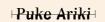




be amazed at





education visits

Where learners are encouraged to explore and experience their own wow moments.

For information and to book your class visit: miharoexperience.nz





We've all had them – those magical moments where a work of art, a story, taonga or an experience makes us go AHA! You'll have seen them in your ākonga – the eyes light up, curiosity is piqued, hands go up with burning questions, and ideas and imagination are engaged to create something truly special!

At the Govett–Brewster Art Gallery | Len Lye Centre and Puke Ariki Museum and Libraries, we're all about creating those 'aha!' moments—for visitors, learners, and audiences of all ages.

#### We call this 'Mīharo'!

Our newly created shared learning programme, Mīharo, weaves together the taonga, toi, and stories from Puke Ariki, Govett-Brewster, and across Taranaki for local, national, and international learners. This initiative bridges our cultural institutions, offering you and your students a unique opportunity to 'pick a path' and craft your own learning journey through the rich narratives of yesterday, today, and the future.

Our team of educators is on a mission to ignite, multiply, and deepen these moments of discovery. When we welcome ākonga into our whare, whether they're first-time visitors or regulars, we strive to create connections and open doors to learning through thoughtfully designed experiences. Our programmes link to and expand on school curriculums while inspiring learners to reflect on the world they want to build and participate in.

#### More 'Mīharo'! That's our goal.

With our new 'pick a path' approach, you choose the direction of your learning adventure, whether you want to dive deeper into a theme or explore diverse ideas and experiences.

Dive into our website for all the details and discover how we can help turn everyday lessons into unforgettable experiences.

To book your class visit:

miharoexperience.nz



Govett-Brewster Art Gallery | Len Lye Centre.

Kia ora! I'm Rebecca Fawkner,
and I'm delighted to step into the newly created role of
Learning Supervisor within the Cultural Experiences team,
bringing together Puke Ariki Museum and Libraries with the

With over 20 years as an Educator at the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery | Len Lye Centre, I'm all about sparking curiosity and fostering deep, critical engagement with arts, culture, history, and futures. This new role lets me take my passion for creating immersive, object-based, and student-centered learning experiences to the next level.

Growing up in Taranaki, my childhood visits to the museum and art gallery were pure magic. I still remember the thrill of spotting a taonga uncovered from the earth near 'my own backyard' in a museum display and the Len Lye sculpture that inspired me to notice sparkles on the ocean in a new way. The ripples of inspiration those experiences left on me continue to this day.

Puke Ariki and Govett-Brewster are true taonga for Taranaki—unique and special places where visits bring stories, art, and treasures to life.

Our mission is simple but powerful: to help the next generation understand the past while empowering them to shape the future.

As Learning Supervisor, I'm excited to expand our programmes, offering fresh and dynamic experiences for learners locally and across Aotearoa.

I can't wait to welcome you to our special places, where every visit is an opportunity to learn, share, and be inspired.

See you soon!



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# WHAT DOES A VISIT LOOK LIKE?

Mīharo offers a wide range of enriching experiences designed to fit your class's unique needs. Whether you're delving into our local history in the Taranaki Research Centre, booking an educator-led tour with a creative making session, or coming face to face with treasured taonga, the experience is determined by your students' needs.

Culture and inclusivity are at the heart of what we do. Our programmes weave Māori perspectives and values throughout, offering a holistic approach to learning that fosters respect, understanding, and a deeper connection to place.

Our 'See, Think, Wonder' approach encourages students to think critically and creatively. Stepping outside the school classroom and into our vibrant spaces offers fresh perspectives and real-world learning opportunities. Creativity is at the heart of our pedagogy. We believe that when education is fun, playful, and experimental, students are more engaged and inspired to explore with curiosity and confidence.

Whether you're looking for a structured lesson or a more flexible experience, we're here to support you in crafting the perfect learning journey for your students. Choose your path, and let's create unforgettable learning moments together!

#### Te Tiriti o Waitangi

Te Tiriti o Waitangi is at the heart of our museum, art gallery, and library education programmes in Aotearoa. We work as a collective to ensure our plans, policies and local curriculum are grounded in Te Ao Māori and mātauranga Māori. We take all opportunities to uphold tikanga and champion Te Reo.

We support equitable outcomes for Māori students through a Te Ao Māori approach that initiates and encourages hononga ki o rātou taonga – connecting with their taonga.

Our programmes offer opportunities for learners to engage with different perspectives. This enables them to show empathy and honour our shared history. This is invaluable for fostering a deeper understanding of our present world.

