

2022-23

ANNUAL

IMPACT

REPORT





Our Vision

An Aotearoa where all rangatahi know the worth of their creative identity.

Our Mission

To curate inclusive and accessible spaces for young people across Aotearoa to explore their innate creativity.

From Our Chair



Welcome,

I am thrilled to present to you the YANZ 2022/23 annual impact report, filled with inspiring stories and remarkable achievements. As the new Chair of YANZ, it brings me great joy to share the positive contributions we have made in the ever-changing creative arts sector for Aotearoa's rangatahi (young people).

First and foremost, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to Tania, our outgoing chair, who has transitioned into a trustee role. Her unwavering support and guidance continue to be invaluable to both the team and myself. We are incredibly fortunate to have her ongoing involvement.

I must applaud the YANZ team for their incredible commitment, drive, and innovative thinking. Their youth-led approach has impressed me beyond measure. The team's strength and courage in supporting one another over the past year have been truly inspiring. From nurturing key stakeholder relationships to securing vital funding, they have demonstrated wisdom and resilience beyond their years. Their constant focus on innovation, strategy, processes, and community connection has resulted in exceeding our annual goals. The team has created a culture that attracts remarkable talent, and we warmly welcome our new superstars!

This impact report reflects the innovative spirit embodied by YANZ. It provides a comprehensive overview of our incredible achievements, challenges, and the collective impact we have generated in 2022/23. Our aim is to engage stakeholders like you, showcasing our successes, lessons learned, and areas for improvement as we commit to sustainable growth and positive change.

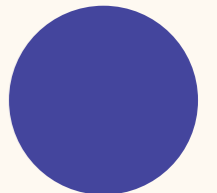
As you delve into the report, you will discover inspiring stories, data-driven insights, and tangible evidence of our impact. We highlight our accomplishments in community engagement, programme creation, arts events, and festivals, all aimed at supporting the immense youth talent in our wonderful country. I am particularly proud of our work with Te Kāhui, our creative writing programme in partnership with Manatū Taonga Ministry for Culture and Heritage and Corrections, which now reaches over 30 facilities and engages more than 300 rangatahi. Such impact deserves commendation!

I encourage you to reflect on the collective efforts that have shaped our progress as you explore this report. We extend sincere gratitude to our funders, board of trustees, and, most importantly, our dedicated YANZ team who have been instrumental in driving our mission forward. Together, we are making a difference, and our commitment to a better future for the youth of Aotearoa New Zealand remains unwavering.

Thank you for your continued support and for joining us on this incredible journey. I, for one, am truly excited about the future of YANZ and the remarkable growth and impact we are achieving.

Stay Powerful!

Kelly-Ann Maxwell
(KAM)



From our CEO

Tēnā koe,

It is with much joy and excitement that I welcome you to the YANZ 2022-23 Annual Impact Report!

Over the past year, the Youth Arts New Zealand whānau found ourselves steadying our footing as we crossed new and exciting terrain. This year, more grounded than ever, we have seen our mahi and team expanding and flourishing in ways we could have only imagined a few short months ago.

Our service is impossible without the passionate people who make up our rangatahi-team; and so, one of our biggest milestones in the past year has been welcoming two incredible humans to our operations team - Danielle Hao-Aickin 郝丹丹 and Michelle Rahurahu-Scott (Ngaati Raukawa, Ngaati Tahu-Ngaati Whaoa, Rangitāne and Contae Dhún na nGall). Their energy, fresh perspectives, and commitment to equity and diversity in Aotearoa's unique sociocultural context has enabled us to craft safe, inclusive spaces for rangatahi to explore their creative identities more intentionally - and further across the motu - than ever before.

And on welcoming new members to the YANZ family: in 2022, we had the fortune of welcoming the wonderful Kelly-Ann Maxwell (aka Kam) as our new Chairperson. Kam is a highly-respected creative leader with over 20 years in the communications and technology sectors, and a demonstrated history of success in organisational and strategic transformation. It is a privilege to welcome her into the YANZ whānau!

