

The Arts Foundation Te Tumu Toi Annual General Meeting Minutes 2 December 2025, 4:30PM

Venue:

In Person – Alberts, 1 Albert Street,
Online - Zoom

In attendance:

Kotahi

Andrea Hammond, Anthony Hoete, Bentley de Beyer, Brenda & Jean-Marie Sabatier, Chelsea Winstanley, Hamish Edgar, Jessica Palalagi, Jo Blair, Kent Gardner, Linda Webb, Rachel Qi, Sir Roger Hall, Stacey Ogg, Stella Hye Chung Jeon

Non-Kotahi

Alberllie Carey, Alliv Samson, Anne Noble, David Ross, Pietra BrettKelly, Stephen St Paul, Tanea Heke

1. Welcome

- AGM opened at **4:37pm**
- Co-Chair, Chelsea Winstanley opened the meeting with karakia
- Welcomed everyone in person and online
- Quorum confirmed

2. Apologies

- Hall Cannon
- Lou Sanson
- Anne Noble
- Tim Clarke

3. Approval of Minutes (2024 AGM)

- Minutes from last year's AGM circulated before the meeting.
- Hamish Edgar moved the minutes be approved and adopted as a record of last year's meeting
- Kent Gardner seconded

4. Hamish Edgar & Chelsea Winstanley, Co-Chair Summary

- Co-Chair Chelsea Winstanley:
 - 2024/25 – what a year of generosity! We continue to build on the momentum of by growing our Kotahi collective of givers and our commitment to amplifying the stories of our artists both locally and nationally. Our engagements in person around the country hosted by generous people continue to provide unique opportunities to connect and engage with our stellar artist alumni. Our home is everywhere! We see this demonstrated with our growing our Kotahi giving community from north to south, and Boosted, our crowdfunding platform that supports artists and creatives of all ages, abilities and communities.
 - \$2.7m went directly to the arts this year (up \$100,000 from last year and achieved while growing our investment base)
 - \$1.9m was raised for creatives on Boosted, and more than \$500K went to the nation's most outstanding artists – whom I'm profile soon. Other funds went to paying our artists to engage New Zealanders, and our direct advocacy for the arts.

- Our awards continue to be completely unique – in that artists don't apply, and they don't need to do laborious reporting. They are recognition from experts in their disciplines, and they came with \$35,000 in 2024/25 to help them be free to create! (We're excited that we were able to elevate them to \$50,000 this financial year). How do our recipients use these incredible gifts? It may take many forms – paying mortgages, fixing bathrooms, buying studios, travelling, creating more work.
- Thinking back to October 2024, we awarded 8 Laureates: including the inaugural Design Award generously supported by Murray and Claudia Crane of the Crane Foundation presented to the wonderful Carin Wilson.
- In the beginning of 2025, we awarded 6 Springboards duos: across visual arts, film, dance and music. These awards celebrate outstanding early career artists and are a partnership of mentoring and money, and this year we were able to crowdfund \$250,000 to secure 10 extra awards are given in 2026.
- The Katherine Mansfield Menton fellow of 2024 – Selina Tusitala Marsh travelled to Menton this year, the first Pasifika writer to be awarded the fellowship.
- We also awarded the inaugural Lynley Dodd Children's Writers Award thanks to a major legacy gift from Dame Lynley to Janine Williams a notable voice in New Zealand children's literature, celebrated for her compelling historical junior fiction.
- Boosted continues to deliver excellent results as the nation's only arts crowdfunding platform – running two major campaigns championing Pasifika creatives via Boosted x Moana and creatives based in Ōtautahi in the Boost Ōtautahi campaign. Both campaigns demonstrate cross sector collaboration where grant funders contribute match gifts and help a part of the community raise funds – and we get to profile their work:
 - Boosted x Moana- supporting Pasifika creatives to raise more than 300K
 - Boosted Ōtautahi – supporting creatives in Ōtautahi across loads of genres and jointly raising more than 160K

Co-Chair Hamish Edgar presented his summary:

- I have been reflecting this year on what has been prominent, and come to the fore for the Arts Foundation is being seen and we hear it from the artists that the award is an acknowledgement from the sector that they've been seen, that they are valued, that they are recognised as, as artists of meaning and excellence, and it's really powerful that actually there are people out there that are viewing them and seeing their work and really appreciating them for what they do, for the Arts Foundation, it's really important that we highlight the artists and show the artists and tell their stories, but we're being seen also by donors and the public.
- We are 100% philanthropically funded through our Kotahi community, business and \$5 and up gifts on Boosted.
- For our 25th birthday we launched the Momentum campaign. We've raised over \$2m so far in commitments and we've got that target of reaching \$5m more to our capital base to expand on what we can do, continue to grow, continue to back artists and tell their stories for the next 25 years and more
- A summary of the numbers:
 - \$360,000 raised around our 25th birthday Arts Gala (in the room and online)
 - 5.2m people saw stories of our artists through digital mediums
 - As Chelsea has mentioned - of the \$1.9m raised on Boosted - \$1.7m directly to artists and creatives through our crowdfunding platform
 - And again, \$2.7m directly to the arts (up \$100,000 from last year and achieved while growing our investment base)

- 6 businesses joined our new Arts Business Club
- 115 arts stories in the media, nationally

5. Adoption of 2023-2024 Accounts

- 2024-2025 Financial Accounts circulated prior to meeting.
- Andrea Hammond, chair of the Finance Committee presented the highlights from the 2024-2025 accounts.
 - For the financial year ending 30 June 2025, the Arts Foundation Te Tumu Toi made a net surplus of \$999,216. This compares with a net surplus of \$408,044 for 2024 and reflects both strong fundraising activity and improved investment portfolio returns. Of particular note:
 - Overall, donations were up 56% from 2024, including very generous major gifting of \$700,000.
 - Excluding major gifting, donations were up 3.5%, reflecting continued strong Kotahi support and patronage from the Arts Foundation's generous givers
 - Boosted project funding reached \$1.9m up from \$1.8m last year, an increase of 5.8%
 - Direct expenditure on the arts exceeded \$2.67m, up 6.4% in 2024, a record level
 - The investment portfolio returned \$885K for the financial year, an improvement of 7.5% on last year's return of \$819K
 - A huge thanks to Forsyth Barr for managing our portfolio for us
 - The investment strategy delivered strong results for the year ending 30 June 2025, with the portfolio achieving a 10.09% return, outperforming our benchmark target of 8.74%. This success stemmed from strategic positioning, cautious balancing and diversification through volatile markets. These returns, along with a determined focus on growing our investment base, have enabled us to expand our support and strengthen our commitment to backing Aotearoa artists to make their mark.

Accounts were put forward by Andrea Hammond
Adopted unanimously by room

6. Appointment of Auditor

- Hamish put forward a resolution to empower the trustees to find an appropriate auditor for the 2025-26 financial year.

7. Adoption of Annual Report and Financial Accounts

- The Arts Foundation's 2024-2025 annual report circulated.
- Hamish moved that the Annual Report and Financial Accounts report be adopted by the meeting.
- All in favour, unanimously. No against.

8. General Business

- Hamish opened the room and online for any questions.
- Rachel Qi announced she would be stepping down as Trustee and was grateful for her time and she will continue to support and advocate for the Foundation
- Hamish thanked Rachel and also announced that Lou Sanson would also be stepping down, he thanked them both for the hard work
- Linda Webb asked about whether or not there was further mileage that could be leveraged by the Foundation regarding the importance of mentoring, Hamish replied that we are looking at various things around expansion and growth
- Stella Hye Chung Jeon asked about the Foundation's moral duty to ensure the team, including the Board set a certain role model to ensure resilience and sustainability that there is an investment in its own people and to explore the idea that mentoring is not an unpaid role. It was discussed that the Brown Bread team roles were all paid for and that the only current mentoring programme was the Springboard award and the mentors were paid for in that package. It was also noted that as part of

the three year strategy there was a focus on organisational sustainability and capability building across the sector for philanthropy and that the Board adopted a tuakana/teina model of knowledge and skill sharing.

- Sir Roger Hall thanked the Foundation for its continued work.

9. Wrap Up

- Hamish thanked the Brown Bread team for all the work that they do

Tanea closed the meeting with karakia, declared the meeting closed at 5:16pm