

Auckland Pride Festival 2025  
Tētahi Ki Tētahi



1 February — 1 March  
Print Programme



# Nau Mai, Haere Mai

## Content

For full programme, events' details  
and updates, please go to:  
[aucklandpride.org.nz](http://aucklandpride.org.nz)

## Auckland Pride Festival 2025: Tētahi Ki Tētahi

Nau mai, haere mai—welcome to the 2025  
Auckland Pride Festival.

In that spirit, we honour our connection to place—Tāmaki Herengā Waka—thanking Matua Graham Tipene, Whaea Beronia Scott, Te Arepa Morehu, Otene Hopa, Kataraina Davis, and the wider whānau up at Takaparāwhau and their Iwi, Ngāti Whātua Ki Ōrākei, for their guidance and protection. We sit humbly within an ecology to our more than human relations. It is these ridgelines, valleys, foothills, mountains, beaches, and parks that inform our events and our sense of belonging. We hope our festival offers opportunities to weave our lives together to celebrate and reflect on what it means to be on this whenua.

This year, we invite you to dive deep into our Major Events programme—a carefully curated selection of experiences, each thoughtfully designed as a vibrant reflection of our theme **Tētahi Ki Tētahi**. Every artist, every programme, has been supported with great intention to highlight the power of connection and the affirmation: **we exist because we relate**.

Each week of the festival brings you a new event to explore. We begin with **Te Timatanga**, with 2025 **Te Timatanga** Resident Louie Zalk-Neale opening **Mana Tipua Tuku Iho** at Season Aotearoa Gallery. Over the following three weeks, **Pride Elevates** and Q Loft will bring you groundbreaking performances by Brady Peeti, Xin Ji, and Jonjon Tolovae.

Across February, the Pride festival will bring you more than 150 community events as a part of our Open Access Programme. This includes more than 70 events taking place in collaboration with Auckland Council's **Proud Centres** in libraries and community centres across the city. **Rangatahi Resident, Alex Watene**, will light our city up with his public art on the Auckland Harbour Bridge in Partnership with Vector Lights For Auckland Pride 2025.

To close our festival, **Waimahara** at

Myers Park promises a reimagined Pride March and rally that underscores our shared commitment to queer liberation, Tino Rangatiratanga and our place here through te Tiriti o Waitangi.

We're striving for deeper, and more sustainable relationships with communities and artists. Relationships built on reciprocity and manaakitanga. At Basement Theatre, **Pride Develops** creates a dedicated sanctuary giving artists the opportunity to refine their practice and ready their works for the stage in future years. All of our work across the festival this is supported by our incredible partners and sponsors who reflect these same values of reciprocity and manaakitanga, and have joined us in helping nurture this growing ecology of queer arts and community in Tāmaki Makaurau.

We recognise that the futures we seek cannot be built in a single festival, yet **Tētahi Ki Tētahi** gives us a clear invitation to move toward deeper collaboration. By valuing the distinct mana (strengths) of our collaborators, celebrating equity, and cherishing the specific gifts different people hold, we can come to understand our own place in the collective. This awareness paves the way for more nuanced and equitable partnerships—ones that will endure and evolve with us as we embrace the promise of equity, rather than uniformity.

This year's Programme is a deliberate and heartfelt expression of **Tētahi Ki Tētahi**, showcasing how our relationships and stories are woven together creating impactful worldbuilding towards empowerment and joy. May the 2025 Auckland Pride Festival remind us that these connections matter.

From Hāmiora, Vic, Blaise, Katty, Bunty, Amanda, Evelyn, and everyone else in the Auckland Pride whānau: Me akiaki whānau, tētahi ki tētahi—enjoy the festival!

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Karangahape Road is Auckland Pride's beating heart—a place where we champion community, remember our histories, and grow our futures. Here, we transform past challenges into present celebrations and future.



# Te Timatanga

1 - 9 February 2025  
Season Gallery  
Opening Hours:  
Mon - Fri (11AM - 4:30PM)  
Sat - Sun (11AM - 3PM)

Artist Talk & Activation  
2 February 2025  
10AM - 12PM  
Season Gallery  
FREE

## Te Timatanga 2025: *Mana Tipua Tuku Iho*

Tii koouka ki runga  
Tii koouka ki raro  
Kia herehere ai a Ranginui e tuu nei  
Kia herehere ai a Papatuaanuku e takoto nei  
Ko Haumietiketike kei te aapiti o te whenua  
Ko Rehua kei te aapiti o te rangi ki runga  
Purapura whetu  
Purapura whenua  
Kia tina!  
Tina!  
Hui e!  
Taaiki e!

Nā Kurt Komene-Smith



Ngati, 2025  
Neke Moa

From the 1st to 9th of February, join us at Season Gallery for another year of exploration and innovation in our **Te Timatanga** Residency. Established by Auckland Pride in 2022, this residency has been carving out unique learning environments for Tāngata Whenua to explore the many key intersections and impacts of queer identity, Māori identity, and urban migration in Tāmaki Makaurau (Auckland) and throughout Aotearoa.

Each year, **Te Timatanga** continues to build a growing body of work and research that deepens our understanding of tuakiritanga and te ira tangata—the many ways in which gender and identity manifest within Māori epistemologies and cultural practices today. The residency is a space where diverse toi Māori (inter-artistic) practices are prioritised as queer philosophies, creating a rich canon of inquiry within Auckland Pride that continues to evolve over time. Every artist pairing brings something new, contributing to a collective exploration of Māori philosophy and queer theory. Through the residency, each year's opening event adds to this dynamic ongoing dialogue.

Prioritising inter-arts practices, Te Timatanga is a direct response to the erasure of Māori gender, sexuality, and sex characteristics caused by settler colonialism. It's more than just acknowledging history—it's about actively reinstating Māori knowledge and frameworks into queer spaces through the Auckland Pride Festival annually. Through a foundation grounded in the methodologies of *Calling Forth Our Past* *Citing Our Futures* (Burgess, Cormack, Reid, 2021), Te Timatanga explores the complexities of Māori identity, through whanaungatanga (relationship-building). The tuakana-teina model is key here. It allows emerging artists (teina) to engage in a deeply personal exchange of knowledge with their mentors (tuakana), developing both their artistic skills and their capacity to navigate cultural and queer identities in their work. This is a space where artists claim motuhaketanga (self-determination) through knowledge systems that prioritise identity and belonging.

One profound impact from the result of our 2024 **Te Timatanga** residency, was our capacity to celebrate the interconnectedness of cosmological narratives across Te-Moana-Nui-a-Kiwa, lay bare through the shared lived experience and intimate whanaungatanga of Rosanna Raymond and Pounamu Rurawhe and made real at the Civic Wintergarden. These creation stories were explored in an attempt to remember Muri-Ranga-Whenua the Grandmother of Māui and Hina. In this slow but intentional whakawhanaungatanga, we sought to remember our Ancestress, to meet her, to learn from her and to love ourselves as extensions of her. Together, they worked to remember Muri-Ranga-Whenua—not just as an ancestor but as a place. And, as a result of their opening event they reconnected Takatāpui and Rainbow Communities with our collective past, embracing our ancestors and their teachings on sovereignty, and illuminating the interconnectedness of the divine, the natural world, and humanity.

For 2025, Auckland Pride is honoured to welcome Louie Zalk-Neale (Ngāi Te Rangi, Pākehā) as the Te Timatanga resident for Tētahi Ki Tētahi. Zalk-Neale is a takatāpui artist whose work harnesses the metamorphic power of body adornment within ceremonial performance, channeling queer visions from past and future into the present. At the heart of Zalk-Neale's mahi toi is the twisting of taura tī kōuka (cabbage tree fibre rope), a central pou that speaks to the shifting, transformative power of gender. Their practice integrates discarded plastic and waste materials into intricate adornments and sculptural objects, which are used in site specific responses to explore the intersections of queerness, whakapapa, and environmental sustainability. Zalk-Neale's works are more than materials—they are vessels that carry the transformative forces embedded in Māori pūrākau, reinforcing the affirmation that queerness is an indicator of healthy natural and cultural systems.

Throughout their residency, Zalk-Neale's creative journey has been shaped and nurtured by the guidance of Neke Moa. Moa's practice is grounded in the principles of hauora, using materials gifted by te taiao to weave together customary and contemporary processes. Her work reawakens mātauranga and pūrākau, making them newly accessible to the present. With works held in collections across Aotearoa and beyond, Moa has gained international acclaim, including the prestigious Herbert Hofmann Prize in 2023.

This year Louie and Neke invite you to be part of another transformative journey. Join us from February 1st to 9th at Season Gallery as we celebrate the 2025 Te Timatanga Residency—**Mana Tipua Tuku Iho**.

In **Mana Tipua Tuku Iho**, Zalk-Neale's work channels these ideas, exploring how the intersections of gender, whakapapa, and environmental sustainability speak

to the ways we, too, are shaped and reshaped through the course of our lives. How do we grow, like the Tīkouka, into our full selves? How do we, like pounamu, slowly emerge from the roughness of the environments we may be formed in but ultimately become helped along by the creators in our lives who reveal our true beauty? And how do we, like driftwood, find meaning in the fluidity of our identity, our path never fixed but always transforming with the tide?

With guidance from Neke Moa, Zalk-Neale's creative journey reflects the embodied knowing of Mana Tipua, exploring the transformative power of identity told in many stories of our Tipuna, of our Taniwha, of our Kaitiaki, of our Atua. Together, they ask us to consider how our own processes of change—our own transfiguration—are intimately connected to the natural world around us, and how these transformations help us navigate, embrace, and celebrate our queer selves.

Don't miss the chance to experience these profound transformations at **Mana Tipua Tuku Iho**. This is a space for reflection, celebration, and transformation for one week only—so be sure to attend and understand how taonga and identity come together as living, breathing explorations of who we are, where we come from, and the future we are creating together.

We look forward to welcoming you!



Neke Moa



Louie Zalk-Neale



Whai, 2025  
Louie Zalk-Neale

Special thanks to the Tindall Foundation, Skycity Trust and Creative New Zealand Internship and Residency Fund for making **Te Timatanga** the permanent whakatūwhera of the Auckland Pride Festival.

# Pride Elevates

**Pride Elevates** continues to be a cornerstone of the Auckland Pride Festival. The program is designed to support the creative journeys of artists by providing a dynamic platform that goes beyond just showcasing work. We aim to empower artists to articulate how their involvement in Pride has facilitated their growth; both in their practices and within the broader context of queer arts. Each of the works speaks to this personal and artistic development, with each artist using Pride as a space for exploration, challenge, and connection.

This year, we are excited to bring you *What Happened to Mary Anne?* by Brady Peeti, *Body Story* by Xin Ji, and *Mā* by Jonjon Tolovae. In partnership with Q Theatre, where the Q Theatre Loft will be the home of three back-to-back five night seasons of Pride Elevates.

In 2025, our approach is focused on connecting the festival to a broader network of entanglements through our Expressions of Interest (EOI) process. This initiative allows us to invite artists from across Tāmaki Makaurau to present their works, ensuring that Pride Elevates remains responsive to the evolving landscape of queer art and performance in this city.

We believe in the creative potential of these artists and have been intentional in selecting those who can build rigorous excellent work within the intimate context of Pride Elevates. These works are not about overextending or exhausting ourselves to create something “grand”; instead, they focus on the core of each artist’s talent, offering a conversation that is profound, raw, and true. We believe that Pride Elevates provides a gentle but meaningful solution to the often-dehydrated arts ecology, offering the support and resources necessary to foster creative growth. It serves as a springboard for works that we know can grow and tour; each of these works have

significant potential to nourish queer ecologies across the country and elevate Auckland story-telling on a global stage, reaching even broader audiences in the future – cementing Auckland Pride as a destination festival.

The artists have been provided with free venue hire with a standard festival rig, an operator, production manager and an additional \$10,000 in material costs, offering the necessary support to create these deeply personal and impactful works. Following their seasons, the artists will receive a majority of the box office proceeds providing a rare opportunity for them to be supported financially in the creative development of their work. This is a rare opportunity within a festival model and shows that Auckland Pride is committed to ensuring that artists are supported in their creative processes to develop their works and are remunerated fairly for their cultural contributions to our identity as a city.

Each of these works is deeply intimate in nature—two are solo performances, and one is a triple-hander—allowing for close engagement with audiences at Q Theatre Loft. We believe that these intimate contexts provide the perfect setting for these artists to showcase the core of their talents through the theme *Tētai Ki Tētahi*, and reflect the creative excellence of Takatāpui and Rainbow communities.

**Brady Peeti’s *What Happened to Mary Anne?*** exemplifies how Pride Elevates fosters growth. This work marks Brady’s first solo show, a significant milestone in her artistic career. Through the Elevates Programme, Brady has had the opportunity to reflect on her identity as a Whakawahine and explore these complexities through rock and roll as a powerful tool for joy. The programme has provided her with the support and resources to bring her bold, unapologetic voice to the stage, and the work reflects the professional confidence and clarity that Brady has developed as part of her journey.

**Xin Ji’s *Body Story*** similarly reflects an evolution in artistic practice. As a queer migrant artist, Xin has used Pride Elevates to explore the relationship between body, space, and identity, offering a performance that not only speaks to his personal experiences but also engages with universal themes of self-discovery and belonging. Through this work, Xin has grown as a story-teller, speaking into queer migrant experiences, creating a deeply reflective performance that challenges personal, cultural and spatial boundaries. Auckland Pride is honoured to work with Xin as an internationally renowned dancer and choreographer, whose work is grounded in ensemble practice. Offering a platform to explore physical theatre in his first solo work on stage, Pride Elevates has supported Xin to develop a new approach to his art, marking a pivotal moment in his artistic growth.

**Jonjon Tolovae’s *Mā*** speaks to a profound personal and professional journey that has been nurtured through the Pride Elevates Programme. The autobiographical nature of the work allows Jonjon to explore fa’afafine identity and motherhood in a deeply intimate way, while also reflecting on the broader significance of family, both chosen and traditional. The Elevates Programme has given Jonjon the space and resources to expand this work into a powerful exploration of care and resilience, strengthening both her artistic practice and her role within the community.

So, get ready for an unforgettable experience at Q Theatre Loft! The Pride Elevates 2025 works are not just performances—they are bold, transformative journeys that will captivate and inspire. Each show represents the extraordinary growth and evolution of these incredible local artists, whose stories push the boundaries of queer art and performance in Aotearoa. This is your chance to witness intimate, powerful performances that speak to the heart of identity, joy, resilience, and belonging. Don’t miss out on these groundbreaking works—buy a season pass and immerse yourself in every thrilling, raw moment. By supporting these artists, you’re not only able to enjoy extraordinary theatre, but also help elevate local talent to the world stage.

We thank Auckland Council Regional Event Fund, Foundation North, and Q Theatre for their invaluable support in making this initiative possible.



## Pride Elevates Season Pass

A special deal for fans who want to attend all three Elevates Shows across all three weeks. The Season Pass includes: 3 tickets, one per show (**What Happened to Mary-Anne?**, **Body Story** and **Mā**), across all three weeks for the discounted price of \$100.

# What Happened to Mary-Anne?

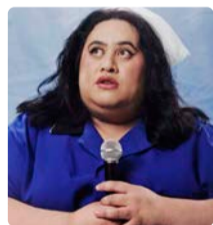
Brady Peeti

11 - 15 February 2025  
7 - 8PM  
Q Theatre Loft  
Ticket Price: \$20 - \$40

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**What Happened to Mary-Anne?** is the story of trans woman Mary-Anne and her insatiable adoration for the power of rock. It is electric! It is dramatic! It is loud and sometimes obnoxious! It is dirty and vulgar and everything you want at a rock and roll concert AND MORE!!! Featuring the musical stylings from rock and roll legends throughout history such as Stevie Nicks and Kiss! Audiences will be welcomed to come and fulfil their rock star fantasy as they get caught in Mary-Anne's web.

Mary-Anne has a lot on her plate. She is the youngest of 8 adult siblings, a night nurse, caretaker of her bid ridden father and a god fearing trans woman. Her ultra conservative siblings tolerate her because she runs around for the family, babysits the children, tends to her father's every need and never complains. However, the family are in for a surprise when they find out that Mary-Anne rocks out to Led Zeppelin at night, belting secular music while her ailing father sleeps. They'll be even more stunned when they find out she sings at the Pig Bucket every night. But they'll never forgive her when they find out she's been dragging their father to a dirty dive bar at night to do so... Watch as Mary-Anne slowly unravels her truth about how she lost herself only to find herself once again.



**Brady Peeti** (Te Āti Haunui-a-Pāpārangī, Ngāti Maniapoto), a pioneering, award-winning actress. She has shattered stereotypes as the first trans actress to take a leading role in the hit musical; Jekyll & Hyde. Graduating from the National Academy of Singing and Dramatic Art, Brady's remarkable talent shines on both stage and screen. Her theatre credits include unforgettable performances in Fever: Return of the Ula, Black Ties, Astroman, The Wizard of Otāhuhu, and Larger Than Life. Notably, she wowed audiences as Lucy Harris in the musical Jekyll & Hyde, and most recently the wonderful show Kōpū at Te Pou, which was a celebration of wāhinetanga, a hugely successful show, Kōpū pays tribute to the wāhine whose voices should matter the most on the marae; our nannies, mothers, and aunties.

Brady's versatility is evident in her portrayal of the man-eating plant Audrey II in Little Shop of Horrors at Christchurch's Court Theatre, a role usually assigned to a puppeteer.

Beyond the stage, Brady has left her mark on television with appearances in the Māori bilingual web series Ahikāroa, her incredible role in Mika's, GURL and most notably the emotional and necessary conversations of TransGenerations.

### Buy Tickets



### Show Credits

**Director:** Benjamin Kilby-Henson  
**Producer:** Brady Peeti and Te Huamanuka Luiten-Apirana  
**Musical Director:** Bray Jeffrey  
**Production and Stage Manager:** Teiaro Taikato  
**Designer:** Bekky Boyce  
**Audio Engineer:** Paige Pomana  
**The Grotesque:** Māia Huia, Bray Jeffrey and Rhoihil Kishore

### Special Thanks

**Photographer:** Frances Carter  
**Hair and Make Up Artist:** Shane Cyrus

### Content Warnings

Show contains offensive language, use of drugs and alcohol, haze, strobe, and adult themes.



# WHAT HAPPENED TO Mary-Anne?

Q THEATRE LOFT

11 - 15 FEBRUARY 2025

WRITTEN AND PERFORMED BY

# BRADY PEETI

FEATURING YOUR FAVOURITE ROCK CLASSICS OF THE 60s, 70s, 80s AND 90s

PRODUCED BY  
TE HUAMANUKA  
LUITEN-APIRANA

DIRECTED BY  
BENJAMIN  
KILBY-HENSON

MUSICAL  
DIRECTED BY  
BRAY JEFFREY

FEATURING  
**THE GROTESQUE**  
MAIA HUIA  
BRAY JEFFREY  
RHOHIL KISHORE



Pride Elevates Presents

# Body Story

Xin Ji

18 - 22 February 2025

7 - 8PM

Q Theatre Loft

Ticket Price: \$20 - \$40

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When was the last time your body felt happy? When did it feel the most tense? How many injuries has your body sustained? Under what circumstances have you pushed it to its limits?

*The successful body. The authoritarian body. The sweaty body. The becoming body. The complete body. The eternal body. The digital body. The ancestral body. The hidden body.*

What does your body remember?

In this debut solo work by dance artist Xin Ji, the story of his body unravels through moments where the emotional and physical collide. Uncertainty, recklessness and euphoria slide into an intimate personal narrative — offering ways to consider our bodies as vehicles for resistance and alchemy.



From the age of eight, **Xin Ji** knew he wanted to be a dancer. Fortunately, Xin was able to take dance lessons at school on Saturday mornings. At the age of 11 he auditioned for the Beijing Dance Academy and spent the next five years training in Chinese Classical Ballet.

Following graduation, Xin was offered a position in Japan with Shiki Theatre Company performing in well-known, including the role as Mr. Mistoffelees in Cats. After five years of touring, Xin wanted to develop his skills in Contemporary Dance and chose to study at UNITEC in Auckland. During this time Xin was invited to perform at The World of Wearable Art in Wellington. He was chosen to represent UNITEC in China, performing a work created by Michael Parmenter for the 60th anniversary of the Beijing Dance Academy.

After Xin graduated from UNITEC he worked with leading contemporary dance companies including Footnote, Okareka, Muscle Mouth, Movement of The Human and Borderline Arts Ensemble. Working with these leading dance companies enabled him to take part in the Wellington and Auckland Fringe Festivals, the Performance Arcade Festival, the Nelson Arts Festival, the Wellington Arts Festival and the Auckland Art Festival. Since 2015 Xin has worked with The New Zealand Dance Company with tours to Germany, Holland, France, United Kingdom, Belgium, Luxembourg and Canada.

### Buy Tickets



### Show Credits

**Dramaturg:** Nathan Joe  
**Music Director:** Alistair Deverick  
**Costume Design:** Steven Junil Park (6x4)  
**Lighting Design:** Rowan Pierce  
**Set Design:** Talia Pua  
**AV Design:** Qianye and Qianhe Lin  
**Producer:** Rosabel Tan  
**Assistant Producer:** Pennie Chang  
**Production Manager:** Emmanuel Reynaud

### Special Thanks

**Photographer:** Frances Carter

### Content Warnings

Show contains adult themes.

