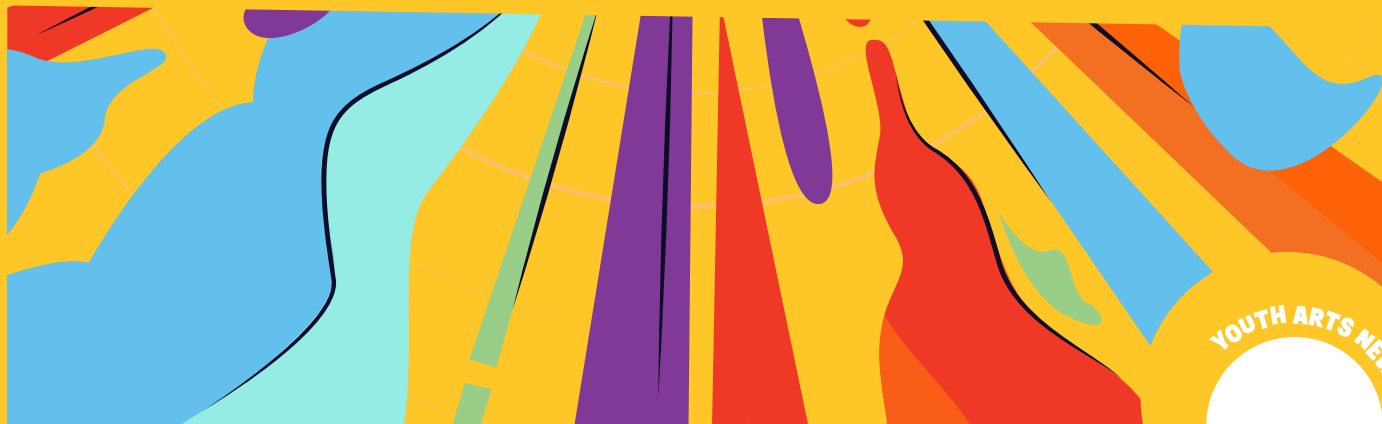


The Future is Creative



2023-2024

Annual Impact Report

OUR VISION



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

To curate safe and accessible spaces for young New Zealanders to connect with, showcase and develop their creativity.

OUR MISSION

From Our Chair



INTRO

Nau mai, haere mai! It is again my privilege and honour to welcome you to the YANZ Impact report for 2023/24. We welcome you into the YANZ whānau, to take your place with us alongside Aotearoa's young creatives.

This year's report illustrates the changes that have occurred within YANZ and the changes felt within the New Zealand creative sector more broadly. Internally we have navigated the bittersweet transition of our Founder and first CEO Matthew Goldsworthy leaving the operational team and moving to focus his energies in the YANZ governance team, and the transition into the YANZ whānau of our new CEO Darius Martin-Baker. I want to acknowledge Matthew for his incredible work in the establishment of YANZ and his continued willingness to contribute to our ongoing governance sustainability. We also had to wave goodbye to Harrison and Matthew as they moved overseas, but we wish them well in their new adventures in the United Kingdom, even as we adjust to working with them in different time zones.

We welcomed Darius to the team late in 2023 and with his arrival the focus became the impactful and meaningful transition of YANZiness from Founder to CEO. A lot of learnings in that journey for all of us that will be used in our welcome for all new YANZ whānau members. I invite you reach out to Darius to connect and explore possible collaborations and activations that YANZ can deliver in your community or region.

In addition to welcoming Darius, we said farewell to Michelle Rahurahu-Scott (Ngati Raukawa, Ngati Tahu-Ngaati Whaoa, RangitAtne and Contae Dhún na nGall) the Te Kahui Project Manager. I want to acknowledge the huge impact Michelle had on the expansion of the Te Kahui project, including the launch of the first anthology produced from the project. We will welcome other new YANZ whānau throughout 2024.

As ambitious as always, the challenges facing the creative sector have prompted innovation and creative solutions to the funding squeeze and how we deployed our people resources across our range of impact activities and advocacy. The Trustees admire the strength of purpose and passion the operations team bring to all interactions with the YANZ community and how they lean into their personal skills and talents to deliver impact for young creatives. We are proud beyond measure of the collective achievements of you all. With new additions to the team we will continue to innovate and enthusiastically develop ideas to serve in meaningful youth-led ways.

