

# Dramatic

DRAMA NEW ZEALAND NEWSLETTER

#47: August 2022

## Announcing Conference Presenters



In this issue: What's happening at your Regional Branch, Associate Member news, NCEA Practice Exams, Primary Corner, and much more.

Dramatic is proudly brought to you by:

# Note From The President

Kia ora Drama NZ whānau,

It is very exciting to see the workshops for our Conference in October in Ōtepoti Dunedin released and it will be wonderful to finally get together again face to face. I urge you to get your registrations in before the early-bird closes and get ready for a wonderful conference.

Much has been planned for term 3 around the motu with primary programmes in Auckland, Invercargill and Christchurch, and planning is underway for Secondary Accord days happening in late August. Check out our Regional pages for upcoming plans.

We had Drama NZ members presenting at IDIERI in Warwick recently and you can read Dr. Nick Brown and Dr. Claire Coleman's reports from their exciting trip in this issue. There are some interesting research articles coming out about drama and a number of tertiary people coming to present and be at Conference. Keep an eye out for these on our Facebook page and in Dramatic.

Lastly I want to ask you to reach out, make contact and get together with people. Make that phone call, send that email, catch up for a cuppa - I've had a couple of catch ups recently and it has uplifted spirits in otherwise challenging times. We can support each other in many ways, all of us have strengths and things we can work on - staying positive and communicating within our drama communities means we move forward together.

Kia kaha  
Mā te wā  
Annette Thomson



## 2022 Executive Committee

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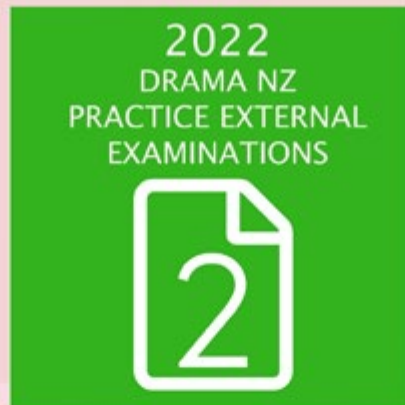
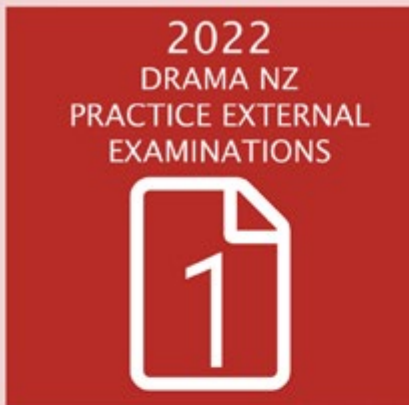
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# Exams are Here

Exams are here! One of the most valuable membership assets are ready to go for 2022. Click on the image below to purchase today! The quickest way to get your exams is online, but if you prefer an invoice be sent to your school, simply [email admin@drama.org.nz](mailto:admin@drama.org.nz) and ask.



## 2022 Drama NZ NCEA EXAMINATIONS

- \$57.50 Single Level
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WEBSITE  
NOW!**



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

*Don't forget - Drama NZ also has a multitude of awesome resources for both primary and secondary members to use in their classrooms. There are posters and games and all sorts. One of our favourite FREE resources is the [Behind the Page](#) video series where you and your students can get up-close and personal with prominent NZ playwrights.*

*Log onto the website and have a look around. There are treasures galore ready for the taking!*

# Early-Bird Registration Ends 5 August!

**Shakespeare said it - "The readiness is all."**

Are you ready for Conference? To get the best possible pricing, you must be registered and paid 5 August.

**Member price now through 5 August is just \$275  
Tertiary Students can attend for just \$175  
But you need to hurry to get in on this special deal.**

In the following pages you can learn all about the amazing keynotes and presenters we have in store for delegates. There is a plethora of possibilities for some awesome PD, and a chance to come together as a community once again. Don't miss out!

Remember that the PPTA have a generous grant to attend our conference: - <https://www.ppta.org.nz/pld-fund/grant-to-attend-subject-association-conferences/>



**Timatanga Hōu**  
new beginnings  
CONFERENCE 2022



OTAGO BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL  
ŌTEPOTI | DUNEDIN  
1, 2, 3 October, 2022

**Register Now**  
**[CLICK HERE](#)**



**Do you have questions about the upcoming Conference? Please reach out to the Conference Committee at [conference22@drama.org.nz](mailto:conference22@drama.org.nz)**

# Keynote Speakers

## KEYNOTE



**Emma Deakin**  
**Education Manager,**  
**Red Leap Theatre**

**Red Leap Theatre** creates women led theatre that is bold, visual, and ignites the imagination. We are a core team of six people, with the company's offices, rehearsal space and workshop located at Corban Estate Arts Centre in Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland, Aotearoa New Zealand. Crossing the forms of physical theatre, imagery, and storytelling, we believe in playful discovery, the power of the imagination, and building a strong ensemble of performers. Our mission is to create high quality, original visual theatre that pushes creative boundaries, transforms how the audience relates to theatre and celebrates and supports women's stories and talents. Red Leap is passionate about sharing our craft and delivers an extensive education programme for students, teachers, practitioners, and the community in addition to our performance work.

