



ANNUAL
2021
-22 **IMPACT**
REPORT

THE FUTURE IS CREATIVE



OUR VISION

**AN AOTEAROA WHERE ALL
RANGATAHI KNOW THE WORTH
OF THEIR CREATIVE IDENTITY.**

OUR MISSION

**TO CURATE SAFE AND
ACCESSIBLE SPACES FOR YOUNG
NEW ZEALANDERS TO CONNECT
WITH, SHOWCASE AND DEVELOP
THEIR CREATIVITY.**

FROM OUR CHAIR

Nau mai, haere mai!

Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari kē he toa takitini

It is my privilege and honour to welcome you to the YANZ impact report for 2021. We welcome you to take your place with us in the YANZ whānau alongside Aotearoa's young creatives.

Our second impact report has a different emphasis with depth over breadth as we doubled down on the key YANZ skills and talents and further embedded ourselves in the Aotearoa creative ecosystem. We had follow on disruptions to events caused by the health restrictions and economic recovery, but the enthusiasm of the YANZ whānau, our funders and our creative community was not similarly impacted. If anything, the drive to perform and deliver has increased exponentially!

As a youth-led and youth focussed social enterprise YANZ has grown in leaps and bounds over the last 12 months, and has secured some key funding relationships to take us into the future. The bravery and strength of character displayed by the team has been reinforced throughout the year and has resulted in deeper connections between them and across our community and sector. Operating lean has promoted innovation and ambition within the team and plans for bigger developments are already underway. Unapologetically ambitious for young people, YANZ strives to grow the team skills and horizons, always looking for ways to develop ideas and opportunities, and 'YANZify' pathways that are traditionally unsuited to young people.

The YANZ Trustees are humbled by the efforts and continuous striving of the YANZ operational team to deliver impact and equity to rangatahi and to weave Te Ao Māori principles throughout their relationships and mahi. As always, a massive and appreciative acknowledgement of Matthew and the YANZ team who are unbelievably awesome. Ka rawe!

YANZ is future-focussed, increasingly influential and ambitious for young people. An entrepreneurial organisation and community that nurtures the mana of young creatives and advocates for their space and place. Now is the time to join with YANZ as a funder, collaborator or supporter and be part of Aotearoa's changing creative landscape.



Ngā mihi nui,

Tania Jones



FROM OUR CEO



Tēnā koe,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to our 2021-22 Annual Impact Report!

If last year was a journey of pushing the YANZ waka out to sea, this year saw us learn to paddle. After 'Young at Art' in early 2021, our team took some time to reflect and better understand our position within the youth arts ecosystem. After months of listening and learning through values-grounded kōrero, we've stepped into 2022 with a greater sense of who we are - and what deepening our foundations looks like.

While we have made a huge amount of progress developing our organisation's sustainability, we have also expanded both the impact and breadth of our programmes. One of our major achievements in 2021 was receiving multi-year funding from Manatū Taonga Ministry for Culture and Heritage towards our Te Kāhui Creative Writing Programme. This incredible support has allowed us to cultivate safe and accessible storytelling spaces nationwide, for rangatahi across Corrections and other under-resourced community spaces.

The creative collaborations YANZ has been able to kick-off between young creatives and their communities also continue to fill our cup. From taking audiences by surprise with musical activations at Festival For The Future, to wandering poetry and art activations at Earth Beat 2021, we have been lucky enough to see rangatahi's creative identities flourish in real-time. As I look back on 2021, I am warmed having seen so many in our community grow - both as creative professionals and passionate individuals.

As a team, we at YANZ have worked hard to understand how we can best awahi and manaaki rangatahi across Aotearoa. Often, this has meant being radically reflexive and agile, and I am grateful to our funders and supporters for coming on this journey with us. It is their support that allows us to take risks and do things differently when creating equitable access to creative opportunities.

Lastly, I want to pay respect to the wider YANZ whānau, whose resilience, passion, empathy and creativity is second to none. I am a better person and leader because of the values-driven champions I am lucky enough to journey alongside. Specifically, I want to share my immense gratitude and pride for Zak Devey, one of our



co-founders, who has received a Rhodes Scholarship to attend Oxford University in the UK. Zak - as sad as I am to be saying 'see ya later', I am proud of you beyond words, and can't wait to see the impact you create. Oxford has gained the biggest smile, the most colourful scarves and the most generous, kind-hearted spirit.

With much aroha, and a sense of grounding that will set the pace for our mahi moving forward, I thank you for joining us on another year of the YANZ journey. Onward to 2022!