I would simultaneously like to acknowledge our founding Chair, Tania Jones, who is stepping back into a Trustee role

to provide space and time to focus on her PhD studies. On behalf of the entire YANZ whānau, past and present, we extend our deepest gratitude and appreciation for your unwavering support as we have navigated the founding of YANZ. You have always been, and continue to be, the rock that we can crash against.

Our projects and initiatives have continued to grow in depth and scope, thanks to the critical support of those who help assure our sustainability - including Next Gen (The Tindall Foundation) who have joined the YANZ whānau as a key operational funder. Amongst the impactful initiatives they support us with has been the co-design of a nationwide Youth Arts Festival, which has provided invaluable insight into rangatahi's evolving and diverse needs across the country at this moment in time. We also remain close to the experiences, reflections, and needs of our rangatahi through our monthly Youth Voice Hui, where we provide a safe space for all young people to share their aspirations, challenges and ideas within a by-rangatahi, for-rangatahi community.

Our Music in Parks Internships, supporting 6 Pasifika young people to explore a career in event production, also entered into its second year - and we're just about to jump into our third! One of the most energising projects of the year was Sound of our Streets :a winter youth performance festival showcasing talented rangatahi performers from across Tāmaki Makaurau. The festival provided over \$15,000 in artist fees to over 40 young creatives, from first-time performers to musicians at the start of their careers. Te Kāhui - our creative writing programme for rangatahi in Corrections and other underserved communities - has

also grown immensely in scale and impact, with our Ministry of Culture and Heritage multi-year funding enabling us to expand to over 30 facilities and community spaces, and serve over 300 rangatahi in the past year alone.

Lastly, I want to acknowledge the passing of my incredible mum last year. She has, and will continue to be, my biggest advocate and supporter - I can't imagine having started YANZ without her care, grounding presence and empathy. Her love has made me a better leader and a better person, and I will miss her always.

With a profound gratitude for all those that have supported - and continue to support - our vision, thank you for joining us on another year of growth, exploration and learning! YANZ steps into 2023 with a vibrant and fresh strategic plan for 2023-26 soon to be released - and with our feet planted firmly on the ground as we ready for the journey. We are incredibly excited about what the next year will bring, and hope you will join us for the journey.

Ngā manaakitanga,

Matthew Goldsworthy



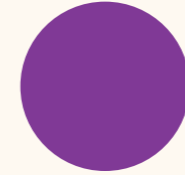
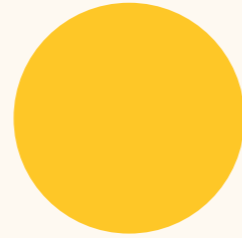
2022-23 Impact in Numbers