PRIDE ELEVATES PRESENTS

# 身体物语 BODY STORY



Q  
THEATRE  
LOFT

18 - 22  
FEBRUARY  
2025

**Dramaturg** Nathan Joe · **Music Director** Alistair Deverick  
**Costume Design** Steven Junil Park (6x4) · **Lighting Design** Rowan Pierce  
**Set Design** Talia Pua · **AV Design** Qianye and Qianhe Lin · **Producer** Rosabel Tan  
**Assistant Producer** Pennie Chang · **Production Manager** Emmanuel Reynaud

季鑫  
XIN JI



# Mā

Jonjon Tolovae

25 February - 1 March 2025  
8 - 9PM  
Q Theatre Loft  
Ticket Price: \$20 - \$40

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**Mā** is a poignant devised theatre and performance poetry work that delves into themes of chosen family, motherhood, and identity. This triple hander is set against the backdrop of diasporic Samoan life, the performance reflects on the intersectionality of queer identity and the nurturing essence of motherhood. "Mā" is both a tribute to the artist's own mother and a powerful expression of chosen family bonds within the queer community, embracing Aiga filifiliga (Chosen Family) as central to its narrative.

This project is a consolidative ode of affirmation to all trans fa'afafine living within the diaspora context, politics and place of Aotearoa. It highlights the relation in all our shared experiences and existences between the dualities of traditional families and chosen families, how these two structures co-exist together and from that how we foster fruitful connection between the two displayed through art.



**Jonjon Tolovae** is a founding member and resident costume designer of No.3 Roskill Theatre, contributing to costume design, performance, and writing since 2020. She has designed costumes for their last four shows and began her arts career in 2019 with the award-winning Odd Daphne by the Odd Fam collective. Her costume credits include assisting on Dawn Raids by Oscar Kightley in its Auckland Theatre Company/ASB Waterfront Theatre season (2022) and the Wellington Opera House season (2024), and assisting Lindah Lepou on Aiga by Lusi Faiva (Touch Compass) for the 2024 Auckland Arts Festival.

A prominent figure in the LGBTQIA+/MVPFAFF+ arts scene, Jonjon launched Lalaga Nuanua – Weaving Rainbows during Auckland Pride 2024, showcasing brown queer artists through a script reading of her work, tapa-making workshops, and ongoing Katas and Kava sessions. She is also an active commentator, chanter, and MC in the Aotearoa Ballroom scene.

### Buy Tickets



### Show Credits

**Director/Performer:** Jonjon Tolovae  
**Producer:** Kasi Valu  
**Music Director/Performer:** Lijah Mavaega  
**Performer:** Nikeidrian Lologa - Peters  
**Cultural Advisor:** Jake Tupu  
**Costume Designer:** Sammy Salsa  
**Dramaturg:** Joshua Iosefo

### Special Thanks

**Photographer:** Frances Carter  
**Hair Artist:** Mary Chinwendu Moniola Adeosun  
**Make Up Artist:** Shane Cyrus



PRIDE ELEVATES PRESENTS  
JONJON TOLOVAE

# Mā

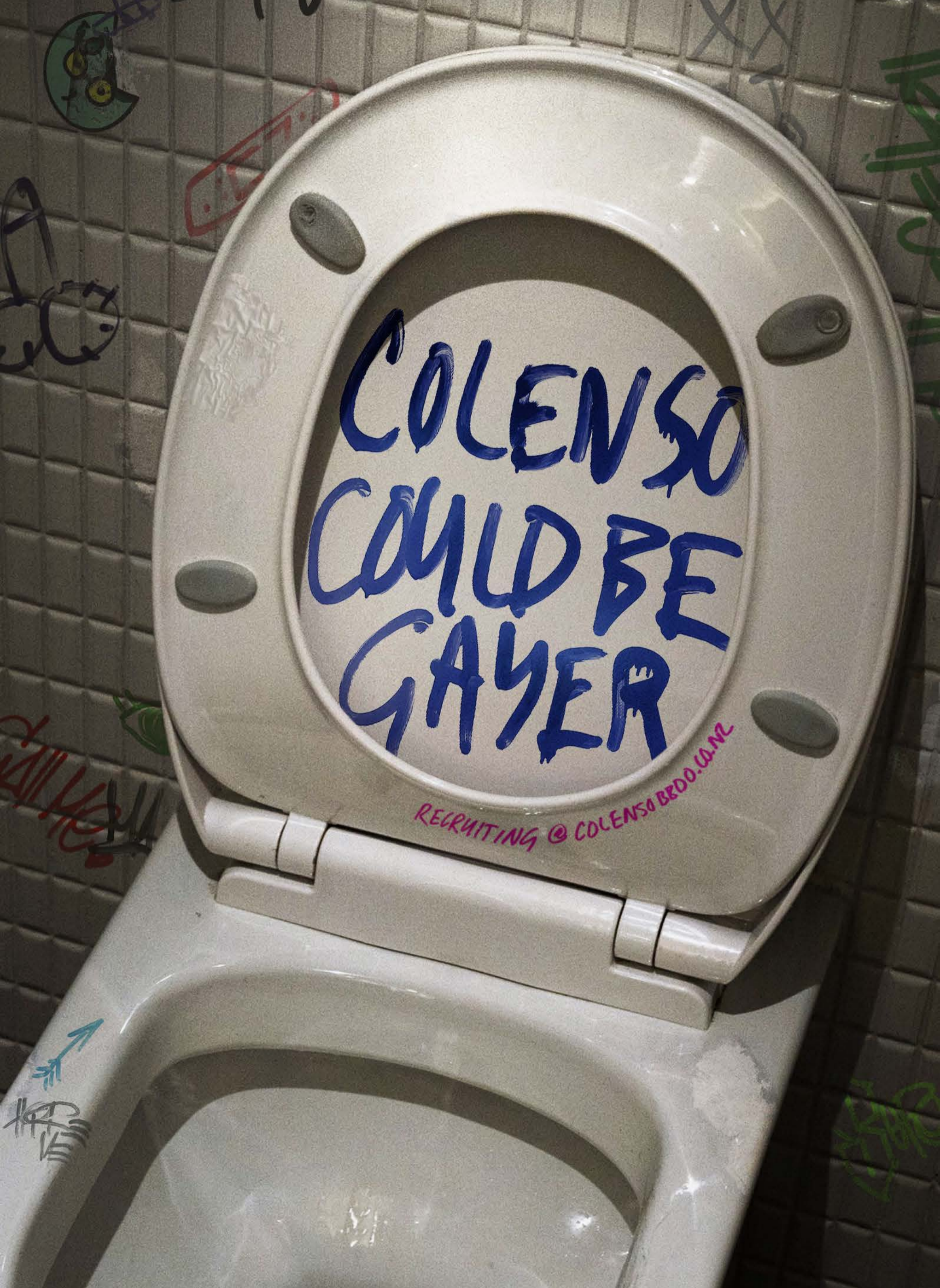
Q Theatre Loft | 25 February - 1 March 2025



PRODUCER KASI VALU  
MUSIC DIRECTOR/PERFORMER LIJAH MAVAEAGA | PERFORMER NIKEIDRIAN LOLOGA - PETERS  
CULTURAL ADVISOR JAKE TUPU | COSTUME DESIGNER SAMMY SALSA | DRAMATURG JOSHUA IOSEFO







peaches  
& cream

Bring this voucher in-store for a  
30% discount on any toys and  
clothing during February 2025.

\*Not available online. Only for use with toy and clothing  
purchases. Not for use with any other discounts.

peaches  
& cream

30% off   
for Pride!

Celebrate Pride with 30% off  
all toys and clothing in-store  
for the entire Pride Month!

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Karangahape Rd, Glenfield, Henderson, Manukau, Papakura,  
Hamilton, Petone, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin.



peaches and cream adult

# Pride Empowerment

Auckland Pride is proud to re-introduce the **Pride Empowerment** initiative—a celebration of community, resilience, and the transformative power of collective action during Pride Month. This initiative is a commitment to uplifting the many unique communities within our Kāhui Takatāpui and Rainbow Communities, enabling them to tell their stories, amplify their contributions, and foster a profound sense of belonging within our broader whānau.

As a membership organisation, we understand the power of a collective journey, and together, we will continue to build a Pride Month that honours the self-determination of artist-run spaces, groups and collectives. Pride Empowerment acknowledges how collective practice and artists-run spaces are our lifeblood. We recognise and celebrate the vital role shared visions and collective action play in nourishing our sense of self and belonging, both within the city, throughout the region but more importantly within our own neighbourhoods.

**Pride Empowerment** now places a stronger emphasis on collective action, recognising that our strength lies in the mobilisation and activation of art makers within groups and collectives that contribute to rainbow advocacy and the arts ecology year round. To better support these vital groups, we are increasing the maximum grant amount from \$2,000 to \$5,000. This increase is a testament to our belief in the power of collective initiatives and their ability to drive positive change within our communities. This year, we are proud to support ten Pride Empowerment projects across Auckland Festival.

## Elder Queers Give Advice



## Elder Queers Give Advice

*Elder Queers Give Advice* is back! As always, this is a free activity for rainbow people of all ages. A group of rainbow kaitiaki will be available to kōrero every weekend of February, at different locations across Tāmaki Makaurau. Sit back, relax, and soak up the mātauranga of your elders.

Whether you want to ask about something specific, be regaled with an outrageous anecdote, or maybe you've just never met an older rainbow person before - whatever your vibe, swing by the cosy lounge space and soak up some wisdom and have a giggle and a yarn with an Elder Queer! We can't wait to kōrero with you!

Panel / Korero or Talanoa

- 2 Feb, 10AM - 4PM  
 New Lynn War Memorial Library
- 8 Feb, 9:30AM - 3:30PM  
 Te Oro
- 16 Feb, 12PM - 7PM  
 Big Gay Out
- 22 Feb, 10AM - 4PM  
 Ellen Melville Centre
- FREE / RSVP Required

## Aunty's House x Migrant Maharanis



## Beyond Taboos: Representing Us

*Beyond Taboos: Representing Us* pays tribute to that legacy while showcasing the resilience and vibrant joy of South Asian queer communities today.

Proudly presented by Aunty's House in collaboration with Migrant Maharanis, this striking portrait exhibition highlights six queer South Asian creatives in Aotearoa. Their unique identities come to life through powerful storytelling and layered digital collages by Migrant Maharanis.

Hosted in Satya Chai Lounge, a beloved Indian community hub in Sandringham, Tāmaki Makaurau. Running throughout Pride Month in February 2025, this exhibition reclaims cultural pride and connection, offering a space to explore the intersections of queerness and South Asian identity.

Exhibition | Community | Panel / Korero or Talanoa

- 4 - 25 Feb  
Launch Party: 4 Feb, 6 - 9PM  
 Satya Chai Lounge
- Q&A: TBC  
 Satya Chai Lounge
- FREE

Partner: FOUNDATION NORTH

## Samesame But Different



## Queer Storytime: 'Rere Atu Taku Poi! / Let My Poi Fly!' with Tangaroa Paul

Tangaroa Paul reads their incredible 2020 book for children of all ages, *Rere Atu Taku Poi! / Let My Poi Fly!*

A beautiful story about gender fluidity in a school setting. Tangaroa (Te Whare Tawhito o Muriwhenua), is a poi expert, a lecturer at AUT, and was the first non-binary person to perform in the poi section at Te Matatini.

This is a free event as part of the Samesame But Different literary festival, and will include a Q&A with the author.

Literature | Panel / Korero or Talanoa

- 15 Feb, 10 - 11AM  
 Ellen Melville Centre  
 FREE

## Zed Xu 榛子瞬



## sewn

*sewn* is an experimental performance by multidisciplinary artist Zed Xu 榛子瞬 as a contemplation on occupying an afab body within and without the gender binary, manifested through the sound of Guzheng 古筝, performed in front of a live audience during Auckland Pride 2025.

Please be aware the show is being recorded for future display

Performing Arts, Cabaret & Comedy | Exhibition

- 18 Feb, 6 - 7PM  
 Elam Projectspace Gallery  
 FREE

## Jason Parker



## Little Gay In

*Little Gay In with Jason Parker* is a vibrant celebration of queer musical talent, showcasing the incredible artistry within our community. In 2025 the event expands to three exciting nights, each offering a unique experience.

The first two nights will take place in The Loft at The Basement Theatre, featuring an intimate live podcast hosted by the charismatic Jason Parker. These sessions will include one-hour interviews with rising queer icons Katie-Lee and Tyrun, blended with captivating live music performances.

On the final night, the event moves downstairs to the Theater of The Basement, where all the featured artists will take the stage to showcase their exceptional talent in a thrilling grand finale.

Music / Party | Performing Arts, Cabaret & Comedy

17 19 Feb, 8:30PM (ft. Katie-Lee)  
20 Feb, 8:30PM (ft. Tyrun)  
21 Feb, 10PM (TBC)

Basement Theatre  
Choose What You Pay  
Ticket Link:



## Proud Voices On Screen



## Proud Voices On Screen

Come along to our fourth annual Proud Voices On Screen event at Auckland Pride Festival - a day of short films, panel discussions and networking. Celebrate queer, lgbtqi+, takatāpui & rainbow voices in the Aotearoa screen industry. Meet like-minded people, watch great films and hear from queer filmmakers about their recent projects. All levels of filmmaking experience are welcome.

Panel / Korero or Talanoa

17 22 Feb, 10:30AM - 5PM

The Button Factory  
FREE  
RSVP Here:



## NYMPHO



## NYMPHO Pride 2025

It's summer BABYYYYY! For Auckland Pride 2025, we're hosting our first day-to-night foray. Soak in the rays and party til the sun goes down. LINEUP TBA 🌈

NYMPHO is a dance-focused queer club night with visual and performance art styles woven into high energy DJ sets. We strive to create a safe, inclusive and transcendent club experience which celebrates gender euphoria, body positivity and sexual liberation. Our kaupapa of lifting up marginalised communities extends from our audience and lineups to our musical philosophies - with genre-diverse sets centred around QBIPOC rooted genres such as techno, house and emergent queer sounds. As well as spotlighting the best of Aotearoa's diverse queer talent, NYMPHO has brought international icons to our long white cloud, including horsegirL, Doss, TAAHLIAH, Ninajirachi, Kevin Aviance, MikeQ, Pxssy Palace, Jasmine Infiniti, Estoc and DJ G2G.

We give thanks to Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei as mana whenua of Te Ara o Karangahape and acknowledge that Māori sovereignty was never ceded. Toitū te Tiriti.

Concession tickets are available, and if you can't afford a ticket you can get in touch with us via Instagram. No nymphs left behind!

Music / Party

17 22 Feb, 8PM - 4AM  
Raynham Park & Neck of the Woods  
FREE  
\$25 - \$30



## Ethnic Rainbow Alliance



## Q Disk Golf

*Q Disk Golf: A Day of Visibility, Activation, and Collaboration* by Ethnic Rainbow Alliance

Join us for a community event in the park that celebrates the power of movement, outdoor activities, and togetherness. As part of our vision of Visibility, Activation, and Collaboration, we invite community members to participate in a fun-filled day of Disk Golf

We understand that while open spaces and outdoor activities are vital to mental health, some members of our community find them challenging. With this event, we aim to create an inclusive and welcoming environment for everyone, offering a supportive "umbrella" for those who wish to take part.

The event will feature:

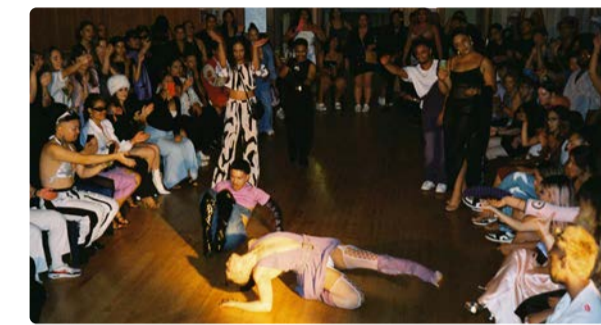
- A small coffee truck available for 4 hours, serving up delicious drinks to keep you energized.
- Instructors and disks provided for those who want to try Disk Golf, with guidance from expert trainers.
- Support from the Disk Shop, who are helping us make this event a success with course guidance and professional trainers.
- Whether you're new to Disk Golf or a seasoned player, come enjoy a day of fun, connection, and the great outdoors with us! It's a dog friendly park.

Community | Sport

17 23 Feb, 10AM - 2PM  
Henderson Park  
FREE  
RSVP Here:



## House of Dawn



## DUSK TILL DAWN: A Vogue Night

From Dusk till Dawn, cxnt is the uniform!

Experience the flow of earthly time at *Dusk Till Dawn: A Vogue Night*. Guided by surrounding skies, walkers will bring it in effects that evoke shining day to glistening night, making this immersive ballroom event one not to miss.

House of Dawn's vision is to see Aotearoa's ballroom scene thrive by fostering a safe space that honours the legacy of the MVPFAFF+ people who pioneered ballroom here, and the Black and Latinx trans women who originated ballroom in the United States.

Ballroom

17 1 Mar, 9PM Till Dawn  
Raynham Park  
General Admission: \$25  
Ballroom Community & Walkers: \$15  
Femme Queens: FREE  
Ticket Link TBC

## House of IMAN



## Girls, Go Get 'Em

Come along to *Girls, Go Get 'Em*, a warm and supportive workshop where we're here to help you step into the workforce with confidence and pride. Led by Mother Meghan IMAN, a proud Māori trans woman with a background in HR and Recruitment, we'll walk you through everything from creating a CV that stands out to feeling prepared and confident in interviews - all in a relaxed, friendly environment.

This first workshop is focused on our trans rangatahi who have left school and are preparing to enter the workforce, as well as our trans women in Aotearoa's Ballroom Scene who are looking for new job opportunities or career advancement. We're here to provide strengths-based advice, mock interviews, and lots of support. Plus, we'll provide food and drinks to keep you nourished throughout the session.

Each participant will leave with a personalised CV, Cover Letter, and some assistance towards your professional attire - so you can walk away feeling prepared and empowered for your next steps.

We're also hoping to expand this offering to the wider queer community in future workshops. Who it's for:

- Trans rangatahi transitioning from school to work
- Trans women in the Aotearoa Ballroom Scene
- All trans and queer individuals seeking employment support (for future workshops).

Workshop

17 Date, Time & Location are exclusively communicated to participants who registered their interest to House of IMAN by 10 Jan.



CHURCH PRESENTS **PRIDE**

SATURDAY NECK OF THE WOODS  
15<sup>TH</sup> FEB THE WOODS

TICKETS: [WWW.UNDERTHERADAR.CO.NZ](http://WWW.UNDERTHERADAR.CO.NZ)



Tickets: [thetaproject.co.nz](http://thetaproject.co.nz)



THETA PROJECT'S ICONIC LGBTQIA+ PARTY RETURNS THIS FEBRUARY FOR ONE EPIC PRIDE EDITION!

# HOMO HOUSE

Feat. **DJKITTYGLITTER**

SATURDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2025 10PM-4AM  
THE MOTHERSHIP (AUCKLAND)

AUCKLAND LIVE presents

# PANTI BLISS

IF THESE WIGS COULD TALK



"IT'S SO GOOD! ... NO ONE IS MAKING SHOWS LIKE THIS... I LOVED IT!" GRAHAM NORTON

WED 19 - SUN 23 FEB  
WINTERGARDEN, THE CIVIC

[aucklandlive.co.nz](http://aucklandlive.co.nz)



Theta Project presents:

# SUMMER | SUNDAY | SOCIAL

A Big Gay Sunday Session on the Second Sunday of every month!

DJs,  
Drag Queens,  
Bubbles,  
Cocktails &  
Mocktails

Sundays, 3pm-Late  
Entertainment until 7pm

Free entry!

FREE ENTRY!



SCAN FOR MORE INFO!

Sunday 8 December Sunday 12 January **SPECIAL PRIDE EDITION!** Sunday 9 February Sunday 9 March



## Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki Asian in Aotearoa | Year of the Snake Panel & Podcast Recording

In celebration of Lunar New Year and Pride month, join us in Auckland Art Gallery's auditorium as host Jenna Wee sits down with an all-Queer panel reflecting on their creative process, inspiration, growth – and what Year of the Snake might look like for them.

Panel / Korero or Talanoa

- 1 Feb, 11AM - 12PM
- Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki
- FREE



## Radiqal Movement Radiqal Q Box

Step into the world of boxing with Radiqal Movement's Q Box class! This 45-minute Pride edition class is all about feeling strong, confident, and empowered in gloves. You'll learn boxing basics, practice pad work, and connect with other queer folk—all in a fun, affirming, and supportive environment.

Sport

- 5 Feb, 6PM
- Grey Lynn Library Hall
- FREE / RSVP Required
- 17+



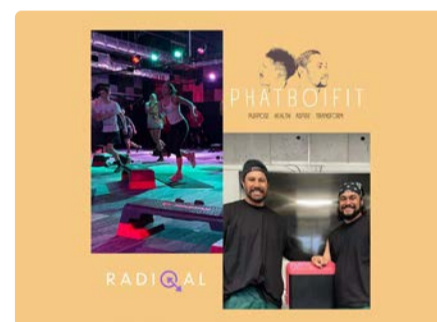
## SKINSUIT

What would happen if Queers took over a strip club? SKINSUIT would emerge:

An artistic expression of pole dance, striptease and ritual. 8 Performances from local Queer Sex workers.

