



Honorary Patron: Sir Jon Trimmer K.N.Z.M. M.B.E
Providing young dancers career opportunities & financial support

ALANA HAINES AUSTRALASIAN AWARDS

\$400,000 AWARDS



POST EVENT REPORT 2017

This biennial event was held at St James Theatre Wellington spanning 5 days over Easter weekend Thursday 13th – Mon 17th April 2017. It was attended by a record number of dance enthusiasts from throughout Australasia to view 500 Australasian contestants 11-18yrs competing for \$400,000 cash & Scholarship awards including recipient airfares paid by AHA Awards. The event commemorates a promising 11yr old Wellington dancer Alana, tragically killed Xmas eve 1989 & was founded in 1991 by Alana's mother & former RNZB dancer Katie Haines. The AHA Awards has become the largest & most prestigious dance awards event in Australasia & is supported by the dance community around the world. Scholarships are sponsored from the most sought after international dance schools from UK, USA, Canada, Europe & Australasia - judged by an elite international jury - this year from UK, Canada, Germany & Australia.

The Grand Finals on Monday evening was hosted by Sir Jon Trimmer (RNZB leading Artist) & presented 22 outstanding finalists to a full house with stunning Guest Performers including former AHA winners from Melbourne City Ballet (Ariana Hond & Tynan Wood) – Sydney Dance Company Pre-prof (Aaron Matheson & Chloe Paige Young) Royal Ballet School London (Harrison Lee) & Royal NZ Ballet (Laura Saxon Jones).

Directors of the Royal New Zealand Ballet, Melbourne City Ballet & Duchy Ballet Cornwall drew tutor raffles (Ballet tickets donated by RNZB/QLD Ballet/MCB) won by Southern Ballet Christchurch, Joanne Grace QLD & Katharine Mantle Perth.

AHA Awards provides young dancers a career platform & as a result many of our past finalists are international stars throughout the world. This 'UNIQUE' event is a **wonderful** tribute to a dedicated & talented dancer who was taken before she could reach her goal, but would want to help other like-minded dancers reach **their** goals.

Please refer to the website www.ahaawards.co.nz for a full list of the results etc.

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