



**WAKA PACIFIC**

# SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

Enabled by Due Drop Foundation

## 2023



whitewater park.



**Due Drop  
Events Centre**



# KIA ORA

Welcome to our Schools Programme 2023! Through Due Drop Events Centre and Vector Wero Whitewater Park we are able to continue to commit to providing high quality educational events, learning experiences outside the classroom, and subsidised activities now serving more than 80,000 students as of 2022.

In addition to its educational workshops and activities, the Due Drop Events Centre Schools Programme will be collaborating with three of Auckland's best children's theatre companies. In April, Tim Bray Productions will be presenting "The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch", A much-loved New Zealand stage adventure, where high seas, high adventure and hi-jinks abound!

For the first time ever, we are collaborating with two other well known theatre companies, National Youth Theatre and Nightsong. The National Youth Theatre is bringing their show, Moana, which gives the opportunity for all students to be a part of the show whether it be acting or behind the scenes in production. Nightsong is an acclaimed theatre company, bringing their trademark visual style to this delightfully surreal and absurd show, The Worm. This show will entertain young and old alike. We are so excited to be building upon our schools programme and believe these opportunities will enrich lives.

Vector Wero Whitewater Park now delivers what we believe to be the world's largest water safety education programme provided by such a facility. Working with our partners and co-sponsors, schools have easier access to river crossing and river safety where the students learn survival skills in moving water. We also offer kayaking, stand up paddleboarding, and rafting activities. These activities teach important life skills while giving students a fantastic and memorable experience!

We invite you to join us and take full advantage of all of our programmes. These workshops, activities and events are very popular, so we encourage you to book early and contact our team today.

**Morgan Darkwa**  
**Community and Marketing Manager**

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## CREATIVE ARTS PROGRAMMES

The Due Drop Events Centre Schools Programme has three streams. The Experience Stream, the Intensive Stream and the Access Stream.

The Experience Stream features a series of fully sponsored programmes available to students in year 1-13. Students participate for free in authentic arts-based learning experiences. These are led by professional arts practitioners, artisans and established arts organisations with workshops based on educational experiences in dance, drama, traditional arts and visual arts. These programmes are designed to complement the New Zealand Ministry of Education's Learning Experiences Outside the Classroom (LEOTC) making them an excellent school-based learning experience that cannot be replicated in the classroom environment.

We also partner and collaborate with arts organisations which have existing educational programmes. Our support and collaboration allow our partners' programmes to grow in quality and educate more students.

The Intensive Stream is comprised of initiatives in partnership with professional arts practitioners, educators and organisations. It is an artist residency programme where students have the opportunity to work with artists for an extended period of time.

The Schools Programme also has an Access Stream. Under this programme, we fully or partially sponsor school productions to provide students with the experience of working in a professional theatre or arena.



## BALLET IN A BOX

**Dance | Years 1-13**

When: 14 – 15 September

11am & 1pm (Including a Relaxed and Sensory Friendly event with NZ Sign Interpreter)

Cost: Free

Ballet in a Box is a magical introduction to the world of ballet for school children of all ages. These Royal New Zealand Ballet FREE 60 minute performances feature an hour of dance highlights and the chance to ask lots of questions.

We are pleased to also offer free dance workshops to groups attending these performances. Incorporating elements from the performances these workshops at your school are a wonderful way to get your students dancing in a relaxed and comfortable environment. No previous dance experience required.

The relaxed performance of Ballet in a Box includes a sensory-friendly environment with NZ Sign Interpreter. This performance features a more casual approach to the front of house etiquette and to noise in the auditorium. Best suited, but not limited to those on the autism spectrum, with special needs or other sensitivity issues that are looking for a comfortable environment to enjoy the performance. The aim of this performance is to minimise patrons' anxiety and to ensure their time in the theatre is safe and enjoyable.

