

Dramatic

DRAMA NEW ZEALAND NEWSLETTER

#53: August 2023

2023 CONFERENCE

REFLECTIONS



In this issue: Reflections on Ka Mua Ka Muri, Whakamana, Mana Reo updates, A Book Review, Branch Updates, and More...

Dramatic is proudly brought to you by:

Drama NEW ZEALAND  Mahi Whakaari O AOTEAROA

Note From The President

Kia ora whakaari whānau,

Conference has been such a big part of the Executive's lives over the last term that now it feels like the downtime after a production. It was an epic 3 days in Rotorua. Our incredible hosts at John Paul College, Candy and Gabrielle, welcomed us to their space with a mihi whakatau from local kaumatua Monty Morrison. As always we came tired and shattered from a hard-working term two but quickly renewed friendships and were inspired by incredible workshops and presentations. It felt special.

We now look forward to our Primary-focussed conference in September in the Hawkes Bay – encourage your Kahui Ako and primary colleagues teachers to get along to this. There are incredible keynotes and workshops from international and world renowned Drama practitioners and researchers. What better way to start the drama journey?

Our next National Conference is in September 27th-30th, 2024 in Aotearoa New Zealand. Put it in your dates and budgets for next year as this will be a very special one – a joint conference between Australia and New Zealand. More details coming soon.

Another packed Dramatic for you – loads to explore, get involved with, be supported by, in this issue.

Kia kaha,
Annette Thomson, President



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2023 CONFERENCE

REFLECTIONS

Three days of connecting with friends and colleagues, growing in our craft, and sharing our mahi through engaging content across sectors.



Special thanks to John Paul College, Rotorua for being amazing hosts!





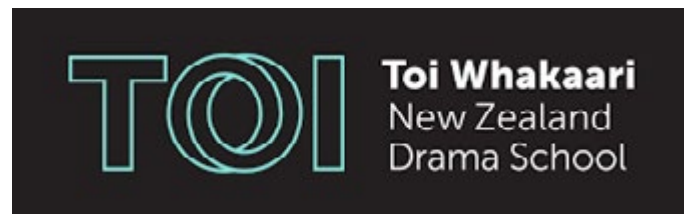
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LINDSEY BROWN



Drama Australia Conference

- Connection and creativity with our good friends from across the ditch!

On June 1st, Annette Thomson and I flew and took the train to beautiful Newcastle, New South Wales, ready for the Drama Australia National Conference early the next morning.



The conference was based at the University of Newcastle's stunning and architecturally designed city campus: Nuspace. It was an exciting, two days of events, under the title of ANTiDOTE, which aimed to open up space for sharing innovative drama practice and research and act as a creative remedy for the challenging circumstances of our times.

Annette and I presented on the second day of the conference, our presentation was titled: Baskets of hope and inspiration. Working together to thrive in our drama communities. Annette asked the question: how can we change the dialogue in our schools and institutions. She explored the Drama NZ advocacy 'basket', and shared ideas to value the work of drama in our classrooms and beyond. Annette also looked at the Drama New

Zealand response to crises in our communities such as the recent cyclones, the Christchurch earthquake and terror attack. and how drama can bring us back to hopeful connection and learning.

Meanwhile I, as a practitioner in secondary and tertiary education, examined drama pedagogy as a vehicle for health and wellbeing. I used a range of resources from the Health and Wellbeing 'basket' to show delegates how to integrate them with their daily practice in the classroom. I also spoke how recently I've been exploring big ideas such as sustainability and climate justice and devising with students creating 'Drama for change'. I shared how I ensure students are safely supported to discuss and develop these concepts in a drama context. I also provided a basket of tips on how teachers can look after themselves, so that they are prepared to support their students.

Through our presentation, we made it clear that Drama New Zealand believes that drama is an antidote to our changing world and we were bringing our baskets of hope and inspiration to Australia to share with them all.

Highlights from the weekend for me were the inspiring keynotes, especially Professor Stacy Holman Jones' one (from Monash University): Feminist Strategies and Tactics: Staging Australian Women's Lives and Radical Creative Praxis as well as the closing one from Professor Daniel X.Harris (RMIT): Cure. Remedy. Fix: Dramatic antidote urgently needed!



I also loved the session with Andrew Byrne on Teaching contemporary First Nations theatre in the drama and theatre classroom. Andrew has undertaken a phenomenological study of six drama teachers who have engaged with scripts by First Nations playwrights in their drama and theatre classrooms. I especially enjoyed his clips from several different productions of 'Black Medea', blending the cultures of Ancient Greek and Indigenous storytelling,

Highlights for Annette included Jo Raphael and Meg Upton's workshop, "Time to Act' for climate justice – Drama and the art of 'futuring'" which explored climate change through dramatic inquiry. Annette was also inspired by the work of Richard Sallis, Chris Summers and Prue Wales who demonstrated effectively how they are using artefacts (such as phone photos) as a stimulus to create contemporary research-based theatre.

A special moment was watching our NZ colleague Gaenor Brown present her paper: "Activating Belonging: Towards a critical ensemble pedagogy" - Gaenor is completing her PHD on ensemble work and we can't wait to

see the fruition of her research, such important mahi for our Drama community.



All in all, the national Drama Australia Conference was a very worthwhile experience for both Annette and I. We left Newcastle feeling that our cups were full, we were grateful for connecting with old friends, and also making new ones. A huge thanks to Drama Australia and the Conference Committee for being such fantastic hosts. We very much look forward to connecting with you all next year in Aotearoa at our combined conference! Ngā mihi maioha.

Kimberley Fridd, Drama NZ Exec member.

SCHOLARSHIP ONLINE INTRO FOR STUDENTS

Register now for our STUDENT Online Scholarship Drama Workshop

This workshop is an introduction to Scholarship Drama and will go through all aspects of the exam from content to assessment to on the day requirements

Register now at <https://forms.gle/obdTwFZ7duCuGCBE7>

A promotional banner for a scholarship drama workshop. The background is grey with blue circular accents. At the top right is a logo featuring two stylized faces. The main text is in a large blue box: "SCHOLARSHIP DRAMA SUPPORT NETWORK". Below this, in a white box, is "STUDENT ONLINE WORKSHOP". At the bottom, there are logos for "Drama NEW ZEALAND" and "Mahi Whakaari O AOTEAROA".

Celebrating our Taonga

Following the 2023 Drama NZ AGM the Executive were joined by a number of our founding members for a High Tea Event at Saint Kentigern College for Girls in Remuera.

This event came off the back of the Auckland University Centre for Arts and Social Transformation Research Project “The Oral History of Drama in Education in Aotearoa.”

This project saw 40 plus interviews of founding and life members recorded by Past President & Life Member Emma Bishop. The interviews will be available for viewing via our website soon.

“These interviews really opened my eyes to the amazing history of the Association. Many of the people I didn't even know existed until this projec,” said Emma.

As a result of this project The National Executive acknowledged the need to ensure that these taonga were celebrated and that the ‘new guard’ of the Executive had the opportunity to meet them.

We took the time to update them on where the Association is now – our growth, and the ongoing commitment to exploring Drama in Education across the motu.

Then there was time to sit and chat. It was thrilling to be with the people that made the association happen, alongside those that have kept it going and to hear their anecdotes and memories of NZADIE and its creation and stories through the years.

For many they had not seen each other for a number of years and it was a lovely way to reconnect.

The Executive thank Judy Norton for hosting in her incredible space.



Advocating for Drama

Our President has submitted a response to the threatened cuts of the Theatre Programme at Victoria University, Pōneke, Wellington. President Annette Thomson submitted the following letter to the Chancellor, John Allen, and Vice Chancellor, Nick Smith, on behalf of Drama New Zealand to advocate against these proposed cuts. The following is part of the letter. If you would like to make your own submission go to [this link](#) for further details.



Kia ora Chancellor John Allen,

Drama New Zealand is the subject association that advocates for and supports Drama educators throughout the sectors from Early Childhood through Secondary, into Tertiary and industry associates. We have been made aware of the threatened cuts to the Theatre Programme at Victoria University Wellington. We understand the programme is set to lose significant staff and the programme will be merged with English. Drama New Zealand is deeply concerned about the loss that these cuts will generate throughout Aotearoa.

