

# Weaving the Fabric of a City Waitakere City Council Arts and Cultural Strategy

## Foreword – Mayor

### **Message from the Mayor**

When I was first elected as Mayor of Waitakere City, we had two pieces of public sculpture: the statue of the pioneer Henry Atkinson outside Lodpell House, and a miniature version of the Sydney Atamein fountain in front of the Henderson library.

Public sculpture and an arts policy for an area burgeoning with art and talent was long overdue.

Ten years later our town centres and facilities are suffused with award-winning and integrated sculpture, landscaping, lighting design and visual arts. Even our bridges are given special thought, shaped with lyrical curves.

This policy brings art beyond Council facilities, into the lives of this City's diverse cultures and heritage. We are mindful that our colourful past is interwoven with the present – the Maori of the Waitakere Ranges and the coastal settlements, their mana and cultural excellence restored, is touching our lives in wonderful ways, including the Arataki Centre and the pou whenua as sentinel guardians, gracing our coast and City waterways.

The annual Trash to Fashion show, and the Pacifica Living Arts Festival, our steam train extravaganza and weekend celebration of the written word Going West, help to enhance this City's reputation across the broad mixture of creative expression and identity.

This strategy, built on a decade of enhancement and planning, it will help bring out a greater cultural awareness and “edge” to creativity for the City's artists and the creative spirit. Waitakere City is now able to proudly take its place as one of the new showcase Cities of Aotearoa, New Zealand.

## Message from Te Kawerau A Maki

Te Kawerau a Maki hold *mana whenua* within Waitakere City. Our ancient relationship with this area has yielded a uniqueness that is conveyed through our traditions, culture and art. Our *waiata*, *moteatea*, *karakia* and *korero tuku iho* refer to historic events that have transpired upon the land and water. Our carved and woven *taonga* recall our ancestors and their deeds. To Te Kawerau a Maki, art represents firstly a physical expression of an unbroken line of tradition. These traditions, including adaptations and innovations that have occurred throughout the years, stem from the source of knowledge, which is divine. Therefore art is a manifestation of *mana*, and *mana* is vital to the preservation of unique identity. Beyond preservation, art is a creative expression of the unique identity we each possess. Freedom of expression is a fundamental human right, and furthermore, diversity of this expression should be encouraged and appreciated.

This area, traditionally known to us as Te Wao Nui a Tiriwa, can be seen as a living canvas. Our *tikauga* inform the way we relate to the environment, and this richness inspires our art. This is exemplified in one of our *whakatauki* that refers to the Waitakere Ranges as “*nga rau pou a Maki*”, “the multitude carved posts of Maki (our tupuna)”. Involvement of *tangata whenua* in arts is important as this surfaces the original cultural layer, which can often remain hidden. In appreciating the indigenous relationship with this area and how this informs creative expression, local people are allowed to deepen their own sense of connection to our city. Te Kawerau a Maki art pieces are also a visual signpost of our continued status as *mana whenua* and *kaitiaki* of the Waitakere area.

In recognition of the *mana whenua* of Te Kawerau a Maki, Waitakere City Council has developed a strong relationship with our *iwi*. This relationship operates at a number of levels, but is founded on the spirit of partnership embodied in the Treaty of Waitangi.

In practical terms relevant to the Arts and Cultural Strategy, Te Kawerau a Maki have had strong involvement in the various arts activities and projects within Waitakere City. This has included welcoming *manuhiri* into our *rohe* for various festivals, participating in events such as Pacifica, and carrying out commissions for public works, such as the pieces at the Massey Community Centre and New Lynn Memorial Park. Much of our Arts involvement has been through Matariki, a group comprised of *tangata whenua* artists who work with a number of mediums, such as wood, fibre, stone and bone. Participation in the arts also occurs through subtle ways such as interpretation signage or design involvement in new facilities.

The activities of Waitakere City Council present a number of challenges and opportunities for Te Kawerau a Maki. For example, certain activities impact on the role of our *iwi* as *kaitiaki* of the Waitakere area. Physical developments, as well as casting a new layer of culture over the land, have a

direct environmental impact on some of our greatest taonga, the land and sea. Council also has an instrumental role in bringing together another great taonga, that is people and the communities they live in.

Te Kāwerau a Māki, as tangata whenua, have a dual responsibility relevant to this arts strategy. Firstly, we have a responsibility to maintain our own identity, our material taonga (artefacts, environment, wahi tapu etc.) and our abstract taonga (oral traditions, genealogies, korero tuku iho, waiata etc.). Related to this is our responsibility to allow for future generations to expand their horizons, based on a strong sense of their identity as descendants of Te Kāwerau a Māki. Secondly, we must as hosts provide for those who now live within our tribal domains, and allow them the opportunity to connect in a meaningful way to the area that is now their home through artistic expression. This expression of manaakitanga, or hospitality, is reflected traditionally in the gifting of lands within Waitakere City by Te Kāwerau a Māki to related tribes. Our responsibilities as tangata whenua now extend to include the various communities that comprise Waitakere City.

