



## PACIFIC FESTIVAL OF BRASS - ‘TAONGA VAKA’

Taonga Vaka is a celebration of Pacific Island cultures, featuring a diverse array of activations, performances, workshops, and initiatives that showcase the richness and diversity of the Pacific. This immersive cultural event offers attendees the opportunity to engage in hands-on activities, learn traditional practices, and gain insights into Pacific Island traditions and knowledge. From captivating performances by local schools and cultural groups, to interactive workshops led by skilled local artists and cultural practitioners, Taonga Vaka invites participants of all backgrounds to explore, learn, and connect in a welcoming and inclusive environment.

*Please note:*

*All brass players and their friends and family are welcome to register for any of the activities listed here*

*The “Vector Wero Whitewater Meeting Room” is past the big totem pole, on the other side of the plaza*

## FESTIVAL WORKSHOPS & ACTIVATIONS:

### 1. **Pou Kapua Hikoi led by Manurewa Marae Kaumātua, Martin Cooper**

- *When: Thursday 11 July 10am – 11am*
- *Where: Meet at the AUT Foyer of the Due Drop Events Centre*
- *Cost: Free (with morning tea provided)*
- *Register [HERE](#) (due to limited spaces, the form will be closed when class capacity is reached)*

“This immersive journey will lead a group of approximately 20 individuals to the heart of our venue, where stands a magnificent Māoritotem, the Pou Kapua, steeped in profound historical significance. Led by a representative of the Manurewa Marae, participants will embark on a 20-30 minute exploration of the land's rich heritage and the captivating origins of the totem. Adjacent to this cultural centrepiece stands a majestic waka, offering further insight into the enduring traditions of the mana whenua. Following the hikoi, attendees will gather for morning tea, fostering connections, whanaungatanga, and a reflection on the experience. This excursion promises to be a highlight of our festival, offering a deeper understanding and appreciation of the vibrant culture that thrives in our community.”



### 2. **APO Upper/Lower Brass Ensemble Hang Series**



Join us for an exciting series of upper and lower brass ensemble skills workshop in partnership with the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra (APO). These respective workshops are led by Section Principal Trumpet Huw Dann and APO Trombonist Ben Lovell Greene. This youth workshop offers a unique opportunity for brass players to refine their ensemble techniques and connect with fellow brass musicians. Bring yourself, bring your

instrument - don't miss this chance to elevate your playing and be inspired by two of the best brass instrumentalists in New Zealand.

### **Upper Brass Ensemble Skills (Youth) – Huw Dann**

- *When: Thursday 11 July 1pm – 2pm*
- *Where: Vector Wero Whitewater Meeting Room*
- *Age: intermediate to school leavers*
- *Cost: Free*
- *Register [HERE](#) (due to limited spaces, the form will be closed when class capacity is reached)*

### **Upper Brass Ensemble Skills (Open) – Huw Dann**

- *When: Thursday 11 July 2pm - 3pm*
- *Where: Vector Wero Whitewater Meeting Room*
- *Age: open to all*
- *Cost: Free*
- *Register [HERE](#) (due to limited spaces, the form will be closed when class capacity is reached)*

### **Lower Brass Ensemble Skills (Youth) – Ben Lovell Greene**

- *When: Thursday 11 July 3pm – 4pm*
- *Where: Vector Wero Whitewater Meeting Room*
- *Age: intermediate to school leavers*
- *Cost: Free*
- *Register [HERE](#) (due to limited spaces, the form will be closed when class capacity is reached)*

### **Lower Brass Ensemble Skills (Open) – Ben Lovell Greene**

- *When: Thursday 11 July 4pm – 5pm*
- *Where: Vector Wero Whitewater Meeting Room*
- *Age: open to all*
- *Cost: Free*

- Register [HERE](#) (due to limited spaces, the form will be closed when class capacity is reached)

### **3. DressSmart Shopping Tour - with Festival Lead Lee Martelli**

- When: Thursday 11 July 3.30pm – 6.30pm
- Where: Meet at the Pou Kapūa, Due Drop Events Centre Plaza
- Cost: \$20 pp (includes return shuttle transport and goodie bag)
- Register [HERE](#)
- For more info contact Lee Martelli at [nspiano@gmail.com](mailto:nspiano@gmail.com)

Experience the ultimate shopping spree at Auckland's largest outlet mall, DressSmart Onehunga, during the Pacific Festival of Brass from 10 to 13 July 2024. Join a group of fellow shoppers as we embark on a convenient shuttle bus journey to DressSmart, where you can explore an extensive range of stores and find fantastic deals. With the Pacific Festival of Brass attracting 1500 participants and 3000 audience members from all over Aotearoa, as well as from Australia, Japan, Hong Kong, and Tonga, DressSmart Onehunga is the perfect destination for a fun outing and to pick up unique souvenirs (school holiday offers will be live).