YANZ is always future focussed, increasingly influential, and ambitious for young creatives in Aotearoa. We are entrepreneurial and passionate about our creative communities and focus on nurturing the mana of young creatives and advocates for their space and place. Now is the time to join with YANZ as a funder, investor or regular donor and be part of the changing creative landscape with us. We would love to hear from you!

Nāku noa,
Tania Jones
Chair, Youth Arts New Zealand

INTRO

Nau mai, haere mai e te whānau! I am excited to welcome you to the YANZ 2023-2024 Impact Report. The past year has been full of new blooms filling the greenhouse that is YANZ, while others have moved to different rohe in Aotearoa and across the world.

From Our CEO



YANZ has seen many changes in the past year. We adjusted as Matthew Goldsworthy, one of the founders and the previous CEO, moved out of the role, giving me the greatest opportunity to step into it. During this transition, we also said goodbye to the wonderful Michelle Rahurahu-Scott (Ngāti Raukawa, Ngāti Tahu-Ngāti Whaoa, Rangitāne, and Contae Dhún na nGall) as the Project Manager for Te Kāhui, our creative writing programme in corrections and community spaces. I would like to take this moment to mihi to Michelle for all the mahi she did with the Te Kāhui team, continuing the expansion of the programme into 14 of the 18 Corrections Facilities and into community spaces.

We then had another internal shift with Danielle Hao-Aickin, who moved out of the Project Lead role and into the newly created General Manager role. Danielle has grown so much in her new role and we are thrilled to have her in this position. The vacancy Danielle left has been filled by another outstanding individual, Chloe Bettina. As we navigate this new structure and onboard our new Project Lead, we will discover new perspectives, ways of thinking, and ways to improve our mahi even more!

The Event Pathways Programme (EPP), formerly known as the Music in Parks Internship, has reshaped from a 12-week programme to a one-weekend intensive. With increased spots for

attendees going from 6 to 12. These changes were based on feedback from previous iterations and observations of thoughts and ideas shared in the programme. This iteration shouldn't impact the weekly schedules of the rangatahi involved. We look forward to seeing how this change will be received by the attendees of this year's iteration.

We also had a fantastic opportunity with the FIFA Women's World Cup. We worked with them to involve rangatahi artists, mainly musicians and face painters, at the event. This provided over \$27,000 in artist fees for more than 40 rangatahi creatives. Despite the short turnaround time, we are proud to have supported these rangatahi into these opportunities!

Another proud moment from the past year was the launch of Taiohi Inside, an anthology of works from the Te Kāhui programme. With over 100 copies spread across Aotearoa, we are excited to see the thoughts and emotions this anthology will produce. We are thankful for the taiohi we work with to create this taonga. The Te Kāhui team is proud of this milestone, finding a way to have the stories of the taiohi inside Corrections Facilities heard across the motu.

As we grow and adapt to the needs of our community, our funders enable us to build strong foundations to continue this haerenga. Special thanks to the Tindall Foundation's Next Gen fund, the Lion Foundation, and The Lotteries Commission. Their support for our operations has been invaluable, and we are immensely grateful for the sustainability they provide YANZ. I would also like to acknowledge our project funders, whose support drives our initiatives to make a difference!

My experience in the CEO role so far has been extremely interesting, moving from Whangārei to Auckland and having my siblings and parents now two hours away, to the giant learning curve transitioning into an executive position in a

charitable organisation. This role has challenged me in ways I never thought possible. What keeps me going is knowing that our mahi helps. It makes a difference. This is what excites me for the future ahead. Despite the challenges this coming year may pose, I know that we will overcome any challenge that comes our way. We all can make a difference, no matter how big or small!

With all that said, ngā mihi! Ngā mihi nui! My greatest thanks go out to all who sail beside us and with us towards our vision: an Aotearoa where all rangatahi know their creative identity. Thank you for your support over the past years and for the years to come! We step into this coming year with conviction and drive to move forward into a brighter future. I hope you'll join us as we continue our quest to create the world we want to see.

Ngā mihi mahana,
Darius Martin-Baker (Ngapuhi nui tonu)



With so much love and gratitude,

Tēnā koutou,

As I reflect on the past year with YANZ, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for all that we have achieved together. It has been a year of intense yet grounded growth, and a bittersweet transition for me.

