

PROGRAMS REPORT

2024 QUARTER 2 APRIL – JUNE



TE KARANGA
CREATIVE COMMUNITY

OVERALL SUMMARY



Prepared by TK White

This quarter, we have seen some huge transformations individually, collectively and organisationally. For individuals, our facilitators have reported on some meaningful moments. Participant feedback comes in many forms. For some, they're voluntarily turning up every week to get the most out of what we offer, for others, they're writing about it in songs. Voluntary commitment is a telling sign that we are doing something right. Further to this, they are becoming more comfortable with sharing their personal experiences in our talanoa sections, and going as far as identifying that they have a problem they need help with, then reaching out to us for help. This is especially significant for us, as we cannot always know what someone is going through unless they tell us, so for them to feel safe about reaching out for help is a huge win.

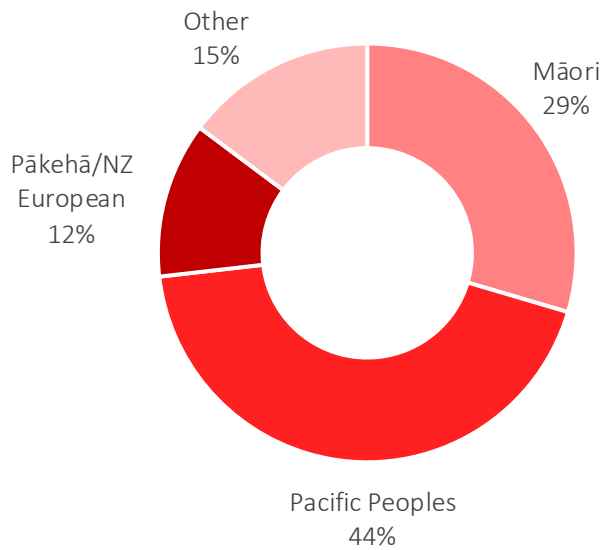
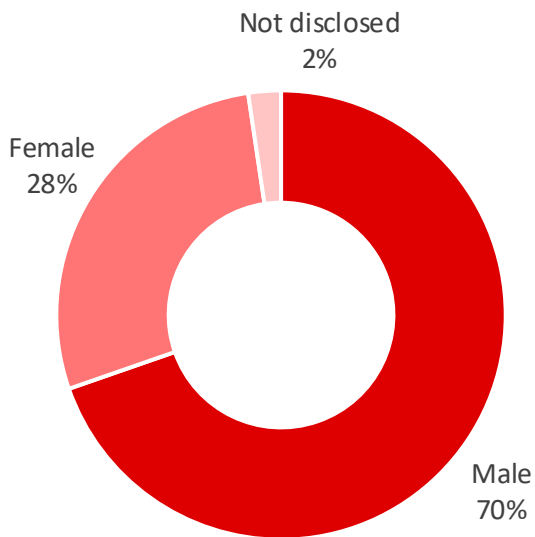
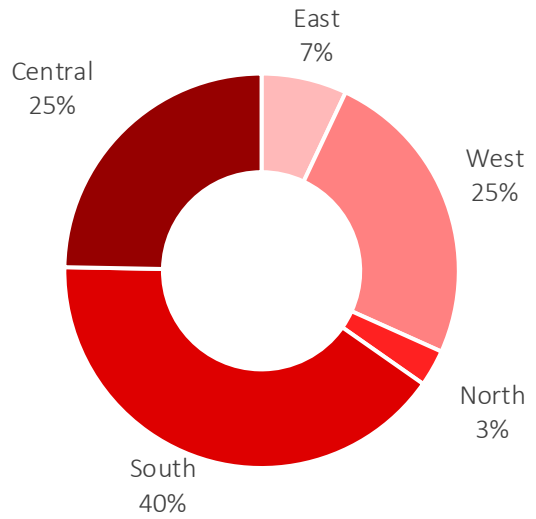
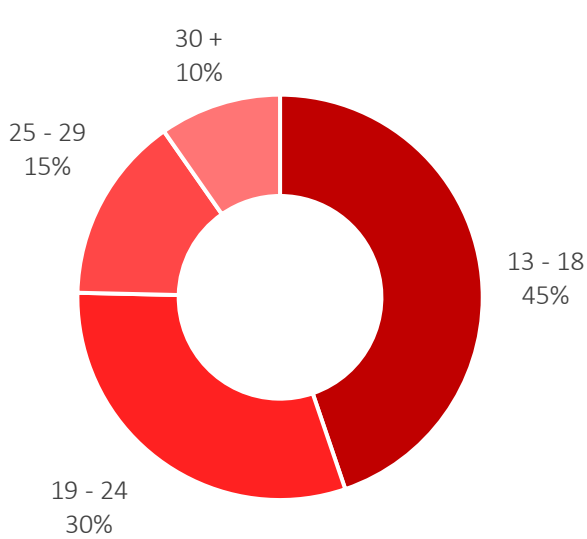
On a collective basis, we are hearing more of the youth voice on our programs. They're expressing what they like, and don't like, what they agree with and don't agree with. They are becoming more confident in expressing themselves vocally, and it has benefitted our programs because the conversations are rich and diverse and hold weight to every day thinking. Additionally, they are highly engaged when they attend. We offer quite a unique set of programs that values human connection, so when our participants are fully engaged in these programs, it shows us that what we offer is truly transformational. We have seen some young people's first times on these programs: first time performing live, first time recording, first time releasing music, first time on a video shoot. It shows that we are truly paving a path for young people to grow in their self-esteem, confidence, and self-belief.