## KEYNOTE



**Albert Belz**  
**Actor, Screenwriter,**  
**Author**

**Albert Belz'** career in the arts originally began as an actor before turning his hand to writing for stage and screen. An award-winning playwright, his unique voice has crossed many datelines and divides having been performed internationally including London, Paris, New York, Melbourne & Sydney. Issues ranging from class, ethnicity, gender and sexual politics, to Gothic serial killers and religion resonate through his words. Albert has held writing residencies in Les Quesnoy (Northern France) also Auckland, Waikato, Victoria (N.Z), Canterbury (N.Z) Universities and last year the Michael King Writing Centre. In 2022 he will be taking up residency as the Burns Fellow at Otago University.

Belz was creator and head-writer on the Māori comedy series "Tongue Tied" and also writes for a local television dramas Shortland Street and Head High.

# Your 2022 Conference Presenters

Your Conference Committee have put together a stunning programme full of engaging PD experiences. From Papers and Pecha Kuchas to lively discussions to interactive workshops - there is something for everyone! Check out the list below. And for a more complete picture, download the [2022 Conference Presenters – Full Abstracts and Bios](#).

- ◆ **Collaboration! A team using process drama as a pedagogy:** Evelyn Mann and Team
- ◆ **Drama Can be Taught Anywhere, Anyway, Anytime!** Vicki Crawford
- ◆ **The Positive Start Initiative – Bring your Drama:** Kate Ellis
- ◆ **Following in the Footsteps:** Vivienne Smith
- ◆ **'Mantle of the Expert' online:** Paul Heslin
- ◆ **Sculpt the Clay:** Albert Belz
- ◆ **Physical Theatre & Mime:** Fergus Aitken
- ◆ **Relighting the Flame!** Diane Dupres
- ◆ **Devising Fundamentals Workshop:** Red Leap Theatre
- ◆ **The Top 5 Ways Teachers Are Killing Improvisation:** Daniel Allan
- ◆ **Eliciting Connected Performances from Drama Students:** Rachel More
- ◆ **Art as a Reflection of Society - Teaching along a Timeline:** Morag Carter
- ◆ **Stranger, Angel, Orphan, Child:** Charles Bisley
- ◆ **How Much is a Child Worth?:** Chris Horne
- ◆ **So what is stage design?** Marty Roberts
- ◆ **Drama and the New NCEA:** Bianca Till
- ◆ **Dr Drama Makes a Show:** James Wenley
- ◆ **Drama Brings History to Life:** Sarah Waterman
- ◆ **Vital Direction: Generating Stage Presence:** Lisa Allan
- ◆ **Keep Them Engaged!** Emma Bishop and Janelle Pitout
- ◆ **Up Close and Personal: Shape and Intimacy in Staging:** Ryan Hartigan
- ◆ **Theatre Aotearoa:** Emma Gilles and James Wenley
- ◆ **Acting Without Words (Physical Theatre):** Sam Millar
- ◆ **Becoming an Extracurricular Teacher -** Del Costello
- ◆ **A New Lens on Core Improvisation Skills:** Marea Colombo
- ◆ **The MFA in Creative Practice at Victoria University:** Kerry Palmer



Continued...

- ◇ **Exploring the Precursors to Metaxis Moments in Process Drama:** Trish Wells
- ◇ **PAYPA- Performing Arts and Young People Aotearoa- How can practitioners making work for/by and with young people work more effectively with teachers and educational institutions?** Kerryn Palmer
- ◇ **Building an Improv Culture – An Improvised Theatre Programme for Year 9 and 10:** Daniel Allan
- ◇ **New drama space? Making it Work and other Perspectives on New Build Drama Spaces:** Annette Thomson
- ◇ **The Journey - Using a Wordless Picture Book for Drama and Literacy Exploration:** Judy Norton
- ◇ **Building Creative Resilience in the Drama Classroom.** - Mauritz Grundlingh
- ◇ **Tumultuous Pleasure – Constructing (Youth) Identity Through Tension:** Kate Ellis

