



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

New Zealand National
Commission for UNESCO

Te Kōmihana Matua o Aotearoa mō UNESCO

ANNUAL REVIEW 2020





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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



2020 has been a year of immense change, and we have all viewed the world and our place in it differently. It has been a year where information, access to it, and the veracity of material published has been of vital importance. We've all been alerted to the dangers of misinformation - it can be deadly.

UNESCO played a significant role throughout the year with campaigns combating dis/misinformation; promoting open science; creating networks and resources for educators during lockdowns; and highlighting the value of press freedom.

The importance of this advocacy, coupled with UNESCO's global reach, has meant that throughout the confusion of 2020 citizens across the world have had access to accurate, credible information. Here in New Zealand we've kept up that work.

Towards the end of the year we held the Global Citizenship Education Ideas Exchange. This event brought together inspiring examples of how thinking broadly and acting as connected global citizens we can find solutions and create change locally that can inform and influence thinking and actions internationally. Our speakers ranged in age and experience and wowed the audience with their innovative ideas in the areas of medical science, arts, entrepreneurship and sustainability.

Because of the pandemic many of our scheduled programmes and funded projects incurred significant delays throughout the year. In response to this, and the uncertainty that was being faced, the Commission offered minor grants funding with an open-ended application deadline to help meet the needs of communities; projects with a focus on creative and innovative ways to maintain connection during COVID-19 were welcomed.

One project that received global attention and received a grant, was the Te Rito Toi project www.teritotoi.org. Te Rito Toi was developed to provide resources to schools to help students return successfully after the long absence and disruption of lockdown. Using the creative arts to help students and teachers is at the heart of the project.

In the first month after lockdown more than 37,000 teachers accessed and used the site, and the programme has received interest from 114 countries wanting to emulate the approach. We are thrilled we could help provide some seed funding to help get this successful initiative up and running.

The year showed that we are resourceful: in a challenging environment we continued to promote the values of UNESCO and we revised our planned work programme to meet new and emerging needs. In taking stock of 2020 I am confident we are equipped to meet the challenges of 2021.

Robyn Baker ONZM

Te Pae Tawhiti | Vision

Toitū te māramatanga,
Toitū te ora,
Toitū te whenua

Te Pae Tata | Mission

Ko te tūhono i a Aotearoa ki UNESCO me te ao whānui, mā te whakatītina me te whakawhitiwhiti i ngā puna whakaaro o tēnā, o tēnā. Ko te hāpai i te mātauranga me ngā pūkenga e pai ake ai te ao anamata mō te katoa.

Connecting Aotearoa-New Zealand to UNESCO and the world by the fostering and sharing of ideas; and contributing to building the knowledge and capabilities needed to ensure a better future for all.

Te Mana Whakahaere | Mandate

The National Commission ensures the permanent presence of UNESCO in New Zealand. As a country founded on the Treaty of Waitangi and as a foundation member of UNESCO the Commission represents and promotes New Zealand's interests while contributing to the development of UNESCO strategic priorities and programmes. The National Commission contributes to the building of peace, equitable and sustainable development, and intercultural dialogue, paying particular attention to the needs and interests of the Asia and Pacific region.

NGĀ ARONGA RAUTAKI MĀTĀMUA A TE KŌMIHANA MATUA

NATIONAL COMMISSION STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

1. Providing a catalyst for New Zealanders to engage in life-long learning and to be innovative and responsible global citizens
2. Protecting and celebrating New Zealand's taonga past, present and future by connecting our unique indigenous culture, natural heritage and communities with national and international communities
3. Nurturing and connecting diverse forms of knowledge based on scientific evidence, traditional knowledge and intercultural dialogue to enhance decision making and foster mutual understanding
4. Promoting access to information and knowledge that contributes to building respect for justice, law, human rights and fundamental freedoms
5. Furthering and enhancing the scope of UNESCO's work by strengthening relationships and engaging with UNESCO at the national, regional and international level through its work programme and by collaboration with stakeholders

KEY ACTIONS

The following four areas of action underpin the delivery of the 2018-2021 strategic priorities.