With the launch of our 2023-26 strategic plan in September came a renewed sense of YANZ's position and responsibilities as part of a wider ecosystem. Key to the development of this strategy was asking questions of, and listening intently to, young people across Aotearoa, with our team taking intentional time to reflect on our founding journey and shine a light on our path forward. Our strategic plan prioritises reflexive support for rangatahi across Aotearoa, enabling YANZ to grow intentionally in our efforts to meet young people where they are. It also places our commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi at the centre of how we move forward, alongside our core values that guide the way we journey alongside rangatahi. I am deeply proud of this piece of work, largely because of the fact that it was entirely community-guided, and leaves much room for responsiveness as we navigate volatile times ahead.

Around this time, I made the decision to step back from my CEO role at YANZ. After 5 years leading the organisation, I felt that the time was

right to create space for another young leader to lead YANZ into the future. After a rigorous recruitment process, we welcomed our new CEO Darius Martin-Baker (Ngāpuhi) into the YANZ whānau. A proud rangatahi Māori with a diverse background in Rongoa Māori, music, theatre, leadership, business and finance studies, Darius brings a wealth of experience and passion for the arts to YANZ.

Leaving the CEO role at YANZ was such a bittersweet decision. Nonprofit leadership can be a lonely journey, but with this group of incredible people, I never felt alone. The YANZ whānau has guided, supported, and inspired me through some incredibly difficult times. I have learned and grown so much and will forever be immensely grateful for being a part of this team. I am excited to remain involved as a trustee, so I won't be too far away. I have complete faith in our new CEO, Darius, and the wider YANZ team to continue growing our support for rangatahi across Aotearoa.

To all that have supported YANZ and myself over the past 5 years - thank you from the bottom of my heart. I can't wait to see how YANZ grows and evolves over the next few years, with the roots that have kept us grounded and those around us that keep us dreaming. May our collective sense of purpose always afford us the safety, vulnerability and inspiration to create meaningful change.



