

# Arts Access Awards 2016



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# An invitation to support Arts Access Aotearoa's work

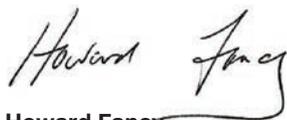
Tonight is a showcase of leadership and outstanding contributions to accessibility and inclusion in the arts.

We invite you to support Arts Access Aotearoa and the work we do. Your donations will help us ensure everyone in New Zealand can enjoy the arts as both creators and audience members.

Arts Access Aotearoa is a registered charitable trust (CC33633). By making a donation, you will help us improve access to creative expression, arts events, galleries, live performances and other arts activities.

One in four people in New Zealand has a disability that impacts on their daily lives. Every donation we receive helps us make a difference to their lives by improving their access to the arts.

## Thank you



**Howard Fancy**

Chair, Arts Access Aotearoa



**Richard Bengel**

Executive Director, Arts Access Aotearoa

## Join the Friends of Arts Access Aotearoa

As a Friend of Art Access Aotearoa your regular donation supports a project of your choice. You receive regular updates and invitation to events.

## Awesome Arts Access Auction

Mark in your calendar this stellar fundraising event for Arts Access Aotearoa at CQ Hotels Wellington on Thursday 1 December. "We love what Arts Access Aotearoa does, and the auction is a very entertaining way to offer our support," says auction aficionado Bryna O'Brien-Kiddey.

Contact us on 04 802 4349 to book your tickets or donate goods or services for a night of entertainment, arts, travel and epicurean bargains.

## Payroll giving

Payroll giving allows you to make a regular donation to Arts Access Aotearoa before your salary is taxed, providing real-time tax relief. This eliminates the need to retain donation receipts or wait to claim at the end of the tax year.

Speak with your employer about contributing to Arts Access Aotearoa through payroll giving.

*Award trophies  
by Robert Rapson*

# Welcome to the Arts Access Awards 2016

Welcome to the Arts Access Awards. Tonight, we celebrate the achievements of individuals, community groups and organisations providing opportunities for people with limited access to engage with the arts as artists, audience members, and museum and gallery visitors.

We also recognise the outstanding achievements and contributions of a disabled artist. And for the first time, we award a journalist for the high standard of reporting on arts and accessibility issues and achievements.

This year also marks the tenth anniversary of New Zealand Sign Language becoming an official language of this country.

Arts Access Aotearoa would like to thank Parliament and Hon Maggie Barry, Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage, for hosting this event.



## Arts Access Awards 2016

### Art on display

The art on display features work by artists who attend creative spaces in the Wellington region: Vincents Art Workshop, Pablos Art Studios, Alpha Gallery and Art Studio, Te Ara Korowai and MIX. Thank you to Gordon Harris, Vivian Street, for the use of their easels.

### Performances during the evening

Two chamber music groups, made up of students from Wellington secondary schools, competed in Chamber Music New Zealand's NZCT Chamber Music Contest 2016.

They are:

- Roger That
- Schustrings

Kapa haka, performed by  
Ngāti Pōneke Young Māori Club

Excerpt from *At the End of My Hands*,  
performed by Shaun Fahey and Mihailo  
Ladjevac

### Closing waiata

*He hōnore  
He korōria  
Maungārongo ki te whenua  
Whakaaro pai e  
Ki ngā tangata katoa  
Ake ake, ake ake  
Āmine  
Te Atua  
Te piringa,  
Tōku oranga  
Tōku oranga*



## Arts Access Creative Space Award 2016

**Recipient:** Circability Central, Auckland

Fun, friendships and physical challenges are all part of the daily routine at Circability Central, a community circus providing opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to participate in circus.

Circability Central runs programmes aimed at changing attitudes towards disabled people and enhancing their participation. More than 100 people take part in the classes, and half of them have a physical or intellectual impairment.

Nathan Child, for example, has been an enthusiastic participant of the Circability Central community for the past four years.

“Being part of the circus is what I like the most. It is a big thing for me. I like all my friends there and I like our circus instructors too. We are a big happy family, living happily ever after.”