The theatre programme has been established over many years. Building world class Theatre programmes do not happen instantly. They are nurtured and built with links to local, national and international educators, industries and people. To cut this department will destroy the work that has been done in the past and damage future possibilities. Our recent conference Ka Mua Ka Muri highlighted the importance of past programmes in Aotearoa such as the Victoria Theatre programme which helps to inform, inspire and develop excellence in the arts for the future. Drama teachers all over Aotearoa know of the Theatre programme at Victoria and will send students there who are wishing to pursue a career in the arts. But we also know of the power of collaboration and how Theatre works in conjunction with other areas, students doing double major degrees coming out with exceptional degrees because the Theatre major will give them the creativity and collaboration skills that give students the edge. Many students have combined Theatre with for example law, psychology or business because they realise the value of embodied knowledge and the creativity, collaboration, project management, empathy and communication skills that theatre gives them.

Wellington's local theatre and film community as well as Aotearoa's arts scene would be devastated in future years if the Victoria theatre department were to close.

These are areas that are generally undervalued within tertiary institutions. When staff cuts are employed to save money it is nonsensical that cuts are made in areas that are already fighting for recognition. The research is clear that the arts are an essential part of a well rounded education, and they are vital in forward thinking universities. For the long term diversity and prosperity of an institution there must be healthy representation across all learning pathways.

Drama New Zealand represents members across the education sector and arts industries. Many of our members have gained their first degree in the Theatre programme at Victoria University. By cutting the exceptional, world-recognised Theatre programme at Victoria University and the Secondary Teaching programme you will be destroying years of vital mahi, collaborative links with other programmes of learning and damaging vital pathways for future arts makers, and teachers in Aotearoa.

Ngā mihi nui,

Annette Thomson

President Drama New Zealand

on behalf of the National Executive and members of Drama New Zealand

Your National Executive will continue to advocate on behalf of our sector.

Primary Conference Update

Ko te reo te tuakiri

Ko te reo tōku ahurei

Ko te reo te ora.

Language is my identity.

Language is my uniqueness.

Language is life

We are just so excited about the upcoming Whakamana, Mana Reo conference. So many kaiako from across the motu and as far away as China and the UK are joining us for the second of this series of conferences highlighting the powerful connection between drama and literacy learning, with strong links to ANZHC and reconnecting through the Arts post-trauma.

Highlights will include Professor Julie Dunn's keynote address 'Stand up for Literacy', focussing on bringing together cognition, emotion and the body. Julie will draw upon recent international research studies to support an understanding of why it is that the elements and structures of drama are so effective in supporting literacy learning, the modes of literacy that are most positively influenced, and the specific approaches and strategies that are applicable for children of different ages. New Zealand's newly appointed Te Awhi Rito (reading ambassador) will be sharing his insights into literature for positive mindsets and wellbeing along with his process of getting started with story writing. Many classroom kaiako will be sharing their own journeys of using drama in their literacy program - the pitfalls and perfect teachable moments.

We are blessed to be joined by students from Project Prima Volta in a lunchtime soundbite and Rangatahi from the Hawke's Bay Youth Theatre will be joining us throughout as our guides and helpers. Also on hand will be students from Poukawa School coming along to help teacher Jane Speers, demonstrate what happens in her class daily.

Whakamana, Mana Reo 2, follows the very successful 2019 conference of the same name, supported by the then Teachers' Refresher Course Committee (TRCC) which was founded by Dr Clarence Beeby in 1945 developed to enable teachers to have a voice in their own learning and to ensure opportunities for professional development 'for teachers, by teachers'. We are thrilled and honoured to be continuing this tradition.

Check out the full programme at www.drama.org.nz

Juliet Cottrell
Conference Convenor.



Primary Conference Schedule



WHAKAMANA, MANA REO

Empowering learners, enriching literacy

25 - 27 September, 2023 Hawkes Bay



Day One Monday 25 September

8.15 am	Shuttles commence (Airport shuttles from 6.30 am)
8.30 am	Registration opens
9.30 am	Mihi Whakataua and opening address Prof. Peter O'Connor University of Auckland
10am	Morning Tea

Session 1 10.30am - 3.00pm Lunch 12.30 - 1.15pm

1	Exploring pūrākau - Tama Rereti. Evelyn Mann Dramaworkz
2	Armstrong - a little mouse with a big impact on literacy. Renee Downee Knighton Normal School
3	Kaitiakitanga: Exploring Our Connection to the Land. Kim Snider University of Auckland

Session 2

3.00 pm	Afternoon Tea
3.30 - 4.30 pm	Talanoa: What just happened? Panel: Prof. Julie Dunn Trish Wells Dr Viv Aitken Dr Claire Coleman Chair: Professor Peter O'Connor
4.30 - 5.30 pm	Chewing the fat: Wine and nibbles.
5.30 pm	Shuttles commence

Day Two - Tuesday 26 September

8.15 am Shuttles commence
8.45 am Haere mai welcome



WHAKAMANA, MANA REO

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Session 1 9.00 - 10.30

1A	The Giant who threw Tantrums. Yr 1-3 Prof Julie Dunn Griffith University
1B	OMG I have to Teach Drama Today! Yr 3-8 Jane Speers & students Poukawa School
1C	Too Young To Have a Say - Adapting process drama to the local community and environment. Yr 5-8 Faye Taylor Upper Hutt School
1D	Exploring science fiction through drama. Yr 7-8 Sheridan Bell Buckland's Beach Intermediate
10.30	Morning Tea

Session 2 11.00 - 12.30

2A	A Teaspoon of Light. All yrs. Ginnie Thorner and Peter O'Connor
2B	Prescription pad literature. All yrs. Alan Dingley Te Awhi Rito (NZ Reading Ambassador)
2C	Mitey - evidence based, school wide approach to mental health education. All yrs. Abbe Waghorn Sir John Kirwan Foundation
12.30	Lunch
1.15	Arts Curriculum Refresh Where to next? Dr Claire Coleman Lead Writer Prof. Peter O'Connor Subject matter expert

Session 3 2.00 - 3.30

3A	Physical Theatre and storytelling Yr 5-8 Jandyra Maclel Hawkes Bay Youth Theatre
3B	Story Building - Creating story-starters by asking 'What Comes Next?' All yrs. Alan Dingley Te Awhi Rito
3C	Adapting existing stories to create a theatre piece. All yrs. Debra Mulholland Mulholland Academy
3.30	Afternoon Tea - Grab n' Go
Out and About 3.45 - 5.30pm	
'Amui i Mu'a - Ancient Futures exhibition at Hastings City Art Gallery Dagmar Vaikalafi Dyck and Sopolamalama Filipe Tohi OR Keirunga Garden's Theatre 'Warming down the day' - story and movement with Jandyra Maclel.	