Performing Arts, Cabaret & Comedy | Music / Party

- 1 Feb, 9PM - 2AM
- Raynham Park
- \$40.25 - \$92
- 18+



## Radiqal Movement Xtreme Hip Hop Step with Phatboifit & Radiqal Movement

We're bringing out the step boards & hip-hop jams for a step class like no other! Combining cardio, step work, and (basic) hip-hop moves, XTREME Hip Hop with Phatboifit is a fun, energetic 50-minute blast.

Sport

- 6 Feb, 7:30PM
- Red Bar
- FREE
- 18+



## Te Tumu Raranga Kete with Ta'i

This is a 2-day weaving workshop for the MVPFAFF+, LGBTIQ+ and Rainbow communities. Participants will learn to make their own kete using plastic strapping. Costs of the workshop will cover all of the materials, venue costs and artist fee.

Workshop

- 1 - 2 Feb, 12:30 - 6:30PM
- Old Folks Association
- \$100



## Laenye Productions Open Mic en Español Pride Edition

This show is in Spanish. We invite you to our night of comedy in Spanish, pride edition! To celebrate our first participation in Auckland Pride we bring you a show full of laughter, originality, and much, much pride. Come celebrate this month in your own language.

Performing Arts, Cabaret & Comedy

- 8 Feb, 9 AM - 1PM
- Western Springs Garden Community Hall
- FREE



## Hugo Grrrl Hugo's Rainbow Show

Hugo's Rainbow Show is a vibrant, musical exploration of the science of the skies. The performer, drag king Hugo Grrrl, guides the audience through the story of a child called Skyler searching for their friend Archie The Rainbow. Check out the full schedule on Auckland Pride website.

Performing Arts, Cabaret & Comedy

- 1, 2, 8 & 9 Feb
- 2 Shows Daily at 1PM & 3PM
- The Button Factory
- FREE



## PRISMATICA PRISMATICA 2025

Prismatica is about coming together – to buy plants, meet other collectors and growers, talk about our shared passions, and learn from each other. We aim to have some local gardening groups mixed with a range of rainbow and allied vendors to cover a range of gardening interests.

Community

- 8 Feb, 9 AM - 1PM
- Western Springs Garden Community Hall
- FREE



## Rainbow Riders Tāmaki Makaurau Yarn for Pride 2025

We're celebrating our LGBTIQ+ community and the Karangahape Road cycleway with colourful yarnbombs this Pride Month! Take a stroll along K-Rd to see the bike parking decorated with colourful yarnbombs; a mixture of pride flags and fun and funky designs.

Exhibition

- All Month Long
- Karangahape Road
- FREE

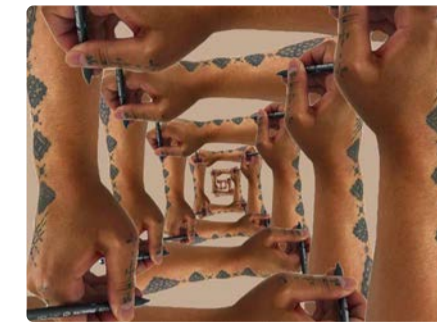


## Sister Gays Taste This! A Tantalising Potluck

Are oranges the only fruit? Have you tried fried green tomatoes? Who hammed it up in Maycomb, Alabama? And what is it about lesbians and brownie recipes? Discover such culinary delights and their dishy purveyors in the latest Sisters Gay literary salon, aka storytime for grown-ups. In homage to potlucks past, bring low-maintenance finger-food and drink to share.

Community

- 9 Feb, 11AM - 4PM
- Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki
- FREE



## Corban Estate Arts Centre Live Drawing: The Oceanic Form

CALLING ALL "AT HOME" ART HEAUX OCEANIC MVPFAFF+ BADDIES, ALPHABET MAFIA ALLIES AND SEKI DOODLERS. Join Corban Estate Arts Centre this 2025 Pride Month, for Live Drawing: The Queer Oceanic Form, facilitated by Mel Aluesi.

Workshop

- 2 Feb, 1 - 3PM
- Corban Estate Arts Centre
- \$5 Koha (Optional)
- 18+



## Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki Queer Yarns

Queer Yarns are back for Pride 2025. Come and learn how to crochet your own Rainbow flag to take home and wave proudly at the Pride Parade. Instructions and all necessary supplies will be provided on how to make a Rainbow flag or one of the many others that represent LGBTIQ+ identities.

Workshop

- 22 Feb, 9:30AM - 12PM
- Arataki Visitor Centre
- FREE



## Charlotte Museum Te Whare Takatāpui- Wāhine o Aotearoa

The vision of the Museum is to preserve, collect, exhibit and provide access to objects, items, ephemera, records about Lesbian Sapphic herstory, the Lesbian cultural experience and our diverse Lesbian communities and lives in Aotearoa.



## Tui Hobson "Va'ine Warrior" Sculpture and Carvings Exhibition

- 1 Feb - 29 Mar
- 1 Feb, 4:30 - 7:30PM, Opening
- 22 Feb, 2 - 4PM, Artist Talk
- The Charlotte Museum
- FREE

Tui's latest exhibition draws on her Cook Island heritage with an emphasis on the feminine form. Themes of navigation and migration are evident in many pieces, the exhibition will include examples of her intricately patterned Pacific oars and vaka-shaped benches. A look back on a sculpture career spanning 3 decades.



## Dyke Bingo

Community

- 7 Feb, 6:30 - 9:30PM
- The Charlotte Museum
- \$5/Card or \$12 for 3

Ditch the dry classic bingo for our version, instead of G43 or B13 we'll have "First date turns into weekend together" or "having the same Dr. Martins as your partner". Come for a laugh, a drink and a great time spent with our inclusive community. We will play multiple rounds so you can make it a quick stop or a night out.



## 40+ Mix and Mingle

Community

- 14 Feb, 6 - 8:30PM
- The Charlotte Museum
- \$15
- 40+

Join us this Valentine's 'Gay Day' for our 40+ mix and mingle. We totally adhere too the 'age is but a number' mantra but we also know it can be nice to see more of yourself at events.



## Dykes n Hikes

Sport | Community

- 22 Feb, 9:30AM - 12PM
- Arataki Visitor Centre
- FREE

Join us for a very special Pride collaboration with Radiqal Movement and the Arataki Visitor Centre! This event combines herstory, connection, and Te Taiao for a wholesome Saturday outing you won't want to miss.



**Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki**  
**Queer Zine Making**

Get a taste of zine-making by learning how to make a one-page folded zine to draw, write and collage your story. Proudly hosted by Auckland Zinefest, all the materials you need for the making will be provided, if you can't think of the story you want to tell you can be guided by creative prompts.

**Workshop**

📅 9 Feb, 11AM - 4PM  
📍 Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki  
🎟 FREE



**Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki**  
**Theytriarchy?**

Part gig, part stand-up, part diary-entry read aloud, James Penwarden takes spectators on a chill field trip through life's transitions, navigating the complexities of identity, ethics, and self-discovery along the way.

**Performing Arts, Cabaret & Comedy**

📅 9 Feb  
🕒 12 - 12:30PM & 1 - 1:30PM  
📍 Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki  
🎟 FREE



**Theta Project**  
**Summer Sunday Social**

We're thrilled to launch a free, monthly Sunday session that brings together our beautiful LGBTQIA+ community on the perfect outdoor deck at Sweatshop. Starting Sunday 8 December, join us on the second Sunday of every month from 3-7 pm (or later!) for the ultimate Sunday Session vibes.

**Community**

📅 9 Feb, 3PM  
📍 Sweatshop Brew Kitchen  
🎟 FREE  
🏠 18+



**MOTAT**  
**Mile High Comedy Club**

MOTAT's Mile High Comedy Club is coming in hot for Pride! This one-night-only show in the MOTAT Aviation Hall packs a punch with an outrageous lineup of comedians who know how to bring the turbulence.

**Performing Arts, Cabaret & Comedy**

📅 12 Feb, 6 - 10PM  
📍 MOTAT Aviation Hall  
🎟 Tickets from \$20



**Working Management & Theta Project**  
**Bianca Del Rio: Dead Inside - World Comedy Tour**

Bianca Del Rio, the "clown in a gown," returns to Australia & Aotearoa with her new comedy show "Dead Inside." Known for her lightning-fast wit and razor-sharp tongue, Bianca will tackle politics, pop culture, political correctness, cancel culture, and everyday life with her signature humor.

**Performing Arts, Cabaret & Comedy**

📅 13 Feb, 8:15PM  
📍 Kiri Te Kanawa Theatre  
🎟 Tickets from \$100  
🏠 15+



**D&S Law**  
**Path to Pride: Accessing and Navigating LGBTIQ+ Human Rights in Aotearoa**

This in-person gathering will feature discussions from D&S Law to help you navigate the complexities of these important issues. Whether you're a seasoned advocate or just want to know your rights, this event is for you. Come learn, connect, and empower yourself in the fight for equality and justice.

**Panel / Korero or Talanoa**

📅 13 Feb, 7 - 9PM  
📍 Bar Beluga  
🎟 FREE



**RocketWerkz**  
**Board Gaymer Night**

Come play board games with our rainbow community and allies. Get a tour of video games studio RocketWerkz.

We'll play a range of casual and complex board games such as: Pandemic, Catan, Wingspan, Frostpunk, Codenames, and Exploding Kittens. You're also welcome to bring your own games.

**Community**

📅 13 Feb, 6 - 8PM  
📍 RocketWerkz Studio  
🎟 FREE



**Radiqal Movement**  
**Zumba: Pride Edition with Shawn & Radiqal Movement**

This fun and energising 45-minute class combines Latin-inspired dance moves with cardio to get you moving, grooving, and feeling amazing. Shawn creates a supportive, upbeat environment where everyone can let loose and enjoy the rhythm, regardless of fitness level or dance experience.

**Community**

📅 13 Feb, 6:30 - 7:15PM  
📍 Grey Lynn Library Hall  
🎟 FREE  
🏠 17+

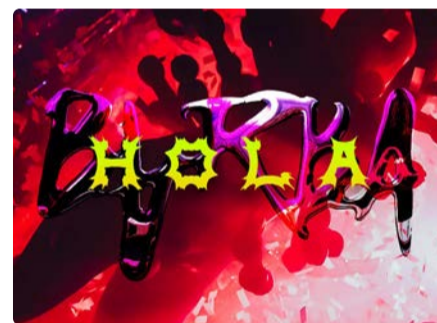


**No Homo: Queer Comedy**  
**No Homo: Queer Comedy - Auckland Pride Edition**

No Homo is BACK for Auckland Pride, after a sold out season last year! Join regular host James Mustapic, alongside a fabulous lineup of the best queer comedians in Aotearoa for a gorge night of giggles!

**Performing Arts, Cabaret & Comedy**

📅 13 - 15 Feb, 10PM  
📍 Basement Theatre  
🎟 \$17 - \$31



**BARBA PRESENTS**  
**BARBA HOLA**

Say HOLA and be part of BARBA's big opening for its Tamaki Makaurau debut. BARBA curates sex-positive, inclusive events celebrating liberation, creativity, and community, run by queer POC. Break routines and connect with like-minded individuals, enjoy a night of dancing, performance art, and self-expression in a safe, transformative space.

**Music / Party**

📅 14 Feb, 10PM - 4AM  
📍 Neck of the Woods  
🎟 \$25 - 85  
🏠 18+



**Leather Lungs**  
**Leather Lungs: Shut Up & Sing!**

Experience the power of a voice spanning over four octaves in this hilarious cabaret romp! With the flamboyance of Prince, the force of Aretha, and a vocal range as mind-blowing as Freddie's, the master of falsetto and stiletto will drag you screaming with laughter into a night to remember!

**Performing Arts, Cabaret & Comedy**

📅 14 - 15 Feb, 7:30PM  
📍 Q Theatre Rangatira  
🎟 \$30 - \$59



**Radiqal Movement**  
**Bouldering with Radiqal Movement**

Join Radiqal Movement this Pride Month for a special Saturday trip to Boulder Co. Auckland! Bouldering is a great, social activity for the body and the mind, combining problem solving and physical exercise on a 3-dimensional level. Then, join us for a cheeky post-climb coffee (which we believe is also great for the body and the mind).

**Sport**

📅 15 Feb, 11AM - 12:30PM  
📍 Boulder Co. Auckland  
🎟 FREE  
🏠 17+



**Gribblehirst Community Hub**  
**A Queer Occasion**

A Queer Occasion is for a place to celebrate without a fight. It can be a difficult time being queer and it is nice to show your relaxed pride. Let's stop and relax with live music, outdoor games, and some simple workshops if you're up for it. You deserve a metaphorical pat on the back for it, and that's what we want you to get here.

**Community**

📅 15 Feb, 2 - 5PM  
📍 Gribblehirst Community Hub  
🎟 FREE



**Reign Bowman in collaboration with the Rose Centre**  
**Faithfully Queer**

It's here and it's queer, faithfully queer. Faithfully Queer is an R18 cabaret show giving a platform for artists to showcase their personal take on the intersection of faith and queerness. The line up consists of both experienced and up-and-coming artists from across Tāmaki. Expect drag, expect burlesque, expect heartfelt, expect bold.

**Performing Arts, Cabaret & Comedy**

📅 15 Feb, 7:30PM  
📍 The Rose Theatre  
🎟 \$20 - \$22  
🏠 18+



**Flirt**  
**Flirt**

Calling All Lesbians!! Flirt is an iconic lesbian event and will provide an entertaining evening for queer womxn to celebrate after the Auckland Pride Parade.

Get ready for a truly magical night!

**Music / Party**

📅 15 Feb, 9PM - 1AM  
📍 Phoenix Cabaret  
🎟 \$35 - \$43  
🏠 18+



**CHURCH**  
CHURCH Presents PRIDE

Greetings, fellow gatherers! Lobes will be graced with an aural journey of discovery and nostalgia, and limbs will be freed to expression. The congregation shall come together in a familiar, caring, and safe space—Neck of The Woods. Our collective exists to provide, create, and maintain a safe and inclusive space for our queer community and its allies.

Music / Party

- 15 Feb, 10PM - 4AM
- Neck of the Woods
- \$10 - \$35
- 18+



**Burnett Foundation Aotearoa**  
BIG GAY OUT

The Gayest event of the year is back. Big Gay Out returns to Coyle Park 16 Feb 2025.

Join us for more music, markets, and live performances at the biggest rainbow event in Aotearoa.

Go to [BigGayOut.co.nz](http://BigGayOut.co.nz) for all the latest info.

Music / Party | Community

- 16 Feb, 12 - 7PM
- Coyle Park
- FREE



**BARBA PRESENTS**  
BARBA ADIOS

Say ADIOS as we wrap up a weekend of celebrations following Big Gay Out! Break the routine, take Monday off, and join us for an unforgettable night. Celebrate Pride, creativity, and community with local & international acts to be announced. Don't miss this happy ending!

Music / Party

- 16 Feb, 10PM
- Whammy Bar
- Tickets info coming soon!
- 18+

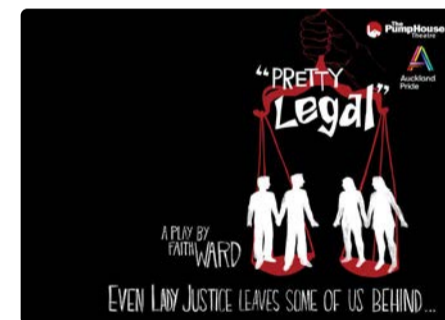


**Léon Bristow & Frances Carter**  
BEINGS: Tātou Tātou

What we put in media matters. Yet despite the extensive amount of diversity, identities are misportrayed because roles are given to those without authentic lived experiences. BEINGS: Tātou Tātou, is a photography exhibition, championing authentic representation of BIPOC, Rainbow, and Disabled identities.

Exhibition

- 19 - 28 Feb
- Studio One Toi Tū
- FREE



**A Play by Faith Ward**  
Pretty Legal

Amidst the passing of the marriage equality bill, law firm colleagues Olivia and Katrina finally plan to leave their marriages-of-convenience for each other. Although, Katrina can't quite tear herself away from her ex-husband... who also happens to be engaged to Olivia's ex-husband.

Performing Arts, Cabaret & Comedy

- 19 - 21 Feb, 7PM
- 22 Feb, 6PM
- The Pumphouse Theatre
- \$10 - \$25
- 16+

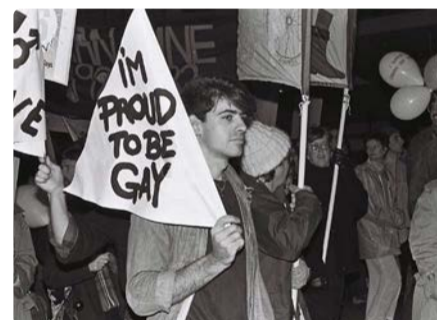


**Auckland Live**  
Panti Bliss in 'If These Wigs Could Talk'

Queen of Ireland Panti Bliss is bringing her smash hit show If These Wigs Could Talk to Auckland. Meet notorious drag queen Panti at 54, after a lifetime of accidental activism, far-fetched shenanigans and making a full time show of herself, now taking a moment to question what her purpose and place in this changing world.

Performing Arts, Cabaret & Comedy

- 19 - 21 Feb, 7PM
- 22 Feb, 6PM | 23 Feb, 2PM
- The Civic Wintergarden
- \$35 - \$69
- 16+



**Ageing Proud**  
Ageing Proud: Our Stories

Organised by a new collective of older gay and bisexual men, Ageing Proud. Join us to bear witness to a personal storytelling event. A small group of older gay and bisexual men will share stories about their lives: where they've come from; where they've arrived; and their hopes as gay or bisexual men ageing proud.

Panel / Korero or Talanoa

- 20 Feb, 7 - 9PM
- Studio One Toi Tū
- FREE



**BAT WING CIRCUS / He Waka Eke Noa Charitable Trust**  
Essence Unfolding

WINNER - OUTSTANDING NEWCOMER (INDIVIDUAL) - 2024 Auckland Fringe Awards. Step into the enchanting world of 'Essence Unfolding', a circus / contemporary dance fusion, with a smattering of poetry/ spoken word created by young creative, Orlando Green.

Performing Arts, Cabaret & Comedy

- 20 - 21 Feb, 7PM
- 22 Feb, 2PM & 7PM
- Factory Theatre
- \$12.50 - \$17.50



Science + Tech + Play

# MILE HIGH COMEDY CLUB

Taking comedy to new heights  
WED 12 FEBRUARY



ELI MATHEWSON



JANAYE HENRY



ABBEY HOWELLS



MC DAVID STUART

# Dress with PRIDE

← PRESS START →

10.30 AM - 2 PM  
WAITĀKERE ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

SATURDAY 1ST MARCH

HOSTED BY  
RAINBOUYOUTH



TICKETS MOTAT.NZ



FOR KIDS AND KIDS AT HEART!

# HUGO'S RAINBOW SHOW

A DRAG MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA!

8 SHOWS ONLY

1PM AND 3PM  
1ST, 2ND, 8TH & 9TH OF FEB 2025

@THE BUTTON FACTORY

REGISTRATIONS ESSENTIAL ON EVENTFINDA!



**Lifeline Youth Empowerment Center**

### Call Me Kuchu: Rainbow Stories from Africa

Call Me Kuchu: Rainbow Stories from Africa\* is a heartfelt workshop that brings the rich and complex realities of LGBTQ+ life in Africa—particularly Uganda. Through a series of compelling video stories shared directly by queer Africans, offering a window into the lives, struggles, and triumphs of those living at the intersection of identity, culture, and activism.

Film

21 Feb, 2:30 - 7PM  
Mount Roskill Library  
FREE



**Hugo Grrrl**

### Trans Pride Drag Show

Gender is on the agenda this pride season. Don your non-binary finery and kick the cis nonsense to the curb this Auckland Pride at the third annual Trans Pride Drag Show. On Saturday 24th February '24 at Phoenix, a huge, all-star lineup of incredible transgender and non-binary drag performers will be trans-lating their identity into awe-inspiring acts.

Performing Arts, Cabaret & Comedy

21 Feb, 8PM  
Phoenix Cabaret  
\$18 - \$30  
18+



**Gus Fisher Gallery**

### Having it all all all

Having it all all all is an exhibition of select video and performance art by international artists associated with the activism and identity politics of second-wave Feminism and its legacies. Featuring seminal works by Yoko Ono, Howardena Pindell, Martha Rosler, Hannah Wilke, Pipilotti Rist and more.

Exhibition

21 Feb - 10 May  
Gus Fisher Gallery  
FREE



**Dance & Arts Therapy NZ**

### Proud Moves

Join us for a fun, connecting and playful session where we can experience the joy of exploring body expression to give shape to the pride of being who we are. This special movement session aims to support your well-being through practicing creative movements and helping participants to feel safe and connected to themselves and others.

Sport

22 Feb, 10 - 11:30AM  
Ponsonby Community Centre  
FREE



**Auckland Museum**

### Pride Whānau Fun Day

We warmly welcome LGBTTQIA+ families and their allies to a fun-filled day of craft activities and entertainment. Add to our vibrant chalk pavement drawings outside, and enjoy badgemaking, rock painting and more in our South Atrium.

Settle in for our beloved drag queen storytime with Kita Mean and Anita Wigl'it.

Community

22 Feb, 10AM - 3PM  
Auckland Museum  
FREE



**Katie Blundell Artist**

### Pressing The Flesh

Katie Blundell Artist is coming to Studio One Toi Tū to celebrate Auckland Pride and meet some city folk. 'Pressing The Flesh' is a Free Self-Portrait printmaking experience inspired by German Expressionism and guided by Katie. Pop in and have a go printmaking with her.

