kept current daily by secretary, Annie Lotocki. All theatre communities, some of which were further assailed by the February/March floodings, have rallied heroically and it can only be hoped for better days to come. They are all to be commended.

[This report was provided by Joel Beskin, a long-time member of Gold Coast Little Theatre and one of the founders of the Gold Coast Theatre Alliance. Mancom did not appoint a permanent delegate to the Alliance this year. Instead, Mancom members attended Alliance meetings according to availability.]