It is important to appreciate the holistic worldview of tangata whenua when considering arts and culture. For this reason arts should be linked to other areas of life, including education, health, wellbeing and society.

*Message from Ngati Whatua (to be inserted)*

## Contents

Introduction	
Definitions	
Developing the Draft Arts and Cultural Strategy – Methodology	
Giving shape to the strategy	
Vision and Aspirations of the strategy	
Mapping the territory - Snapshot of arts and cultural activity in Waitakere City	
Principles, Outcomes, Goals, Actions	
10-Year Vision	
Priorities	
Glossary	
Bibliography	
People consulted	
(Images – credits <i>to be inserted</i> )	
Appendix 1: Regionally Significant Arts and Cultural Needs in Waitakere City - by AUT	
Appendix 2: Draft Greenprint analysis re arts and culture	
Appendix 3: Waitakere City Council 1991 Cultural and Arts Policy Recommendations	
- Summary of outcomes from main recommendations	
Appendix 4: AUT Needs analysis	
Appendix 5: Public art	
Appendix 6: Venues and sites	
Appendix 7: Performing arts venue research	

**Note:** 'Council' refers to Waitakere City Council  
'City' refers to Waitakere City  
'Staff' refers to Waitakere City Council staff

## Introduction

*Weaving the Fabric of our City* is Waitakere City Council's Draft Arts and Cultural Strategy. It brings together documentation about the rich vein of creativity in the City and some innovative arts practices that Council has adopted, and at the same time identifies future development. This document opens doors to arts and cultural development of the City in a cohesive way by providing a vision for the coming ten years and a three-year action plan.

Waitakere City was formed in 1989 when the boroughs of New Lynn, Glen Eden and Henderson amalgamated with Waitemata City. Its first arts policy was written in 1991. An arts administrator and community arts coordinator were appointed in 1993 and 1994 respectively. A new Arts and Cultural Strategy for Waitakere City Council was discussed for a number of years and in 1997 it was recorded that the 1991 Cultural and Arts Policy was out of date and a new one was needed.

In late 1998 Waitakere City Council received \$1.45 million as the City's share of the Auckland Regional Services Trust (ARST funds), to distribute to significant arts and culture projects in the Auckland region. To determine how to use these funds wisely a research document on arts and cultural needs in Waitakere City was commissioned and presented to Council in 2000. (*see Appendix 1*) In order to establish priorities for spending the funds as well as planning for the future, Council approved the development of an Arts and Cultural Strategy in 2001.

Meanwhile there have been significant changes to the arts and cultural political climate in New Zealand. In 1999, for the first time, the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Helen Clark undertook the portfolio for arts, culture and heritage. This not only elevated arts and culture in terms of visibility and status, but was recognition of the importance of arts and culture, and not just for its intrinsic worth. It became widely accepted that arts and culture plays a significant role in developing a national identity, contributes to the social and economic well being of a country and provides a significant contribution to the innovation needed for a vibrant future for the country.

### Waitakere eco-city

Sustainable  
Dynamic  
Just

### Principles:

Open honest  
communication  
Responsiveness  
Accountability  
Partnership  
Innovation  
Excellence  
Integrity

The Local Government Bill 2001 was introduced into the House at the end of 2001 and at the time of writing this strategy the Bill was at Select Committee stage. Commentary about the Bill suggests that one of the most significant proposals is that the purpose of local government is to promote the social, economic, cultural and environmental wellbeing of communities. In that context a strategy focussing on arts and culture is timely.

There is a strong policy and planning framework for the Draft Arts and Cultural Strategy. Waitakere City's mission, goals and principles underpin the strategy and the Strategic Plan, Draft Greenprint [see Appendix 2], District Plan, Annual Plan and 1991 Cultural and Arts Policy [see Appendix 3] form a background to it. The Draft Arts and Cultural Strategy does not sit in isolation. There are a number of overlapping areas of interest and it has been important to see this strategy as part of a larger picture, in particular in relation to existing and proposed strategies for Heritage, Libraries, Marae Support, Pacifica Arts and Culture, Leisure, Parks, Tourism and Community Assistance. It is intended that the Arts and Cultural Strategy will mesh with these other strategies for Waitakere City. A line has, however, been drawn to define the territory of this document. For the purposes of this strategy we are addressing the artistic expression of culture.

The strategy is designed to ensure that the Treaty of Waitangi is honoured, that the tangata whenua is respected and that there be an active partnership between Treaty partners. Furthermore there is a strong emphasis on inclusiveness for all cultures, acknowledging, respecting and celebrating cultural diversity. An especially warm relationship with Pacific Island communities is also reflected.

In the broader context, the strategy is being considered in relation to regional and national initiatives, in particular through Creative New Zealand, Industry New Zealand and its focus on creative industries, the Arts Work strategy, regional and national Maori arts and cultural initiatives and regional and national Pacific Islands arts and cultural initiatives. The principles underpinning the Arts and Cultural Strategy are aligned to Creative New Zealand principles as defined in the Arts Council of New Zealand Toi Aotearoa Act. There is also recognition of the findings in Creative New Zealand's Draft Summary of the Artists Survey which identifies areas of need for arts practitioners.