Matthew Goldsworthy
Founder and Outgoing CEO, YANZ

Our Impact

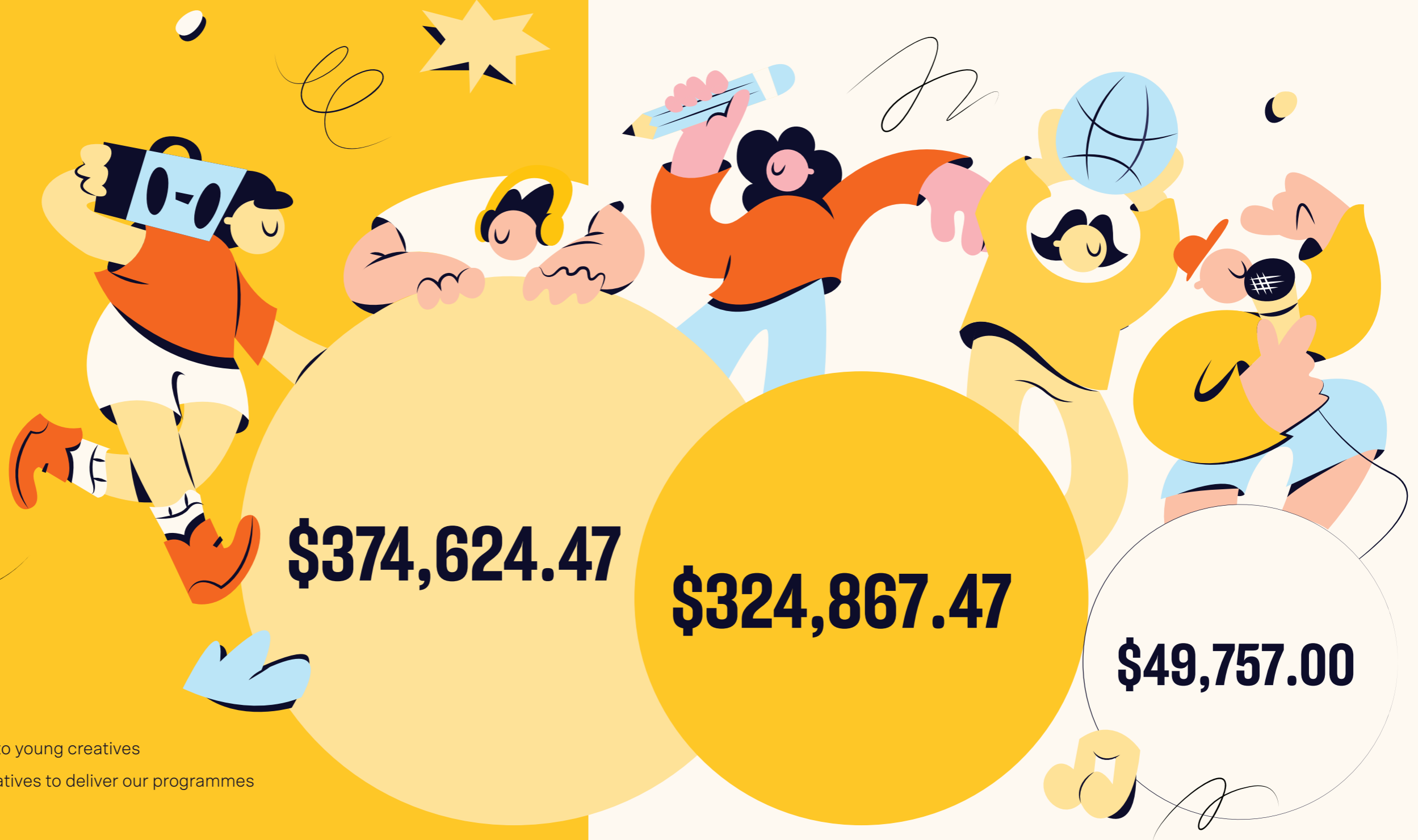
10000+

Rangatahi empowered across 200+ programmes (activations) and events

12

Organisations contributed monetarily towards our kaupapa





- In employment opportunities to young creatives
- For employment of young creatives to deliver our programmes
- In gig work opportunities

IMPACT IN NUMBERS

Since our inception



\$917,229.97

\$696,882.39

\$220,347.58

- In employment opportunities to young creatives
- For employment of young creatives to deliver our programmes
- In gig work opportunities

Te Kāhui



INTRO

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

With the support from Manatū Taonga Ministry of Culture and Heritage multi-year Creative Spaces funding and RFP funding through the Ministry of Justice, Te Kāhui have engaged with over 30 correctional 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 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.

Further, Te Kāhui has been entrusted to lead the Corban Estate Arts Centre WORD-UP wānanga series for 2024. This kaupapa connects West Auckland rangatahi to diverse modalities of accessible creative expression.

This year, Te Kāhui are excited to facilitate more frequent kanohi-ki-te-kanohi wānanga in Correctional Facilities as far south as Christchurch Women's Prison.



“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”



Event Pathways Programme 2023

INTRO

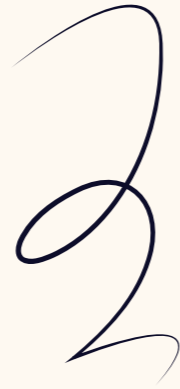
The Event Pathways Programme 2023 (EPP) is the third iteration of previously named 'Music In Parks Internships'. Held over the course of 10 weeks, 6 rangatahi were able to learn about the workings of the events industry, get hands-on building a stage with The Rock Factory, explore various venues across Tāmaki Makaurau, talk to established professionals within the sector, and the opportunity to help out in 2 Matariki events held across July.



Led by YANZ and Gavin Downie (Auckland Council Music in Parks Producer), EPP this year has been an incredible opportunity for rangatahi to come together and learn from industry professionals and make meaningful connections. This year's EPP alumni were also given opportunities to continue their experience in the events industry with mentorship from Gavin, and there have been 3 events so far that the participants have been able to work on.

The Events Pathways Programme is now evolving to become an annual weekend workshop for more rangatahi to come together and get hands-on experience putting on a live show.

This programme was possible thanks to the Pasifika Success team at Auckland Council.



QUOTES FROM INTERNS

“I gained a lot of new knowledge and skills that I will be able to apply in my real life, I also gained a lot of new friends and opportunities”

“I am hungry to thrive in this industry, where and how ever the journey may take me”



Creativision

CREATIVE
CAREER FAIR

On Saturday 20th May 2023 (during Youth Week), YANZ hosted a one-day career fair and creative showcase named Creativision.