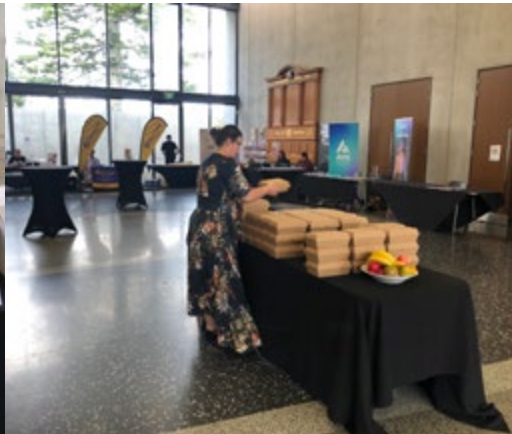
## Congratulations to Scholarship Recipients

 <p>RURAL</p>	 <p>PCT</p>	 <p>PRIMARY</p>	 <p>PCT</p>	 <p>STUDENT</p>
<p>Paul Heslin is new to primary teaching and is completing his first year at Tauhoa School, in 2022. He has previously taught international students at tertiary level for several years and is now enjoying the 'pivot' in his teaching career to focus on using drama to support year 5-8 tamariki in their educational journey.</p>	<p>Sjan Giles-Oza is a first year teacher at Horowhenua College in Levin. "Being able to teach Drama has meant I can turn my passion for performing into a job. I'm so excited to be able to create new relationships in this field and continue to grow the subject at Horowhenua College."</p>	<p>Holly Pears grew up in England and then moved to Rotorua with her whānau in 2005. After completing her studies in Wellington, she taught in England and Egypt. She is now a Performing Arts teacher at Fergusson Intermediate in Upper Hutt where she enjoys developing her delivery of Process Drama.</p>	<p>This is Jade-Rae Nicole's first year and she is the only drama teacher at her school. Having access to external PD is vital. She is looking forward to the opportunity to attend the Conference and expand her knowledge and understanding of teaching drama in the classroom.</p>	<p>Ella is a second year student at the University of Otago studying a Bachelor of Performing Arts. She has a goal of completing her Masters in Teaching and Learning and becoming a drama teacher one day. She wants to spark a passion similar to her own for high schoolers in the future.</p>

# Trade Expo and Sponsorships

## Attention Associate Members - This is your chance!

Connect with Drama NZ members and show them what you have on offer for them and their classes and productions by exhibiting at The Conference Trade Expo. EXPO is located in the centre of the conference and provides a superb way to promote your products and services to proven buyers and network with a number of kaiako and education whānau from around Aotearoa. Plus, you will receive lots of valuable marketing bonuses to Drama NZ members.



### Manned Display Just \$175 for Current Associate members –

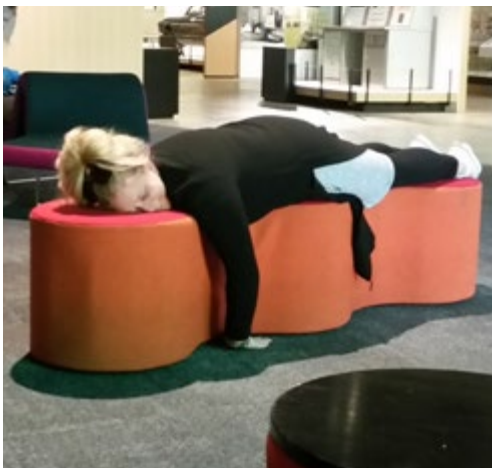
Be there in person to visit with customers and expand your reach. The exhibitor fee includes: drinks and nibbles Saturday evening; morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea Sunday; morning tea and lunch Monday for one staff member. Additional options are available.

### Unmanned Display Just \$100 for Current Associate members –

Unable to attend in person? You can still be represented via an un-manned table set up and kept organised by our Conference team throughout the Conference.

Email [Conference22@drama.org.nz](mailto:Conference22@drama.org.nz) to discuss Trade Expo opportunities, register and receive an invoice, or receive our full brochure.

## Sponsorship Opportunities at Conference 2022.



This Conference delegate needs a cuppa coffee and a delicious dinner. There are new teachers who need scholarships to be able to attend Conference. We need help supplying these delegates with top notch keynote speakers and presenters who will help inspire them to continue being amazing kaiako for our tamariki and rangitahi. Your company's sponsorship will entitle you to some fantastic marketing opportunities to Drama NZ members, and make a real impact. We have sponsorship levels from \$100 - \$1000. **Is today YOUR day to be a hero?** [Email conference22@drama.org.nz](mailto:conference22@drama.org.nz) to find out!



# Primary Corner

## Canterbury Branch Hui – Primary Workshop

It was great to see some new faces at our Canterbury Branch Primary Workshop held at Papanui High School earlier last month.

The Primary contingent was small in number but nevertheless, dedicated and enthusiastic to learn about new ways to use drama for learning in their classrooms.