Workshop

22 Feb, 11AM - 3PM  
Studio One Toi Tū  
FREE



**Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki**

### GALS | Open Rehearsal and Performance

GALS Auckland Rainbow Choir returns to Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki for an uplifting afternoon concert! This outstanding community choir will share its musical highlights from last year's concerts with us in the magnificent Te Ātea | North Atrium.

Music / Party

22 Feb, 12 - 1PM Rehearsal  
2 - 3PM Performance  
Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki  
FREE



**PROWL Productions**

### Free Dance Workshops with PROWL

Prowl Productions, New Zealand's premiere waacking and street dance company offers FREE dance workshops. The dance styles that will be taught during these workshops are Waacking, Vogue and Open choreography. The class level is open (not too basic, not too advanced).

Workshop

22 Feb, 3 Workshops  
Across 12:30 - 5:30 PM  
Kinetic Dance Studios  
FREE  
15+



**Lucie Blaze**

### Cabaret of the Unexpected

Cabaret of the Unexpected is more than a show—it's a revolution of creativity, individuality, and unapologetic self-expression. This dynamic extravaganza unites emerging talents from burlesque, strip tease, circus, drag, and more, creating an unforgettable celebration of artistry and quirkiness.

Performing Arts, Cabaret & Comedy

22 Feb, 7PM  
Phoenix Cabaret  
\$20 - \$45  
18+



**T Peters**

### Retro slideshow

You're invited to come on a journey to the 80's and 90's queer scene. See the World through the lens of T, a young queer activist, wander lust, documentarian, raconteur and long time protester. Be transported through the vibrant imagery and stories, of a time when the rainbow flag was being adopted as a symbol of unity and pride.

Performing Arts, Cabaret & Comedy

22 Feb, 7PM  
Grey Lynn Library Hall  
FREE  
16+



**Misheard Records**

### QUEER AUTUMN

QUEER AUTUMN pays tribute to the intersections between alternative music and the rainbow/takatāpui community, bringing together a lineup of various indie rock, post-punk, emo, and alternative bands to celebrate what we've achieved and fight for what needs to change for queer and trans communities in Aotearoa.

Music / Party

22 Feb, 8PM  
Whammy Bar  
\$10 - \$15  
18+



**Theta Project**

### Homo House | Pride Edition

HOMO HOUSE, our iconic LGBTQIA+ party and longest-running club night, returns to the Mothership this February! HOMO HOUSE is known for its unique blend of underground house music, including tech house and classic house tunes, all with our distinctively homo twist.

Music / Party

22 Feb, 10PM - 4AM  
The Mothership  
\$35 - \$39  
18+



**Rainbow Awakening**

### Daily Rainbow Kai

Rainbow Awakening offers a shared meal for all people - LGBT+Allies - every day of the year in Auckland. We are rooted in the reclaiming of pagan and indigenous ancestry as queer people have had a strong place to stand in all these earth-based cultures.

Community

23 Feb, 11AM - 3PM  
Old Folks Association  
FREE  
18+



**Rainbow Awakening**

### Difuna Couple Retreat

Singles welcome. Difuna couple retreat reclaims ancient tradition from pagan and indigenous cultures around the world. Long ago, what we today call LGBT+ people would go as committed pairs into nature huts to offer the body limitless loving energy and complete rest for healing and spiritual awakening.

Community

23 Feb, 11 - 3PM  
Old Folks Association  
FREE  
18+



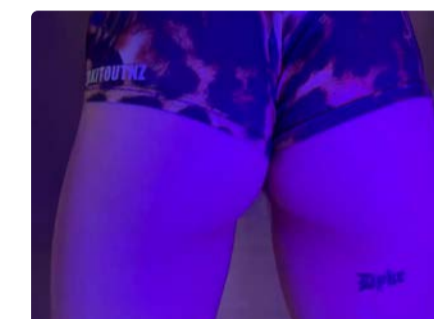
**University of Auckland Queer Students Association**

### Print Your Own Pride T-Shirt!

Come and print your own t-shirt to wear with pride! We'll provide fun gay lino stamps carved by our volunteers, fabric paint, and rollers - all you need is your own t-shirt, tote bag, jacket, or anything else you can think of to print on! We recommend bringing light coloured items since the paint will be black.

Workshop

23 Feb, 2 - 5PM  
UoA Quad and Queerspace  
FREE / RSVP Required



**Radiqal Movement**

### TwerkFit for Beginners with TwerkitoutNZ & Radiqal Movement

Radiqal Movement is teaming up with TWERKITOUTNZ to provide the queer-est, most bootylicious group fitness class you've ever experienced. Learn the basics of twerking step by step, then put it all together in a fun, feel-good routine. This class welcomes complete beginners with no previous dance experience

Sport

24 Feb, 6:30PM  
TAPAC  
FREE / RSVP Required  
17+





A celebration of Aotearoa New Zealand's LGBTQI writing talent

Join us in 2025 to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Samesame But Different from February 12 - 15, the only festival of its kind in Aotearoa. A highlight of the literary year, Samesame will have an eclectic programme of panel discussion, book readings, poetry evenings and more! Now in its 10th year, the festival provides a space to uphold queer authors and literature with a diverse programme of panels and presentations. There is an ongoing need for spaces that champion queer literature and there is value in capturing our histories, and to reflect on the past decade. Below are some highlights from the 2025 festival, for the full programme please visit [samesamebutdifferent.co.nz](https://samesamebutdifferent.co.nz) or Auckland Pride website.



### PRIDE Poetry Speakeasy and Open Mic 2025

Literature

📅 12 Feb, 5PM  
📍 Studio One Toi Tū  
🆓 FREE

2025 marks the tenth anniversary of the Samesame but Different Queer Writer's Festival which opens with the PRIDE Poetry Speakeasy and Open Mic in association with Auckland Libraries and Studio One Toi Tū. Come along to read your work, to listen and enjoy in a welcoming queer word nest. With host Nathan Joe and guest poet Michael Giacon, author of *undressing in slow motion*.



### Queer Storytime: 'Rere Atu Taku Poi! / Let My Poi Fly!' with Tangaroa Paul

Literature

📅 15 Feb, 10 - 11AM  
📍 Ellen Melville Centre  
🆓 FREE

Tangaroa Paul reads their incredible 2020 book for children of all ages, *Rere Atu Taku Poi! / Let My Poi Fly!*

A beautiful story about gender fluidity in a school setting. Tangaroa (Te Whare Tawhito o Muriwhenua), is a poi expert, a lecturer at AUT, and was the first non-binary person to perform in the poi section at Te Matatini.

This is a free event as part of the Samesame But Different literary festival, and will include a Q&A with the author.

Samesame But Different x Auckland Pride

### Praise the Lord: Queer Playwright Residency

Queer Playwright Residency

Samesame But Different are supporting Auckland Pride to present the 2nd year of the **Praise the Lord** playwright residency, created in memory of pioneering gay playwright Robert Lord. The event will kick off with the announcement of this year's playwright-in-residence, a staged reading from their play, and reflections from last year's resident.

Praise the Lord



### The Open Book Rainbow Reading Party

The Open Book welcomes you to get cosy at our beautiful bookstore after hours! Our Reading Parties are always a huge hit, so we thought for Pride Month this year we would open the space up especially for LGBTQIA+ folks and allies to share space and queer titles with each other.

Literature | Community

📅 25 Feb, 5 - 8PM  
📍 The Open Book  
🆓 FREE / RSVP Required



### Radiqal Movement Mermascs Swim with Radiqal Movement

Reclaim the beach this Pride Month with like-minded merfolk! Mermascs is Radiqal Movement's queer, social sea-swimming and beach-trip group. Mermasc meetups are all about connecting with wai (water), taiao (nature), and our beach-loving LGBTQIA+ community.

Sport

📅 27 Feb, 7PM  
📍 Cheltenham Beach  
🆓 FREE



### Student Christian Movement Aotearoa Worshipping A Slutty God: A Public Theology Lecture

All are welcome to this public theology forum exploring post-heteronormative ideas. This workshop explores the theological implications of a non-monomagamous God. No need to be a "theologian" or even a Christian. We're here to facilitate conversations about the big questions in life wherever you are in your journey.

Community

📅 26 Feb, 6:30 - 8PM  
📍 The Maclaurin Chapel  
🆓 FREE



### Sapphic Sounds Presents: PRIDE 2025

Sapphic Sounds is back for PRIDE in 2025 and celebrating one year of queer events and connections! Join us as we close out Auckland Pride 2025 in style at Phoenix Cabaret on Saturday 1st March for an electrifying night of music and celebration for the girls, gays and theys.

Music / Party

📅 1 Mar, 9:30PM - 2:30AM  
📍 Phoenix Cabaret  
💰 \$15 - \$30  
🏳️ 18+



### Gendermess Productions MESSY FRIENDS

Explore the world of this dynamic and innovative drag collective that fuses lip-sync, burlesque, dance, and documentary-style videos to create a unique "Drag-u-mentary" experience. Fresh from their acclaimed Edinburgh Fringe season, they have captivated audiences worldwide with its blend of vibrant performances, striking costumes, and deeply personal storytelling.

Performing Arts, Cabaret & Comedy

📅 26 - 28 Feb, 7:30PM  
📍 Q Theatre Rangatira  
💰 \$30 - \$59  
🏳️ 18+



### RainbowYOUTH Dress With Pride

RainbowYOUTH welcomes you to 'Dress with Pride', a time for you to 'get ready with us' for Auckland Pride Festival 2025 Closing Event, **Waimahara**. If you are between the age of 13 - 27, come pick out some clothes, makeup and even get a cute haircut. After that, eat some yummy kai and make some signs and badges to get ready for **Waimahara!**

Community

📅 1 Mar, 10:30 AM - 12 PM  
📍 Waitākere Room, Aotea Centre  
🆓 FREE

# PRESENTS *essence* UNFOLDING

WINNER  
"OUTSTANDING NEWCOMER"  
AUCKLAND FRINGE '24



February 20th-22nd 2025

7:00pm

Matinee 2:00pm Feb 22nd

The Factory Theatre  
80 Onehunga Mall



BOOK TICKETS



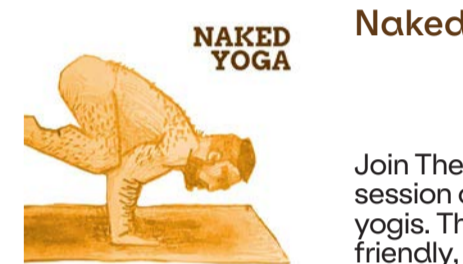
## Path to Pride: Accessing and Navigating LGBTIQ+ Human Rights in Aotearoa

Thursday 13 February - 7 - 9pm  
Bar Beluga, Grey Lynn, Auckland



## Bear New Zealand Week 2025

Get ready for the ultimate week for bears and bear-lovers alike. Whether you're a regular or a curious newcomer, this week-long festival promises fun, friendship, and a whole lot of furry festivities. Don't miss out this year's Bear New Zealand Week adventure!



### NAKED YOGA

## Naked Yoga

Join The Bears for a calm and meditative session of Naked Yoga, led by experienced yogis. This class is designed to be beginner-friendly, welcoming participants of all skill levels and body types.

6 Feb, 11AM | Studio One Toi Tū | Tickets from \$10 | 18+



## Funny, Fierce & Furry

Funny, Furry & Fierce returns in 2025! Hosted by Neil D'Bear Thornton, this sell-out comedy show features the funniest and fiercest LGBTQ+ and allied comedians. Don't miss a night of belly laughs and entertainment—grab your tickets now!

6 Feb, 8PM | The Classic Comedy Club | Tickets from \$30 | 18+



## Mr Bear New Zealand

Who will be crowned Mr Bear New Zealand 2025? Join us for a night of fierce competition, charisma, and community pride. Last year's winner, Tia, won Mr Bear Australasia—who's next? Celebrate our diverse, vibrant Bear community and cheer on contestants vying for this prestigious title.

7 Feb, 8PM | Phoenix Cabaret | FREE | 18+



## Wet Fur

Unwind after Tri-Nations at Centurian Sauna on Sunday, 9 February. Attend any Bear New Zealand Week event for exclusive \$22 entry (usually \$33). Your Wet Fur ticket, emailed Sunday morning, secures your discount. Register by midnight, 8 February. Thanks to Centurian Sauna for supporting Bear New Zealand Week!

9 Feb, 12PM | Centurian Sauna | \$22 | 18+



## Meet & Greet

Kick off Bear New Zealand Week with a relaxed and welcoming Meet and Greet in the beautiful Garden Courtyard of the brand-new Abstract Hotel. This is a casual event designed for you to meet up with old friends and make new ones as we begin the week.

5 Feb, 6PM | Abstract Hotel | FREE | 18+



### BEAR BITES

## Bear Bites

Join The Bears for lunch at the Ponsonby International Food Court, where a world of flavors awaits! Purchase a meal (or meals) from your favourite spot, look out for our reserved table, and settle in for some great company with fellow attendees.

6 Feb, 12:30PM | Ponsonby International Foodcourt | FREE | 18+



## Bear Trek to the Zoo

Join The Bears for an urban adventure as we set off from the Abstract Hotel and make our way down the vibrant Karangahape Road and bustling Ponsonby, eventually arriving at the Auckland Zoo.

7 Feb, 10AM | Abstract Hotel | FREE | 18+



### BOARD GAYMES

## Board Gaymes

Join The Bears for an afternoon of laughter, strategy, and friendly competition at Board Game Night! Whether you're a board game aficionado or just looking for a great time, this event is the perfect chance to connect with friends old and new over a mix of classic and modern games.

8 Feb, 1PM | Dice & Fork | FREE | 18+



### BEARS LUNCH HOSTED BY HILTON

## Bears Lunch Hosted By Hilton

Celebrate Bear New Zealand Week at a special edition of Hilton's Lunch! Enjoy lively conversation, laughs, and delicious food at the Longroom. Open to all, this gathering promises a welcoming vibe and a great time over good food and even better company!

9 Feb, 12PM | Longroom | FREE | 18+



## Underbear Party

Bear New Zealand week Underwear party for Bears and admirers. Down 'n' Dirty dancing in ya briefest underwear. Hot sexy safe fun for all. Definitely a party to dress for the occasion..or undress rather.

Note: this is a men and male identifying event.

5 Feb, 9PM | G.A.Y | Tickets from \$35 | 18+



## Queer Beers

Start the night with Queer Beers—a relaxed pre-drinks event before the Funny, Furry & Fierce comedy show! Enjoy great company, good vibes, and pay for your own drinks at the bar. Whether solo or with friends, it's the perfect way to warm up for an evening of laughs!

6 Feb, 7PM | The Classic Comedy Club | FREE | 18+



## Bears at the Zoo

Join us at 12:30 pm at Auckland Zoo's Entry Plaza for a fun afternoon of exploration and connection! After lunch at the rotunda, we'll enjoy a quick zoo briefing before wandering and checking out animals at our leisure. Don't forget your packed lunch and sense of adventure!

7 Feb, 12:30PM | Auckland Zoo | Tickets from \$22 | 18+



## Tri-Nations Party

Urge Events presents the Bear New Zealand week Tri Nations party for Bears and admirers. Hot sexy, safe fun for all. Meet the New Mr New Zealand Bear 2025, friends and new friends from New Zealand and afar.

Note this is a men and male identifying event.

8 Feb, 9PM | Phoenix Cabaret | \$35 - \$50 | 18+



## Leather & Gear Night

Wrap up Bear Week with Leather & Gear Night—a men-only social event celebrating Leather, Pups, and gear enthusiasts. In partnership with Leather Up Auckland, enjoy DJ beats, a relaxed vibe, and the perfect space to connect and unwind after Tri-Nations. Sunday night never looked so good!

9 Feb, 6PM | G.A.Y | Tickets from \$20 | 18+

## Community Services & Rainbow Organisations on Karangahape Road

AIDO Trust  
10 East Street

Auckland Pride  
281 Karangahape Road

Body Positive  
1/3 Poynton Terrace

Charlotte Museum  
1A Howe Street

Kick Back Rangatahi Hub  
307 Karangahape Road

NZ Prostitutes Collective  
3 East Street

Rainbow Games  
183 Karangahape Road

RainbowYOUTH  
11 Edinburgh Street

Always open.  
Always welcome.  
Karangahape Road.

# BIG GAY OUT

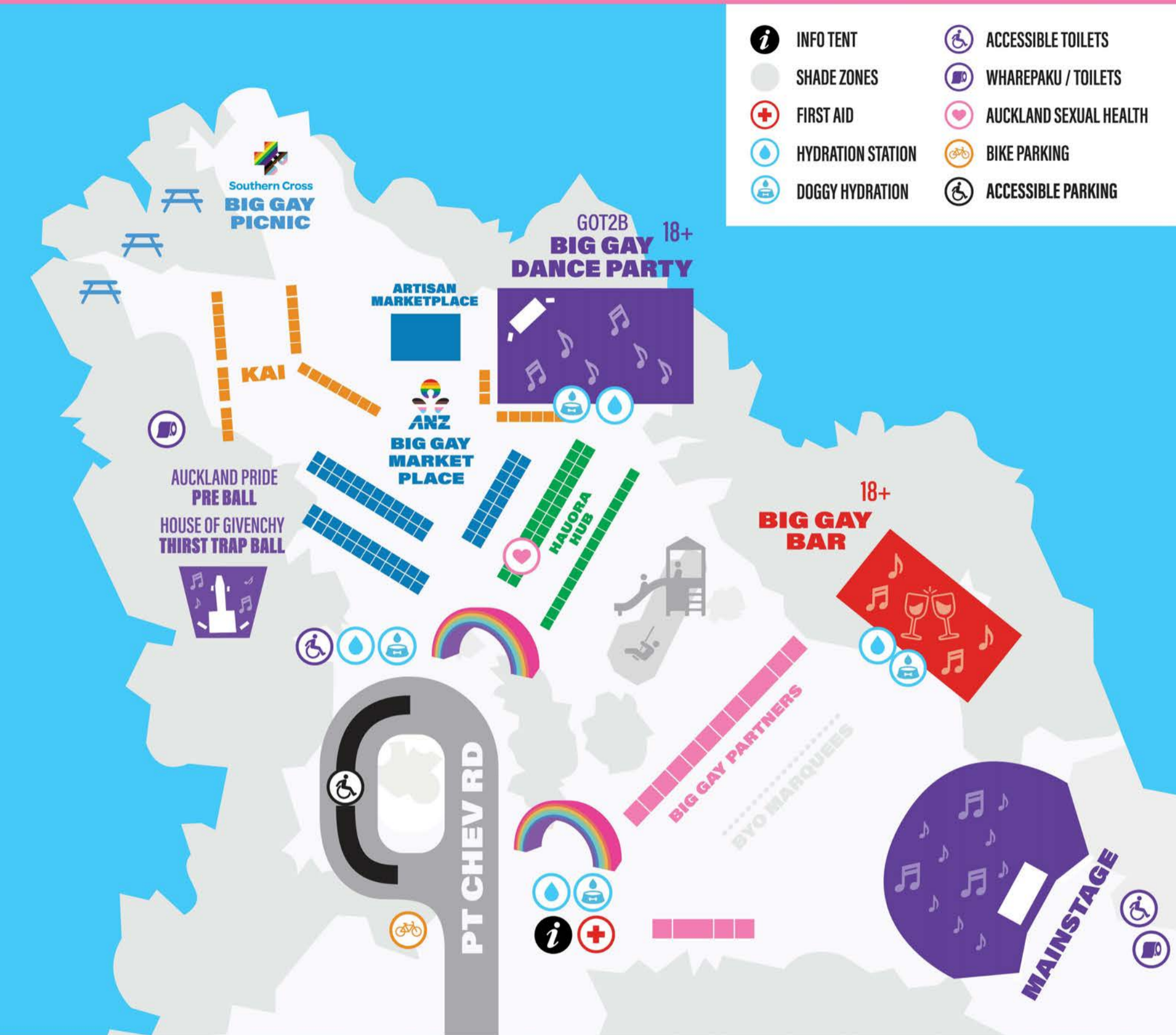
# 16 FEB COYLE PARK

**LAGOON ✦ PAIGE ✦ KIRA PURU**  
**TYRUN ✦ VENICE QIN ✦ SHEBA** FT. SPECIAL GUESTS  
**AHAKOA TE AHA ✦ JANAYE HENRY (MC)**  
**HOUSE OF GIVENCHY THIRST TRAP BALL**  
**AUCKLAND PRIDE PRE-BALL ✦ DJ JORDAN ESKRA**  
**+ MANY MORE COMMUNITY ARTISTS**



PHOTO CREDIT: CONNOR CRAWFORD

- INFO TENT
- SHADE ZONES
- FIRST AID
- HYDRATION STATION
- DOGGY HYDRATION
- ACCESSIBLE TOILETS
- WHAREPAKU / TOILETS
- AUCKLAND SEXUAL HEALTH
- BIKE PARKING
- ACCESSIBLE PARKING



# Big Gay Out

## Auckland Pride Pre-Ball House of Givenchy Presents THIRST TRAP BALL 5

16 February 2025  
Pre-Ball Starts at 12PM  
Ball Starts at 2PM  
Coyle Park  
FREE

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Get ready to *quench* your thirst at the first-ever Big Gay Out Thirst Trap Pre-Ball! Auckland Pride invites you to the ultimate warm-up for House of Givenchy's Thirst Trap Ball. **DJs KAIVITI** and **BLUSH.MP3** will be pouring the hottest beats, so come sip up the vibes and take center stage for a taste of what's to come! Whether you wanna come shake some ass or show off your wildest dips, this is the place to hydrate your dance moves or just have a kanikani before the main event. Thirsty for fun? We'll be serving it up from 12 - 2PM.