Over the course of the day, rangatahi and tamariki heard from a variety of industry leaders in the arts while having the unique opportunity to network with creative organisations including University of Auckland, a Music Industry combined stall (like the New Zealand Music Commission and DRM) Youthline, and Depot Artspace.



Creativision was a space for open and forward-thinking kōrero about opportunities for young people in the creative industries across Aotearoa. Speakers centred vulnerability and community oriented mahi at the core of their discussions, prompting young people to consider “what do creative arts and social justice look like practically?” Throughout these conversations, both speakers and rangatahi explored visions for a future of creativity in Aotearoa that upholds manaakitanga and demonstrates the impact of youth-led learning environments.

The event was hosted at Shore Junction, a youth innovation hub in the heart of Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland designed to enable young people to accelerate their potential and embark on pathways to a successful future. Rangatahi had their own sense of community within the space and felt confident to move between Creativision and the ongoing events of Shore Junction. The venue also facilitated a Quiet Space/sensory room so visitors could have a safe space to relax, stim, or take time out.



Waiwharariki Anzac Square Live Performance

As part of the new activation on Hurstmere Road, Waiwharariki Anzac Square is part of a programme of urban regeneration in Takapuna. During New Zealand Music Month 2023, YANZ had the pleasure of putting on two group performances within this newly-created space.



Talent Booking

FIFA Women's World Cup



Youth Arts New Zealand is proud to have played a significant role in the cultural festivities of the recent FIFA Women's World Cup. At the request of the event organisers, we successfully programmed an impressive 50 hours of live music, showcasing the talents of our rangatahi musicians at the fan festival. These performances provided our young artists with a remarkable opportunity to engage in professional-level exposure, performing in front of an international audience during a major celebration of women's football.

In addition to our musical contributions, we demonstrated our flexibility and commitment to supporting creative experiences by also organising over 100 hours of face painting. This endeavour was mobilised at short notice, with our team efficiently

programming entire days of entertainment sometimes mere hours before they were needed.

Overall, our involvement in the World Cup facilitated over 180 hours of professional creative work experiences for our artists. Furthermore, we were able to distribute more than \$25,000 in artist fees directly to these talented rangatahi creatives, reinforcing our commitment to nurturing the arts and providing substantial career-enhancing opportunities for young individuals in the creative sector. Through these initiatives, Youth Arts New Zealand not only enhanced the festive atmosphere of the World Cup but also affirmed our dedication to the growth and visibility of young artists on the global stage.



The Sustainable Business Awards, which have been running for over 20 years, recognise and celebrate success in sustainability. This year's awards were held at the Auckland War Memorial Museum in November 2023, and YANZ was again able to provide the talented singer-songwriter Jemilah to perform.

HOLLY GRBICH
SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS
NETWORK

“I just wanted to reach out to pass over feedback that Jemilah was wonderful and performed beautifully at our event last night. It was an absolute pleasure having her on board.”

Sustainable Business Awards

Puketāpapa Manu Aute Kite Day & Matariki on the Waterfront



As part of Matariki Festival in July, Puketāpapa Manu Aute Kite Day celebrates the universal tradition of kite flying across Tāmaki Makaurau. This event was held on the summit of Mt Roskill, and involved talks from local board representatives, a school kapa haka, and performances from rangatahi māori musicians that YANZ had the pleasure of representing.

Two other rangatahi māori artists performed at Silo Park the following week as part of the all-ages event Matariki on the Waterfront alongside workshops, games, and Djs.

JOHN SUTTON
FRESH CONCEPT

“We had a great day on Saturday at Silo Park. Both artists were really well received by the public. Thanks for pulling this together for us.”



In 2023-24, the YANZ Youth Voice hui has continued to inform YANZ's development and growth as a youth-led kaupapa - albeit in new and exciting ways!



