

A man in a black tuxedo with a white bow tie is smiling and looking up. He is holding a woman in a voluminous pink feathered dress. She is also smiling and looking down. They are on a stage with a blurred audience in the background.

IDTA

**DANCE
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London Seminar 2015

See reports in the special supplement

International Theatre Dance Awards 2015

Nationwide Medallist of the Year Street
Dance Final 2015

SPOTLIGHT ON

Raymond Draper

FRONT COVER:

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international theatre dance awards 2015

The IDTA is delighted to announce the results of the International Theatre Dance Awards 2015, held at The Dancehouse Theatre, Manchester on 21 & 22 February.

Our congratulations to the winners, recipients of the special commendations and Awards and to all those who were nominated.

The International Theatre Dance Awards are obtainable only through audition. Candidates are initially nominated by the Association's Examiners when taking the higher Grades or Performers examinations through a qualified

teacher. Eight awards are granted in Ballet, Theatre Craft, Tap, and Modern Jazz at higher Grade and Performers level. Over 500 candidates out of more than 7,500 are nominated each year for these awards and those who are successful are awarded a trophy and a cheque to further their dance career. Certificates are awarded to every nominee and the teachers of the winners.

Winners of the International Theatre Dance Awards 2015

Theatre Craft Grades:	Emily Gardiner Cardwell Theatre School
Theatre Craft Performers:	Chloe Hetherington Phil Winston's Theatreworks
Ballet Grades:	Millie Liddle Elaine Milbourne Performing Arts School
Ballet Performers:	Ebony Kitts Hazelbiz Performers Academy
Tap Grades:	Eloise Gledhill Adele Taylor School of Dance
Tap Performers:	Hollie Jane Woodhouse Betty Chappelle Dance Centre
Modern Jazz Grades:	Chileshe Stobbs Kathleen Knox School of Dance
Modern Jazz Performers:	Sophie Turton Cardwell Theatre School

Special Commendations 2015

Theatre Craft Grades

Ebony Kitts	Hazelbiz Performers Academy
Emma Pinnington	Southport Dance Academy
Chileshe Stobbs	Kathleen Knox School of Dance
Megan Dodds	Hazelbiz Performers Academy
Darby Bramald	Victoria Stansfield School of Dance
Bethany Gill	Victoria Stansfield School of Dance
Lily Smith	Cardwell Theatre School
Jade Tennant	Marron Theatre Arts

Theatre Craft Performers

Bree Quinton	Sharon Berry School of Dance
Francesca Kirk	Victoria Stansfield School of Dance
Abigail Tildesley	Marron Theatre Arts
Rebecca Hanneman	Sharon Berry School of Dance
Bridie Thorpe	Sharon Berry School of Dance
Georgia Robson	Marron Theatre Arts

Special Commendations 2015... cont.

Ballet Grades	
Kedra Weatherill	LWHS – The Arts Garage
Megan Little	Marron Theatre Arts
Bethanie Danby	Armley Dance Studios
Lily-May Bower	LWHS – The Arts Garage
Ellie Kerry	Marilyn Baker/Gemma Grayson School
Sophie Jones	Southport Dance Academy
Isabella Hoe	LWHS – The Arts Garage
Ballet Performers	
Amy Keenan	Christine Anderson Academy
Mia Worthington	Sharon Wood School of Dance & Drama
Olivia Ikeda- Allen	Phil Winston's Theatreworks
Madeleine Jones	Marilyn Baker/Gemma Grayson School of Dance
Hollie Jane Woodhouse	Betty Chappelle Dance Centre
Francesca Kennedy	Walsall Academy of Dance
Sarah Nolan	The Dinan School of Ballet
Emma Griffin	Marilyn Baker/Gemma Grayson School of Dance
Tap Grades	
Rebecca Jones	Rachel's Academy of Dance
Bethany Danby	Armley Dance Studios
Phoebe Roberts	Adele Taylor School of Dance
Zaccia Newman-Richards	Armley Dance Studios
Mackenzie Smart	Victoria Stansfield School of Dance
Rhiane Finley	Kathleen Knox School of Dance
Sophie Jones	Southport Dance Academy
Tap Performers	
Abigail Eustis	Phil Winston's Theatreworks
Abigail Tildesley	Marron Theatre Arts
Aisha Stalker	Hylton Bromley School of Theatre Dance
Olivia Kennally	Phil Winston's Theatreworks
Charlotte Troth	Marilyn Baker/Gemma Grayson School of Dance
Alexander Thompson	Leamington and Warwick Academy of Dance