For guidance, we look to our guiding principle: Hawaiki Mokopuna – preparing for the generations to come, and what they will inherit.

# **EXHIBITIONS:**

Current & Coming Soon / Govett-Brewster Art Gallery | Len Lye Centre



#### Direct Bodily Empathy—Sensing Sound

17 MAY 2025-16 MARCH 2026

Direct Bodily Empathy – Sensing Sound explores sound as a powerful and immersive experience. It focuses on shared vibrations, deep listening, and how sound moves through our bodies. The exhibition spans resonant objects and kinetic sculptures to experimental films and visual music, bringing together historical works by Len Lye and new creations by contemporary artists from Aotearoa and beyond. With a playful approach, Direct Bodily Empathy asks: Can architecture become music? Can our bodies be instruments? Can we hear colours? The exhibition invites everyone to explore how sound can connect and inspire us.

#### He Tukutuku Auahatanga: Maureen Lander with Community

14 JUNE-12 OCTOBER 2025

Coinciding with Puanga, Dr. Maureen Lander MNZM (Ngāpuhi, Te Hikutū) a celebrated weaver and multimedia artist, presents a major exhibition featuring four large-scale fibre installations created with weavers, tamariki, and community members. In this exhibition Lander focuses on collaboration, innovation, and shared learning. The exhibition offers opportunities for students to explore ideas around kaitiakitanga, whanaungatanga, the celestial realm, and the connections between whakapapa and raranga. Over 100 collaborators have contributed, and visitors can join in by making whetū to add to the Star Waka installation, sharing in an act of reciprocity and an expression of the binding together of our spiritual and physical selves.

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# **EXHIBITIONS:**

Current & Coming Soon / Puke Ariki Museum





#### Pristine Seas: Bringing the Oceans Back

7 JUNE-26 OCT 2025

This National Geographic exhibition highlights the Marine Protected Areas around the world, and through stunning images, video, infographics, and first-hand accounts of these spaces, explores how they are helping to reverse the damage done to our oceans. Through expeditions into these areas, explore what environmental protection looks like, how indigenous peoples connect to and preserve the oceans as part of their way of life, and discover the complex planning and teamwork that go into Pristine Seas expeditions.

#### Whakarūaumoko: Active Earth

FROM JULY 2025

Whakarūaumoko: Active Earth delves into Taranaki's geological history, from its volcanic origins to its impact on human life. Spanning 80 million years, the exhibition traces the region's transformation from ocean floor to volcanic landscape through interactive displays and hands-on experiences. It highlights volcanic eruptions, sedimentation, and erosion, allowing visitors to examine rock samples and learn about the role of pounamu in Māori culture. The exhibition also explores how Taranaki's geological resources have been used historically, from traditional gardening tools to fishing equipment, and emphasises the significance of the region's agricultural and energy industry.



#### Te Takapou Whāriki o Taranaki

ONGOING

Te Takapou Whāriki o Taranaki (The Sacred Woven Mat of Taranaki) explores the rich culture of Taranaki's first Māori communities. Learn how tangata whenua (people of the land) built their lives beneath Taranaki Maunga, using natural resources creatively and leaving behind stunning taonga.

See beautifully carved pieces from local pā sites, intricate weaving, and the poetic art of poi manu. The exhibition also introduces important historical figures and celebrates how traditional Māori practices continue to shape Taranaki life.

With fascinating displays and stories, this exhibition offers a unique chance to connect with Māori traditions and appreciate their lasting impact.

#### **Taranaki Naturally**

**ONGOING** 

Discover Taranaki's incredible biodiversity, from the heights of Taranaki Maunga to the coastal reefs. This exhibition takes you through diverse landscapes, rare native species, and fascinating geological features. Interactive displays include spotlights on the short-tailed bat, vibrant wetlands, unique rock formations, and captivating fossil collections.

Step into Reef Alive! for a hands-on experience, featuring an exploratorium, replica research boat, plankton wall, dress-up costumes, and a vibrant reef life diorama. Learn about the creation of Taranaki Maunga through engaging displays and interactives

Dive into lessons on climate change, geology, and fossils—perfect for sparking curiosity and a love for nature.



## Ngā Wāhanga Toi Whakaari | Collective Exhibitions about the Performing Arts

**UNTIL 13 JULY 2025** 

This dynamic collection of seven exhibitions offers an exciting exploration inspired by the premier Te Matatini Kapa Haka festival. We celebrate Māori performing arts and their significance to the people of Taranaki. Learn about the history of Te Matatini, founded in 1972 to promote and preserve Kapa Haka, and its role in revitalising Māori language and culture.