Conference Dinner 6.30pm St. George's Restaurant

Primary Conference Schedule


Day Three - Wednesday 27 September

8.15 am Shuttles commence

8.45 am Haere mai welcome

WHAKAMANA, MANA REO

Empowering learners, enriching literacy

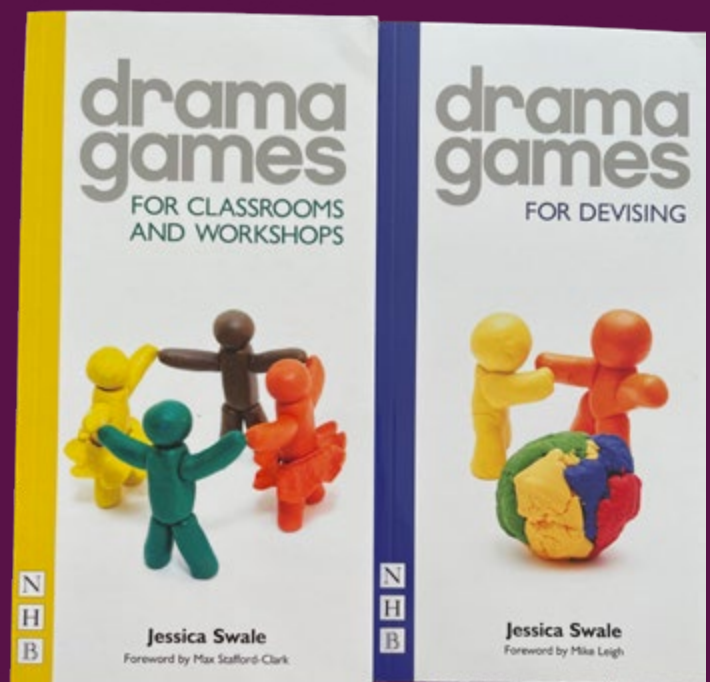
Session 1 9.00 - 10.30		11 am Keynote Address		Session 4 2pm - 4pm	
4A	Fabulously Frustrated: explores the very human emotion of frustration with a focus on finding a way through. Yrs 3 - 8. Ginnie Thorner St. Andrew's College	Stand up for Literacy! In conversation with Professor Julie Dunn		2pm	Where to next? Filling your kete. Informal book & resource sharing session
4B	Ideas to Action: Using Drama as a cross-curricular tool to enhance engagement, creative risk-taking and reflection. All yrs. Jo Lee Jo Lee Creativity, UK	12.00 - 12.30	Lunch	3.15 - 4pm	Poroporoaki Dr Claire Coleman & Annette Thomson President - Drama NZ
4C	Mana Moments: creating a living installation of indigenous kiwis who have been notable in contributing to the history of Aotearoa New Zealand. Yrs 5-8 Evelyn Mann Dramaworkz	Session 3 12.30- 2pm Taster sessions DNZ Aotearoa NZ Histories Curriculum		4pm	Conference concludes. Shuttles commence (including airport). Mā te wā! 
		5A	'Finding the Treasures Within' Yrs 5-8 Judy Norton Saint Kentigern Girls' School		
		5B	'I Stand In Memory' Yrs 5-8 Annette Searle University of Canterbury		
		5C	'The Little Kiwi and the Treaty' All yrs. Sam Bates Somerfield Primary School		

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JESSICA SWALE

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WWW.PLAYBUREAU.COM



Presenter Spotlights



Presenter spotlight

WORKSHOP: Storybuilding

Story building is a simple, but exciting tool to ignite the mind and motivate the reluctant reader. The session will allow participants to build stories from nothing!

WORKSHOP: Prescription pad literature

What books fit what purpose? A collaborative workshop on what is out there to help us reach our students when they need it the most.

ALAN DINGLEY

Te Awhi Rito (NZ Reading Ambassador)



WHAKAMANA, MANA REO

Empowering learners, enriching literacy
25 - 27 September, 2023 Hawkes Bay



Presenter spotlight

WHAKAMANA, MANA REO

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25 - 27 September, 2023 Hawkes Bay

PROF. JULIE DUNN

Julie Dunn is co-author of "Pretending to Learn: Drama in the Primary and Middle Years" & "Stand up For Literature" with John O'Toole. As a researcher, Julie's focus has been on drama work that sits at the nexus between play and drama, in settings as diverse as early childhood classrooms and aged care facilities. Julie's most recent research has been concerned with the role of emotion, particularly in process drama.

Keynote presentation: Stand up for Literacy!

A facilitated conversation with Juliet Cottrell, discussing the role which drama can play in supporting children's literacy development. With a focus on bringing together cognition, emotion and the body, Julie will draw upon recent international research studies to support an understanding of why it is that the elements and structures of drama are so effective in supporting literacy learning, the modes of literacy that are most positively influenced, and the specific approaches and strategies that are applicable for children of different ages.

WORKSHOP: Exploring the strategies and structures of the Giant Who Threw Tantrums Early Years Drama

This process drama, which is included on the Te Rito Toi website, has been taught extensively in early childhood classrooms across the world, and is known for its capacity to support both social emotional development and literacy skills (particularly oral language). A key feature of this drama is that it includes opportunities for children to engage with miniature world and socio-dramatic play - opportunities which are critical in the early childhood drama context. Participants will not only participate in the drama, but will also learn how to re-imagine literature for use in the planning of drama sequences.

Presenter Spotlights



Presenter spotlight

WORKSHOP: Adapting existing stories to make a play.

A workshop that takes teachers through a process of working with their students to adapt a story already written, and retelling in their own voices.

DEBRA MULHOLLAND



Theatre maker, director, producer

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**PROFESSOR
PETER O'CONNOR**



**PROFESSOR
JULIE DUNN**



TRISH WELLS

OUR PANELLISTS



**DR VIV
AITKEN**



**DR CLAIRE
COLEMAN**

Presenter Spotlights



Presenter spotlight

GINNIE THORNER

St Andrew's College, Christchurch



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25 - 27 September, 2023 Hawkes Bay



WORKSHOP:

Fabulously frustrated!

Have you ever been so frustrated? Maybe a huff, a tizzy, or a rage in which you destroyed something along the way? This workshop explores the very human emotion of frustration and helps students unpack those feelings with a focus on finding a way through. Weaving practical drama with writing and poetic expression, teachers will leave with a process that they can use in their classroom, with examples from student work. This workshop is a practical doing workshop. Ginnie will also be presenting "A Teaspoon of Light" with Professor Peter O'Connor.



Presenter spotlight

OPENING ADDRESS:

Whakamana, Mana Reo

Peter O'Connor is Professor of Education and Director of the Te Rito Toi Centre for Arts and Social Transformation in Te Kura Akoranga me Te Tauwhiro Tangata Faculty of Education and Social Work at Waipapa Taumata Rau The University of Auckland. He is also Professor II at Volda College University, Norway. He received The Presidents Award from Drama New Zealand in 2020.

WORKSHOP:

"A Teaspoon of Light" with Ginnie Thorner

There is growing evidence of the effectiveness of the arts to help children return to school post traumatic events. This is a practical workshop using a process drama approach to a simple story for helping children to teenagers with their learning post disaster. Peter will also be chairing the Talanoa on the first day - "What just happened?"

PROF. PETER O'CONNOR

University of Auckland



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Presenter Spotlights



Presenter spotlight

WORKSHOP:

Ideas to Action: Using Drama as a cross-curricular tool.

This workshop is an opportunity to explore Drama techniques that can be applied to any subject, to enhance pedagogy. There will be a chance to explore the techniques used and then an opportunity to start to plan how these ideas could be implemented within lessons and unit plans to enhance engagement and take creative risks.

JO LEE

JO LEE CREATIVITY, UK



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25 - 27 September, 2023 Hawkes Bay



Presenter spotlight

WORKSHOP:

Kaitiakitanga: Exploring Our Connection to the Land through Drama and Literacy

This interactive workshop will explore the concept of kaitiakitanga (care for the land). Taking our inspiration from the picture books Kōwhai and the Giants and Taketakerau: The Millenium Tree, participants will use drama and writing activities to explore their connection to Aotearoa, explore its history, and deepen their responsibility to care for the land.

KIM SNIDER

UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND



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Presenter Spotlights



Presenter spotlight

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Presenter Spotlights



Presenter spotlight

WORKSHOP: Exploring science fiction through drama

An exploration of the short science fiction text *The Machine Stops* by EM Forster through drama- and literacy-based tasks, suitable for Year 7-8, and sophisticated Year 6, learners. Students can relate the isolated society of 'The Machine' to their personal experiences of time spent in lockdown, as well as explore the development of technology from the early 1900s to today, and Forster's projections of a future, dystopian society. Learning experiences complement the teaching of explanation texts and/or science fiction narratives, and 'how the world works.' Lesson plan includes opportunities to explore rich vocabulary and figurative language.

SHERIDAN BELL

BUCKLAND'S BEACH INTERMEDIATE



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Presenter spotlight

WORKSHOP: The little Kiwi and the Treaty

This practical workshop will explore a drama unit based on the story of *The Little Kiwi and the Treaty* by Nikki Slade Robinson. The unit is a fun and accessible way for children to learn about the Treaty of Waitangi. Throughout the Drama, students are asked to consider different perspectives, values and motivations of the Kiwi characters. Themes of identity, migration and negotiation are explored through language rich drama and literacy activities. Students are encouraged to see themselves reflected in this story and make connections with their own history. The story of the Kiwis can be linked to local community contexts and the wider historical context of Aotearoa NZ.

SAM BATES

Somerfield Te Kura Wairepo



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Presenter Spotlights



Presenter spotlight

WORKSHOP:

I Stand in Memory

This practical workshop explores the activities of a Drama Unit with connections to the ANZ Histories Curriculum. The resource, *This is Where I Stand* by Philippa Werry and Kieran Rynhart has themes of past, present and future. The key concepts "I am memory" and "I have purpose" while connecting to the impact of war on people and the environment, are central to the unit. Participants will explore drama and cross curricular possibilities of how to structure and guide learning through the picture book. Participants will also explore how a class of Year 5 ākonga engaged with the unit and how they were empowered to explore these concepts.