SATURDAY

Donna Wilcox

The doors opened to the "Dancehouse Theatre" where students and family members were welcomed to the first day of the IDTA Theatre Awards.

The morning session consisted of Theatre Craft Grades and Performers which was a beautiful start to the morning with all candidates looking stunning with their full

Modern Jazz Grades	
Michael Brown	Kathleen Knox School of Dance
Madeleine Jones	Marilyn Baker/Gemma Grayson School
Phoebe Roberts	Adele Taylor School of Dance
Chloe Pearson	Skelton Hooper School of Dance
Leah Darby	Adele Taylor School of Dance
Natasha Richardson	Skelton Hooper School of Dance
Imogen Earley	Elaine Milbourne Performing Arts School
Ruby Greenwood	Nottingham Theatre Dance School
Sophie Rajah	Amanda Restell Academy of Dance
Abigail Tildesley	Marron Theatre Arts
Modern Jazz Performers	
Francesca Kirk	Victoria Stansfield School of Dance
Nathan Pearce	Hoylake School of Dance
Olivia Ikeda-Allen	Phil Winston's Theatreworks
Bree Quinton	Sharon Berry School of Dance
Ebony Kitts	Hazelbiz Performers Academy
Bethany Taylor	Phil Winston's Theatreworks
Emily Bolton	LWHS – The Arts Garage
Robin Larkin	Marron Theatre Arts
Bridie Thorpe	Sharon Berry School of Dance
Aisha Stalker	Hylton Bromley School of Theatre Dance
Bethany Mortimer	Hoylake School of Dance
Ruth Cass	Hazel Bell School of Dance

theatrical make-up and stylish outfits waiting eagerly for their section.

Denise Skinner warmly welcomed everyone and introduced the assessors for the grades; June Gill, Joanne Kirkland, Jill Brookes and a special adjudicator Margaret Tasker for the award of the Bill Tasker trophy.

The lecturer for the grades was Charlotte Martin who is a prominent West End performer as well as training at Royal Ballet School. The candidates were in excellent hands as they did a commercial style warm up and then corner work to musical theatre numbers. The audition routine was "Cool" Westside Story which demanded the students to now show a different style and a meaner sense of performance. The Jerome Robbins style required a more mature sense of delivery as well as maintaining the strong dynamics and rhythmic requirements to the piece. All of the candidates coped exceptionally well and showed their versatility as young dancers. 18 candidates out of 69 went through to the final.

Awards presented in conjunction with the International Theatre Dance Awards

W.J. (Bill) Tasker Theatre Craft Award:

Abigail Tildesley Marron Theatre Arts

This award is kindly donated by Mrs Margaret Tasker, in memory of her late husband, W.J. (Bill) Tasker, Financial Director of the IDTA, from 1971 - 2002, and founder member of the Theatre Dance Awards Committee.

Veronica Tweedale Bursary Award:

Sophie Pulford LWHS The Arts Garage

Veronica Tweedale was a much loved and respected dance teacher and choreographer throughout Stoke on Trent and the Midlands Area. The Veronica Tweedale Bursary Award is given for the 1st Special Commendation for the Ballet Grades.