For more information and to register please visit

[www.duedropeventscentre.org.nz/ballet-in-a-box](http://www.duedropeventscentre.org.nz/ballet-in-a-box)

## DANCEwithME

**Dance | Years 4-8**

The Royal New Zealand Ballet is coming to Auckland again for *DANCEwithME!*

An RNZB Dance Educator will work with your school to create a dance over a series of weeks, culminating in a shared performance at the Events Centre on Thursday 21 September.

When: 8 weeks leading up to the 21 September. Time and days to be decided in discussion with each school.

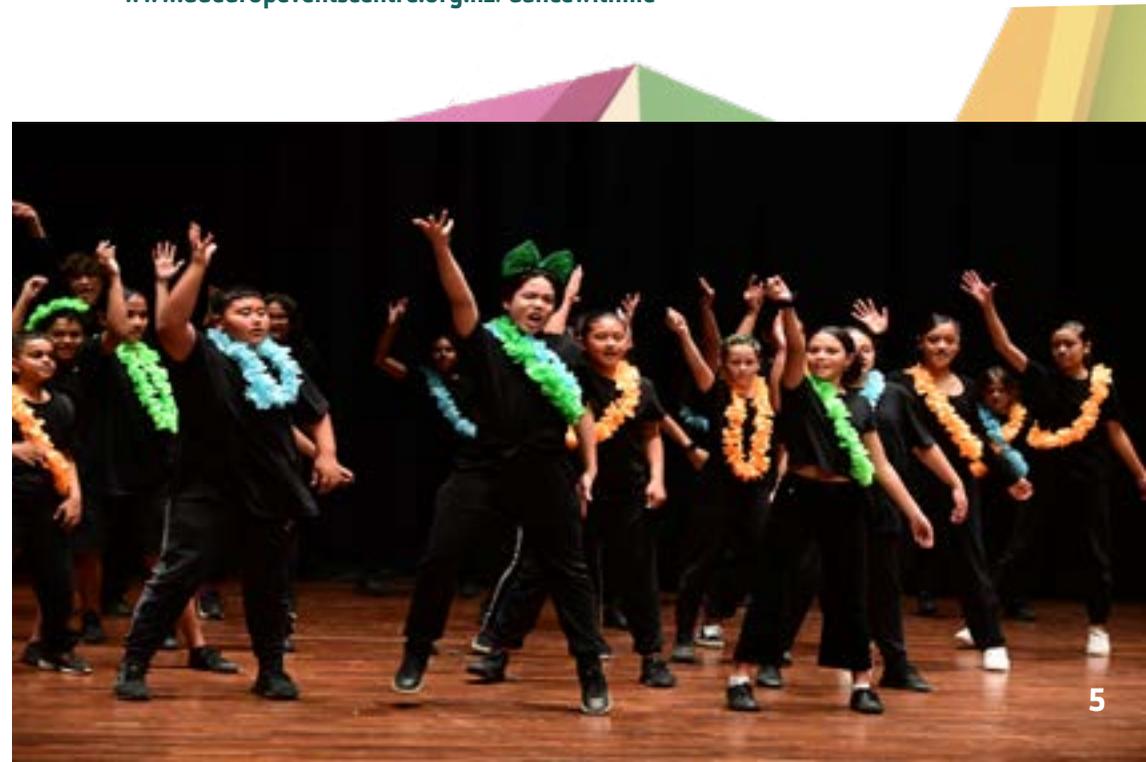
Where: Dance workshops held at your school, with the performance being on the main stage at the Due Drop Events Centre

Cost: Free and transport provided and paid for.

Seeking for schools. Applications now open – deadline Monday 27 February 2023

For more information and to express your interest please visit

[www.duedropeventscentre.org.nz/dancewithme](http://www.duedropeventscentre.org.nz/dancewithme)





## EXPERIENCE PACIFICA

Visual Arts and Social Sciences | Years 1-13  
March 6 - 8

Inspired by traditional Pacific legends, this programme encourages students to share, experience and explore Pacific arts and culture. Students will learn basic drum beat patterns, dance movements and have the opportunity to create woven works of art. The Experience Pacifica Workshop programme is led by the Pacifica Arts Centre and Pacifica Mamas and Papas. The session is approximately 2.5 hours and is suitable for all ages.