1. Engaging New Zealanders with the ideas and work of UNESCO and the New Zealand National Commission
2. Supporting activities that align with the National Commission's strategic priorities
3. Strengthening the National Commission's relationships within Aotearoa/New Zealand
4. Contributing to the international community

1. Ko te whakatenatena i a Ngāi Aotearoa kia whai wāhi atu ki te ako taumano, kia tū hoki hei kiri auaha, hei kiri haepapa o roto i te ao whānui
2. Ko te tiaki, ko te whakanui i ngā taonga o onamata, o nāianeī, o anamata o Aotearoa, mā te tūhono i tō tātou ahurea taketake, tō tātou taiao māori, me ō tātou hapori, ki ngā hapori ā-motu, ā-tāwāhi anō hoki
3. Ko te poipoi, ko te tūhonohono i ngā peka mātauranga matatini e takea mai ana i te taunakitanga pūtaiao, i te mātauranga o uki, me te whakawhitinga kōrero ā-ahurea, e pai ake ai te whakatatū take, hei whakatītina hoki i te aro taupuhipuhi
4. Ko te whakatairanga i te whai wāhitanga atu ki ngā mōhiotanga me te mātauranga, e hāpaitia ai te haepapa, te ture, ngā mōtika me te mana tūāpapa o te tangata
5. Ko te kōkiri, ko te whakapiki i te korahi o ngā mahi a UNESCO, mā te whakapakari i ngā piringa, mā te mahi tahi me UNESCO i ngā kaupapa ā-rohe, ā-motu, a te ao whānui hoki, mā roto i tana hōtaka mahi, me te mahi anō i te taha o te hunga e whai pānga ana

NGĀ TINO MAHI

1. Ko te kukume i a Ngāi Aotearoa kia aro mai ki ngā whakaaro me ngā mahi a UNESCO me Te Kōmihana Matua o Aotearoa
2. Ko te tautoko i ngā mahi e rite ana ki ngā aronga rautaki mātāmua a Te Kōmihana Matua
3. Ko te whakapakari i ngā piringa a Te Kōmihana Matua, i roto i Aotearoa tonu
4. Ko te hāpai i te hapori ao whānui



PROGRAMMES

The National Commission supports New Zealand's engagement in several significant UNESCO programmes. These programmes encompass a range of activities and support for one-off projects and ongoing networks to share knowledge and connect people.

UNESCO Memory of the World New Zealand

The International Memory of the World Register, administered by UNESCO, seeks to identify items of documentary heritage which have worldwide significance. In 2020, five new inscriptions were added to the New Zealand register. The successful nominated collections were:

Crown Purchase Deeds (Archives New Zealand); Robyn Hyde literary and personal papers (Alexander Turnbull Library and University of Auckland Library); Olaf Petersen Collection (Auckland War Memorial Museum); Colin and Anne McCahon papers (Hocken Collections); Suzanne Aubert's Manuscript of Māori Conversation (Sisters of Compassion). A ceremony to celebrate the new inscriptions and the host institutions will be held in early 2021.

In October, the UNESCO Memory of the World Aotearoa New Zealand Trust appointed Jane Wild as their new Chair. Ms Wild is a documentary heritage specialist who is the Principal Curator Rare Books at Auckland Council.

Above: Aotearoa Music Producer Series taking place in Tāmaki Makaurau.

UNESCO Creative Cities Network

The UNESCO Creative Cities Network unifies cities that base their development on creativity; spanning music, arts and folk crafts, design, cinema, literature, digital arts or gastronomy.

It was created in 2004 to promote cooperation with and among cities that have identified creativity as a strategic factor for sustainable urban development.