### Some arts and cultural highlights in Waitakere City

#### Artists

Networks of visual and performing professional artists  
Kapa haka performers (see page 11)

The Mamas  
Te Vaka

#### Organisations

Kohunga reo/ Kina kaupapa/  
Whare kura  
Waipareira Trust  
Waitakere City Brass Inc.  
Waitakere mens choir  
Small theatre network  
Croatian Club  
Chinese Opera

#### Projects/ activities

Kapa haka festivals  
Arts design projects  
Going West Books and Writers Festival  
Trash to Fashion Awards™  
Pacifica Living Arts Festival  
Hip Hop Nation

#### Venues/ sites

Inspirational physical environment  
Lopdell House Gallery  
Corban Estate Arts Centre  
Playhouse Theatre

#### Communications/ our stories

Literary history  
Ceramic history  
Visual arts history  
Wine/ fruit growing history

Importantly, the Draft Arts and Cultural Strategy is designed to provide a framework for Council involvement in arts and culture and a mandate for that involvement. It identifies some priorities for Council spending, and assists in the deliberations for spending the ARST funds.

## Definitions

'arts'

The definition of 'arts' is that used by Creative New Zealand, defined in the Arts Council of New Zealand legislation, 1994:

"'Arts' includes all forms of creative and interpretative expression."

Art is when you let out your feelings with drawings and things  
*(Primary school consultation)*

'culture'

"Culture is one of the two or three most complicated words in the English language" (*Raymond Williams, Keywords*)

"Culture is the ideas, aspirations and way of life of a community"

"Culture describes how people identify and express themselves"

"Culture can be defined as the way communities express and communicate their way of life"

### Eco-Art Sculpture

Symposium was held in the summer of 1994/1995. Artists created works which demonstrated the principles of sustainability and environmental protection. Following this symposium a wave of new work based on the same themes began to appear as artists were inspired into action.

### Sites Pacific Symposium in

1998 was jointly organised by Waitakere City Council and Creative New Zealand. The symposium explored, through dialogue and presentation, the concept of the arts: design process and attracted an audience from around the country. The conference's workshop programme teamed up artists, architects, engineers, landscape architects and urban planners. Together they worked for six weeks on theoretical projects for re-designing specific public sites around the City.

“Culture is seen more as a resource which, in addition to its capacity to inform and entertain, is capable of delivering a wide variety of benefits including a strong cultural identity, sustainable cultural industries, and a contribution to economic growth” (*Heart of the Nation Strategic Working Group, 2000:20*)

“Culture is essentially about a way of life. It is a celebration of what a community is, where it has come from and where it is going – its identity and memory. It is also about how the City and its community do things and what they value.” (*Melbourne’s Cultural Policy 1999*)

“Cultural planning cannot control cultural life, but it can attempt to anticipate its direction, respond to its delights, and ensure that culture is allowed to contribute strongly to the continued development of each municipality or region.”

“Culture defines ways of life and includes ethnic identity, religious beliefs, traditions, customs and rituals. In the public domain community culture is expressed through the use of resources such as museums, libraries, community halls, parks and other open spaces.”

“Cultural assets of ‘capital’ include art forms and art works, but also the beliefs, customs, knowledge and social practices of ordinary people and the memories, images and symbols connected to a particular place.”

“Culture is about different people from different cultures sharing things about where they come from” (*Primary school consultation*)

“Culture is tradition, history, expressing yourself, heritage, language, a way of living ...” (*Secondary school consultation*)

## Developing the Draft Arts and Cultural Strategy – Methodology

### Parties involved

Staff Reference Group and writer

Advisory Group - representatives of Waitakere City Council (councillors), Te Taumata Rununga, Pacific Islands Advisory Board, Tītirangi Community Arts Council (TCAC), Waitakere Central Community Arts Council (WCCAC), West Auckland Sculpture Trust (WAST), Lopdell House Society, Corban Estate Arts Centre/ Waitakere Arts and Cultural Development Trust (WACDT), Enterprise Waitakere (tourism)

Te Kawerau a Maki

Ngati Whatua

### Research

- 1991 Cultural and Arts Policy, Waitakere City Council
- AUT Needs Analysis 2000
- Draft Greenprint
- Bibliography
- Interviews, focus groups and workshops with Council staff, Advisory Group, key visual arts organisations, representatives of Maori community, Pacific Islands communities, Croatian and Dutch cultural groups, performing arts sector, literary arts sector, community arts councils, primary schools, secondary schools, Youth Council, Multi-cultural society, Tourism Waitakere, Waitakere Licensing Trust, Portage Licensing Trust, Creative New Zealand, creative industries – architecture, design, popular music
- Questionnaires – Chinese community

Te Taumata Rununga was established in 1991 and became Council's Maori Standing Committee in 1993. Its twelve members are drawn from key Maori groups within Waitakere City, including local iwi, Te Kawerau a Maki and Ngati Whatua.

