



Curriculum Links

English, Te Reo, History,
Dance, Music

[Download SchoolFest 101 here.](#) Your guide to make the most of the festival experience.

Young Minds Take the Library

2020 TEACHERS RESOURCE

New Zealand
Festival **OF THE ARTS**

Wellington
Community Trust
supporting community initiatives

ABOUT THE EVENT

Bring the whānau to the National Library of New Zealand Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa for a Writers festival for children, families and young adults.

Events include:

- Author interviews led by young readers
- Hear stories read aloud to live improvised music
- Take part in workshops and make your own mini book
- Explore the [Pūkana: Moments in Māori Performance](#) exhibition with young tour guides
- Write secret notes to leave in library books
- Take part in interviews with authors including local writers Sacha Cotter and Josh Morgan (*The Bomb / Te Pōhu*), Whiti Hereaka (*Legacy*), Vincent O'Malley (*The New Zealand Wars: Nga Pakanga O Aotearoa*)

ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCES

CALL OUT FOR STORIES

Bring out your inner writer! Write us a story in response to the *Pūkana* exhibition and the theme of Māori performance.

Send SchoolFest a story of no more than 200 words to schoolfest@festival.nz no later than Friday 28 February 2020 and it could be read out on stage, by you, to a live soundtrack performed by musicians. A larger selection of stories will be put together for publication online.

PŪKANA: MOMENTS IN MĀORI PERFORMANCE

Find out about *Pūkana: Moments in Māori Performance*, an exhibition that celebrates the diversity of Māori performance across time and genres: natlib.govt.nz/visiting/wellington/pukana-exhibition

National Library's topic explorer is a wealth of information on Māori music and performance: natlib.govt.nz/schools/topics/5c786766125757459e71eba1/maori-music-and-performance

LITERACY RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS

Download National Library's excellent 'The Book and Beyond' and 'Open the Book' guides for discussing childrens' and YA literature: natlib.govt.nz/schools/teaching-and-learning-resources/teaching-tools-resource-guides/guides-for-exploring-childrens-and-ya-literature

20 top tips to make a creative writing class great: lindsaydetwiler.com/blog/20-top-tips-to-make-creative-writing-class-great

Creative writing in the classroom: Five top tips for teachers – insightful tips here from English teacher Alan Gillespie: theguardian.com/teacher-network/teacher-blog/2013/sep/26/five-tips-creative-writing

Need something more? Contact your SchoolFest team with any questions about the performance.

schoolfest@festival.co.nz | (04) 473 0149



Josh Morgan

(Aotearoa / New Zealand)

cargocollective.com/joshmorganillustration

Illustrator

Manawatū born and raised, Josh Morgan (Te Aitanga-a-Māhaki, Rongowhakaata) is a freelance illustrator and musician living in Wellington, New Zealand with his partner, the author Sacha Cotter, and their wee family. Together they form the amazing storytelling / song writing / award-winning-picture-book-making team Cotter & Morgan.

ABOUT THE BOMB/TE PŌHU

In this story about being true to oneself, a boy searches for the secret to doing the perfect bomb into the water. With training from Nan (an expert and former champion) and by listening to his own voice, he finds his unique style and pulls off a wonderful, acrobatic, truly awe-inspiring bomb.

REVIEWS

“Reading *The Bomb* is an uplifting and invigorating experience that feels like a breath of fresh summer air.” **Emma Wood, Otago Daily Times**

Lyrical, beautiful and uniquely New Zealand.” **Unity Books**

FIND OUT MORE

Watch the book trailer for *The Bomb/Te Pōhu*. [youtube.com/watch?v=WLjDjb_iNUA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WLjDjb_iNUA)

“Layer upon layer of goodness and wonder.” Read about the award winning *The Bomb/Te Pōhu* on the Spinoff: <https://thespinoff.co.nz/books/07-08-2019/the-childrens-book-of-the-year-is-an-absolute-joy/>

Read an interview with Sacha and Josh: thesapling.co.nz/single-post/2017/12/15/Sacha-Josh-holding-keys-to-magical-worlds