Organisationally, we have onboarded two new staff members who were long-term participants and have expanded a few of our programs. This quarter has been a period of transformation, and we are excited to see what the second half of the year will look like.

DATA TOTALS



Total participants this quarter: **556**



CONTENTS & PROGRAMS



CREATIVE PATHWAYS

Weekly program for 13-17-year-olds not in education or employment, fostering positive learning experiences, creativity, and career exploration.

PAGE 5

NAVIGATORS

Free weekly music workshop connecting & engaging young people through shared experiences, stories, and creativity. Open to youth aged 16-24.

PAGE 9

CREATIVE LABS

Empowering youth with local resources, equipment, and guidance. Fostering creativity, connecting like-minded individuals, and nurturing the next generation of artists and musicians.

PAGE 34

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Preparing aspiring creatives for future work environments. Supporting rangatahi with business ideas and focusing on artist professional, personal, and business development.

PAGE 41

RAP N REC

Rap-n-Rec empowers rangatahi in youth justice residency or schools to share stories through music, normalising music as a means of emotional expression.

PAGE 45

TUAKANA TEINA

Offering personalised support through mentoring sessions, creative guidance, personal and professional development, whānau support, and community connections.



CREATIVE PATHWAYS



OVERVIEW

A weekly program for 13-17-year-olds not in education or employment, fostering positive learning experiences, creativity, and career exploration. Delivered to several providers across Tāmaki Makaurau.



CREATIVE PATHWAYS



Facilitated by Hariata Makiha, Albert Purcell, Lincoln Keepa & Ben Tuimaseve.

Report by Albert Purcell

For term 2 at Creative Pathways we dove into the topic of instruments of the Moana with Salvador Brown, a skilled taonga pūoro practitioner. Not only creating instruments with participants but exploring the in-depth history of some of these historic and traditional instruments used by our people of the Pacific. Our main 3 learning outcomes were understanding the tikanga/whakapapa of taonga pūoro through the lens of Te Ao Moana, to create a Tumutumumu and Koauau (instruments) and to help identify the natural resources needed to create these taonga pūoro.

HIGHLIGHTS

We did a good job at keeping participants interested and engaged at times where they were losing focus or interest. We also built a lot of rapport with them this term and saw a huge change in behavior from the beginning of term to the end. What really caught us off guard was how interested our participants have been this term. It's a pleasant surprise too, because they really enjoyed learning about the whakapapa and being so hands on with their instruments, so much that we've been able to get them to finish their Koauau and they are always trying to play them regardless of their skill level.

CHALLENGES

We haven't faced many challenges this term. Some participants try to take focus away from what we're doing collectively, but we've been able to manage that as a team with good results. Absences have been a big challenge, as we only deliver once a week, so if a participant is absent often, they can fall behind. Other challenges have been out of our control, such as public holidays & other cancellations meaning we have less time to deliver and execute our program.