Visit Wawata, an exhibition honouring the life and legacy of Maui Kararai Prime – also known as Dalvanius Prime – a true musical icon whose story is one of passion, talent, and unwavering dedication to his people, language, and culture.

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# LEARNING PROGRAMMES



With learning experiences available across the gallery, museum, and library, 'what we learn and how we learn it' is more dynamic than ever. With our 'pick-a-path' approach, you can design a learning adventure that perfectly suits your students—whether that means exploring a broad range of topics, diving deep into a specific subject, or creating a blend of both. The choice is yours!

Through taonga, toi, and diverse storytelling, students can connect with rich narratives, gain fresh perspectives, and engage deeply with the world around them.

Together, we're reimagining what education in art galleries, museums, and libraries looks like in 2025 and beyond. Will you join us?

Contact us to find out more:





# WHATIS PICK-A-PATH?



# With our pick-a-path approach, you choose the journey that best suits your ākonga.

Want to dive into whakapapa through weaving? Explore sound and sculpture? Follow stories through taiao, taonga, and technology? You can. Choose one path, or weave a few together.

Our newly refreshed Cultural Experiences Learning team connects the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery | Len Lye Centre and Puke Ariki Museum and Libraries through rich, handson experiences grounded in place, culture, and curiosity.

This is learning that moves between spaces, disciplines, and ideas. A living, breathing adventure across Ngāmotu.

Turn the page to find your way forward with us.

#### Pick-A-Path rotation themes

- Materials:
   Innovation and tradition
- Kaitiakitanga / Te Taiao
- Pepeha
- Imagine and create
- Critical thinking: Causes and Consequences
- Puanga and Matariki
- Culture: Journeys and connections
- Storytelling through art
- Sustainable futures: Empowering young people

#### **Curriculum and Learning Areas**

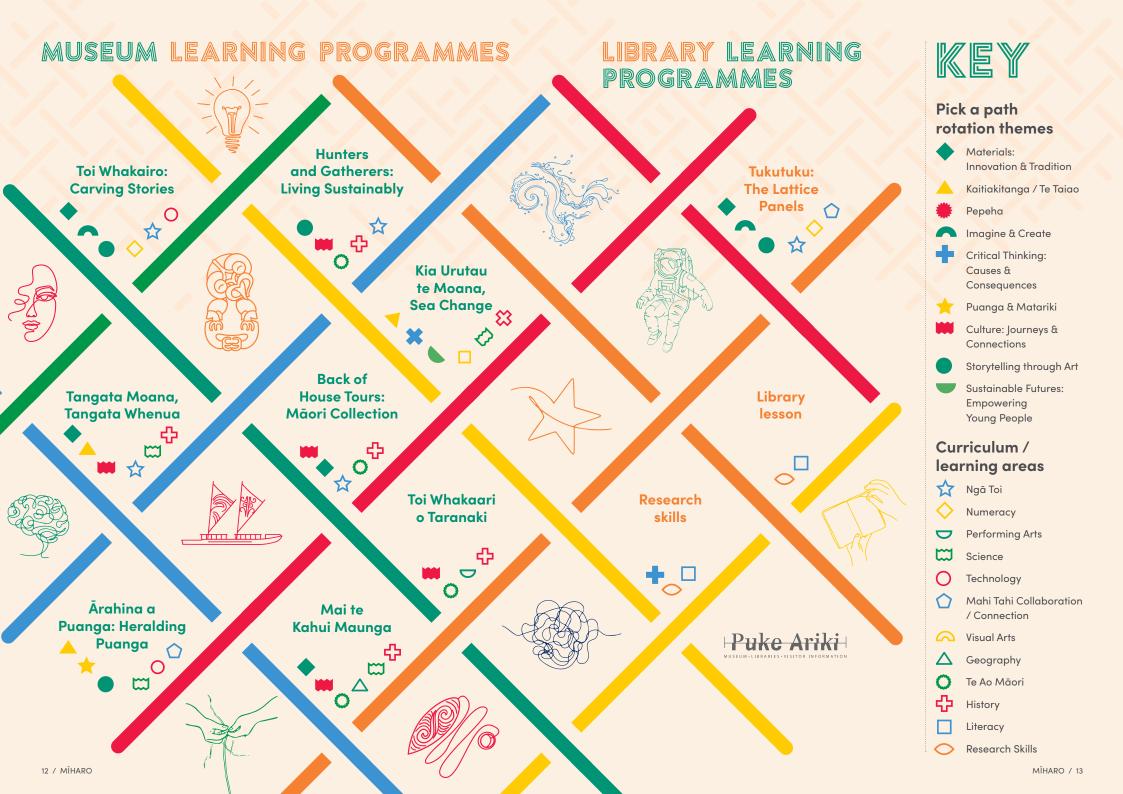
- Ngā Toi
- ...
- Numeracy
- Performing Arts
- Science
- Mahi Tahi
   Collaboration /
   Connection
- Visual Arts
- Geography
- Te Ao Māori
- History
- LiteracyItion /Technology