Ngā mihi nui,

Matthew Goldsworthy





OUR IMPACT IN NUMBERS



\$136,052

In employment opportunities to young creatives

\$103,114

For employment of young creatives to deliver our programmes

\$32,938

In gig work opportunities

100+

Rangatahi empowered across 76 programmes and events

21

Organisations collaborated with



CREATIVE COLLABORATIONS

A SNIPPET OF SOME OF THE

YOUTH WEEK 'TOGETHER' MURAL

Collaborating with 8 young visual artists and designers from the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board region, we celebrated Youth Week 2021 with the theme 'We're Stronger Together'. Each artist came up with their own unique design for a chosen letter, showcasing their creative talents and identity. When put together, the letter spelled 'TOGETHER', and the mural was installed on the side of North Shore youth hub, Shore Junction. This gave a fantastic boost to the young artists, and a welcome youthful energy to Shore Junction's exterior.



EARTH BEAT

Earth Beat is a whānau-friendly music and arts festival in the Kaipara region of Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland. We worked together to create a youth arts station at the 2021 event, where 3 rangatahi creatives spent the weekend creating art and poetry to inspire festival-goers.



FESTIVAL FOR THE FUTURE

We collaborated with Festival for the Future, Aotearoa's biggest summit on leadership, innovation and impact, to showcase local musicians from Te Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington. Through creating a live music stage as part of the Festival and programming a live jazz set at the Beehive, we provided the opportunity for 9 local acts to perform in a professional environment and connect with new audiences.



CREATIVE PROJECTS WE INVITED RANGATAHI TO BE A PART OF THIS YEAR!



CHILDCARE CENTRE MURAL

YANZ was commissioned by the Devonport Methodist Childcare Centre to create a new mural on a previously bland wall inside their centre. We collaborated with 2 local visual artists who led the mural design and painting, inspired by the local environment and te ao Māori. The end result was a colourful addition to the playcentre, inspiring tamariki to be creative!

TANIA DALTON FOUNDATION GALA PERFORMANCE

The Tania Dalton Foundation was created in honour of the sporting legend whose presence would fill the room; established to make a meaningful impact on the lives of budding young New Zealanders. We were tasked by TDF to create an engaging performance to kickstart their 2021 Gala Dinner. A team of string players - led by North Shore-based musician and composer Matt Bear - gave an energetic performance, kicking off with Pachelbel's Canon and transitioning into a fiery rendition of Thunderstruck by AC/DC!



KAIPĀTIKI SOUNDS

Since 2019, Kaipātiki Sounds has celebrated and showcased the next generation of musical youth in the Kaipātiki region of Auckland's North Shore. Kaipātiki Sounds approached YANZ as they needed a new brand identity that better reflected their youthfulness and creativity. We worked alongside Abbey Barlow, a talented designer from the Kaipātiki region, to create a website and brand identity that was playful, vibrant and reflective of the Kaipātiki region. This provided Abbey with a fantastic opportunity to earn from her creative mahi and build her portfolio.



TE KĀHUI

Te Kāhui is a by-rangatahi-for-rangatahi creative writing programme dedicated to cultivating safe, equitable spaces for youth to express themselves. Kickstarted in 2019 by Eric Soakai, Jorja Heta, and Zak Devey, 2021 saw Te Kāhui's ability to reach new youth expand exponentially. Whereas Te Kāhui once operated primarily at Mt Eden Corrections Facility, the team has now begun to work in underserved rangatahi communities across Aotearoa.

Te Kāhui's accessibility for young people increased dramatically in 2021, thanks in large part to funding from Manatū Taonga Ministry of Culture and Heritage's CARE fund and SkyCity Community Trust. As a result of this support, Te Kāhui gained the resource to serve youth at Mt Eden Corrections Facility and cultivate new collaborations across the motu. Our team has subsequently worked with new participants from Otago Corrections, Christchurch Women's Prison, Whanganui Corrections, Auckland South Corrections, and Auckland Women's Prison – as well as students in Whakatāne and Tāmaki Makaurau. With each new community our team engages with, we are reminded of the consistent value a safe space for storytelling can offer our young people.

This year also presented several opportunities to deepen Te Kāhui's impact for past and future participants. We secured support from Penguin Random House to conceptualise 'Taiohi Inside': an anthology of poetry and prose crafted by Te Kāhui alumni. This kaupapa aims to pay respect to the power of rangatahi's words, presenting them with a taonga to share with their respective communities. The Ministry

of Social Development also funded construction of a web-based Te Kāhui Programme, allowing rangatahi nationwide to engage with our exercises and tuākana regardless of distance. Together, these two initiatives exemplify Te Kāhui's commitment to amplifying rangatahi stories, and meeting youth where they are when serving them.