LEARNINGS

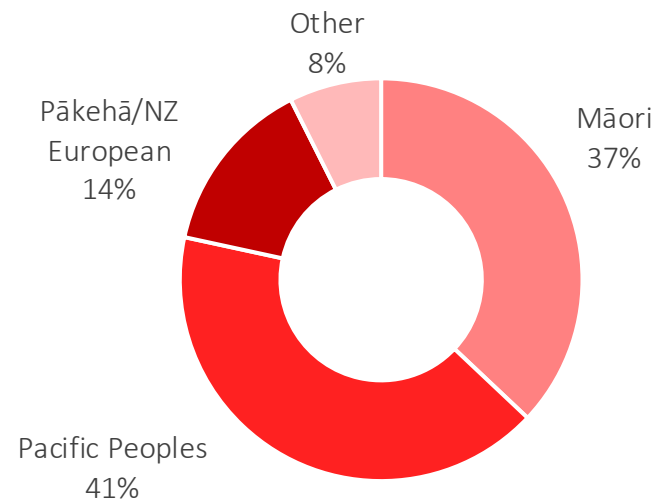
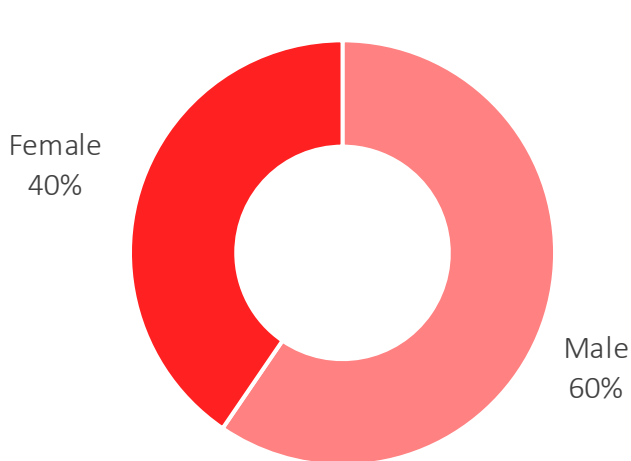
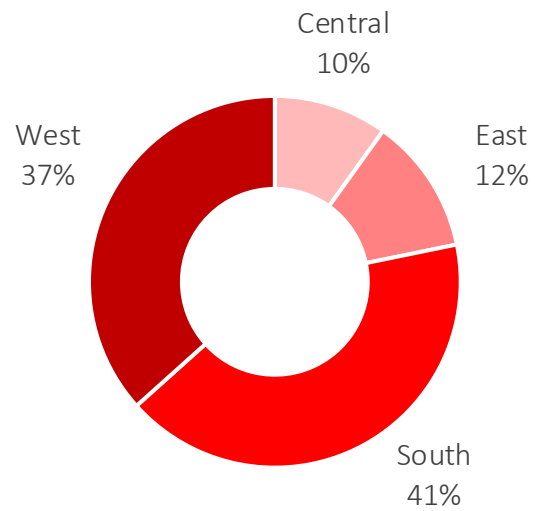
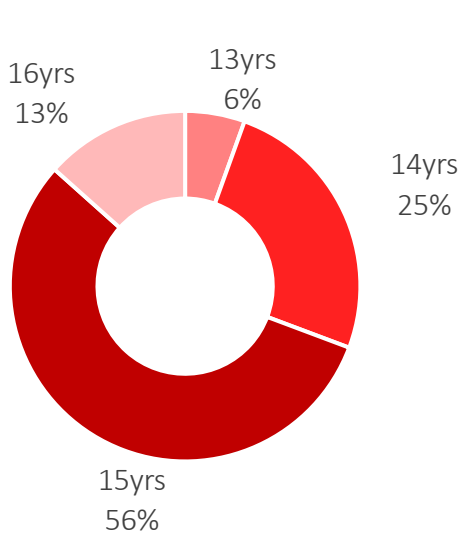
As per our highlights, we've learnt a lot about how we operate as a team and have found a solid rhythm we can all adapt to. We've learnt more about how to interact with rangatahi in this educational space. Also, being vulnerable as an adult has been a huge learning. Two facilitators had never done taonga pūoro before and were able to connect with rangatahi and make them feel comfortable that they weren't the only ones new to this work.

CREATIVE PATHWAYS

SUMMARY



Total participants this quarter: **131**



CREATIVE PATHWAYS

PHOTOS



NAVIGATORS



OVERVIEW

Navigators (Navigators) is a free weekly music workshop, delivered across several locations in Tāmaki Makaurau, connecting & engaging young people through shared experiences, stories, and creativity. Open to youth aged 16-24.