House of Givenchy is honoured to present...  
**THIRST TRAP BALL 5** 🌈🌴💧

For the first time ever, House of Givenchy will be curating one of Aotearoa's most fun and litty balls with help from Burnett Foundation Aotearoa & Auckland Pride.

"Big shoutout to Legendary Tamatoa Aitu for trusting in us to continue the legacy of Thirst Trap Ball and passing this function on to us."

Starting at 2PM, **DJ MIAMIA** from Pōneke pumping the beats.

### Categories

**Beginners Performance**  
Flower Power

**New Face**  
Sunday Silk

**Commentator VS Commentator**  
Must Use The Word 'Thirsty' in 10s

**Hand Performance VS Arms Control**  
Hand Performance Wearing Red  
Arms Control Wearing Yellow

**OTA Body**  
Wet T-Shirt Contest

**OTA Face**  
Fresh Face

**F\*g Out**  
A Look Inspired by Charlie's Angels

**OTA Performance**  
A Look Inspired by Tyla

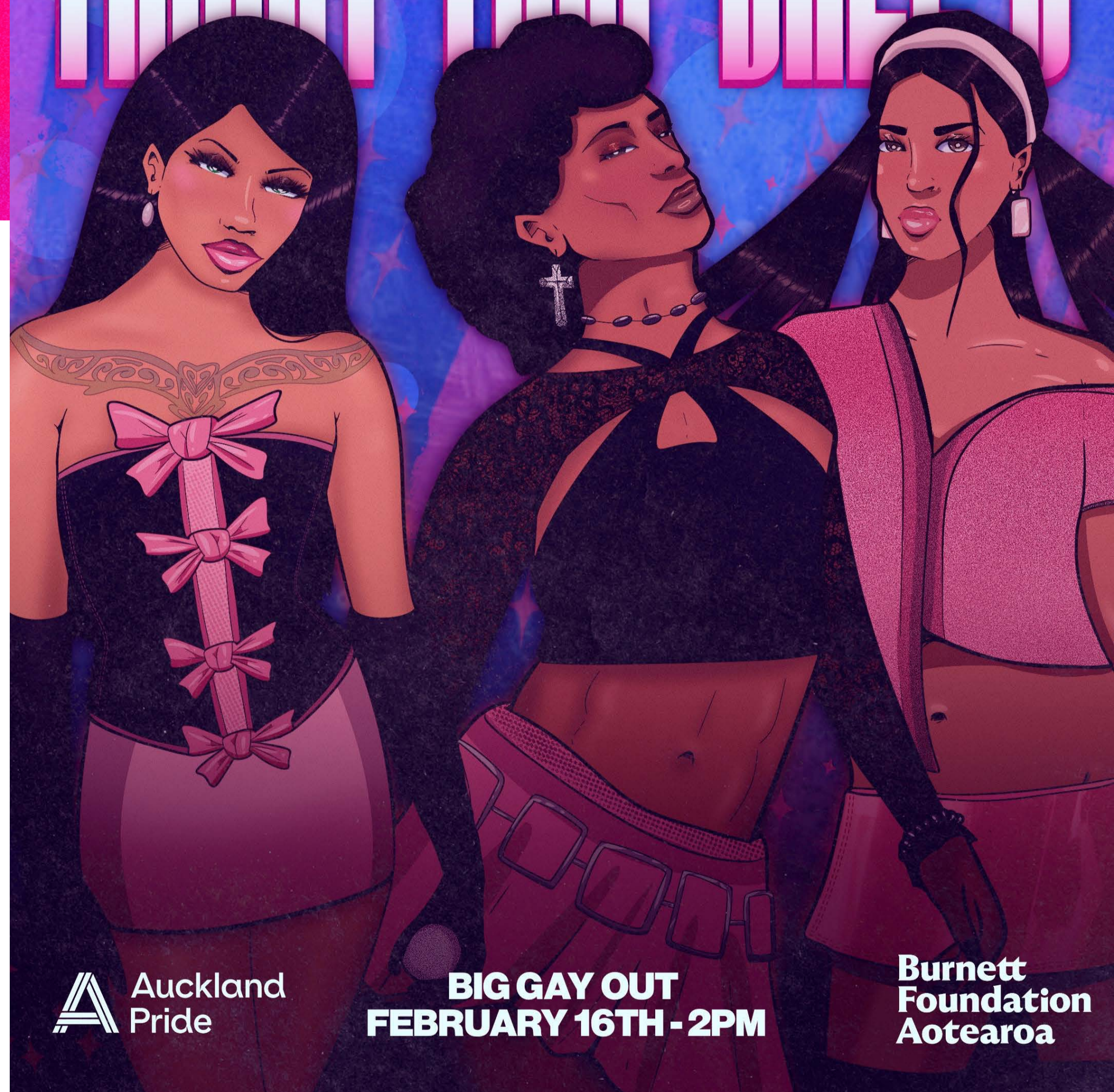
**Burnett Foundation  
Aotearoa**



Photo Credit: Verónica Eastell

HOUSE OF GIVENCHY PRESENTS

# THIRST TRAP BALL 5



 Auckland  
Pride

**BIG GAY OUT**  
**FEBRUARY 16TH - 2PM**

**Burnett  
Foundation  
Aotearoa**

Illustration of Aloria, Juelz & Hina Givenchy  
Illustration and poster design by @quintohtau

# Re indigenizing Gender diversity here in Aotearoa/New Zealand

Alex Watene (Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, Ngāpuhi, Te Arawa a Tūhoe), 2025 for Vector Lights for Auckland Pride Festival 2025 20 - 28 February 2025

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Vector Lights on the iconic Auckland Harbour Bridge is part of a smart energy partnership between Vector, Auckland Council and NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi. Powered by a mix of clean energy technology, the lighting display gives Aucklanders a focal point for celebration and recognition.

This year, takatāpui and rainbow storytelling will come to life in a dynamic light show by artist Alex Watene, in collaboration with Mandylights, and will be the feature of Vector Lights for Auckland Pride Festival 2025.



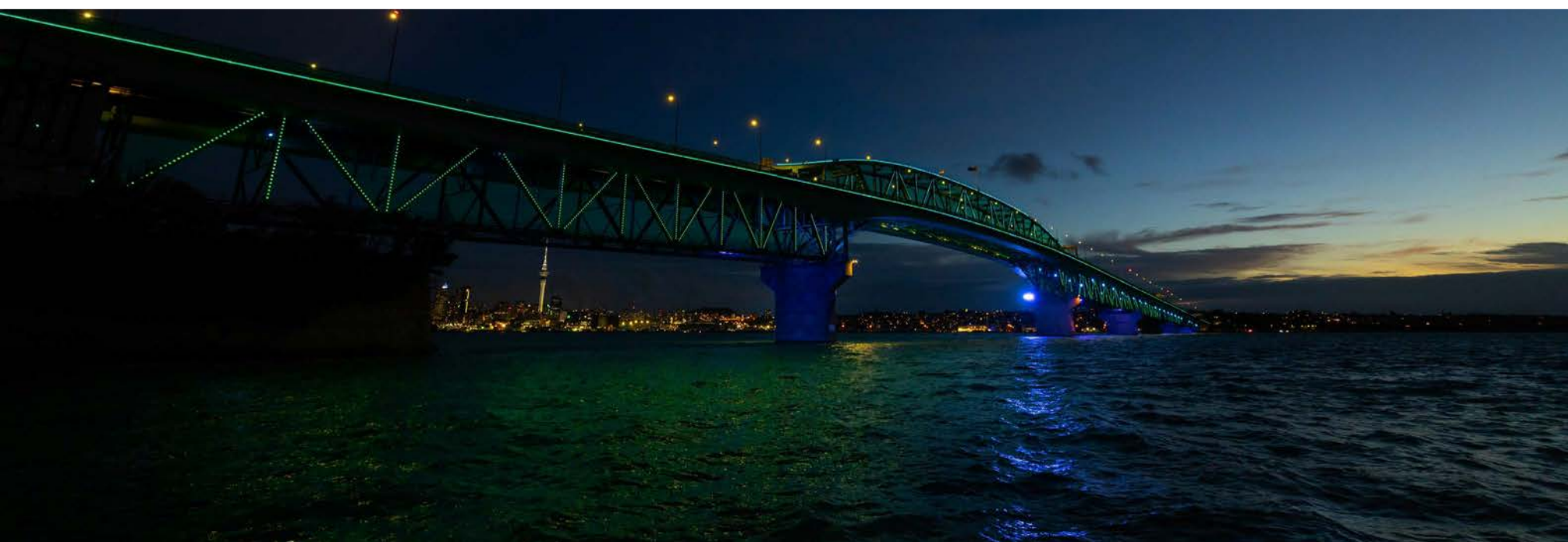
Kia ora I te whanau ko Alex Watene toku ingoa, Ko Orakei toku Marae, ko Ngati Whatua iwi Ko Te Rotorua-nui-a-Kahumatamomoe toku kainga tipu He taurira toi ahaui kei konei i unitec e ako ana i oku Rangatira.

Kia ora whanau My name is Alex Watene I whakapapa back to Ngati Whatua Orakei, and I am a student at Unitec Studying for my master's degree in creative practices. I am a contemporary installation artist whose work tells stories of my whakapapa, sexuality, identity, political issues, and everything relevant to me. "Having the opportunity to collaborate with Vector Lights is a perfect fit for me, as it aligns directly with my passion for public art. This platform not only allows me to showcase my work in a highly visible space but also opens doors to increasing my recognition within the creative industry. It's an incredible chance to elevate my artistic career while sharing my work with a wider audience, further promoting my art in an innovative and engaging way.

Head to [vector.co.nz/lights](https://vector.co.nz/lights) and listen live from some of the best viewing places, including Silo Park, Bayswater Marina and Takarunga Mt Victoria.



Please note. Due to critical maintenance work by NZTA, some of Vector Lights will not appear on the west side overarch of the Auckland Harbour Bridge. Completion of the work is expected by 31 March 2025.



# Toitū Takatāpui

Creating inclusive workplaces for Rainbow communities in Aotearoa

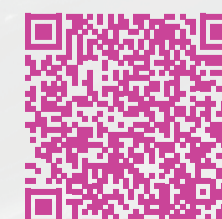


[linkedin.com/rainbow-tick](https://linkedin.com/rainbow-tick)  
 [facebook.com/rainbowtick](https://facebook.com/rainbowtick)

WORKING MANAGEMENT PRESENTS  
BIANCA DEL RIO

**DEAD INSIDE**  
WORLD COMEDY TOUR

THU. 13 FEB **AUCKLAND** KIRI TE KANAWA THEATRE  
SAT. 15 FEB **WELLINGTON** THE OPERA HOUSE  
MON. 17 FEB **CHRISTCHURCH** JAMES HAY THEATRE



**BIANCADOWNUNDER.COM**



Auckland Pride is thrilled to be partnering with Auckland Council to bring fun and free Pride events to communities throughout Tāmaki Makaurau in Libraries and Community Centres run by Auckland Council throughout the month of February. Proud Centres are also safe spaces that takatāpui and rainbow communities can attend all year round and feel represented, seen and included in the neighbours in which they live, work, and play.

With over 80 FREE and fabulous events hosted in libraries and community centres throughout the city, there is something for everyone to connect with people, place, and culture during the 2025 Auckland Pride Festival.

As we move beyond the 2025 Auckland Pride Festival, we are so excited to deepen and expand our relationships with libraries and community centres in all reaches of Tāmaki Makaurau to ensure that our communities near and far can connect and celebrate together for festivals to come.

## Proud Centres Presents Pride Fest Out West

Within the Proud Centres umbrella, Pride Fest Out West is presented by and hosted in libraries and community centres based in West Auckland. The amazing Pride Fest Out West team have programmed and produced a vast and diverse programme of events for anyone throughout Tāmaki Makaurau to enjoy!



PROUDLY CAPTURING THE STORIES OF PRIDE



Image from Grey Lynn Library Sisters Gay Event in 2021



## Queer Creative Residency

The Ellen Melville Centre proudly presents the Queer Creative Residency, part of its Proud Centre initiatives for Auckland Pride Festival 2025. This exciting opportunity offers one Takatāpui creative from any discipline the chance to transform the Marilyn Waring Room into a public-facing studio space, visible from High Street.

Exhibition | Panel / Korero or Talanoa

- Application Closed 5 Jan
- Ellen Melville Centre
- FREE



## Ang Sininang Bulawan (The Golden Dress) - Marc Conaco

In pre-colonial Philippines, queerness was seen as sacred, with those embodying both masculine and feminine energies were allowed into the Babaylan, a matriarchy of spiritual leaders.

Curated by Marc Conaco, this exhibition pays tribute to the divinity of queer ancestors.

Exhibition

- 23 Jan - 20 Feb
- Opening: 22 Jan, 5 - 7PM
- Studio One Toi Tū
- FREE



## Queer Icons Exhibition - Lane Worrall

Queer Icons celebrates queer identity and pride. Worrall collaborates with the LGBTQIA+ community, capturing their joy through dynamic portraits. Using paint, glitter, textiles, and rhinestones, queer-coded ornamentation adorns these photographic prints, highlighting the resilience and beauty of the subjects.

Exhibition

- 23 Jan - 20 Feb
- Opening: 22 Jan, 5 - 7PM
- Studio One Toi Tū
- FREE



## Whau ZineFest

Calling all zine makers! New Lynn Community Hub is celebrating everything zines and DIY with the Whau Zine Fest! Enjoy works from zine makers and artists from around Aotearoa New Zealand, ranging from poetry to politics to comics to essays!

Workshop

- 1 Feb, 10AM
- New Lynn Community Centre
- FREE



## Gay & Proud Too – More Images and Events from the Archives of the Auckland Pride Centre 1987-2004

An exhibition of photographs from the Archives of the Auckland Pride Centre – Auckland's Inclusive LGBTT Community Centre.

Exhibition

- 1 Feb, 9AM
- Central City Library
- FREE



## Love is Love: Take 3 Romances

Borrow three romance novels from Auckland Council Libraries over February and you're automatically in the draw to win one of five \$100 eGift cards to spend on something special for you and your dearest! Visit [aucklandlibraries.govt.nz](http://aucklandlibraries.govt.nz) from late January for more details.

Literature

- 1 - 28 Feb
- All Auckland Council Libraries
- FREE



## Polaroid Wall of Pride

During the festival, visitors, rainbow allies, and the queer community are invited to have their portrait taken by a staff member and pinned to our evolving display board. This simple installation showcases the diversity, integration, and support within our community, creating a visual celebration of acceptance and belonging.

Exhibition | Workshop

- 1 - 28 Feb
- Ellen Melville Centre
- FREE



## Lightboxes

박성환 Sung Hwan Bobby Park 조상 제사 전설 전사 Ancestor Offering Myth Warrior 박성환 Sung Hwan Bobby Park presents works of photography in Lightbox sculptures to bring time and space for reflections of queer ancestors.

Exhibition

- 1 - 28 Feb
- Ellen Melville Centre
- FREE



## He Piko He Taniwha

*He Piko He Taniwha* is a public art installation across the Freyburg Steps and facade 'drips' at Studio One Toi Tū for the duration of Pride Month. This work explores taniwha, a being both monstrous and healing, residing in the waterways, awa and moana of this whenua, whose tail whips into our daily lives.

Exhibition

- 1 - 28 Feb
- Freyburg Steps and Studio One Toi Tū
- FREE



## Pronoun Badge Making

Pop into the Leys Institute Little Library anytime during the month of February and take some time to craft yourself a pronoun badge; use our templates or get creative with your own design. We have all the supplies required to make a 50mm button badge. Stop by anytime during our opening hours Monday – Friday, 9AM – 6PM, Saturday, 9AM – 4PM.

Workshop

- 1 - 28 Feb
- Leys Institute Little Library
- FREE



## Badge of Honour Workshop - Cobi Bosch

Be proud, be mindful, and a little bit provocative! Join us for a 3-hour hand-building clay workshop where you'll create your own bespoke "badge of honor" ceramic wearable brooch. Slap and roll some clay while chatting some cheeky nonsense and crafting your statement piece.

Workshop

- 1 Feb, 11AM - 1PM
- Studio One Toi Tū
- FREE



## LGBT+ Craft Club (Pride Edition)

Want to make some new friends and get creative? Join Pt. Chevalier Little Library's monthly LGBT+ Craft Club in this special Pride session to decorate bunting that will go on display in our new library space. Contact Pt. Chevalier Little Library via Facebook or email [ptchevalierlibrary@aklc.govt.nz](mailto:ptchevalierlibrary@aklc.govt.nz) for further information.

Community | Workshop

- 1 Feb, 2PM
- Pt. Chevalier Community Centre and Library
- FREE

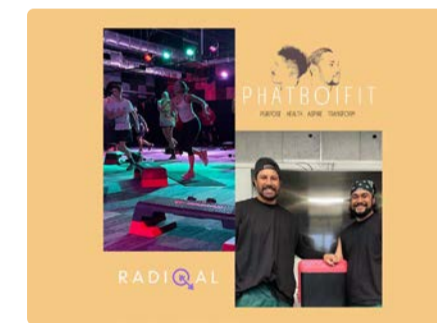


## Elder Queers Give Advice

Whether you want to ask about something specific, be regaled with an outrageous anecdote, or maybe you've just never met an older rainbow person before - whatever your vibe, swing by the cosy lounge space and soak up some wisdom and have a giggle and a yarn with an Elder Queer!

Panel / Korero or Talanoa

- 2 Feb, 10AM - 4PM
- New Lynn War Memorial Library
- 8 Feb, 9:30AM - 3:30PM
- Te Oro
- 16 Feb, 12PM - 7PM
- Big Gay Out
- 22 Feb, 10AM - 4PM
- Ellen Melville Centre
- FREE / RSVP Required



## Xtreme Hip Hop Step with Phatboifit & Radium Movement

We're bringing out the step boards and hip-hop jams for a step class like no other! Combining cardio, step work, and (very basic) hip-hop moves, XTREME HIP HOP with Phatboifit is a fun, energetic 50-minute blast—what even is working-out when you're having this much fun?

Sport

- 5 Feb, 6PM
- Grey Lynn Library
- FREE / RSVP Required
- 17+



## DIY Beaded Wind Chime

Calling our teens and tweens, come and join us for this fun craft session making your own beaded wind chime!

Workshop

- 7 Feb, 3:30PM
- Glen Eden Library
- FREE



## Pride Ride

Join us for Pride Ride: Journey on the Rainbow Path, a vibrant and inclusive bike ride that celebrates the LGBTQIA+ community. This fun and welcoming event is open to everyone, whether you're a seasoned cyclist or new to biking.

Sport

- 8 Feb, 9 AM - 12PM
- Wesley Community Centre
- FREE



## Proud Parents Kangatraining

You won't need a babysitter for this fun fitness class! Kangatraining is a pelvic floor-safe, postnatal fitness class for mums, dads, aunts, uncles, grandparents and friends. All forms of whānau are welcome here, this is a safe and inclusive programme. For the health and safety of everyone participating, please register by emailing [sherylee@kangatraining.co.nz](mailto:sherylee@kangatraining.co.nz)

Sport

8 Feb, 10AM

Te Pae O Kura

23 Feb, 10AM

Te Atatū Peninsula Community Hub

FREE / RSVP Required



## Rainbow Walls

This funky, free event invites you to immerse yourself in the artistry and activism of graffiti. Join us for a relaxed and creative afternoon as talented graffiti artist REKSO brings the Intersex-Inclusive Progress Pride Flag to life in a striking freestyle mural. The event begins at the Ellen Melville Centre, where cold drinks and ice cream set the mood for a laid-back gathering.

Community | Exhibition

8 Feb, 3PM

Ellen Melville Centre

FREE



## Pride Tamariki Time

Enjoy stories, songs and movement with this Pride-themed Tamariki Time! Ideal for 2-5yr olds.

Community | Literature

8 Feb, 10AM

Pt. Chevalier Community Centre and Library

FREE



## Pride Art in Conversation

Celebrate two exceptional contemporary artists: Kahurangi Smith and Sung Hwan Bobby Park.

Join both artists for an engaging kōrero about their newly revealed public artworks. They'll share insights into their concepts, processes, and creative practices, exploring how their works connect under the kaupapa of Pride.

Panel / Korero or Talanoa

8 Feb, 10:30AM

Ellen Melville Centre

FREE



## Waiata i te Whare: Tyrun & Doron Semu

Haere mai ki Te Paataka Koorero o Takaanini for a special Pride edition of Waiata i te Whare! Join us for maatauranga sharing around Māori and Pasifika Rainbow+ / Takataapui / MVPFAFF+ histories and icons, a siapo workshop with the one and only Doron Semu, and an extra special tiny desk-esque performance from the incredible Tyrun.

Performing Arts, Cabaret & Comedy

8 Feb, 12PM

Te Paataka Koorero o Takaanini

FREE



## HB Pride Temp Tattoo Workshop

Come along and celebrate pride month with HB pencil's temporary tattoo workshop! You can draw what 'pride' means or looks like to you then turn it into a fun temporary tattoo. This is a free workshop with very limited spots! Let's get drawing!