Gladys Thorpe Memorial Award:

Kirsty Little Marron Theatre Arts

Gladys Thorpe was for many years a highly respected teacher and examiner of the IDTA, serving on the Theatre Council and Technical Committees. The Ballet Faculty is pleased to present a Bursary Award and a Memorial Trophy to a young dancer who displays exceptional potential in Classical Ballet from the Performers section of the International Theatre Dance Awards.

Ken Dodd Tap Award Girls: Hollie Jane Woodhouse Betty Chappelle Dance Centre

Ken Dodd Tap Award Boys: Adrian Lawrence Spotlight Theatre Arts

Ken Dodd continues to offer his support to our nominees by generously donating two trophies in memory of his agent, Keith McAndrews. Two award winners are chosen by guest adjudicators.

Pam Tidmarsh Bursary Award:

Faith Hepburn IBC School of Dancing

Pam Tidmarsh was a very well respected teacher, Examiner and Director of the IDTA, especially for the Midlands Area where she was much loved. The Pam Tidmarsh Bursary Award and Trophy are donated by Jeanette Haines and Gillian Hughes and is awarded to the 1st Special Commendation in the Modern Jazz Grades.

Peggy Harrison Award:

Hollie Jane Woodhouse Betty Chappelle Dance Centre

Peggy Harrison is an Honorary Examiner, teacher and holder of the IDTA Distinguished Service Award. The Peggy Harrison Award is made to the 1st Special Commendation in the Modern Jazz Performers.

The winner of the grades session was Emily Gardiner from Cardwell Theatre School.

The performers session began with Charlotte Martin putting the performers through their paces once again with short combinations giving them chance to show off their flexibility, control and personality. The audition routine was from the Broadway musical "The Addams Family" this was the party dance with lots of elements and moments for the students to shine from salsa to rock and roll. This was an excellent choice as it gave everyone a moment to show different styles, truly a Theatre Craft routine.

The performers winner was number 3 Chloe Hetherington from Phil Winston's Theatreworks. The awards were presented by IDTA President Jane Tumelty, who had to skillfully and with such finesse fill in whilst waiting for the results of the scrutineering!

The Bill Tasker Award was presented by Margaret Tasker to Abigail Tildesley from Marron Theatre Arts.

Charlotte Martin was a delight to watch teach and was an inspiration to the students with her willingness to pass on her knowledge and her calm approach with all of the students.

The Afternoon session was for the Ballet Grades and Performers. Olivia Pickford was introduced and also the assessors Tracey Southern, Emma Turner and Elizabeth Harris.

The grade audition had 103 chosen students who were all again beautifully dressed and looking stunning on the DanceHouse Theatre Stage. They had a warm up

and varied exercises of adage and free movement. The Variation was a bright allegro with free elements for the candidates to show virtuoso skills. As they performed in their smaller groups you could see the delight on the faces of these young dancers who were thoroughly enjoying the experience.

The winner of the grades Ballet went to number 6 Millie Liddle from Elaine Milbourne Performing Arts. The winner of the Veronica Tweedale award was Sophie Pulford from LWHS.

The Performers ballet audition began with a welcome of the 93 performers and to Miss Lei Zhao as special guest to choose the Gladys Thorpe winner. The performers all received a demanding class which incorporated all aspects of Centre practice with the message of wanting a "sense of dance". The Variation incorporated lots of épaulement and they were encouraged with visual imagery to help with the style. This was a quick and demanding mature number for the students to really show their skills. The Winner of the Performers Ballet was Ebony Kitts from Hazelbiz Performers Academy and the Gladys Thorpe award went to Kirsty Little from Marron Theatre Arts.

It was a lovely day and we had taken young dancers of 8 and 10 years old to watch and they were in awe of the talent and truly felt inspired that one day they might just be on that stage! A true celebration of the talent which we have within the IDTA. Well done to all performers, assessors and organisers for such a rewarding event.

Following on from Saturday's successful day Sunday looked to be just as exciting with eager, talented dancers and their proud parents and supporters filling the venue.