Pacific Islands Advisory Board (PIAB) is a representative body serving Pacific Island communities in Waitakere City and has a Memorandum of Understanding with Council. Ethnic representatives are from Samoa, Cook Islands, Niue, Tonga, Fiji, Tuvalu and Tokelau.

Tītirangi Community Arts Council (TCAC) and Waitakere Central Community Arts Council (WCCAC) have both had a long history of activity and relationship with Council. Each uniquely expresses the needs of their respective communities.

- Colmar Brunton Leisure and Recreation Questionnaire 2002
- Creative New Zealand Draft Artists' Survey
- Cultural Policy Group, Creative New Zealand

### Analysis

#### AUT Needs Analysis 2000

#### Public art in Waitakere City

Venues/ sites for arts and culture in Waitakere City  
 Aspirations, principles, outcomes, objectives, actions

**West Auckland Sculpture Trust** was established in 1999 as an independent trust fund. The Trust is funded primarily by the Portage Licensing Trust and commissions public sculpture in the Portage Licensing Trust area.

**Lopdell House Society** was founded by Council in the mid-1980s to develop Lopdell House as a community arts centre. Today the Society has a formal partnership with Council to manage Lopdell House Gallery as the City's regional gallery.

**Waitakere Arts and Cultural Development Trust** was established in 1998. Its brief was to develop an action plan for Corban Estate Arts Centre and implement it, with longer term responsibility for City-wide arts and culture.

**Creative Communities Scheme**  
 Approx. \$100,000/year funded by Creative New Zealand and administered by Council

**Community Halls Fund**  
 \$35,000 for 2001/2002, \$3000 max per application -- for facility, maintenance and operation costs for community operated, not for profit halls

**Marae support** – refer Marae Support Policy

**Creative industries** are "those industries which have their origin in individual creativity, skill and talent and which have a potential for wealth and job creation through the generation and exploitation of intellectual property." (UK definition)

Industry New Zealand includes in its brief: advertising, software & computer services (including Interactive Leisure software), publishing, television and radio, film and video, architecture, design, designer fashion, music and performing arts, visual arts (arts, applied arts, antiques).

## Giving shape to the strategy

Waitakere City Council's identity as Eco-City offers a clear philosophical direction for the Arts and Cultural Strategy. The Eco-City concept is based on the integration of social, environmental and economic issues -- where all residents can live safely and creatively, have meaningful employment - preferably locally - and where the environment is treasured and enjoyed. It means building a city where the arts are recognised for the contribution they make to each of these goals. It means building a city where there is an ongoing celebration of cultural heritage, whether this is in the form of buildings, people or landscapes. It means building a city where residents are involved and able to be part of the development of their area.

In moving towards these goals, Council has engaged in a range of leading edge arts developments. Local artists are used and environmental arts projects in both the urban and rural areas are supported. An innovative arts:design process has been developed for all forms of urban development such as bridges, walkways and buildings, and Council has consistently engaged its various communities in arts projects for local areas. This strategy has been commissioned by Waitakere City Council to further this exciting component of developing a great city.

The first intention of the 2002 Draft Arts and Cultural Strategy is to identify current arts and cultural practice in the City. Waitakere City is home to a vibrant mix of ongoing innovative and traditional arts and cultural activities. Wonderful projects involving arts and cultural practitioners, some with Council support and community goodwill, have delivered outstanding, award-winning results. Some activities have developed in line with the 1991 Cultural and Arts Policy; others have grown outside of it. There is no question that many talented and motivated practitioners will carry on with their arts practice no matter what the economic, cultural and social climate delivers to them, but they contribute so much more to the wider community when they operate in a supportive environment.

A number of strands of arts and cultural practice emerge:

- Individual practitioners – identifying who is involved

### Council staff supporting arts and culture

#### Full-time:

- Arts Advisor
- Community Arts Coordinator
- Arts Assistant

#### Part-time

- Pl advisor (0.5 for arts)

Part-time contracts - project support for major festivals (equiv. 2 full-time)

- Organisations -- how they group together
- Projects and activities -- what they do
- Venues and sites -- where they do it
- Communications -- their stories and how people know about them