In November, the National Commission hosted the inaugural meeting of New Zealand Creative Cities Network in Wellington, which brought together the Mayors and their offices in Auckland, Dunedin and Wellington. The richness of the discussion highlighted the commitment of the cities to work together and to support UNESCO's future work programmes and mandate to ensure strong support for arts and creativity globally.

DUNEDIN UNESCO CITY OF LITERATURE

An inventive project bringing people to a "poetry clinic", sought to treat literature as a dose of medicine. The public was encouraged to visit the Poetry on Prescription Clinic located in the Dunedin City Library for a one-on-one injection of restorative and uplifting verse. Everyone who attended received a collectible poetic gift as a memento of their experience. Due to the positive feedback and overwhelming success of this first-time event, it is planned to repeat annually.

A new take on the end of year "best of" lists saw the UNESCO Cities of Literature, led by Iowa City, take to Twitter from Monday 7 December to Wednesday 23 December with their lists of "17 Books for the 17 SDGs". One of the UN's 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) was highlighted each day with books affiliated with the subject.

AUCKLAND UNESCO CITY OF MUSIC

Auckland City of Music continued to support and promote its music sector throughout the pandemic, notably as a constituent part of the sector response effort to COVID-19 via Music Helps Live, which raised close to a million dollars to support musicians and workers in the industry in need.

Auckland was proud to once again support the Aotearoa Music Producer Series (AMPS) which seeks to grow and develop the skills and knowledge of those working in sound engineering and production. Curated by internationally renowned producer, Greg Haver, the workshops saw 10 producers impart their knowledge to over 250 participants.

Auckland was also involved in Band Mash-Up, a project that was led by Hannover City of Music to celebrate World Music Day (Fête de la Musique). It involved musicians from Auckland, Hannover and Liverpool, as well as Poznań and Rouen (Hannover

sister cities) collaborating online to write and release a new track. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p4RNx2UYqLI>

The Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra kicked off a global broadcast celebrating the 250th birthday of Beethoven with Symphony No.6 'Pastoral' conducted by Douglas Boyd. 15 Cities of Music collaborated to produce a continuous live-stream of Beethoven works to mark the composer's birthday.

Creative Cities mobilized against Covid-19 (unesco.org) <https://en.unesco.org/covid19/cultureresponsecreative-cities-mobilized-against-covid-19>

WELLINGTON UNESCO CITY OF FILM

At the end of November 2020, Wellington UNESCO City of Film was officially launched, with a public event in Wellington bringing together writers, actors, and directors who've contributed to the city's cinematic history. The showreel of films showed the diversity, history and wealth of cinema that has been produced in Wellington. The city's strategy aims to increase access to screen experiences and promote diverse voices including young people, Māori and Pacific storytellers. By partnering with mana whenua and other community groups the first year of the strategy will ensure the filmmakers are able to tell their own stories in their own words.



Top: Bic Runga chatting at the Aotearoa Music Producer Series. Above: Dunedin poetry clinic offering literary advice.

TARGET AREAS

The National Commission organises its work through target areas, covering: Global Citizenship Education, Indigenous Knowledge, Oceans for the Wellbeing of People and Planet, Freedom of Responsible Expression and UNESCO Geoparks. This work includes creating opportunities for increased international connections and funding domestic activities to help implement these priorities. Here are some highlights of projects that the National Commission has supported in these areas in 2020.

Global Citizenship Education – Ideas Exchange

Global Citizenship Education (GCED) is one of the strategic areas of UNESCO’s Education Sector programme for the period 2014-2021. By adopting diverse cultural perspectives and approaches, GCED empowers people to face and resolve local and global challenges, and to become proactive contributors to a more peaceful, inclusive and secure world.

The Global Citizenship Education Ideas Exchange hosted by the National Commission in October brought together a range of voices at the National Library in Wellington, sharing projects that have had a positive impact on their communities.

The Ideas Exchange welcomed four speakers whose presentations traversed subjects such as: the arts in dealing with trauma, spirituality, prison education, mental health and innovation – highlighting that GCED takes many forms.