Drama teachers, Sam Bates and Annette Searle presented their process drama unit based on the book *The Little Kiwi and the Treaty* by Nikki Slade Robinson.



*The Little Kiwi and the Treaty* Drama unit aligns with the new Aotearoa NZ Histories Curriculum content as well as providing numerous integrated literacy opportunities. The drama explores themes of migration, identity, negotiation and treaties. Students are asked to consider the different perspectives, values and motivations of the characters. Learners are also encouraged to see themselves reflected in the story by making connections with their own history, local community and the wider historical context of Aotearoa NZ.

We are hoping to make this unit available to members on the Drama NZ website soon. In the meantime, if you would like to find out more about the unit and workshops for your school, please contact Sam Bates: [samantha.bates@drama.org.nz](mailto:samantha.bates@drama.org.nz)

Keep an eye out for another Canterbury Primary Drama workshop coming up in Term 3. It would be great to see more Primary teachers there!

## **NEX Drama and Literacy Project - new clusters in Auckland, Christchurch and Invercargill and digital pilot continues.**

Last term we were busy preparing for three new clusters of our Primary NEX Drama and Literacy Project. It is exciting to be extending this programme around the country.

## Digital Pilot:

Juliet Cottrell had a busy Term 2 with the Online drama and literacy pilot in two Nelson Schools, Broadgreen Intermediate School and Waimea Intermediate. These teachers have taken this on with great enthusiasm and they too are delighted with the results - in both engagement and literacy.



## Murihiku Southland:

Evelyn Mann, our Southland Mentor, has been working in Dunedin North Intermediate. A team of teachers will present alongside Evelyn about their experience and the dramas they have created at our Drama NZ National Conference in the October holidays. She has now brought two Invercargill schools on board, Rimu Primary School and Otatara School. In Otatara, Evelyn and the teachers will be working with mental health through story alongside the Mental Health programme Mitey in each class.

## Ōtautahi Christchurch

This term Samantha Bates, our newest mentor to our whānau, will begin working with five kaiako in Thorrlington Primary School. The teachers are looking forward to growing their confidence in teaching Drama and exploring new ways to improve student engagement in literacy. If you are in Christchurch and would like to be involved in our programme, do get in touch.

## Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland

Our Auckland cluster launched with two hui last term, involving 5 schools. Chris Horne, Briar O'Connor and Kylie Parkinson, our Auckland mentors, have created a formidable team, bringing their extensive expertise together. It was wonderful to see them sharing this knowledge with our teacher participants in a seamless and collaborative way.



# Auckland Branch.

## Kia ora koutou!

Term Three is a crazy term for most of us, but the Auckland branch is planning on creating many ways to connect and support each other through the madness.



With the Accord Days August 15th-26th - coming up we are hoping to coordinate and organise some cross-schools-connection. With many of us going it alone as sole teachers in charge or the only Drama specialist, we know it is important to collaborate when we can. We are hoping to learn and gain shared insight from those teachers trialing it this year. However, with dates decided by principals we may not be able to coordinate a face to face and may run another Zoom session. If you are a teacher in Tāmaki Makaurau who would be interested in this, jump onto our Facebook group and let us know when your Accord Day is.



## August 9th - Scholarship Drop in session.

Led by the incredible Emma Gillies - we have a drop on Zoom session planned leading to our usual teachers and then students and teachers workshops later in the term. We are thankful for her mahi facilitating these yet again and the excuse to hopefully have some of Judy's famous soup!

August 19th & 20th - Red Leap Theatre workshop for teachers focusing on the themes and practices of theatre Aotearoa to align with the new L1 standards.



## Devising Tools Workshop

This workshop will be a practical, on the floor exploration of Red Leap's devising exercises.

We will follow Red Leap's devising rules of engagement:

Collaboration at the heart - every voice in the room is valued, every idea respected, nothing is impossible, make fast and without judgment, listen to each other, if you're going to fail, fail magnificently and value feedback - with the audience just as active as the performer.

They will discuss how a devising process is inherently connected to whanaungatanga, kotahitanga and manaakitanga.

## Term Three - Intermediate schools Workshop - Local Stories

**Kia ora koutou!**

Term Three is a crazy term for most of us, but the Auckland branch is planning on creating many ways to connect and support each other through the madness.

I feel like we say this every term... but this one is going to be a big one. Navigating and balancing workload expectations, with the lingering effects of lockdown fatigue, sickness, absences and “real life” can seem daunting. But as always, we’ve got this whānau.

**Kia kaha!**

**Amanda Burnett**

**Regional Rep Tāmaki Makaurau/Auckland Branch**



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**Auckland Branch Info**

**[AucklandBranch@drama.org.nz](mailto:AucklandBranch@drama.org.nz)**

**Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/513523238796638>**

# Canterbury Branch.

On the 8th June both primary and secondary members came together for a mini hui, thanks to Jay Grubb for hosting at Papanui High School. Initially we introduced each other and let people know what was happening in our area for Drama NZ. Then we split into sectors.