Youth Voice Hui

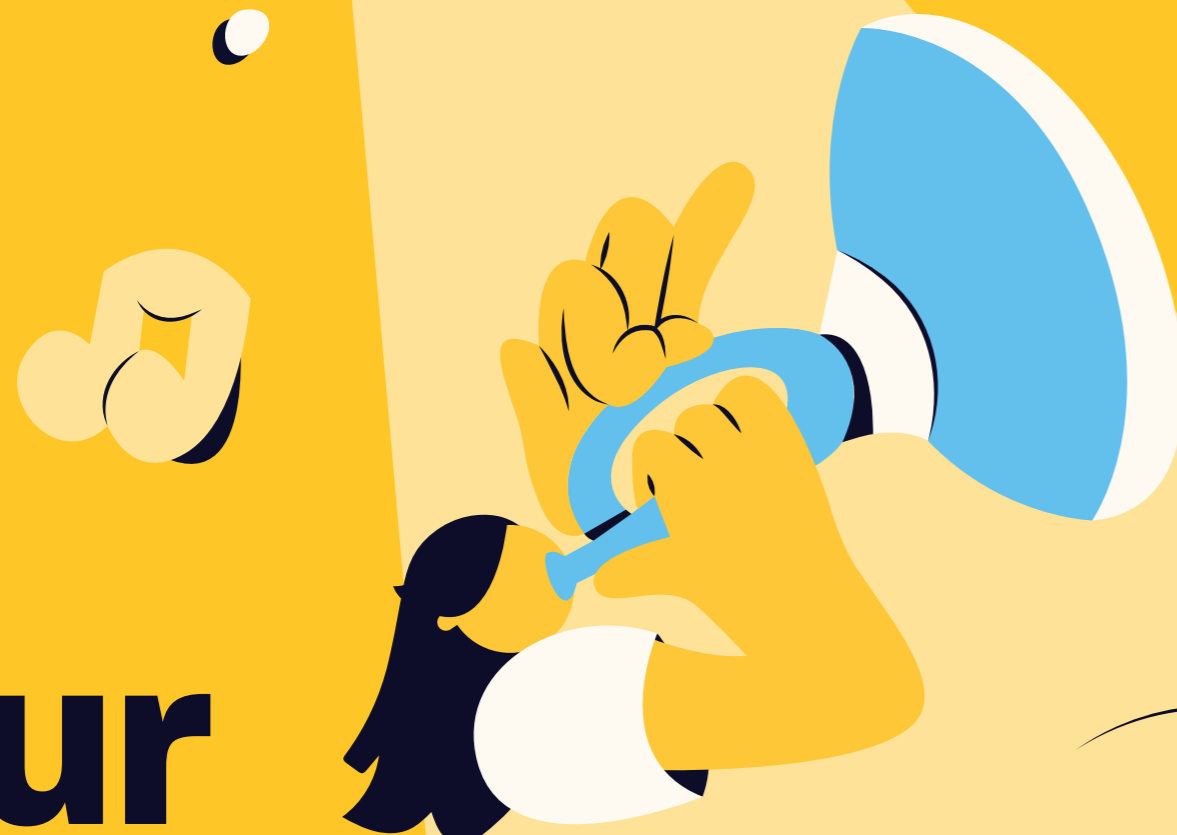
After a rich and far-reaching 2022, our monthly hui proceeded to collect even more insights from rangatahi from across the motu - all while prioritising the safety and active learning of those young people kind enough to engage. Participants, yet again, gifted us an intimate awareness of their journeys with their crafts, the arts sector, and their communities - along with the critical intersections between each. This year, however, detailed reflections were given even more room to be explored on account of our decision to remove fixed session topics. This allowed rangatahi to come to the table with their *own* questions and concerns, which we could then feed through to the broader YANZ whānau more directly than ever before.

Moving forward, it is clear to us that the values and possibilities that the Youth Voice Hui represent deserve to be *embedded* in the YANZ whānau - even more than just on fixed occasions.

As such, YANZ has carefully considered what it means to prioritise youth representation at the level of governance. For example, going forward, we have now made the commitment that at least 50% of any given YANZ governance team will be rangatahi. Simultaneously, we have also considered how the principles and foundations set by the YVH might be embedded in our operations. Here, our by-youth-for-youth approach to organisation reminds us that our operations team both belong to, and have their fingers on the pulse of, the communities we seek to listen to and engage. As a cornerstone to our practise as an organisation, this approach will ensure we remain in clear and reciprocal consultation with those rangatahi (and rangatahi spaces) we work alongside well into the future. In these senses, while our formal Youth Voice Hui have been discontinued for the time being, the lessons learnt from it remain alive and vital throughout the YANZ ecosystem."