As well as the appreciative audience in Wellington, a wider community across New Zealand was able to follow the live-streamed conference online.

THE SPEAKERS

Shruthi Vijayakumar shared her work at the Emerge Institute, helping to develop compassionate leadership skills for entrepreneurs and those working to make positive changes in our society.

Josh Villanueva is a high school student at St John’s College in Hastings, Hawke’s Bay. Josh spoke about the work he is doing with his contemporaries to help improve policy outcomes at central government level and why being connected to your community is important.

Fred Devereux, also a student at St John’s College, presented a creative and innovative project undertaken with his peers to develop technology for sustainable solutions to problems faced by rural communities.



Top: Carol Mutch, Bella Simpson, Robyn Baker, Vanisa Dhiru. **Middle:** The four GCED speakers. **Bottom:** Professor Peter O’Connor with Education Commissioner Carol Mutch.

Professor Peter O’Connor is Director of the Centre for Arts and Social Transformation at the University of Auckland. Peter used highlights from his project, Te Rito Toi, which uses the arts to support teachers and their students find a smoother transition back to school after crises and trauma.

Indigenous knowledge

Working with Te Taura Whiri and the Ministry for Pacific Peoples on indigenous languages

Following the success during the International Year of Indigenous Languages in 2019, the UN General Assembly proclaimed 2022-2032 as the International Decade of Indigenous Languages. In 2019, the National Commission worked with Te Taura Whiri - The Māori Language Commission on New Zealand's contribution to the year and we are looking to continue this relationship as we move towards the Decade.

This relationship is seen in the endorsement by the National Commission of Professor Rawinia Higgins (Chair of Te Taura Whiri), to be a Pacific region representative on the International Decade of Indigenous Languages' (IDIL) Global Task Force. Rawinia was one of three elected out of eight nominees at a virtual meeting of indigenous language activists from across the Pacific. In the nomination, Te Taura Whiri noted that Professor Higgins represents Te Whare o te Reo Mauriora: the house of living language. The National Commission had supported Professor Higgins to attend the **HELISSET TTE SKÁL - Let the Languages Live** conference in Canada in June 2019.



Professor Rawinia Higgins.

Pacific Climate Change Conference

The conference brought together a diverse group of speakers from New Zealand, the Pacific and the rest of the world. There was a variety of disciplines represented including science, legal, philosophical, indigenous knowledge and communities. The conference was opened by the Prime Minister of Samoa and the Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea. The conference comprised many workstreams such as: Traditional Knowledge and Science, Law as a Tool for Change, The Changing Pacific, Pacific Livelihoods, Community Based Approaches, and Enabling Environmental Policy Frameworks. The National Commission provided a minor grant (\$5000) to support the costs associated with the conference.

UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development 2021 - 2030

The United Nations has proclaimed a Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021 - 2030) to support efforts to reverse the cycle of decline in ocean health and gather global ocean stakeholders to build a common framework for improving the sustainable development of the ocean. In Aotearoa-New Zealand, the National Commission sees the Oceans Decade as an opportunity to highlight the importance of indigenous knowledge including mātauranga Māori to the sustainable development of the oceans.

Establishment of the New Zealand Oceans Decade Reference Group

The inaugural meeting of the Reference Group on the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development was held in December 2020 in Wellington. The meeting brought together a wide range of experts to provide advice on New Zealand's contribution to the Ocean Science Decade. The members are: Hoturoa Barclay-Kerr (Tainui), Dr Bill Fry, Dr Carolyn Lundquist, Professor Lionel Carter, Professor Huhana Smith (Ngāti Tukorehe, Ngāti Raukawa ki Te Tonga), Linda Faulkner (Ngāti Rangī), Associate Professor Ocean Mercier (Ngāti Porou), Associate Professor Rebecca Priestley, Schannel van Dijken, Dr Daniel Hikuroa (Ngāti Maniapoto, Tainui, Te Arawa), Emeritus Professor Tagaloatele Peggy Fairbairn-Dunlop, Dr Geoff Hicks.