Samantha Bates and Annette Searle ran a fantastic unit for our primary colleagues which used Dramatic Inquiry to explore NZ histories through the NZ book by Nikki Slade Robinson *The Little Kiwi and the Treaty*.



Secondary teachers explored the NCEA change by an online Q and A with SEG member Bianca Till and then Verity Davidson, life member, ran a workshop on NZ Theatre. We left the workshop with ways into NZ scripts and a greater understanding of the new standards and learning matrix.



The attending teachers found the workshops practical and useful. Samantha and Annette have taken their unit further into other schools and a pilot is happening in Christchurch for Primary teachers through the Networks of Expertise.

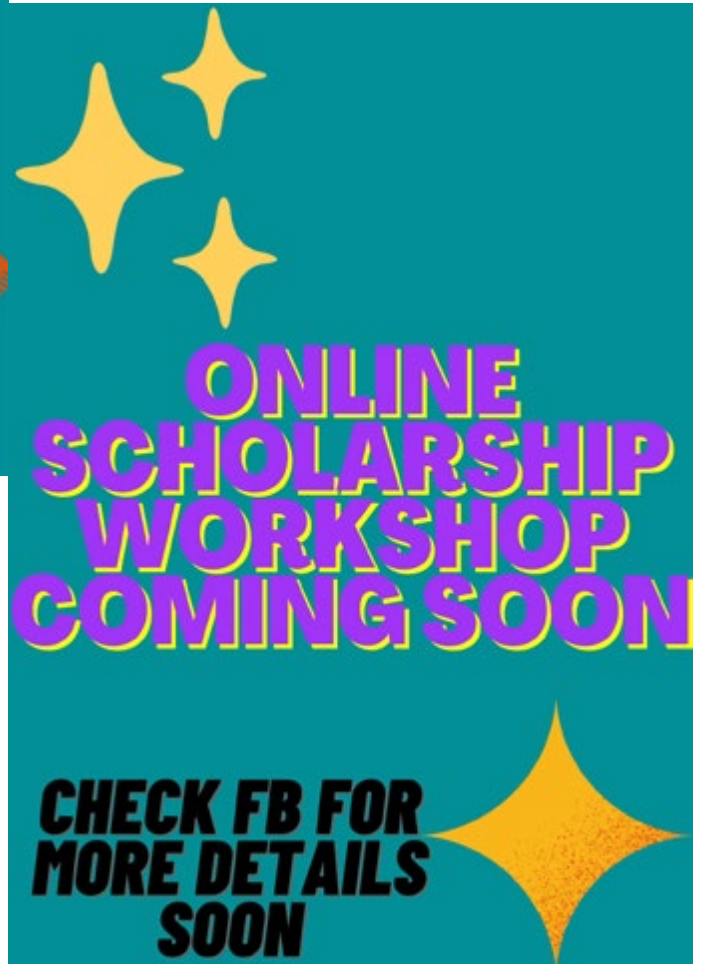


Secondary teachers are now looking forward to our Accord day on the 22nd of August. Planning is underway and we would love your input for this day: fill out our form [here](#).

See you all on the 22nd - at Ōruapaeroa - The Shirley Boys/Avonside Girls campus.

Canterbury Drama NZ

# Massey Branch.



*Massey Branch Info*

*[MasseyBranch@drama.org.nz](mailto:MasseyBranch@drama.org.nz)*

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1470960373227577>

# Otago/Southland Branch.

Kia ora koutou,

## National Drama Conference 2022

The Otago Southland Branch members are currently busy preparing for our National Drama NZ Conference in Dunedin next holidays. We very much look forward to seeing you all in Ōtepoti for an exciting few days of professional development.

## Otago Southland Branch event Term 3

Our branch event at Te Whare o Rukutia in July was postponed due to COVID, but keep an eye out for a new date soon! We really hope to get this event back up and running, so we can catch up before the national drama conference in October.

## Messages of Aroha - sending support to creatives in our community

The John McGlashan College Arts Hub formally launched the public community M.O.A. project at the Fringe Headquarters at the end of June.