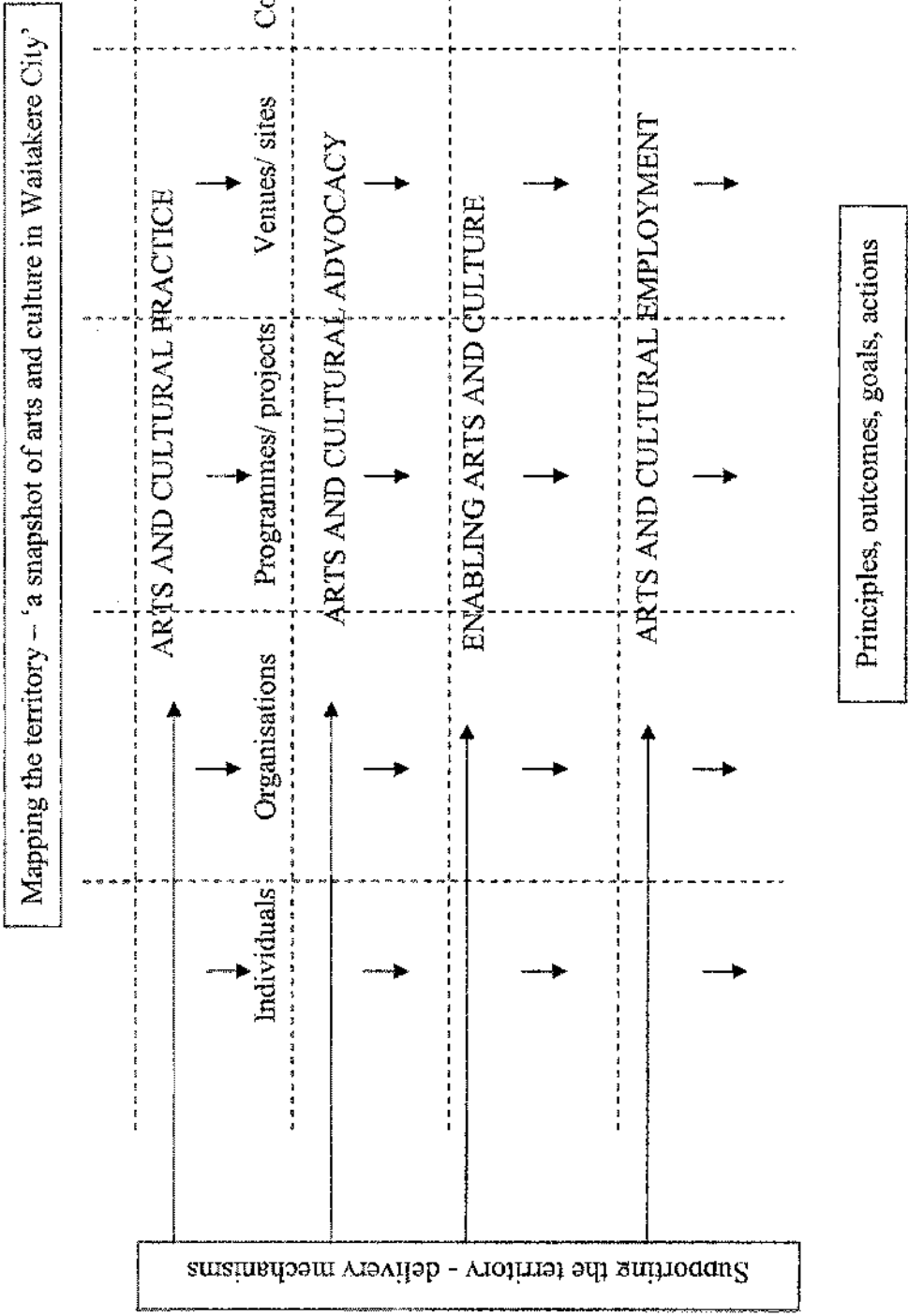
Council's interaction with arts and cultural activity can be expressed as a number of strands weaving through these components. Delivery mechanisms for support of arts and culture are through:

- Arts and cultural practice -- leading by example with public art and professional relationships with arts practitioners
- Arts and cultural advocacy -- promotion, communication, developing partnerships locally, regionally, nationally and globally
- Enabling arts and culture -- facilitating and assisting with funding, venues, operational support and professional development
- Arts and cultural employment -- directly supporting arts and cultural jobs

Delivery mechanisms have budgetary implications as well as philosophical ones. Council has a history of financial input into arts and culture in a number of ways, some more visible than others. There are limited funds and a plethora of new and existing parties wanting a bigger share of resources. For this reason there needs to be an overview of the strands of arts and cultural practice as well as an analysis of current delivery mechanisms. From this data principles, outcomes, objectives and priorities can be set for the next ten years and an action plan can be developed for the coming three years.



Vision and aspirations



A13

## Vision

Waitakere City and its people are enriched by a vibrant sustainable environment of arts and cultural activities

## Aspirations of the strategy

One of the prime aspirations of the Draft Arts and Cultural Strategy is for Waitakere City to be a culturally inclusive city. Arts and culture are integral to life, to the economy and to the environment – both built and natural. The City continues to grow as a place where all cultures, and particularly Maori arts and culture, are vital to the City. We want to ensure that making, participating, being surrounded by and celebrating arts and culture are a means of expressing a sense of self and place – an identity that has as its context Waitakere City, Auckland Region and New Zealand.