Workshop

8 Feb, 12 - 4PM

Studio One Toi Tū

FREE



## DIY Rainbow Jewellery Workshop with The ReCreators!

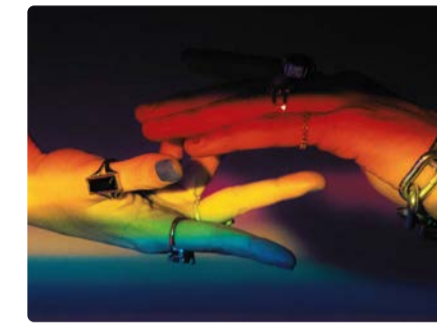
Brighten up your Saturday afternoon celebrating Pride month with us at this free, sustainable jewellery workshop. Create your very own pair of unique earrings from recycled materials and show off your creative flair to all your friends and family. We can't wait to see the amazing ornaments that you make on the day. Brought to you by our local sustainable community superheroes, The ReCreators.

Workshop

8 Feb, 12:30PM

Mt. Albert Library

FREE



## Proud Voices Poetry Workshop

Led by experienced educators, writers, and members of the rainbow community, this workshop will explore black out poetry as a lead in to the art of spoken word. Participants will be guided through an interactive workshop on writing, editing and performing spoken word poetry, and be given the opportunity to try their hand and lift their (proud) voice!

Literature | Workshop

8 Feb, 1PM

13 Feb, 3:30PM

Waiheke Island Library

FREE



## PRISMATICA 2025

Prismatica is about coming together – to buy plants, meet other collectors and growers, talk about our shared passions, and learn from each other. We aim to have some local gardening groups mixed with a range of rainbow and allied vendors to cover a range of gardening interests.

Community

8 Feb, 9 AM - 1PM

Western Springs Garden Community Hall

FREE



## The Sisters Gay Present... Taste This! A Tantalising Potluck

Are oranges the only fruit? Have you tried fried green tomatoes? Who hammed it up in Maycomb, Alabama? And what is it about lesbians and brownie recipes? Discover such culinary delights and their dishy purveyors in the latest Sisters Gay literary salon, aka storytime for grown-ups. In homage to potlucks past, bring low-maintenance finger-food and drink to share.

Community

8 Feb, 5 - 7:30PM

Grey Lynn Library

FREE



## Drag Queen Bingo with Trinity Ice!

Join us for three hilarious and highly competitive games of bingo, hosted by our fabulous drag queen Trinity Ice! You're sure to be entertained, so grab your friends and come along for this fun, free night out! Spaces are limited, so bookings are essential. Grab your ticket now!

Performing Arts, Cabaret & Comedy

8 Feb, 7PM

New Lynn Community Hub

21 Feb, 7PM

Onehunga-Oranga Hub

28 Feb, 7PM

Te Pae o Kura

FREE | 15+



## Embroidery for Crafty Queers

Learn to embroider with fellow queers from your tutor Von. In this 3-hour workshop you will create a patch as an expression of what pride means for you. As an introduction to embroidery, you will learn hand sewing hacks and basic stitch techniques. To personalise your pride patch, you will then embroider your choice of text, symbols or illustration.

Workshop

9 Feb, 12 - 3PM

Studio One Toi Tū

FREE



## The Queer Bears Booknic!

The Central City Library is hosting our First Annual Queer Bears Booknic at Albert Park! This is going to be a light fun meet up for our queer book worms. There'll be snacks, games and book recommendations from your lovely local queer librarians and bookish ceremonies! Please RSVP through the link provided on Auckland Pride website so we have an idea of numbers for snacks.

Community

9 Feb, 1 - 4PM

Albert Park

FREE / RSVP Required



## Pride Dot Art (Kids) with The ReCreators

Get colourful and creative using all the colours of the rainbow and learn to dot art. This is a beautiful way to create beautiful artworks. Mindfully dot art on beautiful wood and CDs with colourful paint. Registrations required via The ReCreators website.

Workshop

10 Feb, 3:30PM

Glen Eden Library

FREE



## Planting with Pride

Get ready for a vibrant and inclusive gardening event! Join us as we celebrate the joy of gardening with a welcoming community that embraces the beauty of every colour in our diverse community. This is a fantastic opportunity to connect with our Rainbow community and get active in a fun and engaging way.

Community

12 Feb, 10AM

Onehunga Community Centre

FREE



## PRIDE Poetry Speakeasy and Open Mic 2025

2025 marks the 10th anniversary of the Samesame but Different Queer Writer's Festival which opens with the PRIDE Poetry Speakeasy and Open Mic in association with Auckland Libraries and Studio One Toi Tū. Come along to read your work, to listen and enjoy in a welcoming queer word nest. With host Nathan Joe and guest poet Michael Giaccon, author of undressing in slow motion.

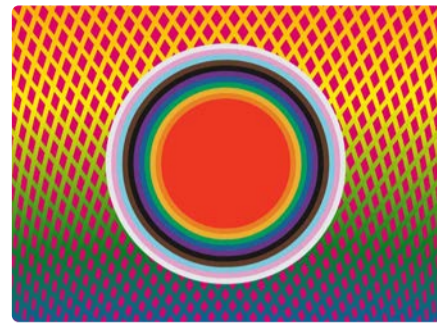
Literature

12 Feb, 5PM

Studio One Toi Tū

FREE





## Queer Voices Zine Launch

This publication looks at not only the experience but as an opportunity of representation, where we give a foot in the door to a range of Queer creatives and their own expressions and stories of Queerness and Pride. This launch spotlights and celebrates this collaboration and offers a sneak preview of the zine prior to its distribution at Big Gay Out 2025.

Panel / Korero or Talanoa

- 17 12 Feb, 5:30PM
- Central City Library
- FREE



## Read-with-Pride Storytime

Let's celebrate Pride Month reading!

Literature

- 17 13 Feb, 10:30AM
- Glen Eden Library
- FREE



## Drag On You

Get ready to unleash your inner diva at Drag On You, an exciting drag makeover experience at the Ellen Melville Centre! Skilled makeup artists will transform 9 lucky participants into stunning drag Kings and Queens with 50-minute makeover sessions in the Betty Wark Room.

Workshop

- 17 13 Feb, 1PM
- Ellen Melville Centre
- FREE



## Glitter & Sparkle Story Time & Craft

Event is for primary school children. Activity includes a craft. Children design and make their own Elton John glasses followed by a 15 minute storytime.

Workshop

- 17 13 Feb, 3:30PM
- Howick Library
- FREE



## Zumba: Pride Edition with Shawn & Radiqal Movement

This fun and energising 45-minute class combines Latin-inspired dance moves with cardio to get you moving, grooving, and feeling amazing. Shawn creates a supportive, upbeat environment where everyone can let loose and enjoy the rhythm, regardless of fitness level or dance experience.

Community

- 17 13 Feb, 6:30 - 7:15PM
- Grey Lynn Library Hall
- FREE
- 18 17+



## Rainbow Rhymetime

Join us for a special rainbow rhymetime as we celebrate Pride Month!

Whānau, siblings and caregivers are all welcome!

Literature

- 17 14 Feb, 10AM
- Parnell Library
- FREE



## Starlight Disco

Get ready to shine bright at the Starlight Disco! Join us at the Onehunga Community Centre for a night of family fun, music, and dancing under the stars. Whether you're a boogie master or just like to wiggle and jiggle, come on down and show off your moves. Let's make some magical memories together!

Music / Party

- 17 14 Feb, 6PM
- Onehunga Community Centre
- FREE



## Proud Voices Open Mic Night

Join us for a special Open Mic Night at Waiheke Library on Valentine's Day, celebrating love, diversity, and identity in honour of Pride Month. Express yourself through poetry, music, or storytelling — or just come and listen to the stories and talents of others. We'll have delicious snacks to enjoy as you mingle and celebrate the beauty of love in all its forms.

Literature

- 17 14 Feb, 7PM
- Waiheke Island Library
- FREE



## Queer Wears: Pre-Big Gay Out Clothing Swap

Join us for our Gender-Affirming clothing swap. This is a free event where you can donate your unwanted items and grab yourself something new. Bring a tote, grab a free barista-made coffee, and source a new outfit for Pride! Donated items can be dropped off at the Pt. Chevalier Little Library between Saturday 8 - 14 Feb during opening hours.

Community

- 17 15 Feb, 9AM
- Pt. Chevalier Community Centre
- FREE



## Summer Rush Dodgeball Tournament

At DodgeBall For All, we believe that anyone who wants to participate in Dodgeball should be able to participate in the way that they want to. There is no one skill that makes a player great, there is no set body type that defines a typical dodgeball player. For more info and to register, visit: [www.dodgeballforall.com/events/summer-rush](http://www.dodgeballforall.com/events/summer-rush) Limited spots available

Sport

- 17 15 Feb, 10AM
- Te Atatū Peninsula Community Hub
- FREE / RSVP Required



## Rainbow Whānau Day

Join us for a special shared session, featuring sunny songs, inclusive stories and bucketloads of creative goodness. Dazzle your friends by coming dressed up in your brightest outfits and funky fashions. Stay around after the session to make and take away your very own beautiful badge or radiant rainbow.

Community | Workshop

- 17 15 Feb, 11AM
- Mt. Albert Library
- FREE



## Messy Rainbows

Join us for a fun and vibrant sensory playtime designed for Rainbow whānau and allies! Get ready to explore a world of textures, colors, and sounds in a safe, welcoming space. Whether you love squishing, splashing, or simply feeling the squelch of paint and slime, there's something for everyone to enjoy. We'll provide all the materials, so just come dressed for mess.

Workshop | Community

- 17 15 Feb, 11:30PM
- Mt. Roskill Library
- 17 20 Feb, 10:30AM
- Glen Eden Library
- FREE



## The Fabulous Waacking & Vogue Workshops + Mini Battle

Get ready to unleash your inner performer at the Auckland Pride Festival with Prowl Productions! Join us for a fabulous 1-hour open waacking workshop followed by a fierce one-hour open vogue workshop, perfect for students aged 15 and up. Dive into the world of fierce movement and expression, mastering the art of waacking's sharp angles and vogueing's fluidity.

Workshop

- 17 15 Feb, 12 - 1PM
- Te Oro Music and Arts Centre
- FREE
- 18 15+



## Hugo's Rainbow Show

What makes a rainbow? Join drag superstar Hugo Grrrl for the world premiere of Hugo's Rainbow Show: a musical, magical adventure exploring the science of the skies above. Can you help Skyler find Ray The Sun, Misty The Cloud and Wayne The Rain? Maybe even the fabulous Archie The Rainbow?!

Performing Arts, Cabaret & Comedy

- 17 15 Feb, 12PM
- Te Atatū Peninsula Community Hub
- 17 15 Feb, 3PM
- New Lynn Community Hub
- FREE



## Celebrate Pride with Communal Embroidery

This Nokshi Kotha Workshop is hosted by artist Sahana Rahman introduces participants to the Bengali tradition of nokshi katha, a communal practice where many people would work together to embroider a shared cloth. It is an opportunity to Kōrero with your fellow community members and collectively learn basic embroidery skills.

Workshop | Community

- 17 15 Feb, 1PM
- Glen Eden Library
- FREE



## Pt. Chev Big Gay Out Rainbow Brunch

PT. CHEV BIG GAY OUT RAINBOW BRUNCH is back for 2025! Start your BGO day in style! Enjoy the sweet sounds from DJ Devine, relax in the sun with a mocktail slushi, grab a barista-made coffee, spin yourself a smoothie with the smoothie bike and enjoy a leisurely buffet brunch.

Community

- 17 16 Feb, 10:30AM
- Pt. Chevalier Community Centre
- FREE



## Tu Meke Tales: Story Time with Malcom Clarke

Celebrate courage, kindness and conservation in this special story time with Author Malcom Clarke. Let them take you on a colourful adventure, sure to bring some rhyming joy with your tamariki. Suitable for tamariki aged 3-7 years.

### Literature

17 18 Feb, 11AM  
 Te Paataka Koorero o Takaanini  
 FREE



## BEINGS: Tātou Tātou

BEINGS: Tātou Tātou, is a photography exhibition, through a larger kaupapa, to showcase authentic representation of our BIPOC, Rainbow, and Disabled identities, and champion the rich and unmatched storytelling we bring to media spaces.

### Exhibition

17 19 - 28 Feb  
 Opening Night: 19 Feb  
 Studio One Toi Tū  
 FREE



## Pride Macrame (Adults) with The ReCreators

Get colourful and creative using all the colours of the rainbow and learn to macrame. This is a free workshop for adults. Registrations required via The ReCreators website.

### Workshop

17 19 Feb, 10AM  
 Glen Eden Library  
 FREE / RSVP Required  
 18 Adults Only



## Love Between the Pages: Speed Dating!

Mix and mingle in the sanctuary of the Library! Grab a seat at a speed dating station and have a chat, hit it off, and browse the shelves together! Or simply browse, have a drink, some snacks, and make some new friends!

Booking Required - This Event is 18+

### Community

17 20 Feb, 6PM  
 New Lynn Library  
 FREE / RSVP Required  
 18 18+



## Ageing Proud: Our Stories

Organised by a new collective of older gay and bisexual men, Ageing Proud. Join us to bear witness to a personal story-telling event. A small group of older gay and bisexual men will share stories about their lives: where they've come from; where they've arrived; and their hopes as gay or bisexual men ageing proud.

### Panel / Korero or Talanoa

17 20 Feb, 7PM  
 Studio One Toi Tū  
 FREE



## Call Me Kuchu: Rainbow Stories from Africa

Call Me Kuchu: Rainbow Stories from Africa\* is a heartfelt workshop that brings the rich and complex realities of LGBTQ+ life in Africa—particularly Uganda. Through a series of compelling video stories shared directly by queer Africans, the event offers a window into the lives, struggles, and triumphs of those living at the intersection of identity, culture, and activism.

### Film

17 21 Feb, 2:30 - 7PM  
 Mt. Roskill Library  
 FREE



## DIY Sparkle Bubble Wands

Join us in using recycled materials to make your own wand and cast your own magic this Pride Month!

Perfect for ages 5+!

### Workshop

17 21 Feb, 3:30PM  
 Glen Eden Library  
 FREE



## Queer Asian Arts Market

A vibrant evening dedicated to celebrating the creativity of queer Asian artists! From 4 - 8pm in the indoor-outdoor flow of the Helen Clark Lounge. This special event features great works and an array of artworks, including illustrations, zines, ceramics, and more. QAAM fosters a safe, supportive space where marginalised voices can shine.

### Community

17 21 Feb, 4PM  
 Ellen Melville Centre  
 FREE



## Dykes n Hikes | Queer-Affirming Community Walking Group with Radiqal Movement & The Charlotte Museum

We welcome people of all fitness levels and walking/running experience to enjoy movement together. Get some fresh air, enjoy moving your body, make some new connections, and be sure to visit the Charlotte Museum display at the Visitor Centre after the walk!

### Sport

17 22 Feb, 9:30AM - 12PM  
 Arataki Visitor Centre  
 FREE



## Ellen Melville Centre Pride Whānau Day

This full-day, drop-in celebration in Freyberg Square and the Ellen Melville Centre is packed with activities for all ages. Experience the magic of a giant bubble show, craft your own beaded creations, and enjoy live music by a talented singer-songwriter setting a chilled, vibrant atmosphere.

### Community

17 22 Feb, 10AM - 4PM  
 Ellen Melville Centre  
 FREE



## Geek Out for Pride

Geek Out is a Rainbow community pop culture festival – a safe, inclusive space to celebrate all things geek together. Games, workshops, market stall and so much more. Celebrate Pride with all the expressions of geekdom you can imagine!

### Workshop

17 22 Feb, 10AM  
 Te Atatū Peninsula Community Hub  
 FREE



## Queer Storytelling

Join us at Onehunga Library for a morning of conversation on the subject of Queer Storytelling:

- Listen to an emceed panel discussion followed by a Q & A session.
- Featuring local authors Jade du Preez and Claire Ahuriri - plus other creatives.

### Panel / Korero or Talanoa

17 22 Feb, 11AM  
 Onehunga Community Centre  
 FREE



## Pressing The Flesh

Katie Blundell Artist is coming to Studio One Toi Tū to celebrate Auckland Pride and meet some city folk. 'Pressing The Flesh' is a Free Self-Portrait printmaking experience inspired by German Expressionism and guided by Katie. Pop in and have a go printmaking with her. Participants will draw to create a relief plate and then print it, leaving with a finished black and white artwork.

### Workshop

17 22 Feb, 11AM  
 Studio One Toi Tū  
 FREE



## Zine Workshop with HB Pencil Crafts Zine

In partnership with HB Pencil Crafts, local artists Brandon and Hara will be facilitating a zine workshop all about pride, inclusivity, and the exploration of identity. With vast experience within the local art scene across markets and creative events, this duo will lead our zine making workshop, where we supply all the materials, and you come to join in.

### Workshop

17 22 Feb, 1PM  
 Central City Library  
 FREE



## Insider Outsider

Jade du Preez, author of Outsider, will lead a conversation exploring connections with Japan, focusing on queerness, art and the magic of libraries.

Drawing from her work, du Preez will highlight the importance of creating and sharing stories as part of identity building, particularly for fellow 'outsiders.'

### Panel / Korero or Talanoa | Literature

17 22 Feb, 2PM  
 Mt. Albert Library  
 FREE



## Book Chat (Pride Edition)

Come along to a special pride edition of our monthly book chat, and find some cool new Pride-themed reads.

### Literature

17 22 Feb, 2PM  
 Pt. Chevalier Community Centre and Library  
 FREE



## Sunday Crafternoon: Craft with Pride

Celebrate Pride Month with us i te whare, with our Pride Crafternoon series! Drop in to create your own rainbow keyring or brooch. Our Crafternoons are suitable for the whole whānau, easy to follow and all expert levels are welcome. Free, all materials provided, no registration required.

Workshop

22 Feb, 2PM  
 Te Paataka Koorero o Takaanini  
 FREE



## Retro slideshow

You're invited to come on a journey to the 80's and 90's queer scene. See the World through the lens of T, a young queer activist, wander lust, documentarian, raconteur and long time protester. Be transported through the vibrant imagery and stories, of a time when the rainbow flag was being adopted as a symbol of unity and pride.

Performing Arts, Cabaret & Comedy

22 Feb, 7PM  
 Grey Lynn Library Hall  
 FREE  
 16+



## Proud Voices Variety Night

This exciting event will showcase the vibrant diversity of our Waiheke rainbow community through an expressive mix of performances, from music and poetry to theatre, drag, and more. With performances from local queer performers, you'll be treated to a night of unique perspectives on identity, love, belonging, and the celebration of our rainbow whānau.

Performing Arts, Cabaret & Comedy

22 Feb, 7:30PM  
 Artworks Theatre  
 FREE



## Proud Voices Open Air Art Exhibit & Pride Party

Come celebrate Pride with us at the vibrant Artworks Courtyard on Waiheke Island! Join us for an afternoon of creativity, community, and love, where art and identity come together in a colourful celebration of diversity and inclusion. Explore open-air interactive art displays featuring work by local Rainbow artists, each inspired by themes of pride, identity, and love.

Exhibition | Community

23 Feb, 2PM  
 Artworks Theatre  
 FREE

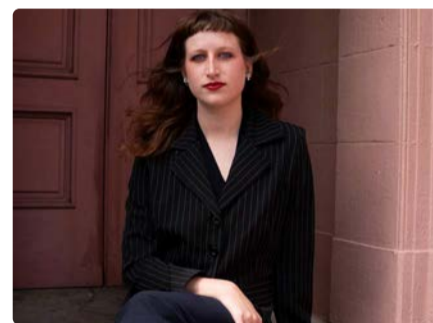


## Collaborative Creativity with the Community Art Group

Collaborative creativity is a Pride 2025 event aligned with the existing Community Art Group, but bringing a greater sense of connection, silliness, and collaboration to the way we work! You have five minutes, a canvas, and a random theme to start a work of art, the cycle continues with the next person until the masterpieces are complete – we provide the materials, so all you need to bring is yourself.

Workshop

23 Feb, 2:30PM  
 Central City Library  
 FREE

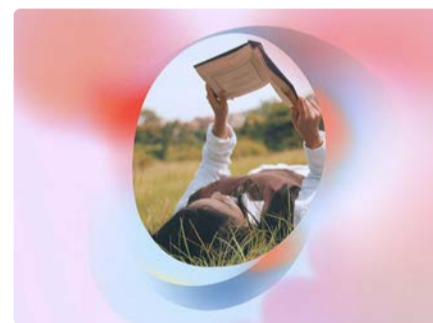


## Pride Author Talk: Amy Marguerite in Conversation with Sherry Zhang

Having been featured in various literary journals and poetry anthologies such as Spoiled Fruit and white-hot heart, Amy has established herself as one of Aotearoa's newest and freshest voices. Her forthcoming debut poetry collection *Over Under Fed* explores the themes of unrequited love, hunger and immoderation.

Panel / Korero or Talanoa Literature

26 Feb, 6PM  
 Central City Library  
 FREE



## Pride Book Club

Celebrate Pride month with us in this special after hours event at Avondale Library. Share your favourite stories and literary icons, browse new books, create a badge at one of our craft stations or simply find a spot at the library and read with a cuppa! Refreshments provided.

For ages 18+

Literature

27 Feb, 6PM  
 Avondale Library  
 FREE  
 18+



## Queer Writers Workshop: Pathways to Publishing

Authors Claire Hiria Dunning, Jamie Sands, and Jade du Preez will share their experiences on avenues taken within the industry, encourage reflection on your projects, and discuss common questions about the writing life. If you're a queer writer in search of community, this is the event for you!