ANNETTE SEARLE

University of Canterbury



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Presenter spotlight

WORKSHOP:

Finding the Treasures Within

This process drama unit is based on the young adult novel 'Finding' by David Hill. The story explores key events in NZ's history through different characters' points of view including: interactions between mana whenua and european settlers in early Aotearoa New Zealand, World War I and the 1981 Springbok Tour. We will demonstrate how to utilise drama conventions to delve deeper into a text, providing purposeful opportunities to engage in literacy. We also explore how to weave multiple curriculums into this unit, including linking to key aspects of the Aotearoa New Zealand Histories Curriculum.

JUDY NORTON

St. Kentigern Girls' School,
+ Primary Rep, Drama NZ



WHAKAMANA, MANA REO

Empowering learners, enriching literacy

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Presenter Spotlights



Presenter spotlight

WORKSHOP: OMG! I have to teach Drama today!

Fill your kete with a selection of Drama games and conventions from a teacher who is still a newbie in this curriculum area. Ideas to get started and keep going, Online resources and practical ideas to support your literacy program including some live students demonstrating and giving feedback on their experiences.

JANE SPEERS

Poukawa School



WHAKAMANA, MANA REO

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Presenter spotlight

WORKSHOP: Too Young To Have a Say

Using the process drama 'Too Young To Have a Say', by Juliet Cottrell, I will take people through an interactive presentation using drama conventions.

Then I will explain how I have adapted this using the local environment, for different year levels, and the integration of different curriculum areas. I will finish with the question: Where to from here? How could you use this story at your kura?

FAYE TAYLOR

Upper Hutt School



WHAKAMANA, MANA REO

Empowering learners, enriching literacy
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Presenter Spotlights



Presenter spotlight

WORKSHOP: Mitey Mental Health Education

Using drama conventions and techniques to promote conversations on topics of mental health

Mitey is a free, school wide approach to mental health education for Years 1-8, designed specifically for Aotearoa schools. A key aspect of Mitey is the stepped progression of learning about mental health that supports tamariki to have the knowledge, skills and understanding to recognise, understand and respond to their own and others' mental health. This practical interactive session will provide tricks and tips to enhance opportunities for rich discussions on topics of mental health in the classroom.

ABBE WAGHORN

Sir John Kirwan Foundation - Mitey



WHAKAMANA, MANA REO

Empowering learners, enriching literacy
25 - 27 September, 2023 Hawkes Bay



Presenter spotlight

WORKSHOP: Armstrong -the little mouse with a big impact on literacy

For a number of years, and for students in years 0-1, 3-4 and 5-6 classes, I have used a series of books by Torben Kuhlmann to ensnare my students in the amazing world he creates through his illustrations.

I will tell you the story of a little mouse named Armstrong, and we will explore how dramatic conventions can be used along the way to develop their literacy skills and, of course, their imagination!

RENEE DOWNEY

Knighton Normal School



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25 - 27 September, 2023 Hawkes Bay



Presenter Spotlights



Presenter spotlight

WORKSHOP: Exploring pūrākau – Tama Rereti

The goal in this drama is to unpack possible learnings from the pūrākau 'Tama Rereti' as 'retold' by by Nā Bubba Thompson rāua ko Henare Manawatu, translation by Paulette Tamati-Elliffe. This story is depicted in the whakairo found in the wharekai at Te Rau Aroha marae in Bluff. The whānau at Awarua share this pūrākau to help keep these stories alive. There are many versions of this pūrākau and I bring to you this one from the most southern part of Aotearoa. "Why do the whanau at Awarua want to keep these pūrākau alive? What can we learn from them?"

WORKSHOP: Mana Moments

I was enlightened by a speaker in a conference some years ago who asked us how many famous Māori we knew about? Who of them were included in school programmes? What did we remember from our schooling about Māori who are significant in our history. This led me to work on Mana Moments. This drama looks at some of those indigenous kiwis who have been notable in contributing to the history of Aotearoa New Zealand. The drama will develop a living installation that when used in schools could be shared with others.

EVELYN MANN

Dramaworkz



WHAKAMANA, MANA REO

Empowering learners, enriching literacy

25 - 27 September, 2023 Hawkes Bay



Presenter spotlight

WORKSHOP: Physical Theatre and storytelling

Our bodies are powerful and expressive tools, with millions of years of evolution and story just bursting to be seen and heard. Where language fails, movement can be a powerful communicator. Movement in performance making can provide strong metaphor, connection, and bring healing, confidence and grounding to tamariki and their understanding of language, text, connection and belonging. Come and discover creative techniques, workshop practices and simple guiding tools for use in the classroom.

WORKSHOP: Warming Down the Day: Story and Movement

Warm down a long and cerebral day by reconnecting with your body, loosening up with some creative games and play, and discover some simple activities that will unlock yours, and your students', creative flow.

JANDYRA MACIEL

Hawke's Bay Youth Theatre



WHAKAMANA, MANA REO

Empowering learners, enriching literacy

25 - 27 September, 2023 Hawkes Bay



Auckland Branch.

Kia ora koutou!

Term three is a busy one - with productions and assessments flying around. Here in Tāmaki Makaurau we are under the hammer.

It was so amazing to see everyone at the DNZ Conference in Rotorua. It's always such an awesome time to connect, refresh, and just be! Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Regional Morning Tea. Watch this space and our facebook group for upcoming 'beer and banter' and workshops. For now, here are a couple of awesome opportunities happening in the region.

Making Forum Theatre Work with Adrian Jackson

An incredible PD opportunity for DNZ members, artists, and colleagues!

A workshop for teachers, university students, theatre artists, activists, actors, facilitators, academics, those who work with young people or marginalised groups, people working in areas of social inclusion or international development -- anyone interested in using theatre as a force for change. All are welcome.

Friday, 25 August, 2023 - 4:30-6:30pm
(introductory session)

Saturday, 26 August, 2023 - 9:30-4:30pm (full day workshop)

Drama Studio, University of Auckland, Epsom Campus. 74 Epsom Avenue, Epsom, Auckland 1023. On-site parking available.

\$120 (inclusive of both sessions)
Morning tea and light snacks provided

[REGISTER NOW](#)

Please note that payment is required with this registration to confirm your place in the workshop.

Based on Adrian Jackson's extensive track record founding and leading Cardboard Citizens theatre company for three decades and his experience teaching in over 30 countries, on many occasions alongside Augusto Boal, this workshop seeks to offer a glimpse of the power and applicability of

TO (the Theatre of the Oppressed).

This workshop will seek to show how Boal's Theatre of the Oppressed can be used in practice, with particular emphasis on Forum Theatre which goes beyond the simplistic to embrace the complexities of people's lives in the modern world. Adrian's teaching style is vigorous, non-doctrinaire, and highly responsive to those in the room. There will be games and exercises aplenty, combined with question and answer. Examples of successful Forum Theatre texts, in print and on video, will be shared. It will be of value both to those entirely new to this work and those with some experience or knowledge of it.

Southside Ritches

A huge congratulations to Kerry Lynch (HoD Otahuhu College) and his incredible ākongā for taking their devised piece 'Southside Ritches' on the road.



The 3,4,5 Te Tai Tokerau Tour by Otahuhu College. 3 nights, 4 days and 5 schools! This touring

production called 'Southside Riches' is an original devised show that is entirely created by its cast of 24 ākonga. The creation process has been facilitated by Kerry Lynch (HOD) and Tama Jarman courtesy of the Creatives in Schools program. Emma Bishop and Kim Snider had the pleasure of seeing a preview performance two weeks ago and it is a truly powerful show with poignant themes, impressive physical work, and a very talented cast. A big thank you to Drama NZ, for sponsoring this tour.

Congratulations on the Mahi!!



The end of term two and beginning of term three was huge for productions across the region. Here are a couple of highlights from two devised pieces - Green Bay's *The Watchers* and Macleans College's *The Mad Flight*.



What is coming up in the region...

Thank you to all of you who have added your shows to our region's Calendar of events!

