

Spring Storm
Performing Arts Association of Notre Dame Australia
26th May 2018
Adjudicator: Ryan Taaffe

Thank you for the opportunity to see your production.

It was my first time at a "PAANDA" show I was greeted by the very friendly FOH staff and you have a very nice venue.

The set and the use of the space was outstanding. The set dressing was particularly apt and scene changes were well coordinated. The sound score was also well designed and implemented and did well to set the scene for the performance as it unfolded.

Whilst there was a mix of skill and ability of the stage the leads gave strong performances and had committed to their characters. Accents can often be difficult to maintain and at times some the actors let their diction suffer.

A little unsolicited advice – when you cast young actors to play older roles, particularly in character driven plays it is important to work with them on their physicality and generating movement from the character. These actor and actresses gave strong performances but often the physicality of the character was incongruous with the stage age of the character. Developing a character plot with backstory and key physical and mental characteristics may help younger actors with this.

Costuming was appropriate to the times but is important to watch the little things, socks that were too short or the wrong colour, costumes that had not been checked before going onstage and so were open or ripped or stained with make-up.

The production team worked to provide a vision for the performance and have succeeded.

I enjoyed my night at your performance and it was great to see a relatively unknown Williams performed. I look forward to returning to the next performance.