Impact in Numbers since Inception



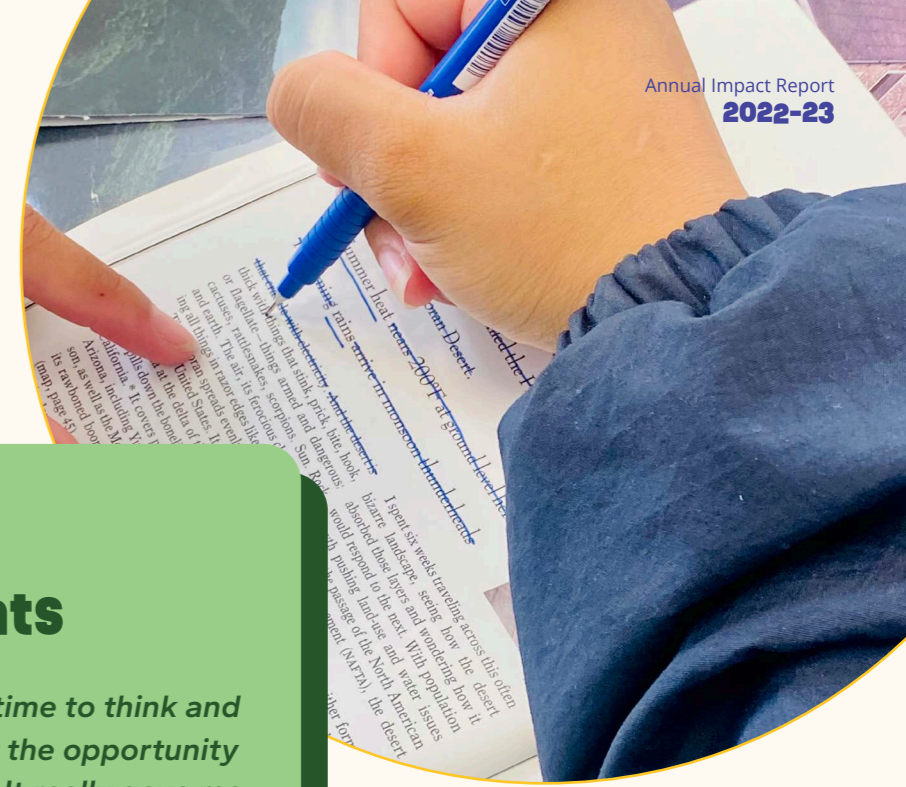
Te Kāhui



Te Kāhui, our ongoing creative expression programme for rangatahi in Corrections and other underserved communities across Aotearoa, continues to create spaces to connect with inspiring young storytellers. The team is facilitated by award-winning creatives; Michelle Rahunahu-Scott, Ruby Macomber, Eric Soakai, Phodiso Dintwe, and the newest facilitator to the team, Riarn Richards.

With the support from Ministry of Culture and Heritage multi-year funding, Te Kāhui held wānanga at over 30 facilities and community spaces, and served over 300 rangatahi in the past year alone. This included a series of wānanga held in different PHAB facilities, to engage directly with rangatahi that span a broad spectrum of disability. The engagement of a non-verbal participants prompted our facilitation team to expand the ways they explored creative expression, from a solely written form to more tactile forms of expression, incorporating objects and materials to engage those less interested in traditional writing. This has been an incredibly rewarding experience for both participants and the facilitators.

Te Kāhui has also created booklets with creative writing prompts and exercises that can be distributed to Corrections facilities and returned to the team to respond to the pieces and written versions of their works. This has been a hugely popular initiative, with five different facilities across the motu distributing booklets through their units, and has received positive feedback from the rangatahi involved.

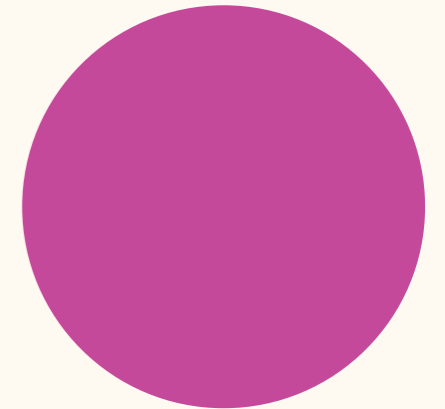


Feedback from booklet participants

"I enjoyed it very much. Gave me time to think and imagine. Thank you very much for the opportunity to write these stories and poems. It really gave me a positive view on creative writing and how your own imagination can take you to a happy place even here in prison. Thanks again :)"

"I enjoyed the 'I am' poem. I felt satisfied that I've completed tasks and aware of how I am truly feeling. The session brought openness back to my mind."

"[The session made them feel] like a weight was lifted like I had talked to someone, it's good to express how I feel"

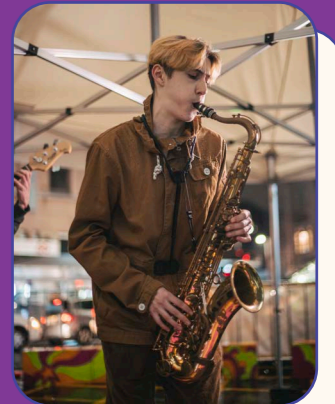
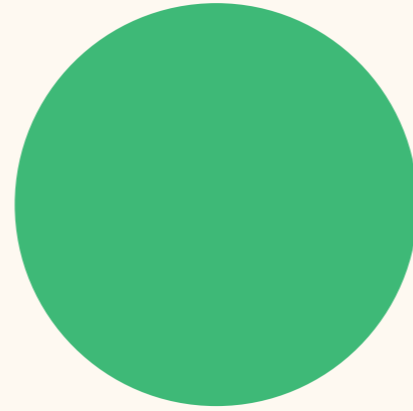


Sound of our Streets

Sound of our Streets, a captivating winter youth performance festival, electrified the bustling streets of Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland with the dynamic sounds and infectious energy of talented rangatahi musicians.