UNESCO Global Geoparks Programme

The Waitaki Whitestone Aspiring UNESCO Global Geopark project resubmitted a strengthened dossier at the end of 2019 and was anticipating a site visit by assessors during 2020. However, like so much else this year the site visit was unable to take place owing to the inability of assessors to travel during the coronavirus pandemic. We are currently awaiting an update on UNESCO's plans for the completion of outstanding site assessments.



UNESCO AOTEAROA YOUTH LEADERS

While the pandemic stifled the opportunity for any face-to-face international activity, our UNESCO Aotearoa Youth Leaders found plenty of home-grown events where they could apply their leadership skills, and several virtual meetings, both local and international, including our Youth Leaders' Hui in May which was held entirely online.



1.5 DEGREES LIVE

Youth Leaders Anne-Sophie Pagé and Brodie Cross joined the week-long 1.5 Degrees Live event in Christchurch in January. The event asked citizens and high-profile New Zealanders to read in public the 2018 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report on the impacts of global warming. Alongside business and community leaders, politicians, artists, sports people, academics, farmers, activists Anne-Sophie and Brodie read aloud a section of the report.

TE HERENGA HUI

The Environmental Protection Agency's Te Herenga hui (11-12 March) at Takapūwāhia Marae in Porirua invited rangatahi Māori for the first time. Grounded in Te Ao Māori, the hui drew on whakapapa as a means to activate kaitiaki (guardianship) responsibilities towards the environment. Youth Leaders Morgan King and Brodie Cross represented the National Commission at the hui, noting the kaupapa's connection to the GCED and indigenous knowledge target areas.

Left: Brodie Cross and Anne-Sophie Pagé.

HACK-A-THON

In October Naheed Saeid spent a day at a 'hack-a-thon'/game design session run by Gamefroot, an organisation aiming to blur the line between game design and education. The session brought together education providers, game designers, students and anyone else interested in exploring the use of games in the education sector. The aim was to design game ideas around the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Gamefroot recorded the ideas and plan to produce resources for schools to help them develop meaningful content for using UN themes in the classroom.

FESTIVAL FOR THE FUTURE

One event which featured international participants went ahead - online - was the Festival for the Future in July. The first virtual FFtF Summit brought together youth from over 50 countries to join the kōrero, covering a wide range of topics such as SDGs, racism, wellbeing, hope, equity, climate change, innovation, and recovery post COVID-19.

Youth Leader Shahin Najak staffed the virtual NZ National Commission booth and fielded questions about our work and focus. Several other Youth Leaders also attended and joined in the conversation about where they see the world heading and how they want to shape that.

UNICEF RANGATAHI HUI

Bella Simpson attended UNICEF's Rangatahi Wānanga in Rotorua from 27-29 November. The youth gathering aimed to empower rangatahi voices, increase their advocacy skills, and enhance their abilities to express their views and amplify their voices. The programme of inspirational speakers included three workshops. One explored opinion, truth and unconscious bias, another used video making to reflect rangatahi views of the world, and the third sought input to UNICEF's first ever Aotearoa New Zealand rangatahi brand design. In the process, participants had the opportunity to develop new media skills as well as explore their voices, views and ideas together.