31st July - 4th August - Glendowie College - *The Private War of Corporal Cooper & The Birthday Girl*



1st August - 5th August - Ormiston Junior College - *The Addams Family*



3rd August - 5th August - Birkenhead College - *Ed Sheeran tastes like Chicken*

16th August - Green Bay High School - Dance Showcase

23rd August - 25th August - Glen Eden Intermediate - *Shreck the Musical JR*

11th September - 14th September - Pakuranga College - *Studio Cab (A) + (B)*

11th September - 16th September - Avondale College - *FAME!*

20th September - 21st September - Mt Roskill Grammar - EET/Theatre Technology Exhibition

20th September - 21st September - Green Bay High School - *Wheeler's Luck*

If you would like to share what you are working on with us then please head along to the facebook page and add your dates to the calendar or you can email the information to aucklandbranch@drama.org.nz. We cannot wait to see that you create and support the exciting mahi that is happening in the region.

Term three looks packed! We hope that you are all finding time to look after yourselves while putting in all the work for the performances. You are so appreciated!

Amanda Burnett
Regional Rep Tāmaki Makaurau/Auckland Branch

Canterbury Branch.

Primary/Intermediate Teachers Workshop

15 primary and junior secondary teachers recently gathered at our Primary/Intermediate workshop held at Christchurch South Karamata Intermediate. Annette Searle and Sam Bates introduced participants to some new drama games and shared some examples of ways into deep learning topics and literacy through drama. We look forward to offering more workshops around Christchurch in the future. Keep up to date on our Canterbury Branch facebook page.

Feedback from one of the workshop participants:



"That was so inspiring! I'm going to try some of this with my class for writing next week."



In Other News

The Canterbury branch had a few keen beans attend the National Conference in Rotorua and all agreed there was a lot of valuable resource sharing, collaborating and inspiring speakers.

The annual Theatrefest saw a small number of secondary school entries recently shared and celebrated on stage at Rangi Ruru theatre for the Canterbury competition. Kudos to those who participated. see the flyer below for our next workshop and AGM.

MISSED THE CONFERENCE?

Join us for a workshop on implementing Level 1 NCEA with Anna Richardson (MOE implementation) followed by our Canterbury AGM and a talk from Anna
"Best PD so far regarding the NCEA change"
Jay Grubb Papanui

22nd August Tuesday
Venue: Rangi Ruru Girls' School Merivale Lane Theatre
Time 1-5.30

[**REGISTER HERE**](#)



Massey Branch.

Tēnā koutou,

It was fantastic to connect with so many of you at conference during the holidays. I always come home feeling inspired, despite the end of term fatigue.

So much of our job is about connection, and those opportunities to connect with our fellow drama teachers are so important. With so many changes afoot, time to connect feels more pertinent than ever. We hope to create more opportunities to meet, share, and plan for the future within the Massey region over the next few months.

Upcoming Productions

School of Rock the Musical- 2 - 5 August, NBHS, Napier

Half of the Sky- 30 August Theatre Royal, New Plymouth, Taranaki

Waiting for Godot- 9 November Toitotoi, Hastings



It is very exciting to have the Drama New Zealand Primary Conference **Whakamana, Mana Reo** from 25-27 September at Havelock North Intermediate, Hawkes Bay. Please spread the word to any interested colleagues.

Hoping you have had a positive start to the term.

Mā te wā,
Ruby Masom / Regional Rep



Otago/Southland Branch.

Kia Ora Koutou

There is nothing quite like an Otago/Southland winter! We continue to reach for our jumpers and continue to reach out for all drama opportunities that come our way.

Otago Southland Theatre Festival

The Local Otago Southland Theatrefest took place on 22/23 July and what a wonderful festival it was! We had 8 entries this year who all performed pieces written by New Zealand playwrights. It was great to reflect on how lucky we are to have so many talented New Zealand playwrights. Adjudicator Annette Thomson offered detailed feedback to all participants and gave performers a chance to reflect on their dramatic process. Congratulations to Wakatipu High School, John McGlashan College, South Canterbury Theatrical Society and Logan Park High School who will progress onto the Lower South Island competition.



Photo: Students from John McGlashan College performing “The Final Call” by Zoe Eckhoff

The Lower South Island Regional Festival will take place 26/27 August at Allen Hall Theatre, University of Otago, Dunedin.

Conference

The Otago Southland branch was small in numbers this year making for a cosy regional

morning tea at conference. Rachel, Jake, Nick and myself enjoyed re-connecting and catching up on all things happening in the South. We would like to thank the organisers for a meaningful and thoughtful conference.

Visit from Anna Richardson

A massive thank you to Anna Richardson (NCEA implementation facilitator) who travelled to Dunedin to offer advice and resources aligning with how to implement the new NCEA changes. Teachers from across Dunedin gathered last week to discuss future planning and listen to the guidance of Anna. It was great to look at some ideas around planning and resources for 2024

We look forward to arranging more sessions with Anna before the end of the year. If you would be interested in joining us in Dunedin for the next session please reach out via our branch email to ensure you receive details on the next session: otagosouthlandbranch@drama.org.nz

Break a Leg!

Good luck to Columba College for their upcoming Musical, *Mamma Mia*.



Otago/Southland Workshop Opportunity

The amazing Adrian Jackson MBE is coming to Dunedin to run a weekend of workshops on Forum theatre. Adrian is founding Artistic Director of Cardboard Citizens, the head of London's STOP School of the Theatre of the Oppressed and was Augusto Boal's English translator and frequent collaborator. STOP is for activists, actors, facilitators, communities, academics, those who work with young people or marginalised groups, people working in areas of social inclusion or international development - anyone interested in using theatre as a force for change. Check out the school here: www.stoplondon.co.uk

It is free for Drama NZ Members to attend the workshop. Places are limited, so be in quick.



FREE FOR DRAMA NZ MEMBERS

Drama NEW ZEALAND **Mahi Whakaari O AOTEAROA**
supported by Drama NZ Networks of Expertise

FORUM THEATRE WORKSHOP

Ōtepoti / Dunedin

A 2-day training workshop being delivered by Forum Theatre expert **Adrian Jackson MBE**

Adrian is many things: a theatre director, trainer, translator, playwright and of course a Forum Theatre Expert – AND... he's coming to little ole Ōtepoti to deliver some unique training to anyone who is interested in the use of theatre to look at the world we live in and imagine what could be different.

Excited...?? Here's the deets:
Saturday & Sunday
18th & 17th September
9am to 5pm

Workshop Fee: **FREE** for DNZ Members (terms and conditions apply)

WORKSHOP AUDIT POSITIONS FOR TEACHERS ARE AVAILABLE TOO

WHO WOULD LOVE THIS WORKSHOP?
Actors, Teachers, Youth Workers, Directors, Social Theatre Makers, Humans!

For info & registration details email: Forum@theatreworks.co.nz

Happy You...!!
THEATREworks



Plays for Students from Playmarket

Māori plays:

The Undertow series by Helen Pearce-Otene Published

- **The Ragged** (4-7f, 9-13m, 15-15 any) Newly arrived settlers, escaping an oppressive Victorian England, are finding the Crown's fingers stretch all the way to this wild, distant land — and they are still stuck on the bottom rung. Samuel Kenning has arrived "safe and well at the ends of the earth," ready to claim his land and his better life. He quickly learns, however, that the life and land he has purchased from the New Zealand Company wasn't theirs to give.
- **Dog & Bone** (5f, 8m, 4-10 any) It's 1869 at the bottom of the world the British Army has gone and left Māori and Pākehā to fight it out. The Māori kūrī, like its master, an inferior, ugly, savage animal not to be given an inch... or a bone.
- **Public Works** (2f, 3m, 5-10 any) 1918 and home calls to our boys in No Man's Land – the space in between, where anything is possible – in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me. Dumb, black bastards stuck in the mud. Theirs or someone else's, it's all the same.
- **The Landeaters** (2f, 4m, 15-25 any) Entangled in the roots of a beloved willow tree – where the ancient ones reside – somewhere just between today and tomorrow an old man and his roots are digging in against The Landeaters.

The Prophet by Hone Kouka (3f, 3m)

Five teenage cousins have returned to their 'home' on the East Coast for another cousin's unveiling (headstone ceremony). Over the three days there, they deal with the new roles they must accept as adults.