Nathan, the bass player in a rock band called the Mutes from Mars, combines his musical talents, painting and acting with his circus classes, where he learns acrobatics, hula hoops and juggling.

He was also one of the performers of *Tubabo*, a 15-minute show performed in 2014 for Cirque du Soleil’s *Totem* crew in Auckland. “That was like the greatest thing ever. They really liked our show.”

Thomas Hinz and Frances Kelliher, Co-Directors of the Circability Trust, have been providing inclusive circus programmes for more than 20 years.

For Frances, the interaction of people in an inclusive atmosphere is the “big thing” about Circability Central. “Obviously, there are a lot of benefits in terms of physical literacy but creating the opportunity for people to come together, have fun and make friends is very important.”

Participants gain self-confidence through stage performances, and also develop life skills such as team work and how to manage risk, she adds.

Looking ahead, Frances and the team would like to expand their reach in the community with more workshops, circus challenges, exhibitions and performances. She would also like the circus to be more sustainable with a reliable source of income.

Circability Central is based at Campbell Free Kindergarten, a historical building in Victoria Park.

**Judges’ comment:** “Circability Central is a model of inclusive practice, offering a diverse range of activities across the community and building exciting partnerships.”



## Arts Access Corrections Community Award 2016

### Recipient: RoadSafe Hawke's Bay

"It was an amazing journey, watching the participants create, motivate and support each other," says Linda Anderson, RoadSafe Hawke's Bay. "They were really passionate about increasing safety for all road users, especially their peers."

In partnership with the Department of Corrections, RoadSafe Hawke's Bay invited nine prisoners in the Youth Unit of Hawke's Bay Regional Prison to take part in a one-day workshop. Here, they heard about the consequences of poor driving, and the rates of serious and fatal crashes in the region, particularly involving young drivers.

The young offenders decided to be part of the solution and create road safety resources. They took part in a graphic design project that ran for three months in 2015, and were involved in the design and development of road safety signs and a clothing range focused on reaching young people.

At the end of the project, the offenders were presented certificates and items of clothing with their own designs printed on them. In addition, artwork from two of the participants was printed on to billboards and erected on Hawke's Bay Regional Prison property. They will also be installed along State Highway 2 at Paki Paki.

Leonie Aben, Residential Manager of Hawke's Bay Regional Prison, says: "The partnership provided opportunities for prisoners to use art to contribute in a positive way to the local community, realise their potential, and see the possibilities of developing their talents and finding employment."

**Judges' comment:** "It's exciting to see art and graphic design being used as a means to provide education, training and skill development, which may lead to employment opportunities. It's a powerful example, demonstrating how engagement with a community organisation can provide opportunities for youth and support their rehabilitation through a creative project relevant to their issues."

**Highly Commended:** Awahi Tautoko, Community Corrections, Whangarei, for its culturally therapeutic experience, designed to give community-based offenders a way to express themselves and their world through art. Through this experience, participants say their wairua has been challenged, using the therapy model of Te Whare Tapa Wha.





## Arts Access CQ Hotels Wellington Community Partnership Award 2016

**Recipient:** Equal Voices Arts, University of Waikato,  
Deaf Aotearoa, Bill Hopkinson

A bilingual theatre work for Deaf and hearing audiences, *At the End of My Hands*, shows us what's possible when we move beyond the spoken word and use our bodies to tell a story.

The work, which has toured New Zealand to sell-out audiences, is directed by Laura Haughey, theatre studies lecturer at the University of Waikato and artistic director of Equal Voices Arts, and produced by Kayte Shaw of Deaf Aotearoa, with dramaturgy by Bill Hopkinson of Edge University, UK.

The process began in early 2015 with six community theatre workshops for the Waikato Deaf community. Auditions were then held, and four Deaf actors and two hearing actors were selected.

Of the process, Laura says: "We started by telling stories about communication, culture, making friends, Deaf culture and the oppression of sign languages, initially without words and signs – just using our bodies. Signs and words followed."

Mihailo Ladjevac, a professional actor for 20 years, was delighted with the project's collaborative nature. "I've learned so much working alongside the Deaf actors. Their bodies tell stories with such precision."