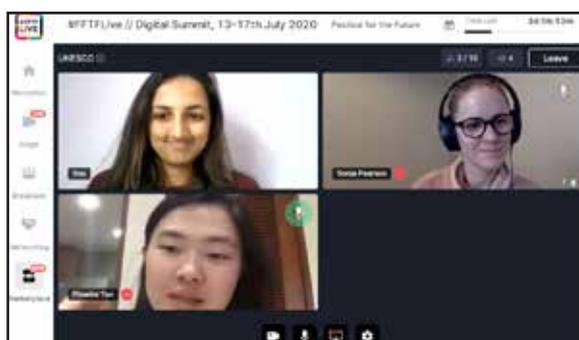
WORLD YOUTH CONFERENCE ON KINDNESS

UNESCO MGIEP hosted the 2nd World Youth Conference on Kindness focusing on the theme of Kindness for Peaceful and Sustainable Co-existence, celebrating the 75th anniversary of the UN and to re-affirm the central role of empathy, compassion and kindness to achieve the SDGs. Shahin Najak attended, following up from her initial participation at the first Conference in Delhi 2019. There were many speakers from around the world sharing their stories on the importance of more empathy from government departments. There were also performances through zoom from youth organisations including from Cambodia.

Shahin was again a member of the declaration team with highlights of the final document included the addition of a clause calling for increased awareness on the commitments made on the Paris Climate Change Agreement, and reducing the spread of misinformation and messages of hate on social media, particularly within youth networks. This was a key focus point following on from the Christchurch Call. The Declaration is available on **Global Youth Declaration on Kindness for the Sustainable Development Goals** ([unesco.org](https://mgiep.unesco.org/article/global-youth-declaration-on-kindness-for-the-sustainable-development-goals)) <https://mgiep.unesco.org/article/global-youth-declaration-on-kindness-for-the-sustainable-development-goals>

UNESCO GLOBAL YOUTH COMMUNITY

The UNESCO Global Youth Community (GYC) was launched online on 9 November. The Community is an outcome of discussions at the 11th UNESCO Youth Forum in Paris in November 2019, for which Ashlee Peacock was a steering group member. The Youth Forum gathered 75 young people from all regions of the world who are leading ground-breaking change in their countries and communities in the areas of UNESCO focus. They discussed strategies to improve youth engagement with UNESCO, resulting in themes such as 'youth consulted', 'youth contributing', 'youth as partners', and 'youth as leaders'. Ashlee noted the value of enabling cross collaboration, cross learnings and teachings from around the globe, remarking that the GYC has the potential to serve as a great platform to see how other member states around the globe are tracking with youth initiatives and projects.



Top: Youth Leader Naheed Saeid at the Gamefroot game design session. **Above:** Shahin Najak (top left) online at the World Youth Conference for Kindness.



INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

The Coronavirus pandemic turned 2020 into the year of the virtual meeting, or 'zui' in the New Zealand context. 'Social distancing' embedded itself in the world's vocabulary and the effective embargo on international travel for most New Zealanders compelled us to adopt alternative strategies for our international representation.

The National Commission Secretariat participated in several online forums throughout 2020. Although many people found the use of technological solutions proved successful it was still a big shift from the face-to-face international exchanges that are so central to UNESCO's work.

One significant event the Secretariat attended was the virtual **Pacific Regional Consultation** hosted by UNESCO Apia, to develop a regional response to the biennial draft programme and budget. This was the first time that Secretaries General and Secretariats from across the Pacific region had met virtually to exchange ideas. One of the key ideas discussed was ensuring that the upcoming Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development should include a strong Pacific contribution and recognition of the major impact climate change has had for Pacific States.

During 2020 UNESCO refocused its work to address the impacts of the pandemic on education, culture, communications and science. The **Global Education Coalition** was established to support the continuation of education for the 1.5 billion students and youth across the planet who have been affected by school and university closures due to the pandemic. UNESCO developed and shared many resources to help support education, culture and to combat misinformation during the pandemic, including a Covid map of school closures, and campaigns about the importance of tolerance and science and against misinformation, which ran throughout the year.

The National Commission has promoted and shared this work with its networks including international campaigns, research and online debates to foster freedom of information and to combat false or misleading information about COVID-19.

PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY THE NATIONAL COMMISSION

The National Commission seeks to realise its mission and strategic priorities through a diverse work programme. To maximise impact, the National Commission allocates funding to projects and activities that contribute to our agreed priorities.