With the backdrop of basketball, cool urban sounds and the beautiful East Coast, *The Prophet* is moving, funny and definitely unforgettable.

Awhi Tapu by Albert Belz (1f, 3m)

At the foot of the Urewera ranges lies Awhi Tapu – a desolate forestry village. With the forestry industry closed down, the people of Awhi Tapu have left. Wendy, Sonny, Casper and Girl Girl have only each other to rely on. Awhi Tapu is a story of loss, belonging but most of all friendship.



The Prophet, Taki Rua Productions, 2004

Purapurawhetū by Briar Grace-Smith (2f, 3m)

The town of Te Kupenga has been tainted by a tragedy that happened 30 years ago. Tyler is an outsider who wants to fit in. As Tyler helps weave the tukutuku panel for the new whareniui, new faces and old demons haunt Te Kupenga. Tyler must weave together the secrets of the past in order to save his town from collapsing all over again... Published

Plays from Realm Nations:

Sunset Road by Miria George (1f, 2m)

Set in Rotorua and the Cook Islands, *Sunset Road* is a dramatic coming-of-age story. It's two days before twins Luka and Lucia finally cross in to adulthood. Free, they roam the steam filled streets of Rotorua on Luka's trusty Bonneville and dream of taking on the world. Luka desperate to escape, Lucia to become Miss Geyslerland. The twins work with their devout father at the local sawmill, uninspiring to them, where he has been since he first brought his family to this dry and broken land. A near death experience drags father back to memories of Aitiu, Cook Islands and the secrets and mistakes of his past, shaking the family's foundations and ultimate love of each other.

Kaveinga by Teherenui Koteka (3f, 3m) *Shortlisted for Playwrights b4 25 Competition*

Set on the Cook Islands atoll of Manihiki, Eturere and her family are forced to piece together their lives in the aftermath of cyclone Martin. While her people would once have found this task simple, climate change has evoked new challenges. Papa, a personification of mother earth attempts to guide Eturere and her people in the rebuild. However, the people of Manihiki fall into further turmoil as they reject Papa's teachings. Desperation drives Eturere and her family to an unreasonable conclusion that results in a gut wrenching demise. *Kaveinga* (a new direction) urges the Cook Islands people to reflect upon their contributions to climate change and challenges all to make a change.

With a subscription to Playmarket, most manuscripts of plays are available for free download from our website. A subscription costs only \$45 annually for full access to download unlimited different scripts: [Subscribe here.](http://www.playmarket.org.nz)

To request any plays and/or musicals, contact Isaac Martyn Script Coordinator / Kaiwhakahaere Whakaari: isaac@playmarket.org.nz

Waikato Branch.

It was wonderful to catch up with colleagues kanohi ki te kanohi at Conference in Rotorua at the start of the holidays. Lots of wonderful learning and great to have the Ministry advisors to give clear guidance around not only the NCEA changes, but the needs of our subject in terms of technology and storage requirements.

We have a newly minted treasurer in the DNZ Waikato Branch. Congratulations to Sam Millar from Gisborne Girls' High School for taking on this very important role for our branch.

The beginning of term 3 seems to be show time for Waikato Drama teachers:

Papamoa College started the term with the *The Addams Family*, which went very well.



Hamilton Boys' High and Hamilton Girls' High have their annual production; *The Witches of Inverness* in week 5. This is a production that looks at the origins of Macbeth's witches.



Rototuna Senior high are putting on a cabaret showcase; *A Knight of Musical Mayhem* at the Meteor Theatre on August 25th and 26th. It features a range of songs, scenes and dances with some devised work thrown in the mix too.

Cambridge High School year 11 students are performing *Passengers* by Fiona Farrell in week 3. Then, in week 6 year 12s are performing *Touched with Fire* by Ken Mizusawa.



Hillcrest High school are working on *Blood Wedding* as their level 3 production in week 5 and had DNA last term for level 2 production.

Sacred Heart College have their Arts Showcase in week 4 and are preparing for the Chanel Shield competition; a competition for Catholic Schools. We wish them all the best.

On a side note, it's been very exciting to see that National Youth Theatre is venturing outside of Auckland and running *The Little Mermaid* at Clarence Street Theatre this term. Hopefully this gives more of our rangatahi an opportunity to experience performance.

Ngā mihi
Morag Carter - Regional Rep

Wellington Branch.

Kia ora,

There were seven keen people from the Wellington Branch of Drama NZ at this year's conference Ka Mua, Ka Muri, in Rotorua. It was great to be able to arrive in the morning and be ready for the afternoon's activities. There were some great workshops on offer from presenters such as Te Rākau, Massive, Jade Erikson, Tuatara Collective and others in terms of active workshops. Then there was a good selection of information and workshops about the NCEA change and other assessment matters, which has led to a further workshop on Tues 1 Aug at St Mary's with Angela Hodgkinson on all things assessment.

The evening dinner at the Mitai Village was an enjoyable experience.

It was a great time to connect with others from around the motu and share our love of teaching Drama and our highs and lows over the previous years.

We are all looking forward to the combined conference with Drama Australia in 2024.

*Ngā mihi nui,
Jo Matheson*

Red Leap Theatre Workshops Offer for a limited time!

Book a workshop before the end of August
for anytime before the end of the year,
and receive a 10% discount.

To book email: emma@redleaptheatre.co.nz
Quote **DNZWorkshopOffer**

"The students learnt how important the physical aspect of devising is. They learnt to work as an ensemble and together. Collaboration! They got a different style & approach to performance than they have experienced before. Loved it, such an awesome experience! Nice calm tone and great rapport built between student and Red Leap tutors."

Teacher evaluation from Term 2 workshop delivery

WORKSHOP PRICING WITH DISCOUNTS (excl GST)

2 hours

Under 18 students = \$250 / \$225

Over 18 students = \$450 / \$405

Half day (3-4 hours)

Under 18 students = \$400 / \$360

Over 18 students = \$600 / \$540

Full day

Under 18 students = \$550 / \$495

Over 18 students = \$795 / \$715.50





Magic Moments – Thornington Literacy Project, by Sam Bates

A couple of magic moments stood out to me during the Phase 2 drama and literacy project at Thornington Primary School in Christchurch last term. Their deep learning theme was sustainability and we explored this through dramatic contexts in the story of Rātā and the waka and imaginary scenarios relating to the school environment.

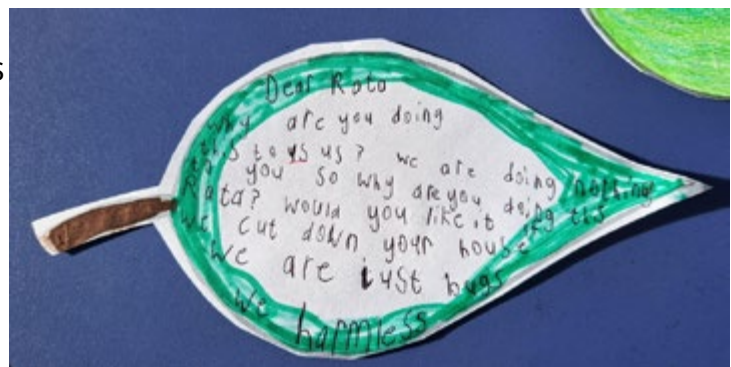
Over the course of the project, the teacher's confidence in using drama in the classroom grew in leaps and bounds. They had lots of opportunities to practice teacher in role as: a morepork whose tree had been cut down, Rātā asking for forgiveness from the forest creatures and a present day construction worker. It was so wonderful to see the teachers being playful and creative with their teaching, using their imagination and engaging their students in the learning.

There were many magic moments offered by the Year 3 and 4 students also. When the students were in role as the forest creatures, and the morepork (teacher in role) had asked them if they would help her to resurrect her fallen totara tree, they decided they needed to say a karakia or chant as they raised the tree together in order to protect the tree and make it strong again. These are 2 different examples created by 2 different classes. They chanted these words as they collectively raised 2 long lengths of green fabric off the floor and tied them together symbolising fixing the broken tree:

*“Keep the tree, keep it safe,
make all the leaves and the bark in its rightful place.”*

*“Izzy wizzy, let's get busy!
Long live the tree! All hail the tree!”*

Students in role as the forest creatures had also written messages to Rātā expressing their concern at the way he had cut down the tree. Each class decided to leave these messages for Rātā (teacher in role) to read in a different way. One class wrote their messages on paper thin 'bark' and stuck them to the



tree with 'spiders webs'. Another class wrote their messages on 'leaves' and asked a kereru (student in role) to deliver them to a hollow in the tree.