The first class of the day was The Tap Grades. The class teacher back by popular demand was Mr Graeme Henderson, he immediately put all the nominees at ease with his clear delivery, which was not without his usual wit and interaction with the audience.

Mr Henderson highlighted the importance of the rhythmic quality and control. His experience in lecturing gave everyone the chance to be seen as the lines were regularly rotated.

The music for the routine was an upbeat one and Mr Henderson choreographed a pop tap. He reminded the nominees that Tap is a happy dance and the importance of making every beat count was emphasised. The performers class followed with a dynamic, rhythmical piece and again the nominees were reminded of the importance of the correct light and shade.

It was a most enjoyable morning. IDTA President Elect Lynda King came along to present the prizes

The Winner of The Tap Grade Class was Eloise Gledhill from The Adele Taylor School.

The Winner of The Performers Class was Hollie Jane Woodhouse from Betty Chappelle Dance Centre
Ken Dodd Award winners were Adrian Lawrence from Spotlight Theatre Arts and Hollie Jane Woodhouse.

The afternoon continued with the Modern Jazz Classes. The class teacher for these was Rosy Thompson. Once again it was so beneficial to the nominees to have a teacher who understood the procedure having been a nominee themselves and having graduated from Phil Winston's Theatreworks. Miss

Thompson has also worked extensively in Theatre and TV.

The nominees were put through their paces with corner work showing off their leaps and turns. The Grade class had a routine from The Lion King. It was an atmospheric piece where the use of Modern Jazz Lines were emphasised throughout. The dancers were encouraged to use their emotions and feel the dynamics of the music.

The performers class also had the chance to project their strength and control through the use of their Modern Jazz lines. They were instructed to feel the mood of the music and inject their own rhythmical expression.

All nominees were given attention to detail on lines, placings and rhythmical breathing.

Sir Gerald Kaufman former MP of Garton once again came along to support the event. He offered words of praise and encouragement to the nominees and applauded the efforts of the organisers, teachers, dancers and parents.

It was a fabulous day and was also supported by The Lord Mayor of Manchester Councillor Susan Cooley who presented the final awards of the day

Modern Jazz Grade Winner Chileshe Stobbs from Kathleen Knox School

Modern Jazz Performers Winner Sophie Turton from Cardwell Theatre School

The Winner of The Peggy Harrison Award was Hollie Jane Woodhouse from Betty Chappelle Dance Centre

Winner of The Pam Tidmarsh Award was Faith Hepburn from IBC School of Dance

Another year over and another amazing Theatre awards
Well done to the brilliant organisers

Well done dancers, the standard was very high. What talent the IDTA has.



Theatre Craft Grades
Emily Gardiner



Theatre Craft Performers
Chloe Hetherington



Bill Tasker
Abigail Tildesley
with Margaret Tasker



Ballet Grades
Millie Liddle with Jane Tumelty



Ballet Performers
Ebony Kitts



Veronica Tweedale Award
Sophie Purford with Olivia Pickford



Gladys Thorpe Award
Kirsty Little



Tap Grades
Eloise Gledhill



Tap Performers
Hollie Jane Woodhouse



Ken Dodd Girl
Hollie Jane Woodhouse with Lynda King & Graeme Henderson



Ken Dodd Boy
Adrian Lawrence



Modern Jazz Grades
Chileshe Stobbs



Modern Jazz Performers
Sophie Turton



Pamela Tidmarsh Award
Faith Hepburn



Peggy Harrison Award
Hollie Jane Woodhouse

spotlight on...



Past President of the IDTA, Raymond Draper celebrated his 80th birthday in his usual style at the centre of attention at the dance school he opened some 43 years ago. Although he retired 10 years ago, the sad loss of his wife Carol to Alzheimer's last year has seen Raymond spending more time at the dance centre recently. He dances every Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday at Drapers Dance Centre, enjoying the company of old and new friends.

Raymond would like to thank the many IDTA members that sent him birthday cards and well wishes and hopes to see many of you again soon."