#### Planning your 'Pick-a-Path'. Here's what you need to know.

- Learning Programmes: Choose from 1, 2, or 3 different options over a day. We can assist you with the selection.
- **Duration:** Each programme lasts 60 to 90 minutes, with flexibility to suit your needs.
- Group Sizes: Depending on the day of the week, we can accommodate class groups of up to 32 students, with one class per programme per time slot.
- **Booking:** Enquire via the website or email for a callback.

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#### GALLERY LEARNING PROGRAMMES KEY Pick a path rotation themes Materials: Len Lye Innovation & Tradition Marks of Introductory Movement Kaitiakitanga / Te Taiao **Virtual Tour** Pepeha Imagine & Create Critical Thinking: Ngakau Causes and Pūrakau, Ki Uta, Consequences **Eco Mural** Puanga Ki Tai Puanga & Matariki stories Culture: Journeys & Connections 0 Storytelling through Art Design Sustainable Futures: and Visual Introduction **Animation** Empowering Communication for ECE **Station** Young People Curriculum / learning areas Ngā Toi Sound Te Waka **Colour Moves** o Puanga Numeracy Performing Arts Science Technology Mahi Tahi Collaboration **History through** U GOVETT -E BREWSTER N U ART U GALLERY Weaving / Connection contemporary My Pepeha Visual Arts Māori art Geography む Te Ao Māori History Literacy 10 / MĪHARO MĪHARO / 11





With Mīharo, learning doesn't stop at the end of a school visit. There are boundless ways for your ākonga to connect, engage, and explore through our extended projects. Whether on-site, off-site, or within your own classroom, our learning projects offer rich and diverse opportunities to dive deeper into taonga, toi, and storytelling across Taranaki.

#### Our extended learning opportunities include:

- The George Mason Visual Art Scholarship: For senior Taranaki secondary school students
- Professional Development:
   Tailored opportunities for teachers
- Educator-led Research: At Te Pua Wānanga o Taranaki - Taranaki Research Centre
- Back of House Tours: Explore behind the scenes with our Curators
- Taranaki Wars Fieldtrip: Walk in the footsteps of history
- Support for Marae Visits:
   Guidance and resources for
   meaningful connections

- Off-site and In-school Lessons:
   Bringing learning experiences to you
- Discovery Kits for ECE: Engaging resources for early childhood education
- Artist Talks: Connect with creative professionals and gain fresh insights
- Cinema Experiences: Dive into storytelling through film
- Extended Projects: From 1 to 3 months – enquire with an Educator

Our team of Educators is here to help you 'pick a path' and craft an inspiring and impactful learning journey for your students. Let's create more 'Mīharo' together!



# Questions and answers to support your experience

# Are Museum and Gallery programmes accessible and inclusive of all learners?

Let us know your students' support needs when you book. We supply 'sensory maps' and 'social narrative stories' booklets and can adapt lessons to suit your group.

# Are we able to access taonga in the museum collection that belongs to our iwi or comes from our area?

The museum cares for a diverse and extensive collection of significant taonga Māori. We'd love to connect you with the Museum Māori Curator and find ways to share their knowledge and access with you including back of house tours.

# Are there local stories that the students can learn about relating to our area?

The Taranaki Research Centre holds an excellent collection of books, images and archives about the history of Taranaki. Our team can help you investigate lots of topics like researching the history of your street, learning about your whakapapa or gathering information for a school project.

# How can I build a 'pick-a-path' learning experience across the Museum, Gallery, and Library?

All three institutions—Museum,
Gallery, and Library—offer crosscurricular programmes designed
to complement each other across
various subject areas. These
programmes are interconnected,
providing opportunities to create a
cohesive learning experience that
allows you to explore themes from
different perspectives. Whether
you start at the Museum, Gallery,
or Library, you can build a tailored
learning adventure that best meets
your learning intentions.