Deaf actor Shaun Fahey valued the opportunity to gain professional acting experience, a tool he says he can pass on to other Deaf people.

After each performance, there was a New Zealand Sign Language interpreted question and answer forum. The Deaf actors were also trained to co-lead and deliver free, signed and inclusive theatre workshops as part of the tour.

**Judges' comment:** "This was the complete package – a fantastic partnership between Deaf and hearing communities, from the initial workshops and the creation of a bilingual theatre work through to the production, performances and touring. We want to see more from this ground-breaking company."

**Highly Commended:** Jolt Dance and Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, for pushing boundaries and removing barriers through performances and workshops where disabled people can experience high-quality live music and dance in a safe, inclusive environment.





## Arts Access Creative New Zealand Arts For All Award 2016

**Recipient:** Chamber Music New Zealand, Wellington

Making and listening to music can bring joy to everyone. Convinced of its importance, Chamber Music New Zealand is increasing access to classical chamber music and creating new audiences through a series of initiatives that respond to the needs of disabled people.

In 2012, Chamber Music New Zealand began presenting “relaxed performances” and workshops for people with intellectual disabilities, and expanded the programme in 2014 to include audio described concerts for blind and partially sighted patrons.

Two relaxed concerts with accompanying workshops were presented in Christchurch and Porirua last year, led by musician and community facilitator Julian Raphael and including chamber music groups Menagerie South and Trio Amistad.

In these concerts, Chamber Music New Zealand provided a welcoming environment that allowed the audience to experience live music outside of the traditional concert hall, where they were encouraged to move about the room, interact and play alongside the musicians.

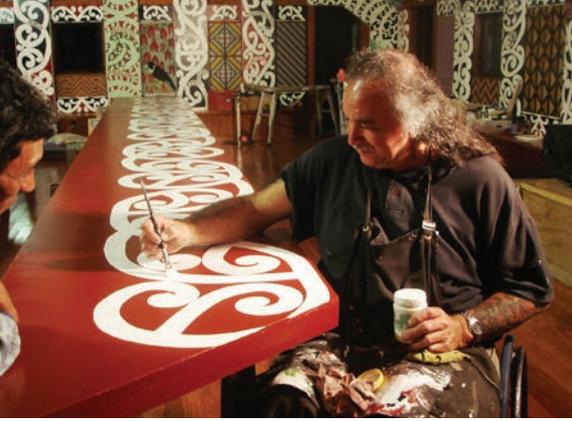
Simon Brew, saxophonist with Trio Amistad, talks about the rare and “special feeling” he got from working with the students from Mahinawa Specialist School.

“It was a reminder to me of the importance of music,” he says. “Years ago, chamber music concerts were a social outing but we’ve become quite formal. By doing concerts that are more accessible, I think everyone could enjoy classical music more.”

Another project organised by Chamber Music New Zealand was a touch tour and audio described concert performed in Auckland by the Turnovsky Jubilee Ensemble. During the performance, a piece was played in total darkness to highlight the fact that members of Auckland’s blind community were in the audience.

As part of its Strategic Plan 2015–2018, Chamber Music New Zealand will continue to develop accessible concerts and workshops. It is keen to provide training for musicians and audio describers interested in becoming facilitators.

**Judges’ comment:** “Chamber Music New Zealand’s ongoing commitment to developing new audiences for chamber music is impressive. Its workshops and relaxed concerts, in particular, are ground-breaking.”



## Arts Access Artistic Achievement Award 2016

**Recipient:** David Cameron (Ngatapa, Gisborne, Kati Mamoe, Ngai Tahu, Te Whānau a Kai, Te Aitanga-a-Mahaki, Ngāti Porou)

Anyone who knows David Cameron will describe him as an exceptionally talented but humble man. Paraplegic and a wheelchair user since 1977, he's proof there are no limitations for a creative soul.

A fall from a balcony when he was 19 left David paralysed. During his rehabilitation, his passion for art was rekindled. He taught himself to carve leather and today, he is a recognised leather worker, painter, ceramicist and tutor in his preferred artform, uku (Māori clay ceramics).