For more information and to register please visit  
[www.duedropeventscentre.org.nz/experience-pacifica](http://www.duedropeventscentre.org.nz/experience-pacifica)

# MANAKAU SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA INSPIRE SERIES

## Symphonic Journey Music

FREE workshop

The MSO will hold the Symphonic Journey weekend workshop, a yearly favourite for young musicians and community players from South Auckland, this year conducted by MSO Music Director Uwe Grodd.

Players will rehearse and perform along with MSO mentors the stirring music of Beethoven's dramatic Edmont Overture and explore the vast expansiveness of the Manukau Harbour beach Whatipu through music, especially written for this workshop by Adrien de Croy. The instantly recognizable Prokofiev tune from Romeo and Juliet will be a thrill, followed by Star Wars.

The workshop will run on the main stage at Due Drop Events Centre during the weekend on **Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th of February on both afternoons.**

**A FREE informal concert for Whanau, friends and public of the workshops repertoire: Sunday at 5pm at Due Drop Events Centre**

Players interested in participating in this FREE workshop weekend should contact MSO at  
[admin@manukasymphony.org.nz](mailto:admin@manukasymphony.org.nz)



# MSO INSPIRE SERIES

## NICHOLAS TARLING ARIA COMPETITION

### Music

Do you sing at home in the shower? Or at church every Sunday? Do you know an aria? Come and have fun and participate in the first Nicholas Tarling Aria Competition

All are welcome to join in the first round

The number of incredible vocalists from the South Auckland area is astounding, and it has been a long-held aspiration to host an aria competition for these singers, to help support them in their future careers.

In the spirit of the MSO, this competition is open to all ages and to people of all backgrounds, with preference towards those in the South Auckland area. Judging will be adjudicated by professional signing coaches and artists.

### Prizes

First Prize winner \$5000, Runner-up Prize \$3000, Most Promising Singer Prize \$1000

### Competitor Timeline

#### Round one - Digital entry close 1 February 2023

Please upload a video of your singing to YouTube, and email the completed application form from the MSO website with the link to your recording to

**admin@manukausymphony.org.nz**

Applications will then be judged by official adjudicators, with selected participants invited to a live performance with piano at the Due Drop Events Centre.

### Final round

#### Final Recital Tuesday 21 February 7:30pm FREE

Finalists will be invited to perform two arias with piano on 21 February at 7:30pm, to adjudicators, friends and family in a final round. Winners will be announced at the end of the evening.

The First Prize Winner and Runner-up perform with the Manukau Symphony Orchestra popular arias at the MSO FAMILY CONCERT Sunday 21 May 2023, conducted by Brent Stewart

For more information and how to apply, visit the MSO Aria Competition Page  
**[www.manukausymphony.org.nz/NTAria](http://www.manukausymphony.org.nz/NTAria)**



# MSO INSPIRE SERIES

## PRE-SHOW TALK AND OPEN REHEARSAL

### Music

Hamilton & Houston

Saturday 12 August 1:00pm-3:00pm | Due Drop Events Centre

For the Manukau Symphony Orchestra's 30th celebration the orchestra has commissioned David Hamilton to write a new work entitled 'MANUKAU SONGS: A CHORAL SYMPHONY'.

Come along to listen to some fascinating speakers who will talk about the Manukau region and the music, and then experience the final rehearsal for this stunning new work.

Families, friends and music lovers are invited to attend a short presentation by Dr Lucy Macintosh and David Hamilton, followed by attendance to the final rehearsal of this world premiere. Lucy is a historian at the Auckland Museum, who will talk about the chief Epiha Putini Te Rangi of Ihumatao and the history of the Manukau region. David Hamilton, a world-renowned composer and educator will give us insight into the world of composing his new work.