Workshop

1 Mar, 10AM  
 New Lynn Community Centre  
 FREE

Tāmaki Makaurau's home for urgent and adventurous live performance made by independent artists.

# BASEMENT THEATRE

PICTURED: '23/24 Basement artists and parties, House: The Butcherly Who Flew Into The Rain, photo: Jinki Cambroneiro, Octagon: Only The Stars Know Where I've Been, photo: Anna Benishkova, Large Rectangle & Oval: Forage Fast, photo: Jennifer De Koning, Hexagon: Basement's 15th Birthday Party, photo: Anika Singh, Small Rectangle: ANTI, photo: Shake Cinematography



# PRIDE SUMMER



Book tickets for the Summer/Pride '25 season from January 10 at [basementtheatre.co.nz](http://basementtheatre.co.nz)

# FEB-APR 2025

# Pride Develops

**Pride Develops** is a brand new residency programme at Basement Theatre designed to support the development of emerging works by Transgender and Non-Binary artists. Focusing on nurturing creative practices, this residency offers selected artists the time and space to refine their work, free from the pressures of immediate performance deadlines. The residency prioritises artistic development, offering access to the main stage at Basement Theatre for a two-week period, providing artists with the time and space to deepen their creative inquiry and strengthen one key work.

Pride Develops is grounded in research that highlights the critical role of the performing arts in fostering positive social outcomes and supporting community well-being. The Measuring and Articulating the Value of Live Performance in Aotearoa (2024) report underscores how live performance contributes significantly to Aotearoa's social, cultural, and economic landscape, creating a lasting impact on the well-being of individuals and communities. This report demonstrates that live performance not only generates economic benefits but also strengthens social connections, increases life satisfaction, and fosters a sense of belonging.

Aligned with this, Counting Ourselves: The Health and Wellbeing of Trans and Non-Binary People in Aotearoa (2019) affirms Auckland Pride's commitment to providing a residency that actively supports trans and non-binary communities. The research highlights the challenges faced by these communities, particularly in accessing essential health services and experiencing discrimination. In response, Pride Develops creates a supportive, inclusive environment where trans and non-binary artists can explore their identities, refine their work, and contribute to broader cultural narratives, promoting social cohesion and personal well-being. This residency is an integral part of Auckland Pride's mission to provide platforms for underrepresented voices and ensure that all communities have the opportunity to thrive through the arts.

Through Pride Develops, we address a significant gap in the opportunities for theatre makers to properly develop their works in Aotearoa. Many artists face constraints in refining their ideas and pushing the boundaries of their practice, often due to limited access to space and

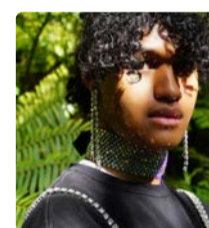
time for rigorous development. Pride Develops directly addresses this need by prioritising sustainability, artistic excellence, and the space for thoughtful exploration. By offering artists the time and resources to resolve questions within their practices and onboard necessary collaborators, the residency allows works to evolve, deepen, and fully come into being. This nurturing environment provides the essential foundation for creative rigour, allowing artists to hone their work without the pressure of immediate public exhibition, ultimately contributing to the broader vitality of Aotearoa's theatre sector.

This year, we are thrilled to celebrate artists **Manu Vaea**, **val smith** and **Forest Vicky Kapo**, whose work challenges the boundaries of performance and explores new narratives in the context of community and cultural expression. Their participation, alongside support from the Basement Theatre team, will contribute to the creation of groundbreaking works that reflect and engage with Aotearoa's rich and diverse cultural landscape.

Pride Develops is an integral part of Auckland Pride and Basement Theatre's commitment to nurturing sustainable artistic practices, creating an inclusive environment for artists to thrive and ensuring that the performing arts remain a vital and accessible part of Aotearoa's cultural life.

To learn more about Manu, val, and Forest's time during Pride Develops, check out [www.aucklandpride.org.nz/resources](http://www.aucklandpride.org.nz/resources) from Monday 24 February, 2025 for artist interviews and imagery.

Special thanks to the Auckland Council and Creative New Zealand's Creative Communities Scheme and Foundation North for helping bring Pride Develops to life.



## Manuha'apai Vaeatangitau

(Lapaha, 'Utulau, Tongatapu), an interdisciplinary artist living in Tāmaki Makaurau, often engages with themes of eroticism and critical fabulation in her work, seeking to reassert queer Pacific identities into social and cultural contexts. Having garnered early recognition as the 2019 Creative New Zealand and Massey University Arts and Creativity category winner at the Prime Minister's Pacific Youth Awards, Vaeatangitau's work has since been exhibited throughout Auckland and Wellington. Following her solo exhibition, "Tupu'anga o Leiti," at Moana Fresh Kū Kahiko Gallery in 2021 and her shared installation in collaboration with Sione Monū, "Kindred: A Leiti Chronicle" at Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki in 2022, Vaeatangitau was named the 2023 recipient of the Aniva Arts Residency. Her second solo exhibition, "Koe Tau'atāina o e Leiti: The Freedom/Emancipation of the Leiti", the culmination of her time for the Aniva Arts Residency exhibited at Pātaka Art + Museum. Her most recent inclusion in Auckland Art Gallery's triennial 'Aotearoa Contemporary' (2024) marks Vaeatangitau as a dynamic voice in Aotearoa's artistic landscape. As a screenwriter/reluctant performer for TV and film, she plays the role of Pua and is a contributing writer to the second season of NEON/Prime TV Show "Not Even." Collaborations with celebrated artists' Sione Monū and Coco Solid, being a member of Coco's Solid's Rupture 2024 creative team, cultivates Vaeatangitau's reputation as an exciting critical thinker and creator.



## val smith

(Pākehā, they/them) is a choreographic artist residing and working predominantly on the lands of Ngāti Whātua in Aotearoa. Their work explores dimensions of queerness and transness through performance, critical somatics, and friendship-based collaboration. Recent projects address the potentiality of Indigenous/settler-colonial creative collaboration and queer\*trans experiences of place, belonging and togetherness with artists Forest V Kapo (Te Āti Awa, Ngāti Raukawa), and Richard Orjis (Pākehā). val is an Arts Foundation Laureate (2019) and was a Caroline Plummer Fellow at Te Whare Wānanga o Ōtākou University of Otago (2016). They completed a PhD through Auckland University of Technology entitled Promiscuous Emplacements (2022), an investigation of more-than/human relationality through a series of performances with marginal urban places across Tāmaki Makaurau.



## Forest Vicky Kapo

As an Indigenous queer trans person growing up in Aotearoa/New Zealand, it has become important that the artistic works I participate in, whether as a solo performer or collaborator, reach out across communities. While enfolded a deep sense of artistic craft, freedom, passion, and integrity.

This requires the works themselves be, diverse in concept, placement, location, platform, medium and production. It has also become important that the works themselves are ecologically friendly.

Early training accumulated in a B.A. in choreography and dance, however, the performances 20 years on, are a blur of genres sitting on the boundaries of new performance territories. Embracing the wide band of mythical light and darkness, they (the performances) hold a variety of structural forms ranging from social provocations and rituals to on and offline imageries and sound installations.

The aim is to create productions that are sturdy, weighted and have a sense of alchemy.

The hope is to touch the heart, inspire the imagination, and contribute to a world of well-being.

# Waimahara

Auckland Pride Festival 2025 | Closing Event  
1 March 2025  
12 - 4PM  
Starts at Aotea Centre through Waimahara & Myers Park

On March 1st, the 2025 Auckland Pride Festival will close with **Waimahara** at Myers Park, a reimagined gathering that shifts the traditional Pride March and Pride Party to an activation that reflects on the strength within our communities and galvanises our shared vision of queer liberation and social justice.

Beginning at 12PM with a rally in Aotea Square Grass Terraces, we will march to Myers Park through the public art installation *Waimahara* by Graham Tipene (Ngāti Whātua, Ngāti Kahu, Ngāti Hine, Ngāti Hauā, Ngāti Manu), an interactive artwork designed to deepen our connection to place. It describes the memory of water, specifically Te Waihorotiu, the stream flowing beneath the Myers Park underpass to *Waitematā Harbour*. Like the stream, this artwork is alive. It will respond to our collective presence by changing light patterns and sound and playing the waiata *Waimahara* - lyrics on the next page!

In **Myers Park** from 12:30 - 4PM there will be scheduled speeches, special performances, and a panel discussion on the grass hill next to the splash pad. A full schedule will be released in February.

Our **Waiora Hub**, next to the playground, will have Rainbow service providers and community organisations running workshops and activations, offering valuable resources on health, advocacy, and grassroots mobilisation. This will be your hub for community education, engagement, and support! It's where knowledge meets action and connection. Whether you're looking to learn, get involved, or connect with others who share your vision, Waiora has it all. Come for the insights, stay for the solidarity!

Strengthening our collective response to regressive policies and rhetoric that threaten our rights has long formed Auckland Pride's purpose. Our closing event is our opportunity to bring communities together in a time where collective, organised actions are vital, perhaps more than ever.




**Stay tuned for more details on timings and activations—let's close Pride in purpose and power!**

*Proudly supported by Auckland Council and the city centre targeted rate.*

**Waiora Hub**  
Body Positive  
Burnett Foundation Aotearoa  
Ethnic Rainbow Alliance  
Intersex Aotearoa  
Kick Back Rangatahi Hub  
& more.



**Dress With Pride**  
RainbowYOUTH welcomes you to *Dress with Pride*, a time for you to 'get ready with us' for Auckland Pride Festival 2025 Closing Event. If you are between the age of 13 - 27, come pick out some clothes, makeup and even get a cute haircut. After that, eat some yummy kai and make some signs and badges to get ready for **Waimahara**!

 10:30 AM - 12 PM  
 Waitākere Room, Aotea Centre  
 FREE



All resources for **Waimahara** will be live on this page on February 20th.

Learn for March 1st!

## Waimahara (waiata)

Tāmauatia  
Tāmauatia ki ngā mahara

Ua

Te tukutukutia o te rangi i runga  
Māturuturu whakapapa o te ao  
Nā ngā atua i whakatō ki roto ki te  
waiora  
Ngā tukutukutanga o te puna roimata

Ua

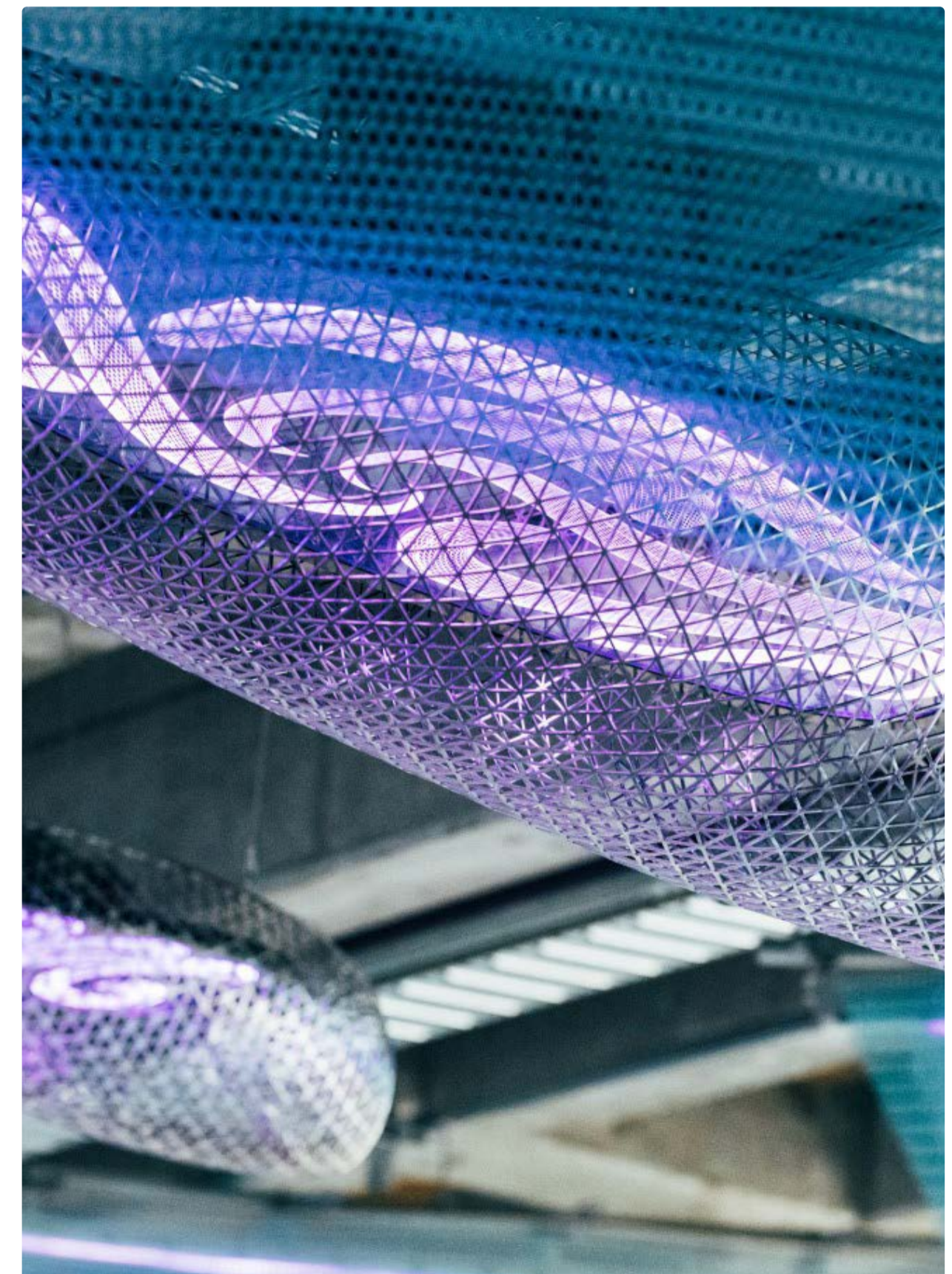
Tāwhia kia mau  
Tāwhia kia ita, kia ū  
Tāwhia kia mau  
Tāwhia kia ita

Te tukutukutia o te rangi i runga  
Māturuturu whakapapa o te ao  
Nā ngā atua i whakatō ki roto ki te  
waiora  
Ngā tukutukutanga o te puna roimata

Tāmauatia

**Ngā kaitito waiata** (waiata composers):  
**Tuirina Wehi** (Ngāti Ruapani); **Moeahi Kerehoma** (Te Aitanga-a-Māhaki, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, Te Whakatōhea, Te Whānau-a-Apanui, Tūhoe, Ngāi Takoto, Te Rarawa); **Taru mai-i-tawhiti Kerehoma-Hoani** (Te Aitanga-a-Māhaki, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, Te Whakatōhea, Te Whānau-a-Apanui, Tūhoe, Ngāi Takoto, Te Rarawa)

Photo Credit: David St George



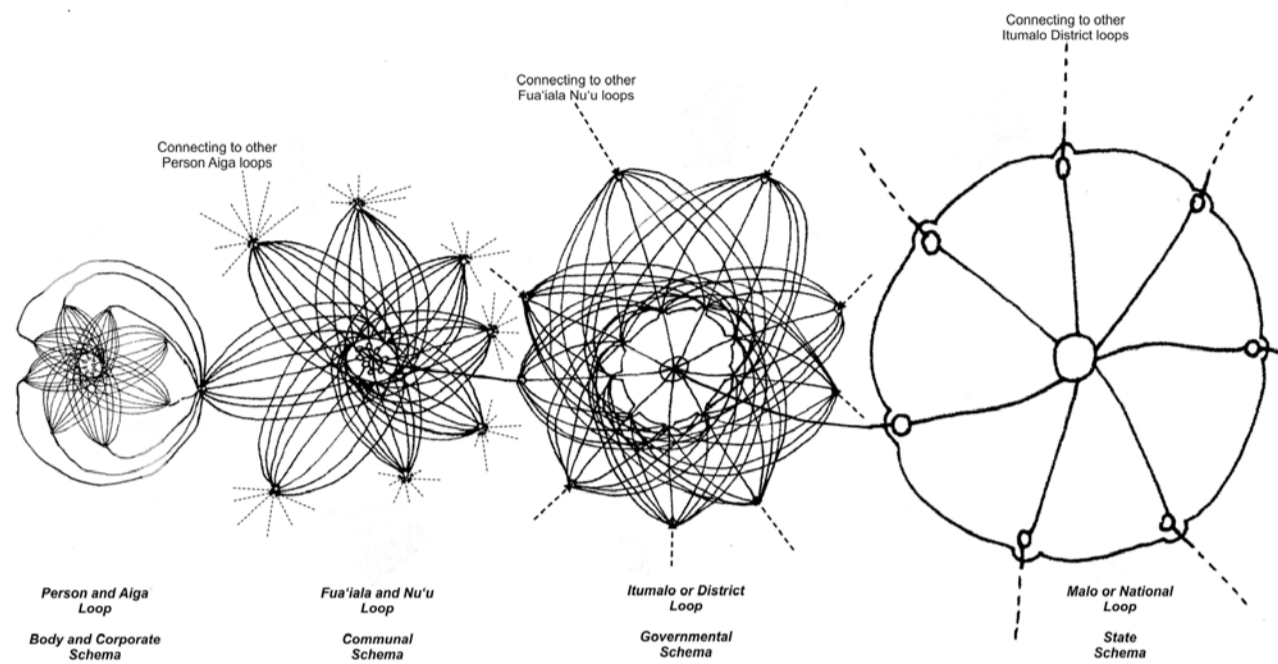


Image: Refiti, A. L. (2013). "A "Psychedelic Method": Spatial Exposition, Perspectivism and Bricklaying". In *Of Other Thoughts: Non-Traditional Ways to the Doctorate*. Leiden, The Netherlands: Brill. Retrieved Nov 21, 2024, from <https://brill.com/view/book/edcoll/9789462093171/BP000005.xml>

## Introduction

The theme **"Tētahi Ki Tētahi—to one another and each other"** provides a fertile framework for the 2025 Auckland Pride Festival, urging us to examine how we relate to one another in profound and interconnected ways. Building on whakapapa—the genealogical ties connecting us to our past, present, and future—this year's festival underscores the relational nature of identity, community, and culture.

Whakapapa, often understood as ancestry, also serves as a living practice of citation, calling forth intergenerational knowledge and stories. It is, as Moana Jackson described, "a series of never-ending beginnings," inviting us to honour the connections that shape us while imagining futures grounded in care, reciprocity, and collective liberation.

Through **Tētahi Ki Tētahi**, we explore entanglement as both a philosophical and practical framework—drawing on Indigenous wisdom, quantum physics, and Black feminist thought—to understand how we might better navigate the complexities of queer identity, relationality, and belonging.

## Entanglement in Pūrākau and Theory

In te ao Māori, the separation of Ranginui and Papatūānuku—the Sky Father and Earth Mother—is a foundational story of entanglement. Though pulled apart to allow light into the world, their connection endures through rain and mist, symbolizing the inseparability of relationships despite physical distance.

This concept finds resonance in Karen Barad's theory of agential realism, which challenges the notion of entities as isolated. Barad explains, "Entanglements are not simply connections but are integral to the very nature of existence." Similarly, in whakapapa and other Indigenous cosmologies, identity is understood as being continuously shaped through relationships—to people, land, and the cosmos. Barad's notion of "intra-action" aligns with this worldview, emphasizing that we exist because of our interactions with others.

Witi Ihimaera's retellings of Māui's feats further illuminate this interconnectedness. He writes, "Māui brought up all the islands of Polynesia from the bottom of the sea before abandoning the waka south of the North Island of Aotearoa." This narrative positions Māui as a figure whose actions ripple across time and space, reflecting the relational threads that bind Pacific peoples to each other and the environment.

Entanglement, whether viewed through Māori pūrākau or quantum physics, underscores our shared responsibilities and the transformative potential of relationality.

## Hina and the Feminine Divine

Hina, the goddess of the moon, offers a powerful symbol of balance, regeneration, and relationality within Moana-based cosmologies. Across the Pacific, Hina's stories emphasize her role as a giver of knowledge and sustainer of life. In Tahiti, she is Hina-tutu-ha'a, protector of tapa makers; in Aotearoa, she is often Hine-te-iwaiwa, atua of weaving and childbirth. These narratives position her as a figure who embodies care, creativity, and the cyclical rhythms of nature.

Ngahua Murphy writes, "Despite her dominance in pre-colonial Māori society, very little is known of her today. Examining Hawaiian knowledge related to Hina has deepened this research... and contextualizes the work within the broader political project of decolonizing the Pacific." By centering Hina, we honor feminine power and reclaim matriarchal narratives that colonial histories have sought to erase.

Hina's relationship with Māui exemplifies the relational dynamics central to entanglement. While Māui's disruptive feats—slowing the sun, fishing up islands—are celebrated, they depend on Hina's knowledge. Her gift of weaving, symbolized through the ropes used by Māui, reflects her integral role in maintaining balance and harmony within the cosmos.

## Vā Moana: Relational Space of the Ocean

The concept of vā—relational space—further expands our understanding of entanglement. The Marsden Project's *\*Vā Moana\** initiative describes vā as "a lived, dynamic relationship—a sacred and mutual connection between people, place, and time." Within Pacific thought, the ocean becomes a space of connection, carrying stories, histories, and identities across vast distances.