“Make Waitakere look and be better”  
(*Primary schools consultation*)

“A family that paints together stays together”  
(*Secondary schools consultation*)

“The roots and branches are there but the body is missing. And there are no leaves.”  
(*Pacific Islands consultation*)

Population of Waitakere City	
Ethnic Group	2001
New Zealand European	104,241
Maori	21,390
Samoan	13,401
Chinese	7,314
British and Irish	4,647
Indian	4,636
European	4,422
Cook Island Maori	3,567
Tongan	2,895
Niuean	2,430
Other Pacific Peoples	1,992
Korean	1,848
Dutch/Netherlands	1,722
Other Southeast Asian	1,548
Filipino	1,215
South Slav	1,023
Middle Eastern	978
Australian	954
Fijian	828
Other Asian	633
German	576
African	381
Japanese	354
Sri Lankan	315
Latin American/Hispanic	222
Other	60

## Mapping the territory

The Draft Greenprint describes Waitakere City's key qualities as "a unique natural environment; a diverse population; a rich historic, artistic and cultural legacy; and a strong existing business base with linkages to regional markets."

The artistic and cultural legacy that has been identified in the Draft Greenprint has developed into vibrant, diverse expressions of arts and cultural practice, both traditional and contemporary. This snapshot offers an opportunity to take a holistic view that reflects the artistic wealth and cultural diversity of Waitakere City. While heritage is part of the overall discussion and has an impact on this work, it is being addressed in a separate strategy.

A significant part of this research was ensuring that a number of Maori viewpoints were heard. The iwi - Te Kawerau a Maki and Ngati Whatua - as well as Waipareira Trust and Hoani Waititi Marae all contribute to the developing picture of Maori arts and culture in the City. They form an essential component of a developing sense of identity in Waitakere City, Auckland region and the country. There has been considerable dialogue with a number of parties who helped shape the outcomes, goals and actions.

Consultation with a number of other cultures revealed their significant roles in the arts and cultural life of the City. Pacific Island communities have considerable visibility and play an important role. Croatian, Dalmatian, Dutch and Chinese as well as a number of European groups have a long history and a presence in the City. More recent waves of migration have augmented their numbers as well as a sense of pride in their cultures. A number of other cultural groups are represented in recent migration and they, too, bring their arts and cultural practices to their communities. These diverse arts and cultural activities all contribute to Waitakere City's unique flavour.

Disclaimer: The following 'snapshot' of arts and cultural activity in the City was accurate according to information available at the time of writing and may be incomplete.

**Kapa haka** is one of the great success stories of cultural activity in Waitakere City Council.

Kapa haka at urban-based **Hoani Waititi Marae** is part of a broad holistic programme of Maori arts and cultural activities that includes whakairo, raranga, mau taiaha and karanga. The marae has been a pioneer in total immersion Maori education and has a kohunga reo (pre-school), kura kaupapa (primary school) and whare kura (secondary school).

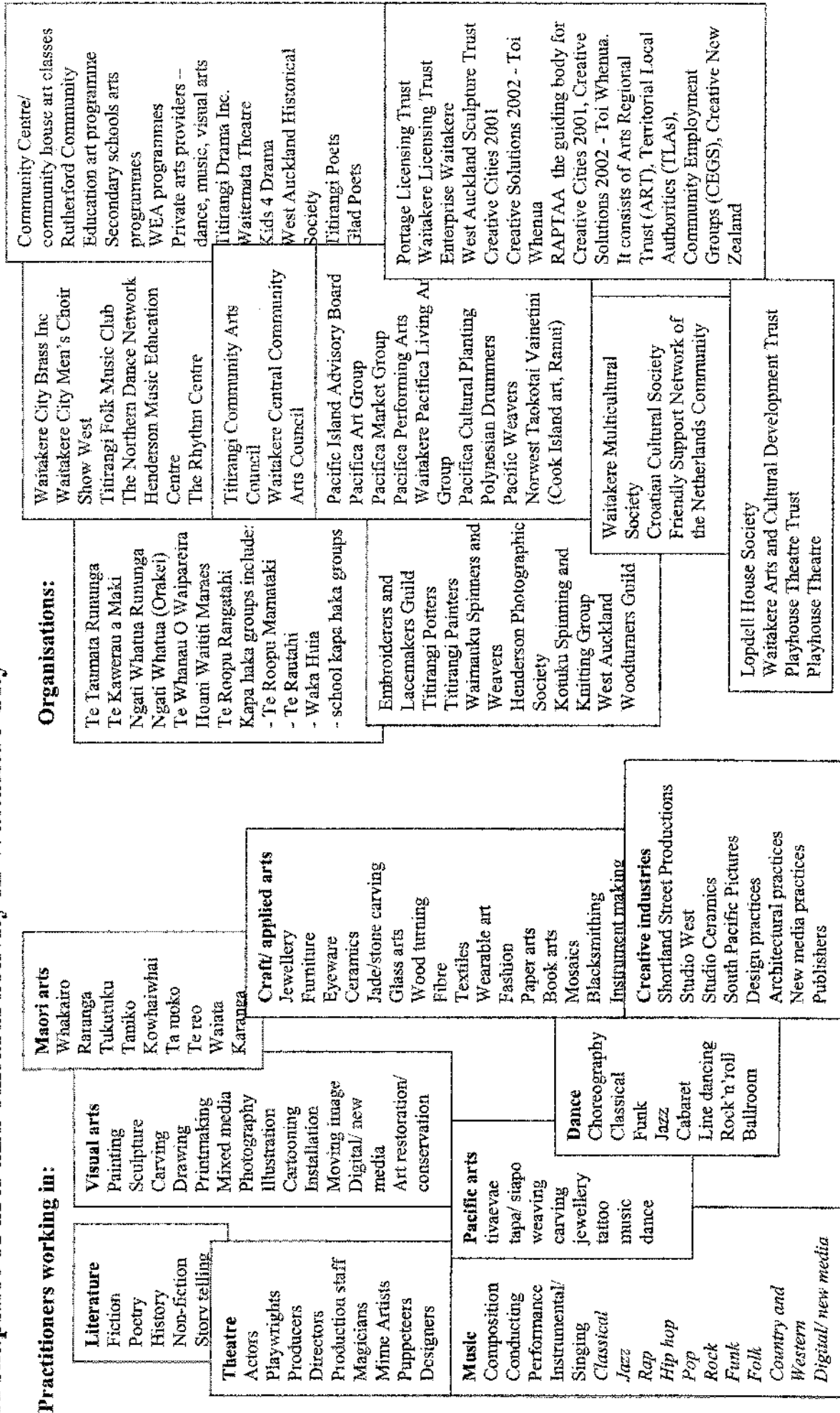
**Te Roopu Manutaki NZ Maori Cultural Group** was established by Dr Pita Sharples CBE at Hoani Waititi Marae in 1968. The cultural group, consisting of 85 seniors and 120 children has twice been winner of the Aotearoa Festival of Maori Performing Arts and tours internationally.