Spanning across two exciting weeks, YANZ proudly showcased a diverse lineup of over 40 musicians, investing \$15,000 in artist fees for local youth. This fueled over 100 hours of extraordinary performances, captivating audiences at four local activation sites across the region - including the iconic Ellen Melville Centre, the lively Pocket Park on Karangahape Road, and the vibrant Birkenhead Village.

From solo singer-songwriters to 4-piece jazz bands, the performances brought a youthful energy to public areas and increased foot traffic and engagement with the spaces. Running public performances like Sound of our Streets also increased the public's positive sentiments about the unique areas they took place in, providing audiences with a deeper social connection to their space and community. Many of the young performers YANZ engaged with provided overwhelmingly positive feedback, and we have been lucky enough to work with these rangatahi within our other projects and events too.



Talk & Drum

Designed for rangatahi (youth) and facilitated by Tswana percussionist and musician Phodiso Dintwe, Talk & Drum was a series of two 3-hour-long wānanga which sought to facilitate a holistic learning of performance from the many-sided Bantu view of engaging with the drum.

Rangatahi attendees experienced traditional and modern drumming, poetry, song and dance, engaging in cultural traditions and conversations to explore creative self-expression and identity in an inclusive environment.

The sessions were designed to be accessible for all young people, even those with no prior experience with dance or rhythm. Participants left the sessions with a greater understanding for and appreciation for the art of traditional drumming.



"This workshop was an incredible day that I highly recommend and would hope to see being run more regularly and in the near future."

Phodiso was a brilliant facilitator and delivered an authentic, expertise-driven day. He was able to respond to each participant's level of experience and so all of us were made to feel confident to fully engage. The day was well structured and had a good balance of learning, doing, and getting to know the other people attending.

This was so much more than learning to play a drum - it was an insight into a culture which is lived and breathed by this extremely talented musician and teacher."

Talk & Drum participant

Music in Parks Internships



The Music in Parks Internship Programme was a 10-week course acting as a stepping stone for Pasifika youth to step into the events industry. Under the mentorship of Gavin Downie from the Music In Parks production team, 5 rangatahi were guided through the programme consisting of in-person events and workshops that covered the basics of event production.

With a total of 6 workshops and 4 hands-on events following Matariki activations at the Stardome ('Matariki On The Move' and 'Te Korakora' at Wynyard Quarter), the programme concluded with a debrief workshop as well as the 'Next Steps' plan from TeKaranga Charitable Trust, where the interns were able to continue a personalised mentorship programme.

This internship programme was a highly impactful programme, with interns learning both practical and lifelong skills that will assist both their personal and professional development as they move forward in their lives and careers.



Feedback from booklet participants

"It has been amazing. I have learnt so much and am making new connections in the field that I want to be in :)"

"I was filled with knowledge and eager to put them to use! Every session was different and almost fried my brain but was worth it in the end!"

"I gained a new found confidence in myself, connections and confirmation that I would love to be in the events industry."

Superstar



For Youth Week 2022, the Devonport-Takapuna local board enabled YANZ to bring to life 'Superstar' - supporting Tsenate, a talented young Ethiopian Kiwi singer-songwriter, whom we guided through the process of releasing a single (song) commercially alongside a music video and single release celebration. We worked with Tsenate to bring in Nigerian hip-hop artist and Music Producer Mazbou Q to create 'SUPERSTAR' - a song about heartbreak, and an exploration into the empowerment of the African-New Zealand identity.