#### Is there a cost for my class?

Programmes are free for Taranaki schools, the museum charges \$5 per student for schools outside of Taranaki. Many schools within the region are eligible for bus subsidies, ranging from 40% to 100%. Contact us to find out more.

#### What hands-on activities are available?

All our Museum, Gallery, and Library programmes include hands-on learning experiences. Students can engage in creative projects, interactive activities, and handle artefacts from our education collection. Our programmes are designed to be immersive, offering tactile and experiential learning opportunities while ensuring all visitors are briefed on guidelines for a safe and respectful experience.

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#### Are self-quided tours allowed?

Yes, self-quided school visits are possible at the Museum and, depending on the exhibition, may also be possible at the Art Gallery. Visits can take place from 10 am on weekdays, but we recommend avoiding large groups.

Please contact our education team at least one week in advance to avoid scheduling conflicts. Teachers are responsible for ensuring proper adult supervision (following recommended ratios) and briefing students on visitor quidelines.

#### Are you allowed to take photos in the Museum or Art Gallery?

Photography of taonga in the Māori Gallery, Te Takapou Whariki, is not permitted to respect cultural sensitivities. Additionally, please avoid using flash photography in the Art Gallery to help preserve the artworks. Everywhere else, you're welcome to take photos for personal use. If you're unsure, just ask a staff member-we're here to help!

# VOICES OF EXPERIENCE!



#### YOUNG PEOPLE

"I like the spiny one, the storm one and the ribbons."

"Maybe I might do art like this when I'm older."

"I like wax, flowers and telling stories using my imagination."

"I was challenged by new ideas, not immediately accessible meanings."



"I just came back from NASA over the holidays, and your particular summary was very good."

#### **EDUCATORS**

"You have opened their minds to Māori instruments, games, knowledge and vocabulary. Outstanding lessons / demonstrations and hands-on activities."

"Hands-on informative sessions. Content was pitched perfectly to their level and connected with our class learning."

"The children got the chance to learn lots of new information about their local history. Information was at a level that the children could understand and relate to. Learning a new game was fun too!"

"Thank you. So many connections with what we have studied in term 2 through to this term's enquiry Whenua. I loved the use of traditional artefacts."

"Nice, paced lesson. Good mix of instruction and hands-on activities."

"I love to see tamariki so excited to be learning from the Gallery's exhibitions and producing their own amazingly creative outcomes that surprise their own teachers."

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MEET OUR TEAM

We are thrilled to introduce our expanding learning team!

#### MANU BENNETT

Pouako Ara Māori, Puke Ariki Museum and Libraries

Ko Aotea te waka. Ko Ruapehu te maunga. Ko Te Awa Tupua o Whanganui te awa. Ko Te Atihaunui a Pāpārangi te iwi. No Whanganui ahau.

Manu works across both the library and the museum, sharing his pūkenga (skills) to support a diverse range of learners, including those at Kura Kaupapa and bilingual students.

#### What inspired you to pursue a career as a museum/library educator?

Introducing people to the stories behind taonga, inspiring them to learn more and gain a deeper understanding of a subject/object.

#### What are some of the most rewarding aspects of your job?

Working with like-minded people and learning more about how things are done within the curatorial, exhibitions and the marketing teams.

#### What challenges do you face in your role, and how do you overcome them?

The best thing that helps overwhelming tasks is the team I work with and the cohesiveness that everyone brings that has streamlined this process.

# What is a favourite exhibit or piece of art in the museum/gallery, and why does it resonate with you?

Honestly, my favourite space is the Puke Ariki Garden. It is an onsite, outside classroom that is surrounded by natural materials that we use as a living resource.

# How has your perspective on art and history changed since you started working here?

After teaching in the classrooms for many years, I have used personal taonga and artifacts as hands-on learning tools. The museum has reminded me that there are more to taonga than just a learning tool. A great reminder.



Erin is deeply passionate about bringing history to life for ākonga, and over many years has developed a great knowledge of the stories, objects and taonga at Puke Ariki.

#### What inspired you to pursue a career as a museum educator?

I have always loved history, for me the past is a place that feels ever-present. I enjoy helping others connect with people of the past, these people have a lot to teach and guide us.

#### What are some of the most rewarding aspects of your job?

Getting to learn lots of amazing things about people and the world.

#### What challenges do you face in your role, and how do you overcome them?

We need to quickly be able to teach a huge range of topics to a whole range of age groups. I remind myself I am a museum expert, not an every-single-thing expert. Also I get by with a little help from my friends; I work with a very collaborative and supportive group of people.