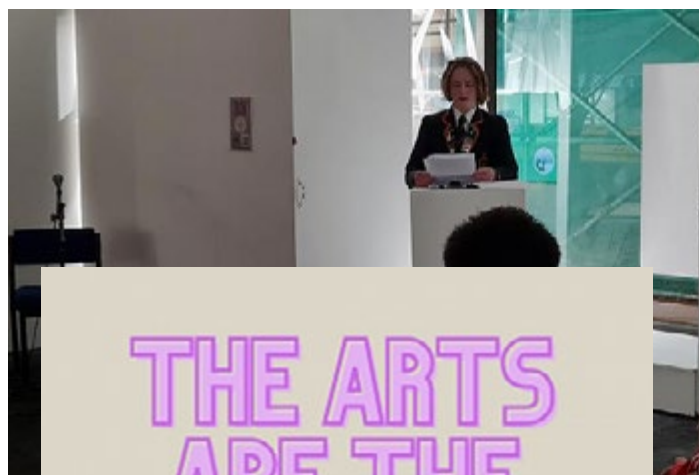
Love and kindness were on the minds of everyone who attended the launch for Messages of Aroha. Karakia, waiata, speeches and musical items warmed the hearts of those in attendance, including staff and students of John McGlashan College, parents, members of the Board of Trustees and Parents' and Friends' Association, Fringe HQ staff, and even Mayor Aaron Hawkins, who is a fierce advocate and supporter of the arts in Ōtepoti.

Year 13 students Tim Bradfield and Theo Hannagan curated the White Box performance space at the Fringe HQ earlier in the day, so that when everyone came together at 5.30pm, they could enjoy the fruits of their labour and view the exhibition from the view of George Street, or through physical copies inside the warm confines of the Fringe.

McGlashan Head Prefect, Jack Timu, led proceedings with a beautiful karakia to bring everyone together (after some

lovely entertainment from Year 12 student Rylan Urquhart), before staff and students sang our college waiata, Pura Nei. Arts Prefects, Theo Hannagan and Harold Gao, gave stirring speeches, outlining the wider impacts the pandemic has had on arts communities worldwide, as well as how it's impacted them as arts students. Their moving words resonated with us all. Year 10 students, Dan O'Brien and Lochlan Ing-Aram, performed their beautiful original musical piece, Totara, before Mr Porter had some quick remarks from the Senior Leadership Team and Jack Timu finished off proceedings with a closing karakia. We rounded things off with some kai and drinks, kindly donated by Julie Moyle of Moyle's Fresh Choice Green Island.

**Messages of Aroha** has had some great traction in the media, with a fantastic video and article in the STAR newspaper (click here to see Sending Support to Creatives) and M.O.A. will also be featuring in Ara Toi's publication in the next few weeks.



Make sure you check out **Messages of Aroha** in the **White Box** exhibition space at 19 George Street Dunedin for the entire month of July, or use the QR code or link below to view a digital copy online via our McGlashan Arts Hub.

**THE ARTS  
ARE THE  
ANSWER**

<https://bit.ly/messagesofaroha>

Please keep on expressing your creativity and being awesome :)  
-- AVA, YR 11

THE ARTS HELP US HEAL, HELP US ESCAPE AND WITHOUT THEM WE WOULD BE LOST.  
-- MEGAN, KAIAKO

I HOPE YOU CAN KEEP DOING AS MUCH AS YOU CAN TO CONTINUE TO GIVE PEOPLE LIKE ME OPPORTUNITIES TO KEEP ON DOING WHAT WE ENJOY IN THIS INDUSTRY BY HELPING AND INSPIRING PEOPLE.  
- DALL, YR 11

JUST TRY TO BE POSITIVE  
-- BELLE, YR 11

**Otago / Southland Branch Info**

**[OtagoSouthland@drama.org.nz](mailto:OtagoSouthland@drama.org.nz)**

**Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/183907964993986>**



# Wellington Branch

Some super exciting things happening in the Wellington Region.

Firstly, last month, a grand day was spent with Ella from Red Leap, looking at devising techniques, prop endowment, puppeting and the way simple lighting equipment can create and change theatrical possibilities and perceptions.

All who attended came away feeling empowered to encourage students to take more creative risks with staging conventions and embrace the magic that can be unleashed with playful exploration of regular and accessible technologies.

It was also fantastic to sneak in a lunchtime AGM on Zoom. It was a chance to discuss exciting Drama NZ directives and also propose a workshop looking at the implementation experiences of our region's pilot teachers with the new Mātaurangi Maori Level 1 standards.

Following on from this discussion, a date (our regional accord day) and host have now been confirmed. Thanks in advance to Beth Draper for her willingness to lead the sharing on the 26th August at Aotea College. Feel free to contact Beth if you are interested in joining this hui.

[bpr@aotea.school.nz](mailto:bpr@aotea.school.nz)



And finally, a super exciting exercise in drama educator collaboration is about to hit the stage in central Wellington- APARTMENT is a play about a group of tenants who are forced to evaluate their connections and sense of community as the country is plunged in the first 2020 lockdown.