On the last session of the project, I was taken by surprise at another magic moment. The students were in role as the forest creatures who had forgiven Rātā for his mistake. The students were spread around the room grouped in freeze frames offering Rātā gifts to take on his journey. One group was in charge of holding the green fabric symbolising the waka they had fashioned from the tree and offered to Rātā. When it came time for Rātā (teacher in role) to accept the waka, the whole class spontaneously gathered around the piece of fabric. I sat back and watched this magic moment unfold. Many children freely offered some advice or well wishes to Rātā "We forgive you" "Remember this day"... "We wish you well on your journey"... "Remember to only take what you need"... "Use the trees wisely"... "We made this waka is for you"...

Then one child invited everyone to chant as they offered the waka to Rātā.

"Izzy wizzy lets get busy!

All hail the tree! Long live the tree!"

This beautiful moment was captured in these photos.



Drama NZ News

Drama NZ and Drama Australia Conference 2024 Conference Convenor Opportunity

Drama New Zealand and Drama Australia are joining forces again to bring knowledge and pedagogy to Drama educators. Last held in 2017 in Australia this conference will be held in Aotearoa New Zealand. Conferences are an important event of the year for our members allowing both important professional development and networking opportunities. This international conference will allow even greater exposure to learnings across the globe.

The 2024 Conference is to be held in Aotearoa at the beginning of the September School Holidays 27th - 30th September. This International conference will have a theme of 'Flourish' and will bring together Australia and New Zealand presenters and delegates to workshop and delve into the flourishing world of drama education in our countries.



CONFERENCE CONVENOR

Drama NZ and Drama Australia are looking for a conference convenor for our International joint conference in September 2024 in Aotearoa

Could this be you?

Check out the job description below:

[Job description](#)

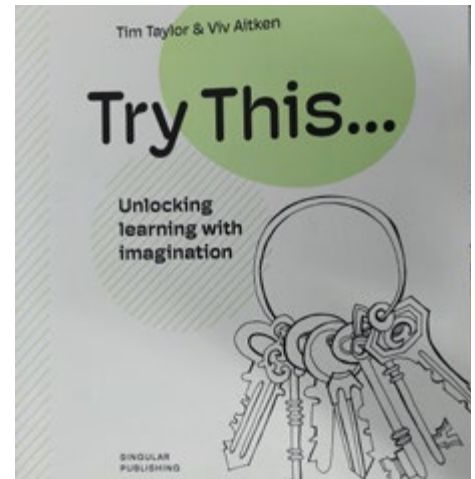
send your cv to admin@drama.org.nz by August 20th 2023

Drama NZ News

Winter Time With Dramatic Inquiry

A week after the conference in Rotorua I was privileged to attend the *Try This* workshop with Viv Aitken and Tim Taylor (UK) and the Dramatic Inquiry Trust Winter School.

The *Try This* workshop was a practical day of exploring the new book *Try This* written by Tim Taylor and Viv Aitken. What is lovely about this book is it is a practical series of Dramatic Inquiry 'keys' that unlock the imagined world for ākonga and Kaiako. Throughout, there are clear set out sequences for each 'key' and examples from both the UK (Tim's experiences) and Aotearoa (Viv's experiences). The examples help to illustrate how the keys are used in context. *Try This* is a practical and useful book for the Primary classroom, although I can see it easily being used with Secondary and Community groups in many ways. To Buy the *Try This* book: www.trythisbook.org



The winter school run by the Dramatic Inquiry Trust was held in Kirikiriroa, Hamilton and was two days of inspiration from masters of the pedagogy of Mantle of the Expert. Initially we worked together as a group on a dramatic inquiry using a NZ context. At times, dividing up for Viv Aitken to take a foundational planning group, Whakaronga Tauranga to take a group on effective teaching with Mantle, and Tim Taylor explored Mantle theory and practice.

Over the three days I was able to connect with practitioners who actively have mantle of the expert being explored as pedagogy throughout their kura and was inspired by the inspirational learnings with Viv, Tim and Whakarongo. I was also able to award Viv Aitken with our 2022 Presidents Award (awarded by Emma Bishop 2022). A well deserving recipient of this special award.

What a special time filled with manaakitanga. Thank you Viv, Tim, Whakarongo and our Drama colleagues at the Dramatic Inquiry Trust. For more on Mantle of the expert in New Zealand: <http://mantleoftheexpert.co.nz/>



**Ngā mihi nui,
Annette Thomson**

Drama NZ News

REFLECTIONS AND GRATITUDE FOR THE TOUR OF TE TAI TOKERAU - NORTH

"Kia ora koutou to our amazing Kaiako of the North,

I want to thank you for taking the punt to host our performance of *Southside Riches* last week. Our four-day tour, without question, surpassed my hopes and expectations, and I know that this experience will stay in the hearts of our rangatahi for a very long time. From arriving at the beautiful Whitiara Marae on Monday afternoon, our base camp for 3 nights and being overlooked nightly by the full moon, to experiencing phosphorescence as we skimmed stones on the maraes waterfront at night, I instantly knew this tour was going to be special. We loved performing our 5 shows and the opportunity to korero with students afterwards, we also loved visiting the local Primary school and performing some cultural dance before we headed off to the Waitangi grounds.



Now that the groundwork has been prepared, our hope is that this visit of Te Tai Tokerau is the start of a bi-annual tour and opportunity to develop an artistic and cultural connection with your kura. This is obviously subject to our department receiving funding but if everything falls

into place then we hope to bring a new show, with a new cast, possibly titled 'Southside Riches – the Next Generation' to your school in 2025!



A big thank you to Anita of 'Neat Eats' for the amazing catering from her base in Kerikeri. Thank you to Te Maiatanga and Ngati Rehia for hosting our stay at the marae. Craig, Emily and Jude for their amazing tour leadership and commitment to our rangatahi. Thank you to the schools for the powhiri's and haka's. Finally a big thank you to our 3 financial sponsors, the Lion Foundation, Drama New Zealand - National Executive and Drama New Zealand – Auckland Branch.



Kerry Lynch
Otahuhu College
HOD Dance and Drama

Book Review

The Red Leap Devising Toolkit by Julie Nolan Reviewed by Annette Thomson



Julie Nolan remarks at the beginning of this book that “Theatre is about the ethos of collaboration, of empowerment, of that constant desire to improve. It is about telling stories in a voice we don’t always hear”. Kaiako in classrooms across

Aotearoa empower students to create and tell their stories. This book is a practical toolbox of ideas and ways of working that enable the devising process. Red Leap has been creating devised works since 2008. Their work has pushed boundaries, made us think as audience members and has celebrated inclusive stories.

Recently I was asked to work with a group of year twelve students for two weeks. With the knowledge that they were going on to devise after the two weeks and on the purchase of this book at the Drama NZ conference, I dove in. With no hiding the fact we were working from this book, I read out treasured statements, ways of working and we explored creating theatre through Red Leap’s kaupapa.

At the beginning we created a contract as Red Leap does – and I asked the question, “If we were a team of devisors how would we work together as a company? (Ngā mihi to Mantle of the Expert training!) This began a great discussion on how the students usually work together in the classroom but shifted the frame to ‘but if we were expert devisors how would we be?’ And through this book they could see visually (beautifully illustrated past theatrical works are shown) and through text how Red Leap work as a professional company. Our contract was unique to us but the students really thought about the difference between students in a classroom and a professional devising company and our contract reflected this shift in how they now wanted to

work together.

The students and I explored ‘A classic Red Leap Day’ and the chapters on 2) The Joy of Games 3) Ensemble building 4) Quick Fire devising and 5) Provocations provided inspiration to try new things.