**Te Rautahi Maori Club** is an off-shoot of Te Roopu Manutaki and competes nationally in kapa haka competitions. It draws its membership from across Auckland and is based at Hoani Waititi Marae.

**Te Waka Huia** was established in 1981 and is led by Ngapo and Pimia Wefi. It was been the winner of the national kapa haka title three times and has represented New Zealand overseas.

Kapa haka has also been taken into primary and secondary schools in Waitakere City and there are two kapa haka school festivals held annually in Waitakere City.

# A snapshot of arts and cultural activity in Waitakere City



46

**Projects/ activities:**

Going West Books and Writers Festival  
 Trash to Fashion Awards™  
 Pacifica Living Arts Festival  
 Hip Hop Nation  
 Kapa Haka festivals  
 Brass band parades  
 Elvis festival  
 Chinese Opera  
 Christmas in the Park  
 Auckland Country Music Awards  
 Style Pacifica  
 Teen West  
 Indian Festival of Light  
 Christmas in the Park

**Art-design projects throughout the City (See Appendix 5: Public art)**

Exhibitions/ art displays  
 Art tours  
 Art on the Beach  
 Range of urban development projects  
 Aquatic Centre development  
 New Lynn town centre development  
 Henderson town centre development  
 Massey Leisure Centre  
 Te Atatu Village Green  
 Ranui Action Plan

Drama/ comedy/ musical theatre  
 Concerts/ music performances  
 Dance competitions and performances  
 Poetry readings  
 Book launches  
 Children's theatre  
 Touring performances

**Venues/ sites:**

Lopdell House Gallery  
 Upstairs Gallery  
 Corban Estate Arts Centre  
 WCCAC Gallery  
 West Coast Gallery, Piha  
 Packing Shed Gallery  
 Wharf Gallery, Te Henga  
 Signal Gallery, Swanson Rd  
 Arum Café Gallery  
 Kivi valley Farm  
 Arubrico Kiln  
 Huia Settlers Museum  
 Oratia Folk Museum  
 Hoani Waititi Marae  
 Arataki Centre (ARC)  
 Te Atatu Village Green  
 Falls Park  
 Waitakere City art rooms

Massey Leisure Centre  
 Playhouse Theatre  
 Titiirangi Theatre  
 Titiirangi War Memorial Hall  
 Lopdell Hall  
 Waitatua Hall  
 Assid Corban Recreation Centre  
 Henderson  
 Waitakere Sports complex  
 Ceramco Park Function Centre  
 Croatian Centre  
 Church halls  
 School facilities

Swanson Railway Station Cafe  
 Glen Eden Railway Station Cafe  
 Cafes / restaurants / hairdressers / retailers / professional offices  
 Surf clubs / parks / beaches / wineries / traffic roundabouts

**Hoani Waititi Marae, Glen Eden (community/ urban based)**

Te Pirirangatahi o Te Maungarongo Marae, Massey (community/ urban based)  
 Auhia Kia Moliho Kia Rangaitira, Kelston Girls' High School  
 Kakariki Marae, Green Bay  
 High School  
 Te Kotaku Marae, Rutherford  
 High School  
 Mahanahana Marae, Massey  
 High School  
 Panuku Marae, Henderson  
 High School  
 Ruamoko Marae, Kelston Deaf Education Centre.