# What is a favourite exhibit or piece of art in the museum/gallery, and why does it resonate with you?

There is a preserved piharau (lamprey) in a jar that used to be display but isn't any more. Piharau are incredible creatures that many people never get to see. Learning about piharau was a real miharo moment for me, and having a real one I was able to examine felt really special.

#### How has your perspective on art and history changed since you started working here?

Working for a long time in museums, I am fascinated by how the way we talk about certain historical events changes so much over time as new evidence comes to light and more perspectives are learned and included.

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Sharing Art Gallery experiences with the second generation of visitors, Chris is a true "Master of Explaining Tricky Stuff" and absolutely rules at creating the most engaging and fun creative experiences in the art room.

#### What inspired you to pursue a career as a museum/art gallery educator?

I enjoy helping people, especially tamariki, create their own meaningful experiences when face-to-face with art.

#### What are some of the most rewarding aspects of your job?

Kids desperate to share their ideas with classmates and their pride when showing me their creation. And working with my very generous fellow kaiako.

#### What challenges do you face in your role, and how do you overcome them?

Our biggest challenge is convincing teachers that the Gallery offers amazing learning experiences for their ākonga. The Arts are minority status subjects in mainstream education, so we need to help teachers see links to other curriculum areas.

# What is a favourite exhibit or piece of art in the museum/gallery, and why does it resonate with you?

I try not to play favourites. I'm very fortunate at the Govett-Brewster | Len Lye Centre because most of exhibitions are very open propositions, their meaning has not been fixed, which is excellent ground for switching on the imagination and having an adventure for an hour and a half with tamariki.

# How has your perspective on art and history changed since you started working here?

I've become more sensitive to the importance of art and art galleries connecting with communities. The opening of the Len Lye Centre has helped attract a wider audience, including education programmes linked to more curriculum areas.

# REBECCA FAWKNER

Learning Supervisor, Govett Brewster Art Gallery | Len Lye Centre and Puke Ariki Museum



Rebecca brings over 20 years of experience in the art gallery field. One of her proudest achievements is her book Ziggle, a Len Lye activity book based on learning activities at the Len Lye Centre.

#### What inspired you to pursue a career as a museum/art gallery educator?

From the time when I visited the Gallery and Museum as a kid at West End School it always looked like my dream job, and so it is.

#### What are some of the most rewarding aspects of your job?

When a student really gets it! Especially when a teacher tells me how delighted they were to see a new side of a student.

## What challenges do you face in your role, and how do you overcome them?

Keeping up with all the administrative tasks required for communicating with schools and booking classes can be challenging. My heart sinks when I hear that schools have missed out on an opportunity.

Our Mīharo programme is an exciting new initiative designed to help us spread the word more effectively.

# What is a favourite exhibit or piece of art in the museum/gallery, and why does it resonate with you?

I recently spotted a wonderful carved figure from an ancient pataka in Takapou Whariki that was found on a farm near where I live. Investigating that area further and imagining the people living there is a delight.

# How has your perspective on art and history changed since you started working here?

Don't form an opinion too soon about an artwork. Often, I don't connect with a piece initially, but then I change my perspective and start to enjoy it after hearing someone else explain why they love it.

# WHY INCLUDE MIHARO IN YOUR YEARLY PLAN?

## 1. Ako Whaiaro (Hands-on Learning)

Interactive exhibits and activities that make learning engaging and memorable

#### 2. Hītori (Exposure to Culture and History)

Students can explore different cultures, historical events, and artistic movements, broadening their understanding of the world.

## 3. Whakaaro Auaha (Inspiration and Creativity)

Seeing diverse forms of art and artifacts can spark creativity and inspire students in their own projects and studies.

## 4. Whakaaro Arotake (Critical Thinking)

Encouraging students to ask questions, analyse information, and think critically about what they see.

### 5. Hononga Tūturu (Real-World Connections)

Connecting classroom lessons to real-world examples, making their education more relevant and impactful.

#### 6. Relatable Content

Our programming enriches students' understanding of their identity and place in the world.

#### 7. Pūrākau (Storytelling)

Engaging narratives about artworks or artifacts capture students' attention, making the content memorable.

#### 8. Collaboration and Discussion

Group activities that promote whanaungatanga encourage students to share perspectives and learn from each other.







be amazed at

Puke Ariki



education visits

Where learners are encouraged to explore and experience their own wow moments.

# Time to book your free class visit?

To book your class visit:

miharoexperience.nz



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For information and to book your class visit: miharoexperience.nz