It was lovely to explore together where I as teacher was not the imparter of expertise – the book and red leap became the expert here – we learnt together. We particularly enjoyed rediscovering grandmother’s keys and walking in space. We tried out some new ways of working with ‘Elementals’ and ‘Flipped perspectives” laughing hysterically at ‘climbing a cliff’ on the floor. There is a lot more to discover here – with building character, (chapter 6), developing scenes (chapter 7), towards production and reflection (chapter 8 and 9) more than we could do in two weeks. This book is incredibly valuable for the classroom teacher to delve into for a time, to discover a new game or devising provocation or to build a comprehensive plan of working with ākonga to realise a fully devised piece of work. I highly recommend this for Drama educators working within secondary tertiary and community kura. Red Leap has given drama educators a Devising Toolkit that is practical, accessible and useful for the classroom.

To purchase: The book is \$89.95 + GST + \$10 packaging and postage within Aotearoa. Teachers can order the book by emailing emma@redleaptheatre.co.nz to be invoiced. You can also purchase it online [via this link](#).

Associate News

Speech New Zealand are delighted to announce the first in a series of new Teaching Resources.

From today you can purchase the Reading Aloud Teachers Resource for just \$30.

Inside the pages of this comprehensive guide, you will find Lesson Suggestions, Teacher Tips, Discussion Starters, plenty of Learning Activities and some great recommendations to best equip your students with the tools they need to excel.



The Reading Aloud Resource is suitable for Grades 2-5. You or your students do not need to be preparing to sit an examination with Speech NZ to find benefit in this educational resource.

For more information or to purchase, visit our <https://www.speechnz.co.nz/resources/teaching-resources/resource-packages-for-teachers/>

"YOU WILL BECOME MORE CONFIDENT...AND YOU WILL HAVE FUN AND NOT BE NERVOUS ALL THE TIME"
- 2022 STUDENT

Speech
NEW ZEALAND
NEW ZEALAND SPEECH BOARD
Helping our Nation to communicate

**COMMUNICATION
IN
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SUPPORTING ASPIRING SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY LEADERS TO DEVELOP THEIR COMMUNICATION

SUITABLE YEARS 7+

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Associate News



Have you got a passion for Music Theatre? Then the Junior Theatre Festival New Zealand is for you.

This festival is like no other - produced in association with iTheatrics (NY) and sponsored by Music Theatre International - Australasia - it is the largest event of its kind in Aotearoa.

Come for your own professional development and be immersed in musical theatre, seeing performances of TWO yet to be released JR musicals, 15 min adjudications and onstage feedback sessions from groups from across the motu, learn and develop your musical kete with five fabigorg workshops lead by industry professionals from the USA, UK, Australia and Aotearoa. Our professional Development Pathway offers all this plus a heap of networking and fun

Or why not bring a group of your students?

If you have performed an MTI JR, KIDS, SCHOOLS EDITION, ONE ACT, or a full version that is available as a JR or KIDS you can bring a group to the festival.

The students perform, get live feedback, take workshops and have an amazing day meeting hundreds of other MT Kids from across NZ and Australia.

If you are bringing a group you can also nominate up to five students to take part in the Festival Pilot programme.

This is a week-long masterclass with performers aged 11-18 years workshopping a yet to be released Broadway JR Production with industry recognised professionals which is performed at the festival opening.

WHEN is all this happening? - you ask

Pilot Programme 16-20 October

Festival 20/21 October

WHERE - Victory Centre, Freemans Bay, Auckland

FIND OUT MORE at www.juniortheatrefestival.nz or email us at emma@juniortheatrefestival.nz





Nurturing Creatives

Equipping individuals to step
into creative roles

- Musical Director- Director - Production Manager -
Choreographer -

DUNEDIN - September 15 and 16

MTNZ is hosting a training intensive to support anyone looking to step into Musical Direction, Production Management, Choreography or Directing.

The event commences on Friday night - with Conflict Resolution training provided by David Adkins; followed by 6 hours of intensive training in your chosen discipline on Saturday.

Our fabulous instructors include:

Directing: David Adkins - Choreography: Sofia Kalogeropoulou - Production Management: Sonya Aifai and Musical Direction: Zac Johns

All are welcome; find relevant details, registration information and more through our Facebook event [HERE](#), or email us office@mtnz.co.nz to find out more.

SECONDARY TEACHERS TEACHING IN THE AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND CONTEXT NEEDED TO TAKE PART IN IMPORTANT NEW RESEARCH!



Title of the Research Project:

The role of emotions in teachers' well-being and their relationships with students.

Researchers from the University of Auckland Faculty of Education and Social Work are currently recruiting secondary school teachers who currently teach students years 9 – 13 to participate in research investigating emotional intelligence and well-being.

The research involves:

A short 10 – 15 minute online questionnaire about your experiences.

To thank you for your time and effort you may enter a draw for a chance to win one of ten \$50 Prezzy smart eGift cards.



Scan the QR code on your phone or iPad to be taken directly to the online survey.

OR

Online survey link: [Bit.ly/3VsZzzq](https://bit.ly/3VsZzzq)

For more information, please contact the Research Coordinator

Rochelle Wong

rochelle.wong@auckland.ac.nz

School of Learning, Development, and Professional Practice

Approved by the University of Auckland Human Participants Ethics Committee on 18/04/2023 for three years. Reference Number: UAHPEC25603

Theatre New Zealand
Te Pūtoi Whakaari o Aotearoa

At Last!
The return of the
Adult Intensive Summer Theatre School
January 7th – 13th, 2024



For five days and six nights you will live, breathe, eat, practise your craft, net-work, revitalise, 'get away from it all' and focus on YOU.

The Playhouse
Church Street
Te Tihi o Maru/Timaru

Do you, a Theatre Practitioner or Theatre Tutor need a booster! Want to expand your horizons or change direction. Maybe re-energise! Are you not getting the roles you seek? Wondering if you could train to be professional? Well this Summer School is for you.

Theatre is experiential, you can't just read about it in a book, and then think you can do it! You need to learn your craft, then practice it. Incentivise yourself – to incentivise others!

Four seasoned Theatre practitioners and nationally recognised tutors, have been engaged to lead groups, focussing on four separate yet inter-twined aspects of theatre. Each course is self-contained and full time for the week.

<u>Course</u>	<u>Tutor</u>
Directing	Lara Macgregor: Formerly of The Court Theatre, Christchurch & Fortune Theatre, Dunedin. Nationally acclaimed free-lance Director/Actor/Tutor.
Acting	Bryan Aitken: Formerly of The Court Theatre, Christchurch, working in musical and straight theatre. Australasian free-lance Director/Actor/Tutor.
Young Adults	Laurence Wiseman: HOD Drama, St Andrews College. A leader in his field tutoring youth. Tutor/Director/Actor. This course is for youth aged 18-20.
Designing	Julian Southgate: A two-decade resident designer of set, costumes and properties at The Court Theatre, Christchurch, Julian is a leader in his field, working holistically, to integrate all aspects of design.

Interested?

Ask for expanded bio's, course content & application form, now!

Why do Summer School?

Quote:

"Like most actors moving into directing, I copied the techniques – good and bad – from directors I had worked with. This intensive course helped me to develop my own style, with the language I needed, to communicate with the production team and, empower my actors."

Joy Crawford.

Quote:

"Summer School was my change-maker: opening my mind, validating my passion, endorsing and growing my confidence and competence, completely changing my career! It changed my life – and I would not have it any other way."

David Chambers.

***Early Bird Course Cost Per Person: \$425.00**

If paid by November 1st*

All applicants must be 18 years of age or older at the time of the Summer School

Get Your Fee Paid!

One, Summer School Scholarship, will be awarded to an Actor, Director or Designer participating in a 2023 TheatreFest production, reaching the National Finals ShowCase

Accommodation Self-Selecting/Self-Catering:

To help make the Summer School more economic – we have left it up to attendees to sort out their own individual or sharing of, transport to Timaru and, accommodation.

Maybe team up with friends. Turn it into an adventure. Car-pool and share kai and digs.

Get your theatre group or school, to help subsidise your upskilling or Professional Development!

You have the great choice of accommodation below, depending on your budget, within 20 minutes' walk, or 5 minutes' drive of The Playhouse, Church Street.

All appear on google.

Top 10 Holiday Park, Selwyn Street. Cabins, Motels, Camper-van parking

Glenmark Holiday Park, Beaconsfield Road. (As Above)

15 other Motels of varying prices, and star-rating

Bed and Breakfast accommodation

Air B&B

**Work With Acknowledged Professionals
Who Impart Life-Long skills!**

Applications to Course Director:

summerschool@theatrenewzealand.co.nz