Guided in uku by ceramic artists Baye Riddell, Wi Taepa, and the late Manos Nathan and Colleen Ulrich, David is acknowledged nationally as a senior ceramic artist and a mentor for emerging talent.

He is also a member of Kaihanga Uku (Māori Clay Collective), a network engaging with indigenous artists in the Pacific Rim and globally.

In 1995, David was asked to paint the kowhaiwhai in the newly constructed whareniui (whare-tipuna) Te Poho o Hiraina at Pakowhai Marae, Waituhi, in Gisborne.

For 12 years from 1997, he worked on this assignment without mentioning it to any of his tutors or fellow students until it was completed. The result was "spectacular", as

Māori King Tuheitia Paki said at the opening ceremony in 2009.

In 2007, David completed a Diploma in Visual Arts and Design and went on to study for a Bachelor of Visual Arts at Toi Houkura (School of Māori Visual Art and Design), majoring in clay. He completed his degree in 2010.

It was here that he worked under the guidance of Baye Riddell, a pioneer in the development of the contemporary Māori art of uku.

David says his study exposed him to the arts community and nurtured his contemporary artistic expression.

Since 2007, David has exhibited his work as a member of Kaihanga Uku. His work is also on display and for sale at Pataka Art + Museum in Porirua.

"My main goal is to continue working with clay," he says. "Every day I get new ideas and I want to keep challenging myself so that my work evolves. I also want to explore the use of kowhaiwhai patterns in my work."

**Judges' comment:** "David's decoration of Te Poho o Hiraina has brought huge mana to David and his community. His commitment, passion, achievements and contribution to mahi toi shine like a beacon across Aotearoa New Zealand."



## Arts Access Corrections Leadership Award 2016

**Recipient:** Northland Region Corrections Facility, Kaikohe

Northland Region Corrections Facility is a leader in the development of Arts in Corrections programmes and projects. Its tikanga-based philosophy, along with its programmes and projects, support a well-structured pathway to rehabilitation and then reintegration into arts communities on release.

The Facility's prison manager and team share a vision and focus to support prisoners on this pathway; reduce re-offending; be mindful of victims of crime; and use creativity in its many forms to achieve these goals with dignity and integrity.

Beth Hill of Redemption Arts and Education Services is its arts tutor and education facilitator. She plays a pivotal role in developing its arts programmes and partnerships.

"We have an amazing team of Corrections officers, educators, interventions staff and management," Beth says. "We all believe that the arts are a valuable tool to add to the kete when it comes to rehabilitating and reintegrating men from the prison into the community."

The Facility offers theatre, music, creative writing, painting and carving classes, where prisoners find support and gain new skills on their pathway to rehabilitation. They can also study NZQA courses and gain qualifications

through Te Aho o Te Kura Pounamu – The Correspondence School and North Tec.

The Facility fosters many community partnerships and has a network of expert practitioners visiting the site.

**Judges' comment:** "We applaud the breadth of its achievements, its education outreach, innovative practice, and focus on the arts and culture in its programmes. Also impressive are its community partnerships, which have resulted in the annual exhibition at Mairangi Arts Centre, the provision of art in the community and, most recently, the Shakespeare Behind Bars initiative with the University of Auckland."

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**Highly Commended:** Arohata Prison, Wellington, for the commitment of its staff and clinicians to working with artists and community groups to provide high-quality opportunities for prisoners to benefit from the arts in their rehabilitation.

**Highly Commended:** Puna Tatari Special Treatment Unit, Spring Hill Corrections Facility, Te Kauwhata, for its use of the arts and culture as an integral part of its psychological services and physical environment.





## Arts Access Media Award 2016

**Recipient:** Dionne Christian, Arts and Books Editor, The New Zealand Herald

There are myriad social, cultural and economic benefits attached to the arts, says Dionne Christian, Arts and Books Editor at *The New Zealand Herald*, and the inaugural recipient of the Arts Access Media Award.

For Dionne, the arts open our eyes to the wider world, provide opportunities for self-expression, and foster tolerance and acceptance of other viewpoints.

“The world needs more arts and I see my role as championing this, but also keeping a watchful eye on the politics of arts. Stories about inclusion are important because I think everyone should have access to the arts.”