Half the cast for this production are Drama NZ members and/or practising teachers which makes the show a theatrical equivalent of a super group. The show runs from the 3rd to the 13th of August With Beth Draper, Nancy Fulford and Helen Jones being the aforementioned Drama educators who are walking the walk and getting back out in front of an audience. A big thanks to Wellington Repertory for supporting this project and producing this new play that was written by Tama Smith, who is also co-directing with Belinda Campbell. Tickets to the show are available [Here](#).

We here in the Wellington region want to acknowledge the rolling challenges we are all feeling in the profession, and in our working and personal communities. This pandemic continues to cause distress and uncertainty and we trust that we will all find the courage and resilience to continue to do our important mahi.

Please stay safe and healthy, and if these bloody viruses do catch up with you, may they pass gently.

**Ngā mihi,**  
**Tama Smith - Arts, Cultural and Extra-Curricular Director**

**Wellington Branch Info**

[wellingtonbranch@drama.org.nz](mailto:wellingtonbranch@drama.org.nz)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/752422148201084>

# Dramatic Inquiry Symposium



**Where: Whāngārā Marae near Gisborne**

**When: 8 - 10 Whiringa-ā-nuku 2022 (8-10 Oct 2022)**

**Cost: \$60 +GST**

Click the link for more information and to [register](#) for this incredible opportunity to:

- Immerse yourself in the rich kōrero and mātauranga Māori of Whāngārā.
- Develop culturally sustaining pedagogies and practices within DI.
- Celebrate the stories of our kaiako from across Aotearoa.
- Share in our journey as a DI Trust and Network of Expertise.



**DI Network  
Aotearoa Trust**  
*Supported by NEX funding  
from the Ministry of Education*

We're keen to let Drama NZ members know about our Symposium coming up on 8th-10th October and extend a warm invitation to all Drama NZ members to attend.

The Dramatic Inquiry Symposium is being held at the stunning Whāngārā Marae near Gisborne. We will immerse ourselves in the kōrero and mātauranga of the space and enjoy presentations and workshops from experienced kaiako and speakers. The theme of the event is Ka mua, Ka muri: we will be looking back into the past to move forward as we explore the possibilities and challenges of Dramatic Inquiry (including child structured dramatic play, drama for learning, process drama, Mantle of the Expert) as culturally sustaining approaches in twenty-first century Aotearoa.

The symposium is the largest event in our NEX calendar for 2022. As well as appealing to those with experience in Dramatic Inquiry, it will be of interest to anyone looking for engaging, authentic, embodied, imaginative approaches to teaching and learning across the curriculum, including stories and local histories. All are welcome. Cost is just \$60+GST per person. Suitable for primary, intermediate and secondary teachers.

Full information is available on the registration form.

## [REGISTER HERE](#)

Viv Aitken  
On behalf of  
Dramatic Inquiry Network Aotearoa Trust  
[dramaticinquiryNZ@gmail.com](mailto:dramaticinquiryNZ@gmail.com)

# IDIERI 2022, University of Warwick – Reflections by Nick Brown



Kia ora drama colleagues,

In 2022, IDIERI – the International Drama in Education Research Institute – was held at the University of Warwick, from July 10-15, both in-person and online. I was fortunate enough to be selected to present my post-doctoral research with Dr. Richard Sallis from the University of Melbourne (picture, top right). There were also other notable academics from Aotearoa, who presented and led workshops, including Professor Peter O'Connor (University of Auckland) and Dr. Claire Coleman (University of Waikato), (picture, top left). The theme for the conference, in these Covid/post-Covid times was:

‘Navigating Mess and Complexity in Uncertain Times: values, practices, methods and impacts’.

The research that I presented is a comparative study of working with indigenous practice and voice in my classes in Aotearoa and comparing that with similar work in Australia. Richard Sallis (University of Melbourne) and myself were keen to see what could be learned by studying each other’s classroom and rehearsal practice, our specific national curricula in this space, and how teachers are engaged, in our respective countries. Our research paper title was:

Intersection and Divergence in the Presence of Indigenous Voice and Practice, in Aotearoa New Zealand and Australia – Two Drama Practitioners Chat over Zoom

We presented our work as a piece of ‘Performed Research’, with myself in person and Richard online over Teams. This academic work will also be written up as a more typical-normative

academic article in the coming weeks.

The weather in the UK was stunning for the conference, and delegates were treated to trips to Stratford-Upon-Avon to visit the Royal Shakespeare Company, as well as local theatre companies who visited the university campus to perform. Furthermore, the chance to learn-dissect-discuss-debate the wide range of stimulating work (papers, presentations, and workshops) by our colleagues, from all over the world, was rather exciting; one felt a little like a kid in a candy store due to the range and richness on offer.