**Community Centres**

Glen Eden  
 Kelston  
 New Lynn  
 Te Atatu Peninsula  
 Te Atatu South

**Community Houses**

Green Bay  
 Massey  
 Ranui  
 Te Atatu Peninsula  
 Titiirangi

**Communications:**

Artlink  
 Art Out West (arts trail)  
 Websites (Council, www.thebigidea.co.nz, etc.)  
 Videos  
 Council publications/ communications  
 Organisations' newsletters/ email lists  
 Local newspapers  
 NZ Herald  
 Art News  
 Periodicals – regional, national, international  
 Creative NZ (On Arts)  
 Waitakere City News

**Libraries**

Titiirangi  
 Henderson  
 Te Atatu Peninsula  
 Te Atatu South  
 New Lynn  
 Glen Eden  
 Massey Library

## Council delivery mechanisms

*(See page 8 for details of staff support for arts and culture)*

### Supporting individual practitioners

#### Current delivery mechanisms

Public art commissions

Art:design practice developed by Council uses practising artists as part of project teams for buildings / rejuvenation / urban projects / parks / bridges

Using local performing artists in presentations/ events

Some exhibition and performance facilities and events

Providing some accessible studio/ workshop/ rehearsal facilities e.g. Corban Estate Arts Centre, Lopdell House Gallery

Supporting networking through Internet (Council and [www.thebigidea.co.nz](http://www.thebigidea.co.nz))

Events: Going West Books and Writers Festival for writers, Trash to Fashion Awards™ for visual artists/ designers/ performers, Pacifica Living Arts Festival for cultural performers/ visual artists and craft artists

#### Art:design collaborations

Waitakere City Council brings together visual arts and design professionals to create its public spaces and buildings. This collaborative practice gives artists partnership status with urban planners, architects, landscape designers and engineers.

Council requires that a 'lead artist' be contracted onto the design team at the very beginning of all new building projects. The lead artist works with the architect and the Council's arts administrators to define, at an early stage, where relevant arts projects can be integrated into a facility. To carry out these projects the Council commissions artists whose work is seen as appropriate to each particular site.

## Supporting organisations

### Current delivery mechanisms

Direct funding support - Lopdell House Gallery and Corban Estate Arts Centre (major funding), Tītirangi Community Arts Council, Waitakere Central Community Arts Council, Waitakere City Brass Inc. (smaller funding)

Property (gifted to Trusts)– Playhouse Theatre, McCahon House

Providing support for operations/ staffing/ governance - Lopdell House Gallery, Corban Estate Arts Centre

Providing low cost spaces e.g. Tītirangi Drama Inc., West Coast Gallery, community centres/ houses/ halls

### Supporting projects, programmes and activities

### Current delivery mechanisms

Initiating and seeding arts projects/ festivals/ events

Arts projects contractors for major events

Events management support

Direct funding for major festivals

Community halls and houses – funding support for maintenance

### The Mamas

The Mamas, an informal group of women from Tuvalu, Samoa, Niue, the Cook Islands, Tokelau and Tonga, gather at Corban Estate Arts Centre to create, celebrate and teach their art, craft, music and dance traditions. This provides a base in Waitakere City from which to develop the presence of Pacific cultures and teach the young about cultural traditions. The Mamas sell their traditional products including woven works, jewellery and tivaevae from their gallery and a monthly cultural market, and they are integral to the Pacifica Living Arts Festival.

**Pacifica Living Arts Festival** has primarily a workshop focus. The skills of weaving, tapa making, tivaevae and traditional music and dance are taught to parties of school children. In addition there are stalls of traditional products and by service organisations, art and craft displays and Pacific performance groups.

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**Administration of Creative Communities funding from Creative New Zealand**

Maintaining regional and national links with Creative New Zealand and 'Creative Solutions -- Toi Whenua'

**Supporting venues and sites**

**Current delivery mechanisms**

Provision of community venues-- formal and informal sites

Development/ maintenance of venues for events and ceremonies -- Lopdell House Gallery, Corban Estate Arts Centre, community houses, community centres, community halls, parks, plazas, squares  
Parks, beaches and public spaces available for arts events and activities (NB ARC jurisdiction over some wilderness and coastal areas)

**Supporting communication**

**Current delivery mechanisms**

*Telling our stories within Council, to Waitakere City communities and to the world through Public Affairs Department of Council by:*

Artlink produced and distributed to arts and cultural sector in Waitakere, Waitakere City News

Council website and links, includes hot link to diverse sites

Internal/ external email arts and cultural information

**Trash to Fashion Awards™** has

metamorphosed from a dress-up party for volunteers in 1996 to a major event fusing art, fashion, environmental issues, theatre, music and dance. The message of the festival is 're-use, recycle, reduce' and is aimed at a wide audience. Participation by schools is a key ingredient.

**Going West Books and Writers**

Festival began in 1996. Its focus is on presenting and celebrating the very best of New Zealand writing. Features include performance artists, the Going West Literary Steam Train Trip, Story Fest for the youngest readers, a programme for youth, a Book Market and a writers seminar.

**Pan Am** started out as a school band.

Through the Youth Council of Waitakere City Council they requested and were provided with rehearsal facilities. In return they play at Council functions and at local events. As a result of performing in community centres the group was spotted and signed up for their first recording in 2002.

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