Major Grants 2020

In 2020 the National Commission supported five projects through major grants. Major Grant recipients receive funding of up to \$30,000. The following projects received a Major Grant:

ORGANISATION

Polynesian Panther Party 50th Anniversary Committee

PROJECT

Polynesian Panthers – Educate to Liberate

SUMMARY

The National Commission has provided a grant to support education about the Polynesian Panthers Party (PPP) in celebration of their 50th anniversary. Founded in 1971 to advocate for Pacific people's rights in Aotearoa New Zealand, the PPP played a pivotal role providing legal aid to detainees arrested during the infamous dawn raids of 1973-76. It also ran food co-ops and homework centres, advocated for tenants and promoted Pacific languages. It is credited as a forerunner to modern-day community activism. The Educate to Liberate project will run for a year. Travelling through the country the project will celebrate and document Polynesian Panther Party history and whakapapa from the communities it worked with. PPP members will give presentations around the country, sharing their knowledge and their contribution to social justice and the fight against racism in Aotearoa-New Zealand.

ORGANISATION

Auckland Festival Trust

PROJECT

50th Anniversary Celebration of the Polynesian Panthers Party

SUMMARY

In March 2021 the Auckland Festival Trust is staging three events that recognise the importance of the Polynesian Panthers Party in New Zealand history. An exhibition - Dawn Raids, a symposium and a street festival in Ponsonby will celebrate the positive work spanning 50 years of the Polynesian Panthers Party (PPP).

ORGANISATION:

UNITEC

PROJECT:

Takiwā: Assessing the regenerative land use and education needs of a community in a catchment

SUMMARY:

This project will, through community engagement, develop an educational framework to support regenerative land use in the Mangakahia region.

ORGANISATION

GB Trust

PROJECT

Whenua Ūkaipō –Connectedness

SUMMARY

Whenua Ūkaipō Connectedness was an exhibition of 17 newly commissioned visual artworks accompanied by a public programme exploring a multicultural and Te Ao Māori world view of Te Taiao – the natural environment – to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the United Nations. Each artwork reflected one of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. The exhibition and programme of events took place in November 2020 in Public Trust Hall at the heart of Wellington's government precinct, enabling the art to be considered in the context of political decision-making and global connection. The exhibition is now online and can be found at <https://whenuaukaipo.nz/exhibition>

ORGANISATION:

Manukau Football Club

PROJECT:

Promoting self-determination and equity through sport

SUMMARY:

This project will promote social inclusion through developing resources that tackle racism in sport particularly football. The resources will be developed through interviews with Manukau young people to gather insights based on experiences of racism and discrimination. The resources, including online material, will be shared across sporting codes and within the South Auckland area.



Whenua Ūkaipō exhibition opening in Wellington.

Community participants in Whakaroa ngā whenua whamā.



Major Grants 2019 outcomes

While three major grants were issued in 2019 with the intention of taking place in 2020, because of delays due to travel restrictions associated with COVID-19, only one project was fully realised during the year; the other two funded projects, Our Hijrah and Deliberative Democracy, will be fully completed in 2021.



Whakaroa ngā whenua whamā project work in the field.

ORGANISATION

Unitec

PROJECT

Whakaroa ngā whenua whamā

SUMMARY

Unitec's Whakaroa ngā whenua whamā project used mātauranga Māori and western science to protect and restore the soil on rural farms in Te Tai Tokerau. The aim was to produce scientific evidence in support of regenerative farming.

The project prompted broad engagement with the farming community, both Māori and Pākehā, through the events it hosted. In total approximately 800 people were engaged through various activities and the project was a catalyst for wide, ongoing regional engagement. The project was considered an exemplar for bicultural research in Te Tai Tokerau and there are plans for further soil investigations as a result of this project.

