

Regional Arts & Culture Grants

Auckland Funded Projects 2025-2026

Round two

The Regional Arts and Culture grants programme is designed to enable organisations, communities and artists to deliver arts and culture projects and activities across the Auckland region. Grants delivered through this programme support the implementation of Toi Whītiki, Auckland’s Arts and Culture Strategic Action Plan.

Following consultation with staff and external arts sector professionals based on the arts and culture assessment matrix criteria, a total of \$268,106 was granted: \$116,386 to eight audience development and programming grants; \$24,720 to two business and capacity project grants and \$145,000 to four returning strategic relationship grants.

The Regional Arts and Culture Grants Programme budget is allocated under the following three categories:

Audience development and programming project grants: These grants support the delivery of a wide range of high-quality arts and cultural experiences that would not otherwise be economically viable. These projects should be capable of attracting audiences from across the Auckland region.

Business and capacity development project grants: These grants are intended to increase the professionalism and build the sustainability of regional arts and culture organisations through the development of strategic, business and marketing plans; feasibility studies; organisational development and digital/web development activities.

Strategic relationship grants: These grants are single or multi-year funding relationships with a small number of strategic organisations operating at the regional level. These organisations are or are capable of becoming the ‘cornerstones’ of a thriving arts and culture sector in Auckland.

Organisation	Activity	Funding Allocation
Audience development and programming		
Action Education	WORD! The Front Line	\$18,236
Crescendo Trust	Music Mentoring and Well-being Programmes for Rangatahi	\$10,000
Choirs Aotearoa New Zealand	Auckland programming for Voices New Zealand, New Zealand Youth Choir, New Zealand Secondary Students' Choir and Aotearoa Academy Choir	\$15,000
Ngā Rangatahi Toa Creative Arts Initiative Trust	Manawa Ora 2026	\$18,150
Atamira Dance Company	A new full-length contemporary dance work, YMCĀ	\$25,000
Indian Ink Theatre Company	A season of new work Balloon Dog	\$15,000
Rock Quest Charitable Trust	Smokefree Tangata Beats Tāmaki Makaurau final 2026	\$5,000

Performance Art Aotearoa Charitable Trust	Experimental Dance Festival Aotearoa 2026	\$10,000
Total		\$116,386

Business capacity and development		
Kaunuku 2022	Iwi Māori creative practice in public and community settings – Community of Practice (Stage 1)	\$15,000
Aotearoa Festival of Black Arts	Strategic planning, systems and organisational sustainability	\$9,720
Total		\$24,720

Strategic relationship grants		
New Zealand Dance Company	Present and grow outstanding contemporary dance in Auckland by strengthening the local dance ecology, supporting artists, and expanding access to dance across Tāmaki Makaurau	\$40,000 per annum for three years
New Zealand Dance Festival Trust	Tempo Dance Festival Te Rerenga o Tere 2026, a premier platform for emerging and established dance creatives	\$30,000 for one year
Silo Theatre Trust	Deliver bold, contemporary stories from Aotearoa and to provide meaningful employment and development pathways for Tāmaki Makaurau artists and practitioners	\$50,000 per annum for three years
Arts Access Aotearoa	Strengthen Auckland programmes including Creative Spaces, Arts for All Network, Taha Hotu Deaf and Disabled Artist Initiative and Arts in Justice	\$25,000 per annum for three years
Total		\$145,000
TOTAL RECOMMENDED		\$268,106