Throughout this process, YANZ, alongside music manager/creative producer Mukuka Musowa as the PR & Marketing Agent, helped mentor Tsenate to manage the song's budget, learn how to invoice, understand how to navigate the administrative side of releasing music, and other crucial skills to empower Tsenate to be confident in themselves so they can continue developing a career in the arts.

Tsenate released 'SUPERSTAR' on the 3rd of February 2023, gaining traction and getting playlisted on Spotify's playlists 'R&B Feels' and 'R&B Connect', a feat that's incredible for an emerging artist. On the same day, we hosted the single release party at Shore Junction in Takapuna, and celebrated the song with approximately 50 friends & whānau, featuring an intimate performance by Tsenate.

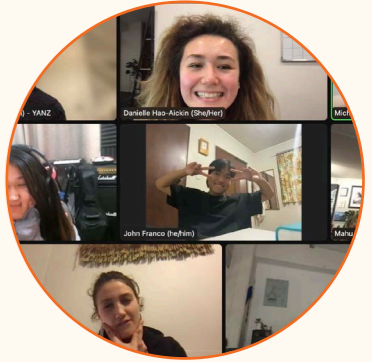
As one of the first artists YANZ supported from the idea of a song to the release, we're incredibly proud to have journeyed alongside Tsenate to release an incredible single.

"This journey has given me so many incredible opportunities and has furthered my career. I have created a strong network system, learnt how to communicate professionally with industry professionals, and stick to a schedule."

Tsenate Akebergne



Youth Arts Festival Co-creation



Over the past few years, it has emerged that a youth arts festival could be an incredibly impactful event to bring together young creatives from across the motu and provide them with experiences and tools that will empower their creative identities. So, this year we began the process of engaging with our community to figure out what this festival might look like.

We held 4 hui with our community, asking what Aotearoa's young people want to see in a celebration of rangatahi creativity, and what they understood to be barriers for young creatives. Important ideas representing viewpoints from many of Aotearoa's diverse communities were captured on a Miro board, where attendants were able to jot their thoughts down during kōrero. At the end of each hui, friendships were solidified through the swapping of Instagram and Tiktok handles, and excitement was expressed at the idea of a festival happening in the near future. We are currently working towards a 2024 launch date - watch this space!

What rangatahi want in a youth arts festival:

"We need our youth but also those established in the industry who can provide opportunities for young artists (curators, producers, composers, etc)."

"Safe space for queer communities"

"Diversity, inclusion. Role models."

"Local communities to give each event its own identity - community building and awareness of what's in their backyard"



Creative Opportunities

Sustainable Business Awards

The Sustainable Business Awards, which have been running for 20 years, recognise and celebrate success in sustainability. YANZ was again able to provide the opening act for the annual awards in November 2022, putting forward talented singer-songwriter Jemilah (who had also performed for TEDxSUMAS in a song advocating for sustainability) to perform at the event in Auckland Town Hall.

"Thank you again for your expert choice in connecting her with us – [Jemilah] was AMAZING." - Lauren O'Connor (Sustainable Business Network)



Christmas at Sylvia Park

For Sylvia Park's 2022 Christmas entertainment programme, we provided 8 young musicians with the opportunity to brighten the halls of the mall across a period of 4 weeks in the busy holiday season. Performing a combination of original songs and festive carols, our rangatahi busked to an audience of cheerful elves and last-minute Christmas present shoppers. This event series also gave us the opportunity to employ and upskill a team of emerging event organisers to help us deliver similar events in the future.

Christmas in Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland

At the heart of Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland's CBD, YANZ worked alongside Fresh Concept to put together curated entertainment over 4 weeks during the lunchtimes of December. On a festive stage in Te Komititanga Square (next to Britomart), a variety of performances including jazz quartets, solo singer-songwriters, and guitar-saxophone duos came together to celebrate the holidays in front of the busy foot traffic of commercial bay. Two bands of musicians even came together for an improvisation-like intermission between the acts!