The MSO will be collaborating with Auckland Choral and Puhinui School Choir from South Auckland. This work will feature two distinguished vocal soloists Stephen Diaz and James loelu, conducted by Uwe Grodd.

For more information, please contact Shelley Robertson  
**admin@manukausymphony.org.nz**





## MSO INSPIRE SERIES

### THE STOLEN STARS OF MATARIKI

MSO Schools Concerts / FREE For Schools

11 September 11:00am and 1:00pm / Due Drop Events Centre

12 September 11:00am and 1:00pm / Due Drop Events Centre

Live symphonic music is a thrilling experience for all ages. For Children especially, studies have shown listening and engaging with orchestral music to have a positive emotional response with children feeling calm, relaxed and engaged regardless of what is being played. Many children also feel inspired to learn an instrument after attending such events.

MSO INSPIRE is collaborating with Due Drop Events Centre to bring four short, entertaining concerts to school children from 7-11 years old across South Auckland.

These concerts will feature popular, well known pieces for children alongside stories with music with an entertaining narrator. Performed by the Manukau Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Uwe Grodd.

For more information and to register please go to

[www.duedrop-eventscentre.org.nz/mso-the-stolen-stars-of-matariki](http://www.duedrop-eventscentre.org.nz/mso-the-stolen-stars-of-matariki)

## NATIONAL YOUTH THEATRE

The National Youth Theatre is New Zealand's premier musical theatre training programme for young people aged 7-21.

Open to all without audition, our performing arts training programmes include workshops, holiday programmes, and two full-scale musical theatre productions each year featuring a diverse cast of up to 250.

Within an inclusive and supportive atmosphere, our professional theatre mentors provide unique opportunities for young performers to be part of a major theatrical production whilst inspiring them to have fun, build confidence, and develop essential capabilities.

Tentative dates: 5 -9 September (TBC)

More details to follow





## EYE ON NATURE WEARABLE ARTS SHOW

Science, Technology and Visual Arts and Awards Night | Years 1-13

21-22 June

The Beautification Trust is proud to be hosting the Eye on Nature (EON) Wearable Art Competition. An annual competition for Auckland primary and secondary school students held at the Due Drop Events Centre. Students are challenged to create eco-friendly wearable art around the Eye on Nature theme, with \$4,500 in cash awarded to the winning schools.

Our young people are the Kaitiaki of tomorrow. The EON Wearable Arts provides a vehicle where our youth can use their creative minds through research and the arts to gain a greater understanding of the issues and importance for caring and protecting their living environment.

The garments are judged at the Eye on Nature Wearable Arts Fashion Show. The showcase gives the tamariki and rangatahi the exciting experience of modelling their eco-friendly creations on a fashion runway in front of a live audience.

Registration is open now

To enter and for more information please visit

[www.beautification.org.nz/eye-on-nature-wearable-arts](http://www.beautification.org.nz/eye-on-nature-wearable-arts)



## Tim Bray The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch Theatre

By Ronda and David Armitage

Adapted for the stage by Tim Bray, with songs by Christine White

Show Run Time: Approx. 60mins (no interval)

26 - 29 April 2023

10:30am & 1pm

Ahoy there! Here's a whale of a tale.

Don't miss this much-loved New Zealand stage adventure, where high seas,

high adventure and hi-jinks abound. Back by popular demand, The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch is a story made for audience participation, featuring an operating lighthouse, a seaworthy vessel and an enormous rescue at sea!

This iconic kiwi show will have audiences of all ages singing along, joining in the fun and marvelling at its mystery, adventure and humour.

For more information and to register for seats please email [education@timbray.org.nz](mailto:education@timbray.org.nz)



# HIT THE STAGE! BY TIM BRAY

Theatre | Ages 12 -18 yrs

January 23 -27



Tim Bray Youth Theatre is bringing their popular drama holiday programme Hit the Stage! to Manukau at the Due Drop Events Centre in the summer holidays.

This 5-day drama workshop is FREE to young aspiring actors and performing artists from the local area.

