Rhona Lawrence is recognised for her exceptional lifelong contribution to Highland Dancing as a teacher, examiner, adjudicator, organiser, and ambassador. For more than sixty years, she has played a significant role in preserving, developing, and promoting Highland Dancing both in Scotland and internationally.

Since beginning her teaching career in the 1960s, Rhona has trained generations of dancers, including a World Champion and several World Championship finalists. Many former pupils have gone on to become successful teachers and adjudicators, reflecting her commitment to excellence and tradition.

As a senior examiner and respected adjudicator, Rhona has officiated at major events including the Commonwealth, UK, City of Aberdeen, and World Championships at Cowal. She has also made a substantial contribution to UKAdance through syllabus development, examiner training, governance, and as Highland President.

Internationally, Rhona has taught and adjudicated throughout South Africa, the United States, Canada, Australia, and Russia, where she trained the country's first Highland Dance teacher. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she helped develop online teaching and examination solutions, supporting dancers and teachers worldwide.

In addition to her Highland Dancing achievements, Rhona has given over twenty years of service to Aberdeenshire Clubsport, supporting grassroots sport and cultural development. In 2026, she received a Special Recognition Award for her outstanding contribution to Highland Dancing and community sport.

Rhona Lawrence's dedication, leadership, and lasting influence have had a profound impact on Highland Dancing, making her a highly deserving recipient of the Atholl Clasp.