Our Supporters

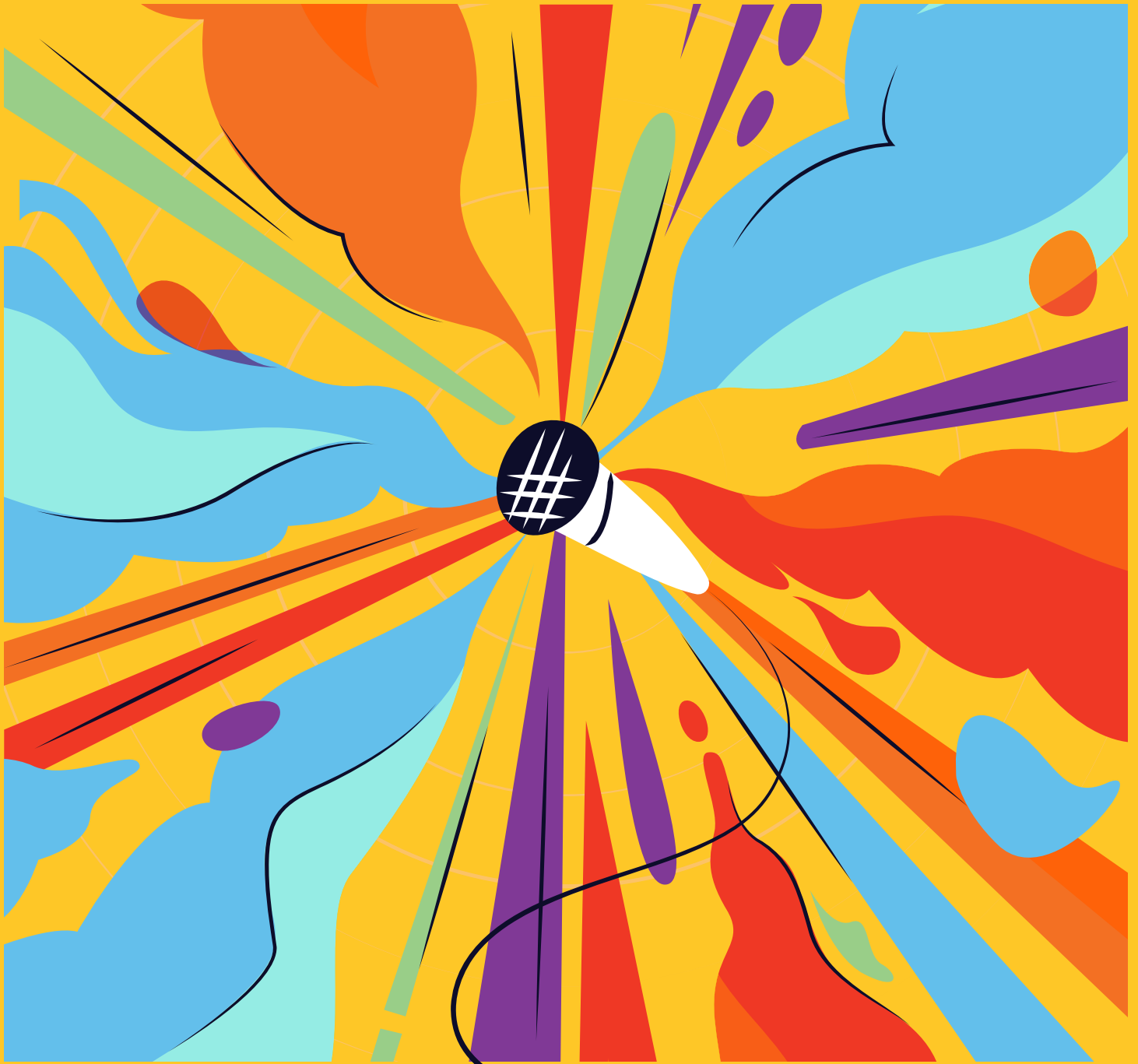


PRIMARY FUNDERS



PROJECT FUNDERS





ILLUSTRATIONS
& DESIGN BY

Alyssa Miller