Under the direction of the Tim Bray Youth Theatre creative team, rangatahi aged 12-18yrs will have the opportunity to explore their performance skills, build confidence, and create a unique piece of theatre together, ready to 'Hit the Stage!' at the end of the week with a free entry performance for family and friends.

Fun and laughter are an essential part of the workshop as our young performers experience what it takes to get a show from the rehearsal floor to the bright lights of the stage!

Participation is FREE but numbers limited, so book early.

No experience is required.

ENROL NOW - [www.enrolmy.com/tim-bray-productions/activity/595-Hit\\_the\\_Stage\\_MANUKAU\\_a\\_Summer\\_5\\_Day\\_Creative\\_Escape\\_Ages\\_12\\_18](http://www.enrolmy.com/tim-bray-productions/activity/595-Hit_the_Stage_MANUKAU_a_Summer_5_Day_Creative_Escape_Ages_12_18)

For queries or more information, please contact: [outreach@timbray.org.nz](mailto:outreach@timbray.org.nz)



## NIGHTSONG

Theatre | Years 1-6

When a giant bird beak breaks through the ceiling and snatches his mother away, a little worm must go on an epic adventure to save her.

However, the journey to the surface is riddled with danger. It takes the little worm through a dark subterranean world, full of empty streets and flea-bitten bars. He must dodge the sharp spade of the gardener, outsmart poisonous spiders and battle the ruler of the underworld, The Blind Rat and her henchman Snail.

Featuring original music performed live by carnivorous Plant Society and extraordinary design by Andrew Foster, Elizabeth Whiting and Rachael Marlow, acclaimed theatre company Nightsong (Mr Red Light, Te Po) brings their trademark visual style to this delightfully surreal and anarchically absurd show that will entertain and enthrall young and old alike.

Tentative dates: 8 - 10 May (TBC)

More details to follow



# ATAMIRA DANCE COMPANY

## KORI PŪRĀKAU WORKSHOPS

### Dancel Years 1-8

Kori Pūrakai (Dancing with Mythology) is the half-day workshop programme introducing students to basic choreographic processes that explore telling a story through dance and movement. Ideal for students from Year 1 to 8, it derives inspiration from Pou Kapua or Cloud Pillar, the Waka Pacific Trust's stunning 21-metre carving which narrates the Maori myth of the great chieftain Kupe, the creation stories of Ranginui and Papatuanuku and the legend of Maui.

The dance workshop series is led by Atamira Dance Company. Sessions are approximately 2.5 hours in duration.

Maximum of 60 students per session. Maximum of 1 session can be booked by one school due to limited availability.

Dates to be confirmed

For more information and to register your interest please visit

[www.duedropeventscentre.org.nz/kori-purakau](http://www.duedropeventscentre.org.nz/kori-purakau)



## COMMUNITY AND FAMILY EVENTS

The Trust annually sponsors over 110 events, festivals, concerts, conferences and programmes with full or subsidised rates for venue hire, equipment, labour, service fees and more. This valuable support allows event organisers to further focus their resources in the production and delivery of excellent events to our community.



# FUNFEST

12 - 15 January

Tens of thousands of people flock every January to celebrate the new year at Funfest, Auckland's only annual summer event with free entry, free parking, free rides and free prizes. The massive four-day festivity kicks off with an invitational for children with special needs and their families and also hosts a family expo for well-being, health, education and careers. It has steadily grown since it was first held at the event centre in 2017.

Funfest is about bringing families and communities together in a positive environment. There is simply no other event that compares with Funfest in terms of attractions, scale and social responsibility.

For more information please visit [www.funfest.co.nz](http://www.funfest.co.nz)



# CIRCUS QUIRKUS

3 - 4 June

Circus Quirkus is an amalgamation of great world class Circus Acts.

Circus Quirkus is a Family Show!

Circus Quirkus is for Entertainment Purposes only - Enjoy at your own risk!

Circus Quirkus is Cool! Aerialists to Acrobats, Clowns and Contortionists, Whimsical Juggling Hula Hoops, and more...!