### **4. Māori Harakeke Whetū - Dr. Te Atiwei Ririnui**

- When: Friday 12 July 9am – 10am
- Where: Vector Wero Whitewater Meeting Room
- Cost: Free
- Register [HERE](#) (due to limited spaces, the form will be closed when class capacity is reached)

“In Māoritanga, the harekeke whetū is a flax-woven star made typically around the season of Matariki. The whetū are a direct reference to the 9-star constellation and serve as either decorative pieces or as a small gift to someone you care for. Join us at the Pacific Festival of Brass for a free arts and crafts workshop - led by indigenous practitioner and artist Dr. Te Atiwei Ririnui (Ngāpuhi, Ngātiwai, Ngāi Te Rangi, Ngāti Ranginui, Ngāti Awa, Ngāi Tahu and Ngāti Mutunga o Wharekauri) - where you'll learn the traditional techniques of weaving these beautiful stars. All materials will be provided, and participants of all ages are welcome. Come weave with us and celebrate the spirit of Matariki!”



**5. Lolly lei making workshop (led by Falepipi he Mafola leader Molly Pihigia)**

- *When: Friday 12 July 10.30am – 11.30am*
- *Where: Vector Wero Whitewater Meeting Room*
- *Cost: Free*
- *Register [HERE](#) (due to limited spaces, the form will be closed when class capacity is reached)*



“In Pasifika culture, the humble **lolly lei** symbolises a time for families to express their love, support, and pride for the person they are celebrating. It radiates a sense of celebration and is commonly adorned at birthdays, graduations, and various family gatherings. Join us at the Pacific Festival of Brass for a free lolly lei making workshop, where you'll learn to create these colourful and meaningful leis. This hands-on workshop is perfect for participants of all ages and skill levels. All materials will be provided, including a variety of lollies to choose from. Come and craft a beautiful lei that you can give to a loved one or keep as a special memento. Celebrate with us and experience the joy of Pacific traditions!”

## FESTIVAL PERFORMANCES:

Free for everyone to enjoy!

- **Wesley College Tongan Group:** Wednesday, 6.50pm, BNZ Theatre (Junior Champion of Champions)
- **Cook Island Anuanua Dance Troupe:** Wednesday, 7.30pm, Festival Welcome Function, Sir Woolf Fisher Arena
- **SISTEMA Aotearoa brass band:** Thursday, 11.30am, lunchtime concert, Fisher and Paykel Foyer
- **Manurewa High School Samoan Group:** Friday, 6pm, Sir Noel Robinson Conference Centre (Youth Grade)
- **Tupou Tertiary Institute Tongan Group:** Saturday, 3pm, B Grade Category, BNZ Theatre

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**\*Tupou Tertiary Institute Tongan Group:** Wednesday, 9.30pm, [Invitational Slow Melody](#), BNZ Theatre. (Please note that the ISM is a ticketed event – tickets can be purchased at the door, or online [here](#))\*

## FESTIVAL INITIATIVES:

- *Pacific Festival of Brass Internship* – a programme dedicated to building and contributing to Auckland’s Pacific arts sector infrastructure. You may see our festival interns Kasi Valu, Caleb Looker, Shanna Paese and Nia Vavao around – learn more about them [here](#) and if you see them round, feel free to say hi!
- Art exhibition "**Brass Canvas**" featuring artworks from Manurewa local board schools – sponsored by Manurewa Local Board. This exhibit will be on at the AIA Theatre, just outside the BNZ Theatre (Hall 1)
- Presentation of commissioned taonga Motuhake by local artist Dr. Te Atwei Ririnui to BBANZ Chief adjudicators Dr. Brett Baker and Lt Cdr Michael Dowrick
- Presentation of commissioned kahoā by local artist Lupe Mahe to category winners: Grade conductors, Junior Champion of Champions winners and Invitation Slow Melody Winner, & Open Champion of Champions

## FESTIVAL PROMOTIONS:

*Here are some holiday activities available close to our Due Drop Events Centre Main Venue*

### **Vector Wero Whitewater Park:**

Enhance your Pacific Festival of Brass experience with an exhilarating adventure at Vector Wero Whitewater Park in Manukau, Auckland! Dive into the thrill of whitewater rafting and kayaking on world-class rapids, perfect for all skill levels. Whether you're a seasoned adventurer or a first-time paddler, Vector Wero offers an unforgettable experience amid stunning surroundings. Join us for a splash of excitement and make your visit to Auckland truly memorable!



View exclusive festival deals for this outdoor activity [HERE](#) or visit their [website](#)

### **Māngere Mountain Education Tour:**



Enrich your Pacific Festival of Brass experience with a captivating visit to Māngere Mountain Education Centre! Journey through time as you explore one of Auckland's most significant volcanic cones and learn about the rich cultural history of the Māori people. Guided tours offer insights into traditional Māori life, archaeological treasures, and the natural beauty of this ancient landscape. Join us for an educational and inspiring adventure that adds a unique dimension to your

stay in Auckland!

To learn more about the tour packages click [HERE](#) or contact [info@mangeremountain.co.nz](mailto:info@mangeremountain.co.nz)

### **Rainbow's End Theme Park:**

Add a dose of excitement to your Pacific Festival of Brass experience with a visit to Rainbow's End, Auckland's premier theme park! With thrilling rides, captivating attractions, and fun-filled entertainment for all ages, Rainbow's End is the perfect destination for families and adventure seekers alike. From heart-pounding roller coasters to delightful kiddie rides, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Join us for a day of laughter, excitement, and unforgettable memories at Rainbow's End!

To learn more about their winter session times click [HERE](#)



\*Please note the promotions above are not organised by the festival committee.

Enquire directly for private group bookings.