Minor Grants 2020

16 minor grants in total were administered during 2020. Because of the pandemic the Minor Grant fund was refocused to support projects that responded to COVID-19 to ensure the Commission could respond to community needs, on an as needed basis. Minor Grants are awarded to support projects that help enrich the National Commission's strategic priorities and provide opportunities for New Zealanders to engage in UNESCO related work. Here is a selection of projects that were supported in 2020.



Sustainable Development Goals Lesson Plans

12 school lesson plans have been developed by Victoria University's Wellington School of Government to provide NZ-specific teaching material to explore the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The resources have been developed to create New Zealand specific material to support greater understanding of each SDG from an individual, local, national and global perspective.

Te Rito Toi

Te Rito Toi is an online resource developed to support teachers as they returned to classrooms after the coronavirus lockdown in New Zealand. It builds on research about schools operating post-disaster, including Christchurch post-earthquake and post-terror attack, using the arts to manage the stories, questions and issues children bring to the classroom after trauma or crisis. In its first month online more than 37,000 teachers in New Zealand accessed the site, and webinars about using the arts to support wellbeing attracted more than 30,000 teachers in Australia and New Zealand.



Te Rito Toi students.

Verb Wellington LitCrawl 2020

The LitCrawl writers festival has grown from a one-night event in 2014 into a year-round experience bringing communities together to share in the power of stories and their tellers. In 2020 the National Commission funded the sessions for Ghazaleh Golbakhsh and Mohamed Hassan, two writers who also work in film and media. Hassan interviewed Golbakhsh about her memoir "The Girl From Revolutionary Road" at the November festival talking about post-revolution Iran, migration to New Zealand, making art as part of a diaspora, New Zealand's relationship with the Middle East, and how their personal stories connect with audiences across the country and worldwide.



Ghazaleh Golbakhsh

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR FOUNDATIONS



The New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO acknowledges the sad passing of Keri Kaa (Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāti Porou, Rongowhakaata) CNZM QSO.

From 2003 to 2009, Keri was the Culture Commissioner for the NZ National Commission for UNESCO. Keri Kaa was born in Rangitukia near the East Cape, the tenth child of the Rev. Tipi and Hoho Kaa. She was educated at Rangitukia Māori School, Queen Victoria School, Auckland Girls' Grammar School, and in 1961 was an American Field Service Scholar. After teaching in primary and secondary schools in Rangitukia, Wellington and the Hawke's Bay, she lectured at Wellington Teachers College for 15 years.

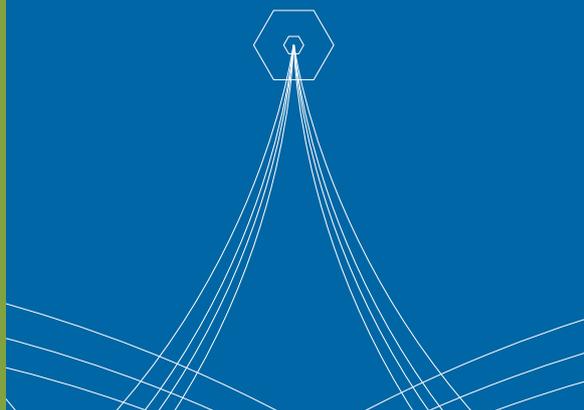
For six years as Culture Commissioner she led continued support for Māori Arts in New Zealand and internationally. Her knowledge of te reo Māori and tikanga greatly enhanced the National Commission's work and her strong advocacy for all indigenous languages was influential at UNESCO internationally.

Moe mai ra.



The National Commission also acknowledges the passing of Krystyna Downey. Krystyna served as Secretary (General) for the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO for 12 years.

As a young girl she came to New Zealand at the beginning of World War II from Poland. Krystyna attended secondary school in Auckland and went on to complete a Bachelor of Arts. After finishing her degree, she became a public servant and later travelled to Europe. After a stint of six months at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris in 1961 she returned to Wellington, and to the National Commission, where she took up the role of Secretary General.



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