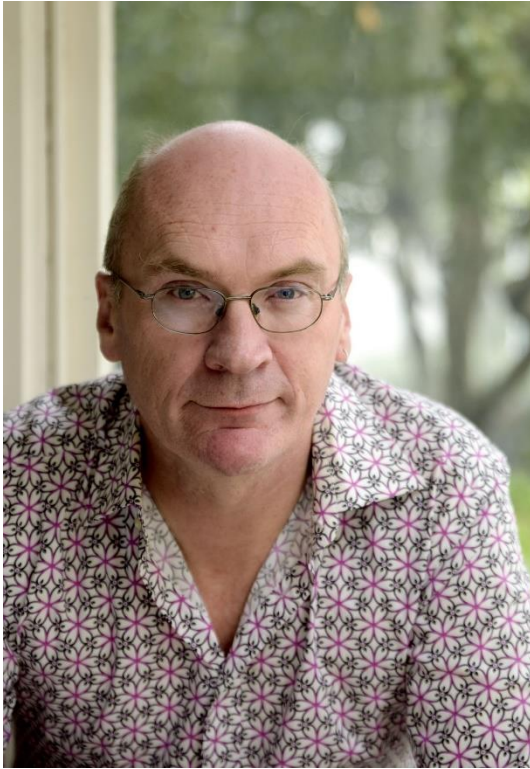
Sacha Cotter

(Aotearoa / New Zealand)

sachacotter.com

Writer

Kawerau born Sacha, is an award-winning children’s writer based in Wellington, New Zealand. She is the author of picture books *Keys/Ngā Kī*, *The Marble Maker/Te Kaihanga Māpere*, and the 2019 Margaret Mahy Book of the Year, *The Bomb/Te Pōhu* – all published by HUIA and illustrated by her partner in both books and life, Josh Morgan. Sacha is also involved in writing for children’s television. She has written for both *The Kiddets* and *The Book Hungry Bears*, two animated shows produced by Pukeko Pictures. Sacha loves lots of things including stop motion animation, daydreaming, biscuits, books, dancing, curly dogs, space noodles and woolly mammoths named Stanley.



Vincent O'Malley

Aotearoa / New Zealand

twitter.com/vomalley

Historian and Writer

Vincent O'Malley is a founding partner of HistoryWorks, a group of historians specialising in Treaty of Waitangi research. He is the author of a number of books on New Zealand history including *The Meeting Place: Māori and Pākehā Encounters, 1642–1840* (Auckland University Press, 2012), which was shortlisted in the general non-fiction section at the New Zealand Post Book Awards in 2013, and *Beyond the Imperial Frontier: The Contest for Colonial New Zealand* (Bridget Williams Books, 2014).

REVIEWS AND ENDORSEMENTS

"This is a readable historical narrative that will appeal to teachers (including those who are not history specialists) and many secondary school students. Vincent's attention to the causes of the New Zealand Wars is well suited to students in years 11–13 studying "the causes and consequences of an historical event". The book clearly positions the New Zealand Wars as a contemporary, contested issue that matters deeply today, making it ideal for social studies teachers exploring contested memories of the past. I think this will be a hit in school libraries across the country." **Michael Harcourt, education specialist**

"When this book arrived my initial reaction was, "Do we really need another potted history of the New Zealand Wars?" After reading it my answer is "Yes, we really do need this one."... O'Malley calmly and persuasively outlines the background to each cluster of conflicts, what fighting took place and what the outcomes were, all of it marvelously illustrated with contemporary pictures." [New Zealand Herald](#)

FIND OUT MORE

Learn more about Vincent O'Malley and his book *The New Zealand Wars Ngā Pakanga o Aotearoa* at Bridget Williams Books: bwb.co.nz/books/new-zealand-wars

Watch Vincent O'Malley talk to TVNZ about why New Zealand history should be compulsory in schools: tvnz.co.nz/one-news/new-zealand/should-new-zealand-history-compulsory-in-schools

Read an extract from *The New Zealand Wars Ngā Pakanga o Aotearoa* on the Spinoff: thespinoff.co.nz/books/17-05-2019/the-new-zealand-wars-acknowledging-an-almost-incomprehensible-level-of-loss/