Northcote Winter Family Day

A whānau-friendly event with a focus on fun winter themed tamariki activities, Fresh Concept (in coordination with Panuku Development Auckland) hosted the Northcote Winter Family Day at the Northcote Town centre in June 2022. YANZ had the pleasure of providing 5 singer-songwriters for live music alongside interactive games, workshops and activities at a fun-filled day for the all-ages.

Long-Term Insights Briefing

The Long Term Insights Briefing (LTIB) was a collaborative hui with the Ministry of Culture and Heritage that aimed to gather feedback from organisations and individuals that are connected to the arts. YANZ welcomed ten rangatahi across the arts to share their thoughts on how projected demographic changes in Aotearoa New Zealand would impact the arts. YANZ received positive feedback from the rangatahi that attended these hui. The final LTIB report unfortunately did not cover the breadth of feedback we received, which has reaffirmed the importance of continuing to engage with government departments and strengthening our approach to youth advocacy going forward.

Glen Eden Mural Creation

YANZ has been a regular collaborator with different Local Boards within the Auckland Council region, and in September we were able to (alongside the Glen Eden Business Association and Tag Out Trust) commission a local young artist to paint a mural on West Coast Road in Glen Eden. The result was a vibrant wall sprouting pōhutukawa flowers and fluttering tūi that spanned 2.5 metres, adding visual energy and playfulness to the local area.



Youth Voice Hui

The YANZ Youth Voice Hui was a central idea as part of the evolutionary development of YANZ as a youth-led organisation. Established in early 2022 as an open invitation to creative rangatahi across Aotearoa, the monthly hui are focussed on key questions designed to engage rangatahi insights and lived experience within a safe environment.

The insights from these hui feed directly into YANZ strategic development, including both operational and governance discussions and decisions. The hui are facilitated discussion spaces for all young creatives to participate, where ideas spark between the participants as they discuss key issues for YANZ, the wider Aotearoa creative sector, and their lived experiences as young creatives in their town or region.

The desire for the group to be a key contributor to the YANZ kaupapa was established long before the first hui. Incredibly mindful that our connection with rangatahi in this way needed to be meaningful and impactful for all involved meant that deliberation about its conception was happening from 2020. From the first Hui held in April 2022, the value of the gift YANZ was receiving from the rangatahi was evident. The insights, opportunities and challenges revealed through kōrero with rangatahi has had key influence within board discussions, strategic decisions and operational planning. The opportunity to learn from creative rangatahi about their development journeys, art forms, challenges, and ideas, has enabled YANZ to directly advocate on issues of particular and immediate relevance to young creatives in Aotearoa.

Early in the hui lifecycle the high value placed on authenticity and safety in the facilitation of shared spaces was revealed, and this has been adopted as a key element of all interactions in the hui as we journey forward.

Though the facilitation team have ideas for issues to work through with future hui, the intentional emphasis is on lived experience and there is always space for top of mind issues to be debated and key challenges or opportunity ideas to be brought to the table.

The Youth Voice Hui team is sincerely grateful to be part of this kaupapa and extend our thanks for all the rangatahi who have joined us so far. We look forward to connecting with many more in the future!



The Numbers at a Glance:

- 20+ rangatahi involved
- Most regions in NZ represented
- 9 online hui hosted
- Diversity of participants (gender, identity, ethnicity, (dis)ability, age, location, art form)
- Feedback used to directly inform YANZ strategic planning

Agenda questions discussed:

- Balancing your creative goals: Working, healing and advocating through the arts
- YOUR creative spaces: Past, Present and Future
- Creativities architecture: Aotearoa's creative sector ecosystem
- Circles of Rangatahi Support - Tuakana/Teina Mentorship in the Arts
- What does it mean to put rangatahi at the helm?

Primary Funders:



Lottery Grants Board
Te Puna Tahua
LOTTO FUNDS FOR YOUR COMMUNITY



Project Funders:



Ministry
for Culture
& Heritage



Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau



MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA



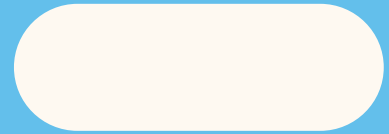
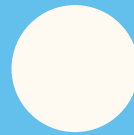
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Quatro Trust







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