

2007 Artstrek Scholarship recipient

Devon Belcourt

My experience at the zone festival was one of discovery. Having no previous experience in drama since junior high, I expected that that being thrust into a drama festival would be a new world. However, I never expected what I got. Stepping into a dressing room, running through tech and receiving overpowering applause for a drama performance were all things I had experienced for the first time. I watched some amazing plays, saw some amazing actors and realised that drama is a lot more fun than I thought it was. I also found that it was a lot harder than I thought it was. Stepping out into an audience of one hundred to two hundred people is a hard thing to do, especially when you are very literally “in the spotlight”. If the fear of forgetting your lines is not enough to bring you to your knees, the fear of letting your schools drama teacher down should do the trick. I was asked to not reach for laughs but to try my hardest to be “big”. If I got it right or not, I’m not sure. However, it was interesting to see that acting is really something that has to be practiced to get “just right” and I’m a long way from being an expert. Most of all, what I learned from the Zone 3 festival was that I love drama. I love the anxiety you get just before running on stage, I love the reaction of the crowd and I really love the people who involve themselves in drama. Please help me continue my pursuit of drama.