Our Captivating, Fun-Loving, Circus Quirkus NZ performers will amaze you and your family with their incredible skills. Fun for the entire family!!

For more information please visit [www.circusquirkus.com](http://www.circusquirkus.com)





## INTRODUCTION TO WHITE WATER

Vector Wero Whitewater Park displays a long-standing commitment to providing the largest schools and community programme for white water experience in the world. Introduction to White Water is a series of programmes that provide children and young people the opportunity to experience a range of water activities. This programme stems from Vector Wero's ongoing commitment to lowering the national drowning toll by partnering with not-for-profit and non-governmental organisations to give children and young people the confidence and survival skills to be better prepared and able to safely enjoy the water.

Vector Wero Whitewater Park opens its doors for sessions on river safety theory and application, experiential river crossing, rafting, kayaking and stand-up paddle boarding. Flatwater activities are held at the Lake, while white water activities are held at the Tamariki River, the Grade 1-2 river course, and/or the River Rush, the Grade 3-4 river course.

Those participating in the programmes will be briefed with the Introductory and Safety Video of the park alongside further briefings with qualified outdoor educationalists and guides. This will cover terminologies, river hydrology and hazards, rescue techniques and safety guidelines and includes question and answer time to ensure all participants have a full understanding and can get the most out of the experience.

Vector Wero Whitewater Park partners with Aktive Auckland and KiwiSport to provide schools, not-for-profits and youth organisations access to sponsored rates. For more information on this funded opportunity please visit [www.wero.org.nz/schools-community](http://www.wero.org.nz/schools-community)

**Jack Crendfelt**  
Marketing and Customer Experience Manager

## WERO | RIVER CROSSING AND SAFETY

**Physical Education and Outdoor Education | Years 5-13**

This programme has a particular focus on safety in moving water. It begins with a safety session covering terminologies, river hydrology and hazards, rescue techniques and safety guidelines alongside question and answers time to ensure all participants have confidence and understanding of the activity.

Following this, students will move to the Tamariki River for a realistic river crossing experience. The students will then buddy up and learn and prepare how to cross the white water river safely. Our experienced guides will assist students in identifying how they can assess an unfamiliar situation, make an informed decision and succeed with confidence in various situations.

To conclude, an opportunity to swim the river and experience the power of the water will be given as well as instruction on how to safely exit the river.





## **WERO | KAYAKING**

**Physical Education and Outdoor Education | Years 5-13**

Our guides will teach students basic kayaking skills to help build their confidence and test their limits in flat water situations. Students have the opportunity to paddle around the lake in their kayak and participate in various activities to develop these skills.

Assessments and other customised sessions may be designed with the Team to meet school and curriculum requirements.

## **WERO | RAFTING**

**Physical Education and Outdoor Education | Years 5-13**

In this programme, students will learn to paddle in unison, dig in and control the inflatable raft in the most exhilarating environment. Students will need to work together as they launch into an eight-person raft and navigate themselves through the Tamariki River where they will raft down the river and also perform river swimming whilst learning how to identify potentially hazardous waters/river systems. The option to book River Rush Rafting is also available (for students 13 years or older) which also includes an exciting drop down the Pump Waterfall.

This programme also teaches students how to assess a difficult situation and problem-solving life skills.



Stay tuned for more School Programmes to be released



[www.wakapacific.org.nz](http://www.wakapacific.org.nz)

## TUBING

Physical Education and Outdoor Education | Years 5-13

A fresh take on a lazy river, tubing down our Tamariki River is anything but lazy! Float down the rapids in our inflatable tubes, this activity is a step up in adventure from our Tamariki Rafting.

The students start off by swimming the river learning to take control of their tubes, while our qualified raft guides closely supervise. Adventurous, but safe enough to teach assessment and problem solving skills – a great introduction to white water! Over the course of an hour, groups will run the river multiple times, with the opportunity to swim the rapids for those brave enough!