NAVIGATORS / NORTH



Facilitated by Rizvan Tu'itahi, Siose Solo & Tamzin Naicker

Report by Tamzin Naicker

Monday's, Onepoto Āwhina, Northcote, North Shore

This quarter, we transitioned Tamzin Naicker from participant to Facilitator. She has consistently attended North Navigators since it started and has been a Navigators participant for the past 2 years in Central, West and Wāhine Navigators. We witnessed a humbling growth in the confidence of our participants. They exhibited a newfound openness and vocal expression, particularly during our talanoa and creative segments. The creative segment gave them a unique platform to write and share their thoughts with the rest of the group, and our participants embraced this opportunity. Their appreciation for the safe space we have provided was evident, as they recognised its significance in allowing them to freely vent and be genuinely heard.

HIGHLIGHTS

At Navigators North, we have been fortunate to welcome a dedicated group of regulars who have openly shared their intention to seek connection. These participants have consistently demonstrated their support and encouragement towards one another, actively collaborating to find effective solutions for the challenges their fellow participants may be facing. Their genuine commitment to fostering a sense of friendship and mutual assistance has been truly inspiring. It is evident that they understand the value of these connections and the positive impact they can have on navigating through life's obstacles.

CHALLENGES

The number of participants attending Navigators fluctuates on a weekly basis. It is important to acknowledge that many of our valued participants are currently facing personal challenges, such as dealing with sick family members or attending funerals, which understandably prevent them from joining us at Navigators.

LEARNINGS

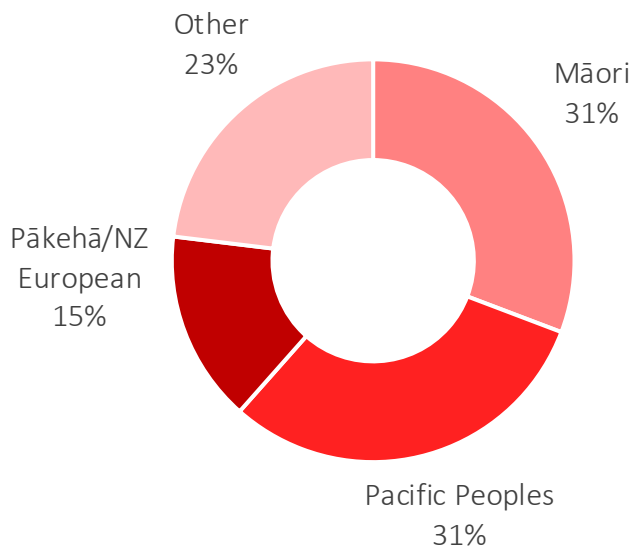
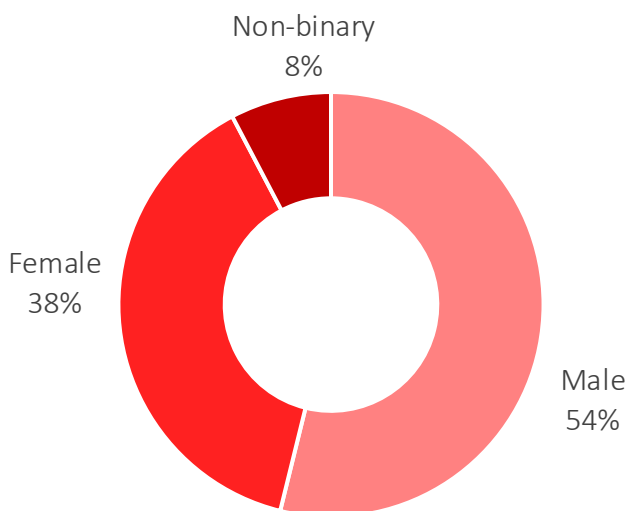
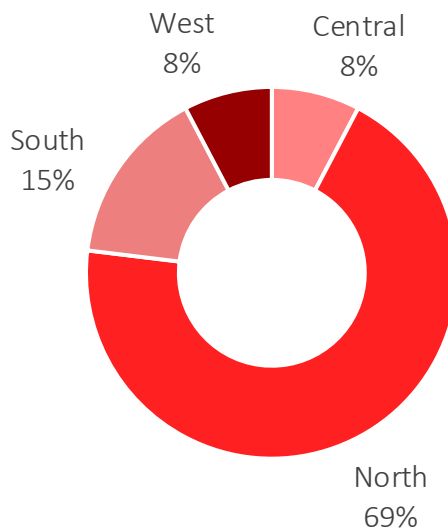
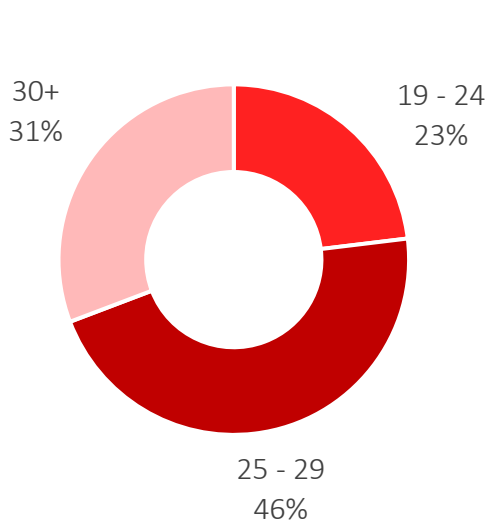
Throughout this term, we have seen massive growth amongst our participants. Their confidence in sharing their thoughts and expressing themselves more vocally has been really beneficial. This development is a testament to the nurturing culture that we have created at Navigators North. We take great pride in creating an environment where individuals feel empowered to speak up and be heard, allowing their unique voices to be heard.