Dionne joined *The New Zealand Herald* in January 2016 and says she usually has three to four pages a week for arts coverage and two pages for books coverage.

“I have a lot of editorial freedom, and I do all the planning and story placement on these pages. I like strong New Zealand content about what’s on, and profiles of New Zealand artists across all fields and backgrounds.”

Since starting at *The New Zealand Herald*, Dionne has written stories about Tim Bray Theatre’s programme for vision impaired theatre-goers; arts projects and programmes run by the Department of Corrections; a profile of blind, best-selling comic book writer and artist Richard Fairgray; and the launch of Auckland Council’s Arts and Culture Strategic Action Plan, designed to make arts and culture a part of the everyday lives of all Aucklanders.

In addition, she tries to get more coverage of the arts in the news pages throughout the week and says the news team is “super-supportive” of this.

**Arts Access Media Award:** This award recognises an individual who has demonstrated leadership and excellence in reporting on accessibility and the arts. It also acknowledges the role of the media in promoting an inclusive society, where disability, mental health and wellbeing are part of a diverse society.





## Arts Access Accolade 2016

**Recipient:** Glen McDonald, Wellington

Glen McDonald, Coordinator at Vincents Art Workshop in Wellington, is passionate about creativity, inclusion and community. She's been working at Vincents for 23 years and says, "My heart is here."

Glen's commitment to the arts and inclusion dates back to when she was aged six or seven and found herself wondering why some people were excluded from society because of their differences. This was the beginning of a life-long focus on human rights issues.

Daughter of Jill McDonald, a well-known children's book illustrator, Glen remembers how her mother encouraged her passion for colour, patterns and shapes when she was very young and growing up in Wellington. "Back then, I never imagined how important art would be in my life."

Glen and Vincents Art Workshop's philosophy of inclusion has nurtured other creative spaces around the country.

She was also a trustee on the board of Art Access Aotearoa for seven years.

A mentor to others, Glen is constantly

developing new pathways to support creative self-expression for all people by developing networks and partnerships in the community. Vincents Art Workshop ran a mural project with prisoners in Arohata Women's Prison for two years and has managed a weekly art programme with patients in Te Whare o Matairangi, the Mental Health Unit at Wellington Hospital for the past eight years.

"I'm a dreamer", Glen says, "and even though I don't really focus on the past or the future, my vision is for a world where places like Vincents are not needed because all people are included. A world where everyone is accepted, respected and valued."

**Dame Rosie Horton, Accolade patron:**

"Glen McDonald's name spells inclusion. Her passion for creativity, community and inclusion has guided her life, and her contribution to Vincents Arts Workshop and the Wellington community is huge. Thank you, Glen, for everything you have done to make the world we live in more inclusive and creative."

# Thank you for your support

## Kaumātua

Bill Kaua (Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāti Horowai, Rongowhakaata, Rakaipaaka, Te Aitanga Hauiti)

## Patrons

Mel Smith CNZM (founding patron), Miranda Harcourt ONZM (patron), Dame Rosie Horton DNZM, QSO, QSM (patron, Arts Access Accolade)

## Funders

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Chapman Tripp

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## Volunteers

Sarah Benge, William Thompson, Mayke Blom, Eliecer Reverol, Dipti Jivan, Rajeev Mishra, Leroy Lakamu, Judith Jones, Daniela Pavez, Lize Immelman, Ania Upstill, Kate Leslie, Dave Wilson

## Judges

Richard Benge (Arts Access Aotearoa), Anton Carter (Chief Executive, DANZ), Martine Abel (Specialist Advisor, Auckland City Council), Stephen Wainwright (Chief Executive, Creative New Zealand), Stew Sexton (disability arts advocate), Kim Morton (Manager, Ōtautahi Creative Spaces), Pati Umaga (recipient, Arts Access Artistic Achievement Award 2015), Rachel Leota (Deputy National Commissioner, Department of Corrections), Mary Ama (Polynesian Creation programme at Spring Hill Corrections Facility)

## Trustees

Howard Fancy (Chair), Kim Morton, Awhimai Reynolds, Jeremy Smith, Karen Webster, Josie Whipps

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