Alexis Pauline Gumbs draws similar insights from the ocean in *\*Undrowned: Black Feminist Lessons from Marine Mammals\**, describing it as "a dynamic archive of relation and transformation." She writes, "responding to violent strictures on migration and systemic displacement requires collaboration beyond species." For Gumbs, marine life models the cooperation and care necessary for collective survival, aligning with Pacific ideas of relationality and navigational science.

Moana Jackson's teachings remind us that whakapapa ties us not only to the land but also to Te Tiritiri O Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa, "the gift from the sea."

The interconnectedness of oceanic narratives emphasizes our shared responsibility to honour these

relationships—with each other, the environment, and our ancestors both here in Aotearoa but also across the wider Pacific with our Moana whanaunga.

## Art and the Many Vessels of Entanglement

Art offers a tangible means of embodying entanglement. Neke Moea's work in contemporary adornment exemplifies this practice. Using pounamu and other natural materials, Moea creates pieces that serve as vessels of cultural memory, connecting the personal and collective.

Through her craft, Moea mirrors Hina's legacy as a weaver and sustainer of life. Her pieces are not merely objects but living symbols of Atua and whakapapa, carrying the mana of ancestral imagination into the present. As Moea's work demonstrates, art becomes a way to navigate entanglement, honoring the relationships that sustain us while imagining new possibilities.

## Tētahi Ki Tētahi in Practice

The theme of **Tētahi Ki Tētahi** challenges us to engage deeply with the entanglements within our communities. It asks us to consider how we show up for one another, how we nurture relationships, and how we navigate the complexities of collective liberation.

Through initiatives like the Te Timatanga residency and the senior artist model, Auckland Pride fosters spaces for intergenerational learning and collaboration. These programs honor the whakapapa of queer resistance and creativity, ensuring that our collective memory remains vibrant and generative.

As Alexis Pauline Gumbs writes, "I love you, and we are just now learning that it's possible, love on a scale we can survive." This sentiment encapsulates the ethos of **Tētahi Ki Tētahi**: to build relationships rooted in care, reciprocity, and mutual empowerment.

## Conclusion

Entanglement reminds us that our liberation is collective. By embracing the relational frameworks offered by whakapapa, vā, and agential realism, we can navigate the complexities of identity and community with greater care and intention.

As Moana Jackson taught, "Each individual story is powerful...but the point about the stories is not that they simply tell a story, or tell a story simply. These new stories contribute to a collective story." **Tētahi Ki Tētahi** invites us to weave these stories together, informing action based on our collective knowledge and the many lessons we are able to share with each other. Creating within the festival an ecology of connection, resilience, and accountability towards queer futurity.



Read the full essay at: <https://aucklandpride.org.nz/tetahi-ki-tetahi-essay/>

Our partnerships are born out of values alignments and a genuine desire from businesses and organisations to authentically support our communities, empower diverse voices, and enable us to deliver our unique programming for thousands in our communities.

We continue to partner with organisations across local and central Government too, as well as foundations and grant bodies. Their support and our diversified funding streams enable Auckland Pride to be more financially sustainable as we continue to grow.

Support for rainbow communities is as vital now as it has always been, and your contributions will ensure the sustained and ongoing implementation of Auckland Pride's programming. Together we can work towards an equitable Aotearoa where takatāpui and rainbow communities are liberated, thriving, and connected.

If you'd like to know more about Auckland Pride's Partnership Tiers or if you would like to support Auckland Pride by partnering with us, please head to [aucklandpride.org.nz/about-us/partners/](http://aucklandpride.org.nz/about-us/partners/) or email our Partnership Manager, Blaise, at [blaise@aucklandpride.org.nz](mailto:blaise@aucklandpride.org.nz).



As the community trust for Te Tai Tokerau and Tāmaki Makaurau, Foundation North has supported community-led initiatives large and small since 1988. We take a considered, targeted approach to the distribution of our funding and support, guided by our strategic focus areas and the aspirations of our priority communities.

The mahi of Auckland Pride closely aligns to our focus area of social inclusion, which supports activity that will lead to a greater sense of belonging, acceptance and inclusion; equal access to opportunity; self-determination and influence on decision-making; and meaningful participation in society by diverse communities.

Supporting Auckland Pride also represents for us an opportunity to enable work that is for, by and with our priority communities, particularly Rainbow communities and those living with a disability. The scale of our support means that we can contribute to increased participation by disabled communities in the Festival, strengthen the accessibility of Auckland Pride Festival and its events, and build capacity of event organisers to consider accessibility as a core part of organising and producing events. It also supports *Te Timatanga* and *Waimahara* (formerly the *Pride March*) – place-based celebrations of the spirit of connection, honouring the past and future of Takatāpui and Rainbow art.

Aside from the Festival, we are also proud to contribute funding to enable Auckland Pride's year-round activities, such as advocacy to elevate and galvanise the voice of unique and diverse queer communities, professional support to develop the capacity and capability of artists to pursue their creative pathways and raising awareness of issues affecting Rainbow and Takatāpui communities.

We recognise Auckland Pride's leadership in championing inclusivity, bridging intersections and activating ecosystems through their community outreach and engagement, and also acknowledge the many aspects of their offerings that demonstrate Te Tiriti in action – like *Te Timatanga's* by Māori for Māori programme, and the provision of funding support to make participation in the Festival more accessible and equitable for disabled Rainbow whānau.

We are thrilled to join Auckland Pride's other supporting partners in celebrating Auckland Pride 2025, in particular our friends at Rule Foundation with whom Foundation North has recently launched a new funding partnership to extend our support for Rainbow and Takatāpui communities in our rohe. To learn more about these funding opportunities visit [www.rulefoundation.nz/foundation-north-fund](http://www.rulefoundation.nz/foundation-north-fund).



Auckland Council are proud to continue our strategic partnership with Auckland Pride Festival and be a key part of bringing to life Auckland Pride 2025. Our partnership with Auckland Pride Festival has grown year on year. As key strategic partners who are together able to leverage the scale and scope of the Auckland Council family network in an integrated, seamless way across teams, we are able to support the development and delivery of the biggest, best festival yet. Auckland Pride is a destination festival for Tāmaki Makaurau. This year mark's its twelfth anniversary, and we are committed to delivering another fantastic event together this year.

The themes of this year's festival are about celebrating, empowering, uplifting, nourishing, and energising Tāmaki Makaurau's rainbow communities, which aligns with key Auckland Council outcomes around supporting our communities, celebrating our diverse stories, and building social cohesion.

Throughout the festival offering, the Auckland Pride Festival team have led the development and delivery of a vibrant, community-centred, open access programme that showcases the diversity of Tāmaki Makaurau's rainbow communities.

*Proud Centres* is a partnership between Auckland Council's network of libraries and community places and the team at Auckland Pride Festival. The *Proud Centres* offering builds capability to support our rainbow and takatāpui communities year-round. A key aim of *Proud Centres* is to remove barriers, promote connection with the arts throughout the region, and provide platforms for practicing artists to connect with communities. The local flavour of our *Proud Centres* is what makes it special, and there truly is something for everyone.

A closing event, *Waimahara* will be held at Myers Park, a place with close connections to Karangahape Rd and our rainbow communities. A key aspect of this event will include the public artwork *Waimahara*, created by artist Graham Tipene (Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, Ngāti Kahū, Ngāti Hine, Ngāti Hāua, Ngāti Manu) and commissioned by Auckland Council as part of the regional public art collection and Myers Park upgrade.

*Waimahara* is an interactive artwork designed to deepen our connection to place. It describes the memory of water, specifically Te Waihorotiu, the stream flowing beneath the Myers Park underpass to Waitemātā Harbour, and encourages inclusiveness, belonging, and welcoming through an invitation to the audience to sing a specially created waiata, which prompts the artwork to sing back through a sound and light display.

The composer's lyrics speak about how knowledge of the world's creation was specifically stored by atua (gods) within the essence of water. As the human body is also made up of water, memories of this creation knowledge will always be safeguarded, and never lost to humankind.

The closing event will include a hiko from Aotea Square to Myers Park, through *Waimahara* to encourage reflection and connection as the waiata is sung.



AMI is honoured to partner with Auckland Pride for the second year running. This sponsorship reflects our ongoing commitment to ensuring AMI remains a brand grounded in the diverse communities of Aotearoa and brings to life our purpose of making New Zealand a safer place for everyone.

This year, as part of our partnership, you'll see our branding displayed loud and proud in safe spaces important to the local community, such as libraries and community centres. Our contribution underscores our support for the vital work Auckland Pride is doing for the rainbow community.

You'll also find us at the *Big Gay Out* and the *Pride Parade*, celebrating once again alongside our rainbow and takatāpui whānau.



The support Auckland Pride receives from Grassroots Trust strengthens the capacity of our Executive Producer role. With this new capability, we can map artist journeys from EOJ processes, to show development, and integration into wider arts ecologies. This ensures that Auckland Pride remains steadfast in our commitments to sustainable and diverse arts ecologies in Aotearoa New Zealand.



Auckland Pride is honoured to have received multi-year funding through Creative New Zealand's Residencies, Internships and Fellowships Fund to support the development and implementation of Auckland Pride's flagship toi Māori offering *Te Timatanga* for the next three years. *Te Timatanga* Residency is unlike anything else within the public sector, arts organisations, or national festivals—there is no other residency of its kind. With the support of Creative New Zealand, *Te Timatanga* will continue to drive meaningful social and cultural transformation within Tāmaki Makaurau, but empowered further will strengthen established and create new pathways for artists, uplifting vulnerable communities and the ways in which Whānau, Hapū and Iwi, raise, recognise and celebrate their mokopuna.



Vector Lights on the iconic Auckland Harbour Bridge is part of a smart energy partnership between Vector, Auckland Council and NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi. Powered by a mix of clean energy technology, the lighting display gives Aucklanders a focal point for celebration and recognition.

This year, takatāpui and rainbow storytelling will come to life in a dynamic light show by artist Alex Watene, in collaboration with MandyLights, and will be the feature of *Vector Lights for Auckland Pride Festival 2025*.



Our partnership with Auckland Pride represents a commitment to supporting Takatāpui – elevating their voices, celebrating creativity, and fostering a stronger sense of community connection. Through the Next Gen Fund and one of The Tindall Foundation's key initiatives; Embrace, we feel proud to support *Te Timatanga*; the annual Takatāpui festival within Auckland Pride and are looking forward to the official opening at the beginning of February.

Embrace focuses on uplifting the wellbeing of trans, Takatāpui, and intersex young people, by supporting organisations that are led by these communities. *Te Timatanga* not only amplifies Takatāpui artists within Pride and Tāmaki Makaurau communities, Takatāpui youth can see themselves positively represented in artistic expressions and stories, contributing to their sense of identity and wellbeing. Auckland Pride's celebrations are a great platform for elevating these communities.

Next Gen has a strong focus on the wellbeing of rangatahi through arts and creativity. The Fund prioritises initiatives that are Māori-led, Moana Oceania-led, or youth-led. The partnership with Next Gen and Auckland Pride amplifies Takatāpui representation within the arts, particularly through initiatives like *Te Timatanga*; as a Māori-led, rainbow-focused creative initiative that brings Takatāpui voices to the forefront through art. For young people, art is not just an outlet for creativity but helps establish a sense of belonging, a connection to culture and a celebration of identity. By supporting these initiatives, we hope to nurture a new generation of Takatāpui artists and creators and foster a space where they can thrive.

We are eager to see the Auckland Pride events open with the showcase of *Te Timatanga* and the artwork of Louie Zalk-Neal and Neke Moe, a powerful example of how art and community can come together to affirm Takatāpui existence and resilience.

Next Gen and Embrace are proud to be a part of this celebration and remain committed to ensuring that Takatāpui, Tangata Whenua, and rainbow communities continue to be supported and uplifted in every aspect of society.



Auckland Pride is grateful for the support of the Lottery Grants Board, which has been pivotal in the personnel growth of Auckland Pride. Their support has allowed us to build our staff capacity to more effectively hold artists and the communities they belong to safely through the functionality of an Executive Producer role. This capacity growth enhances the overall festival experience, leading to more organised, engaging, and impactful community discussions, wānanga, workshops and events.



Being fortunate enough to have a +3 year partnership with Auckland Pride has been a wonderful opportunity to directly support Tāmaki Makaurau's Rainbow Community, and for our Rainbow employees to engage with their identity in a professional capacity.

To support this kaupapa is an acknowledgment of dentsu's point of view that Rainbow initiatives are not just an 'added bonus' but top priority, both internally within our business and externally in Aotearoa's communities and society. Supporting this kaupapa also ladders back to our core values as a business:

- We Inspire Change: Using creativity to challenge societal norms, and to liberate all people for who they are, promoting acceptance and equity for all.
- We Dream Loud: Building a platform where equity, safety, and acceptance allows all people to dream big and pursue their aspirations without fear.
- We Make It Real: We don't just cheer from the sidelines, we take concrete steps to deliver resources – whether it be financial, people, or time – to our Rainbow Community where it matters most.
- Be A Force For Good: We stand in partnership with Auckland Pride because to support our Rainbow communities and to create an equitable society is the right thing to do.

Ngā mihi to Auckland Pride and all that they do and continue to do for our Rainbow Communities and Takatāpui. We share your vision, kia tina!



We are grateful for SkyCity Auckland Community Trust's support of *Te Timatanga*. Their support underpins the delivery of public programming within *Te Timatanga*, allowing our members and their communities a deeper level of engagement to our *Te Timatanga* artists and their mahi toi. Auckland Pride envisage an equitable Aotearoa where Takatāpui and Rainbow Communities are liberated, thriving, and connected, so are proud to align with SkyCity Auckland Community Trust's vision of "Communities engaged and connected enables thriving communities".

## **ROCKET WERKZ** RocketWerkz Festival Partner

A special thank you to RocketWerkz who have supported Auckland Pride for the last five festivals. We are so grateful to the world-building they provide rainbow and takatāpui communities through their games, and for the ongoing organisational development and festival delivery that their support of Auckland Pride enables.

## **ASB** ASB Project Partner

We're proud to partner with Auckland Pride to sponsor *Dress with Pride*, an inspiring event by RainbowYOUTH that empowers rangatahi to embrace who they are through creativity and connection. This event supports young people in expressing themselves with confidence and pride as they prepare for Waimahara.

Rangatahi are the future of Aotearoa, shaping progress today and tomorrow. Events like *Dress with Pride* remind us of the strength and beauty in diversity, creating a space where young people can stand tall in their identities and build connections that will carry them forward.

We're honoured to back this kaupapa, celebrating the creativity and resilience of our youth. By supporting *Dress with Pride*, we're not only celebrating inclusion—we're accelerating progress for a better, more inclusive future for all New Zealanders. Kia kaha, kia māia, kia manawanui.

## **Colenso BBDO** Colenso Creative Partner

Colenso believes creativity thrives in a world full of diversity and difference. We're here to create, amplify and celebrate stories that matter to culture, the ones that reflect all the colours of love, identity, and expression.

We know the world is better when it's filled with people who can show up as they are, unapologetically themselves and get to live out and proud every single day without fear, without oppression, and without even thinking about it.

Our partnership with Auckland Pride is about more than a campaign. It's about supporting the amplification of voices, challenging norms, creating space for people to live and love with pride, and making Tāmaki Makaurau a richer place to be for everyone.

So while we may be known for advertising, we love to use our creativity to make a difference.

Here's to Pride and a world where everyone is welcome to be as fabulous as they are.

## **818.** 818 Media Partner

Auckland Pride is so grateful for the support of 818. Through our partnership, 818 ensures that Auckland Pride garners premium PR and media opportunities. 818 are storytelling professionals, whose expertise guides our organisation to more effectively share with our communities and wider public who we are, what we do, and how we do it. Thank you, 818!

## **CUETONE MEDIA** Cuetone Media Media Partner

Our collaboration with Auckland Pride holds deep significance, not only for us as a company but for the entire Auckland community. It's a partnership built on shared values of togetherness, collaboration, and creating a space where diverse queer voices can thrive. Over the next few years (as we've already started), we aim to document and archive stories that reflect the vibrant lives, struggles, and triumphs of the queer community within Tāmaki Makaurau and the extended whenua, ensuring that future generations of queer people in Auckland have a rich tapestry of experiences to look back on.

Auckland Pride is more than just an event; it's a symbol of strength, resilience, and unity in our city. Working with this remarkable organisation, we are able to contribute to a greater cause: the creation of safe spaces where queer individuals can freely express themselves and share their stories. These stories, once forgotten or silenced, now have a platform to be heard, cherished, and passed down. We honour the importance of preservation from all walks of life through storytelling, which holds great significance for those past and present. Through this collaboration, we take on the responsibility of capturing and preserving queer narratives for years to come.

In a world where queer people have historically faced marginalisation, exclusion, and erasure, it is vital that we make room for these stories, both joyous and heartbreaking, to be told. Our work with Auckland Pride allows us to ensure that these voices are never forgotten and that they are seen as part of the broader, ever-evolving story of Aotearoa. When we document, we empower; when we archive, we preserve the legacy of those who have come before us. Ko te wāhi kei runga, kei raro, meaning what is above is below, reminds us that the work we do today resonates for future generations. We are laying the foundation for future queer Aucklanders to understand their place in the world, to feel seen, and to know that their experiences matter.

The beauty of this partnership and working with the incredible team at Pride lies not only in the creation of art but in the cultivation of a safe space where queer people can come together, share their truths, and reflect on the history that has brought us to where we are today. In doing so, we create a sense of belonging that transcends time, and having the privilege of capturing that is truly special to us. This project is about people—our community, our stories, our future.

Through our collaboration with Auckland Pride, we are not only documenting history, but we are also shaping the future—ensuring that future queer people have a place to look back on, reflect, and learn from. After all, what is worth doing if it's not documented?

## **ABSTRACT HOTEL** Abstract Hotel Accommodation Partner

Abstract Hotel is proud to partner with Auckland Pride as the official Accommodation Partner of the 2025 Auckland Pride Festival.

We love being in K Rd and are delighted to be part of one of K Rd's most cherished institutions. We opened just as last year's Festival got under way, so were not in a position to participate as fully we would have liked. But now, one year on, we're in, and totally engaged.

We hosted the festival's launch in November and we'll be housing out-of-town artists in the Te Timatanga and Pride Develops programmes. By hosting them at Abstract, we will help ensure they have a grounded connection to place and people, between Auckland Pride's office on Karangahape Road, the Central Auckland theatre precinct and broader Grey Lynn neighbourhood that they will be working in.

Our commitment doesn't finish when the 2025 Auckland Pride Festival ends. It is year-round. We have launched a discount code - 'PRIDE' which offers Rainbow communities 15% off when they stay at Abstract Hoel. This will support Auckland Pride's night and arts collectives, ensuring they have access to a safe place to stay when producing their late-night events.

We think that we have a lot to add to the 2025 celebrations. There's our magnificent Wintergarden (we know it's summer but do check out the fireplace). Then there's the Gallery (check out the New Zealand art collection), the Library Lounge (check out the eclectic collection of much-loved secondhand books) and, of course, the Terrace Bar (surely you need no further invitation to check that out).

And even those who are not staying in our hotel can enjoy some of Auckland's finest Italian food at our restaurant, Alla Prossima, where award-winning Executive Chef, Gabriele Marangoni, showcases the amazing food of his birthplace, the Emilia Romagna region that surrounds Bologna, the land of fast cars and slow food. If you like an unpretentious meal, elegant but simple, yet deeply satisfying, you'll find yourself in heaven, and, as its very name suggests, you'll want to come back for more of the same next time.

Then, you've had a long, Pride-filled day or just want to relax and de-stress with someone special, there's Sa-Ni Massage and Spa, where Sarisa Nasinprom's team of skilled and highly trained therapists will care for you using traditional Thai body massage techniques. These include deep tissue pressure, passive stretching and physical manipulation into yoga-like poses and have been practiced for thousands of years. Again: you'll find it heavenly.

If you like what you find, tell Nigel McKenna, Founder of Templeton Group. It's his design skills and eye for detail that make Abstract so exciting to visit. Or tell Hotel Manager, Anmole Gulati. It's his warmth, charm and care that inspire all staff to ensure that takatāpui and rainbow communities find it a pleasure to stay at Abstract.

# MASSIVE THEATRE COMPANY

## A Massive Start to 2025

Massive Theatre Company's renowned theatre devising workshops are a great way to keep your creative muscles flexed throughout 2025. Our first free Foundations Workshop for 2025 is in Tāmaki Makaurau, January 21 - 23.

All workshop dates and registrations are now live on the Massive Theatre Company website - visit [massivecompany.co.nz](https://massivecompany.co.nz) or use the QR code to find out more and register.

*Participants must register for the workshops, we do not accept walk-ups on the day.*



## Foundations Workshops FOR 14 - 25 YEARS

<b>AUCKLAND</b> January 21 - 23 / February 22 - 23 April 14 - 16 / May 3 / July 8 - 11 August 9 - 10 / October 1 - 2	<b>CHRISTCHURCH</b> May 17 - 18	<b>WAIKATO</b> May 24 - 25	<b>WELLINGTON</b> June 6	<b>ROTORUA</b> August 2 - 3	<b>WHANGĀREI</b> September 22 - 26
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## Essentials Workshops FOR 20+ YEARS

<b>AUCKLAND</b> April 12 - 13 / August 23 - 24 / October 11 - 12	<b>WELLINGTON</b> June 7 - 8
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