The final keynote of the conference was given by IDIERI’s kaumatua, Professor John O’Toole. Through using the commonplace image of the Greek masks of comedy and tragedy, John asked us all to consider if we as teachers, researchers, and academics are dedicated to making artworks for pleasure, that reflect our world as we live it (the mask of comedy), or if we make artworks for social change and social justice, challenging for the betterment of a progressive society (the mask of tragedy). John’s engaging, approachable style of delivery belied the penetrating body of knowledges he draws upon, rooted in his profound thinking and continuous research. A fitting end to a rewarding conference experience.

Finally, I would like to give thanks to Drama New Zealand, whose kind contribution towards my travel enabled me to attend the IDIERI conference.

**Ngā mihi nui,  
Nick Brown**

# IDIERI 2022, University of Warwick – Reflections by Claire Coleman



*Professor Jonathan Neelands - Opening Keynote*



*Claire and Juliette Cottrell*

It was with a mix of both excitement and slight trepidation that I gathered on Sunday 10th July along with some new and returning Drama Education colleagues for registration at IDIERI 10 at the University of Warwick. It seemed remarkable that despite the pandemic, academic budget constraints and the quagmire that is International travel I had finally made it.

Jonathan Neelands provided the opening keynote address the next morning and reminded us to be intentional about social change and that if we want global change we need to start local. He reminded us of the broader purpose of education and the role of drama and the arts to design experiences that demand different ways of doing and thinking.

On Tuesday, I was fortunate to present my developing Critical Process Drama Framework to a group of drama researchers where the provocations presented by Michael Finneran the previous day to 'excavate tricky terrain' were keenly addressed. Adam Bethlenfalvy and I shared our interest in employing drama with 'extreme' topics to extend thinking beyond and invite criticality.

The ethics of working in diverse global contexts offered another key consideration for thinking about as practitioners and our responsibility to be responsive. This concept of educators as care 'givers' was beautifully highlighted in Urvashi

Shani's keynote where she reminded us that if we can change the world changes.

Aotearoa Drama Education was further represented on site by stellar friends and colleagues; Briar O'Connor, Peter O'Connor, Leny Woolsey, Juliette Cottrell and Nick Brown. This notable Kiwi presence continued with Molly Mullen and Gaenor Brown making vital early morning /late night contributions to the IDIERI Online programme on Friday 14th July.

Throughout the week I encountered a diverse range of drama educators who share a clear passion for the art form and the pedagogy. This event took an immense effort from organisers, presenters and attendees, and is deeply appreciated. While we come from different places, spaces and viewpoints shared passion binds this community together.

Thanks to Drama NZ for providing me with support to attend IDIERI 2022.

**Ngā mihi nui,  
Claire Coleman**



# Associate News



In 2023 Playmarket is going to publish a book of short scenes from existing plays of Aotearoa with a special focus on scenes for the classroom.

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[Answer the Survey Here](#)



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# Associate News



Red Leap Theatre is proud to announce a teachers' workshop in Term 3 to support teachers with delivering the new devising theatre standards in the NZ Curriculum.

## **The Generation, Construction and Refinement Process workshop, followed by a practical Devising Tools workshop.**

A key focus will be on how to integrate

the new curriculum frameworks into your approach and communication with students, and how whanaungatanga, kotahitanga and manaakitanga are integral to an empowered, collaborative and successful devising process.

### **Green Bay High School in Auckland.**

Friday 19 Aug 4-7pm - The Generation, Construction and Refinement Process

Sat 20 Aug 10am-4pm - Devising Tools Workshop

COST: \$165.00

**BOOK YOUR PLACE:** Email [emma@redleaptheatre.co.nz](mailto:emma@redleaptheatre.co.nz) including; Name, School Name, Contact phone & email. Please note that places are limited, book promptly to ensure your place in the workshop.



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*Nancy Fulford, Wellington East Girls College, September 2021*

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# Drama NZ News



**EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST  
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- mentors
- kaiako wanting support

**SCHOLARSHIP DRAMA  
SUPPORT NETWORK**

**PREPARE YOURSELF NOW**

## SCHOLARSHIP DRAMA SUPPORT NETWORK

The Association is regularly asked for assistance and professional development around Scholarship Drama. This includes understanding the standard itself, selecting pieces, on the day processes, understanding the assessment schedule and finding ways to help ākonga through the process. If this space is of interest to you either to: -Provide Mentoring and Support - Being supported Please register interest via <https://forms.gle/htbLdFw232cPavdA9> If you have further questions please email NEX@drama.org.nz This new initiative is made possible by the support of The Networks of Expertise.



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# Drama NZ News

## Membership is FREE for Students and PCTs!

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Amanda Hereaka, Mishelle Muagututi'a

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Deepening & Enriching your rehearsal processes for better performances. Tutor: Lara Macgregor

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