Whiti Hereaka

Aotearoa / New Zealand

Writer and Playwright

Whiti Hereaka is an award-winning novelist and playwright of Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Te Arawa and Pākehā descent, based in Wellington. She holds a Masters in Creative Writing (Scriptwriting) from the International Institute of Modern Letters. She is the author of three novels: *The Graphologist's Apprentice*, the award-winning YA novel *Bugs* and *Legacy*. She is also co-editor, with Witi Ihimaera, of an anthology of Māori myths – *Pūrākau*. Whiti has been involved with Te Papa Tupu, an incubator programme for Māori writers, as a writer, a mentor and a judge. She is also a board member of the Māori Literature Trust and the Michael King Writers Centre.

ABOUT *LEGACY*

Seventeen-year-old Riki is worried about school and the future, but mostly about his girlfriend, Gemma, who has suddenly stopped seeing or texting him. But on his way to see her, he's hit by a bus and his life radically changes. Riki wakes up one hundred years earlier in Egypt, in 1915, and finds he's living through his great-great-grandfather's experiences in the Māori Contingent. At the same time that Riki tries to make sense of what's happening and find a way home, we go back in time and read transcripts of interviews Riki's great-great-grandfather gave in 1975 about his experiences in this war and its impact on their family. Gradually we realise the fates of Riki and his great-great-grandfather are intertwined.

REVIEWS

"*Legacy* lives up to its name. As soon as I finished I wanted to flip back and read it again. This masterpiece has stayed with me and I have no doubt it will continue to challenge me for some time yet." – **NZBookLovers.co.nz**

FIND OUT MORE

Read an excerpt of *Legacy* here: thesapling.co.nz/single-post/2018/09/21/THE-SAMPLING-Legacy-by-Whiti-Hereaka

Read a review of *Legacy* on The Sapling by teenager Kimihia Garcia-Grace: thesapling.co.nz/single-post/2018/09/23/Book-Review-Legacy-by-Whiti-Hereaka

Find out about the novelist, playwright and screenwriter Whiti Hereaka at Read NZ: read-nz.org/writer/hereaka-whiti/



Damien Wilkins

Aotearoa / New Zealand

Writer and Playwright

Damien Wilkins has published novels, collections of short stories and a book of poems. He has written for television and theatre. He also writes and records his own songs as The Close Readers.

His work has won several awards, including a New Zealand Book Award. He lives in Wellington, where he is the director of the International Institute of Modern Letters at Victoria University

ABOUT *ASPIRING*

Aspiring is a first Young Adult novel by Damien Wilkins. Set in a contemporary Central Otago tourist town, *Aspiring* narrates three months in the life of Ricky, as he negotiates school, sport, a job, a new girl, and the unresolved sadness at the heart of his family life. A smart, sweet, and very funny coming-of-age story with a sharp eye for cultural realities in contemporary Aotearoa.

FIND OUT MORE

Read an excerpt of *Aspiring* here:

issuu.com/masseypress/docs/pages_from_aspiring_draft_inside_pages_2

“Boys of this age get a bad press. I wanted to write a little hymn to their internal lives. Those lives now seem more compressed, more stressed. There’s a lot of anxiety around. I think it’s disastrous for everyone the way that young males are still educated away from the life of feeling.” 10

questions with Damien Wilkins about writing *Aspiring*:

masseypress.ac.nz/news/2019/december/10-questions-with-damien-wilkins/

Find out more about Damien at Read NZ: read-nz.org/writer/wilkins-damien/

Interviewed by Kate de Goldi

Aotearoa / New Zealand

Writer

Kate De Goldi’s most recent novel, *From the Cutting Room of Barney Kettle*, won the Esther Glen Award in 2016. She teaches Writing for Children at Massey University and is co-editor, with Susan Paris, of *ANNUAL* and *ANNUAL 2*, literary miscellanies for 9-13 year olds. In 2018, Kate and Susan, in association with Massey University Press, established the children’s imprint Annual Ink. *Aspiring* by Damien Wilkins is Annual Ink’s most recent title.