The Te Kāhui whānau offer our deepest thanks to the funders, community leaders, and passionate rangatahi who made Te Kāhui's growth over 2021 possible. We look forward to building more intentional community partnerships in 2022, and empowering the stories of Aotearoa's rangatahi in new and innovative ways.

THE NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

-  **75+ RANGATAHI ENGAGED**
-  **OVER 250 PIECES OF CREATIVE MAHI GENERATED**
-  **8 FACE-TO-FACE WĀNANGA HELD**
-  **95% POSITIVE FEEDBACK FROM PARTICIPANTS**
-  **8 IN 10 PARTICIPANTS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN FUTURE PROGRAMMES**
-  **98% OF CREATIVE WRITING BOOKLETS COMPLETED ENTIRELY**

QUOTES FROM RANGATAHI

"I WISH TO THANK YOU ALL, I TRULY APPRECIATE THE FEEDBACK AND THE RE-EDITED WORK. I WILL HOLD THIS WORK CLOSE TO MY HEART ... THIS WAS TRULY REWARDING; YOUR ENCOURAGEMENT HAS GIVEN ME THE CONFIDENCE TO CONTINUE CREATIVE WRITING."

"FOR A MOMENT I ESCAPED THESE PRISON WALLS AND I WAS AMONGST THE STARS."

"... I OPENED UP ABOUT A LOT OF STUFF I'VE BEEN THROUGH IN MY LIFE AND I GOT A LOT OFF MY CHEST."

"... [THIS PROGRAMME] REMINDED ME OF WHAT I'VE STILL GOT TO LOOK FORWARD TO UPON RELEASE. THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY, IT'S GOT MY MIND TICKING AGAIN AND REMINDED ME THAT I ENJOY WRITING."

FROM OUR RANGATAHI



“When I began working with YANZ, I was 16 years old and had no experience in performing or any idea of how to put my music dreams into reality. I approached their CEO, Matthew Goldsworthy, and asked him if I could perform at one of their Summer Streets shows. Since then I have been so accepted, encouraged and supported in my music journey.

The team at YANZ stand out to me as an organisation that shows genuine care for their creatives and who offer so much. For a young person pursuing a creative career, having this guiding force that offers paid opportunities and a community to connect with is invaluable. The creative industry can be a hard one to find your footing in, and to have YANZ supporting young local artists as they make move into the industry is so important.

Over the past three years, I have performed at several events with YANZ and gained new experiences, friends and industry connections. I'm so thankful I've had these opportunities available to me, and I hope YANZ continues to be supported so they can reach more creatives who would greatly benefit from their work.”

**MARIANNE LEIGH,
SINGER / SONGWRITER**



“My mahi with Te Kāhui fills my cup, keeps me grounded and allows me to serve my community in meaningful ways. I feel as though I can bring my entire self unapologetically to every wānanga, hui, or zoom- something I haven't felt comfortable doing in any of my other/previous jobs.

Within our writing wānanga, it's remarkable to see rangatahi who may not otherwise ever consider creative writing as a vessel for personal expression leave sessions asking, ‘when can we do this again?’ This affirms that the work we are doing is making an impact; opening up avenues for creative exploration that may otherwise be overlooked.

As Māori and Pasifika peoples, storytelling is in our blood. For me, I feel closer to my ancestors and their stories when I can use their kupu, and talanoa with others. The skills, confidence and awahi I've learned and received from Te Kāhui ensure that whatever space I enter, I can express myself, and do so with pride.”

**RUBY MACOMBER,
TE KĀHUI COMMUNITY OUTREACH MANAGER**

OUR SUPPORTERS

PRIMARY FUNDERS



Lottery Grants Board
Te Puna Tahua
.....
LOTTO FUNDS FOR YOUR COMMUNITY



 perpetual guardian
Creative Arts Fund

PROJECT SUPPORTERS

Devonport-Takapuna
Local Board 
Auckland Council

Auckland
Council 
Te Kaunihera o Tamaki Makaurau

sky
CITY COMMUNITY
TRUST



Penguin
Random House
New Zealand



Manatū
Taonga
Ministry
for Culture
& Heritage



MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

Auckland
Unlimited 
An Auckland Council Organisation



**DESIGNED BY
ABBEY BARLOW**