

Theatreview: Theatreview editorial and website management

Towards Managing Editor, Associate Editor and Web Master fees and Web hosting overheads.

External assessor 1

Submitted: 30/09/2016

Total weighted assessment score: 12/21

Overall comments

Question	Assessed Score	Comments
What: The idea - Allocate a mark based on your assessment of the strength and development of the idea/kaupapa/concept.	3	This proposal is for continued support of editorial and website management of the NZ theatre reviewing and archival website Theatreview. Theatreview is fast becoming an unnecessary tool for New Zealand theatre makers. There are other blog sites producing better, smarter writing that many shows don't even care or think to ask Theatreview to review their show anymore. They need to identify their weaknesses and put a strategy into place to work on it. Its greatest value currently is as an archive - it hasn't been proving useful for its reviewing, critiquing or discussing work for some time now. They need to move forward and educate themselves on new forms of performance and performance writing practices, internationally and nationally. I would understand supporting the idea that they might address the poor quality of their reviewing, but this sentiment is missing from this proposal. They are

		unaware of their weaknesses and failing reputation - or if they are aware they are refusing to believe that they need to change.
How: The process - Allocate a mark based on your confidence in the viability of the process and planned evaluation.	3	Again, they have not pinpointed what needs to happen to keep this site relevant for practitioners. This proposal is misguided in terms of its vision and understanding of its shifting role in the industry. There's a lack of evidence that this website is aware of the industry and keeping up with it.
Who: The people - Allocate a mark based on your assessment of the ability and experience of the person/people/organisation involved to deliver the project.	6	Raewyn and John are excellent and experienced people who care deeply and are passionate. But I'm unconvinced that they can shift the qualities that are currently becoming associated with Theatreview - that the writing is poor, lacks research and education, that it won't change and that it's only useful as an archive.

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External assessor 2

Submitted: 3/10/2016

Total weighted assessment score: 12/21

Overall comments

A tricky one. It would be a shame to see the site disappear but more rigour in clarifying purpose and lifting the standard of critical discourse needs continued investigation.

Question	Assessed Score	Comments
What: The idea - Allocate a mark based on your assessment of the strength and development of the idea/kaupapa/concept.	4	As a resource for researchers and a record of performance Theatreview has made a significant contribution. The nature of the reviewing , the selection / training of reviewers is an area I would like to see more fully analysed.
How: The process - Allocate a mark based on your confidence in the viability of the process and planned evaluation.	4	The project has proven viability. I would like to see more clear strategy in addressing the shortfalls of the website interface and the criticism of the standard of reviewing that is surfacing frequently. How are the two editors managed in achieving their KPIs- how are they set? Is there an advisory body that helps strengthen the project to become something more useful to audiences and artists alike?
Who: The people - Allocate a mark based on your assessment of the ability and experience of the person/people/organisation involved to deliver the project.	4	I have difficulty in assessing this project under the criteria. It can and has delivered content over the last few years. It seems to be one person who has driving

		<p>artistic/business vision for the project and applying the standards used to other applicants I have concerns about that delivery. However as a blog site, recording events and making commentary it has value. But there are now other sites emerging that I believe have more to offer. The reach of Theatreview over the whole country (sometime internationally) and in regions it is a noble aspiration that is unique and strengthens its case.</p>
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Theatre review: Theatre review editorial and website management

Towards Managing Editor, Associate Editor and Web Master fees and Web hosting overheads.

Assessed by: External assessor 3

Submitted: 30/09/2016

Total weighted assessment score: 21/21

Overall comments

I'd like to discuss what their funding mechanism has been up until now, what has the revenue been and from what sources. In short - is this an urgent and new departure? - seeking CNZ founding at this level and clearly needing on-going longer-term commitment... I note from their website they are currently funded by CNZ - I'd be keen to learn the history of this.

Question	Assessed Score	Comments
What: The idea - Allocate a mark based on your assessment of the strength and development of the idea/kaupapa/concept.	7	Theatre review is a vital part of the fabric of our performing arts community. Used by public and industry to an enormous extent as advised in the analysis provided.
How: The process - Allocate a mark based on your confidence in the viability of the process and planned evaluation.	7	Sound model
Who: The people - Allocate a mark based on your assessment of the ability and experience of the person/people/organisation involved to deliver the project.	7	