NAVIGATORS / NORTH

SUMMARY



Total participants this quarter: **13**



NAVIGATORS / NORTH

IMAGES



NAVIGATORS / WEST



Facilitated by Elijah Manū, Aidan Fine, Bronson Price & Mana Nightingale

Report by Elijah Manū

Tuesday's, Zeal West, Henderson

West Navigators has been a space where our participants come for creative development and critical thinking. We've covered topics both simple and complex in hopes of giving useful insight and perspective. We used this space to think about the culture we live in, the trend cycles we see, and the prevalence of activism in creative arts. Topics like these were discussed with the intention of creating real dialogue within our community. This led us to having various creative writing challenges every week. Looking at how we use language to convey our message.

HIGHLIGHTS

Being able to discuss relevant social issues with our community has been a huge highlight for me. It's broken down a lot of barriers in our program to the point where participants, regardless of their age, feel comfortable to share their thoughts and feelings on the world around us. We've purposefully cultivated this space to allow this response, so to see it come to fruition has been remarkable.

CHALLENGES

The main challenge is keeping consistent numbers of participants every week. For whatever reason, our numbers can fluctuate heavily. That's been hard to predict on a week-to-week basis. Being in a hub like Henderson, we would love to be able to be more of a staple in the community.

LEARNINGS

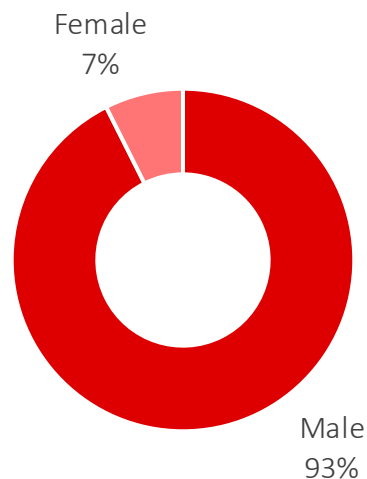
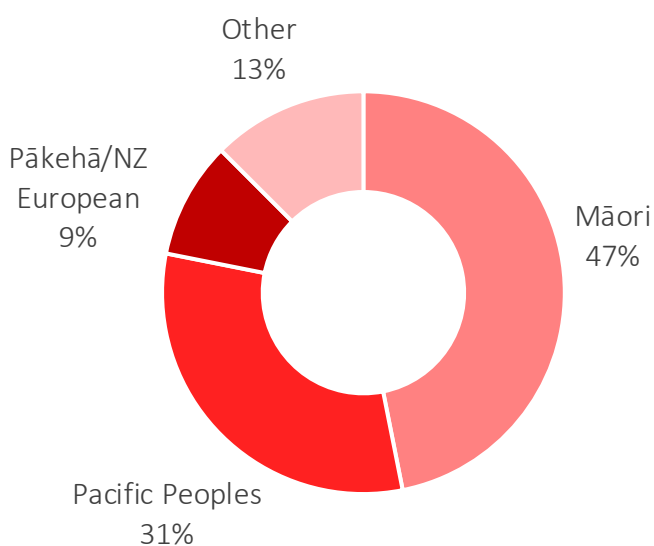
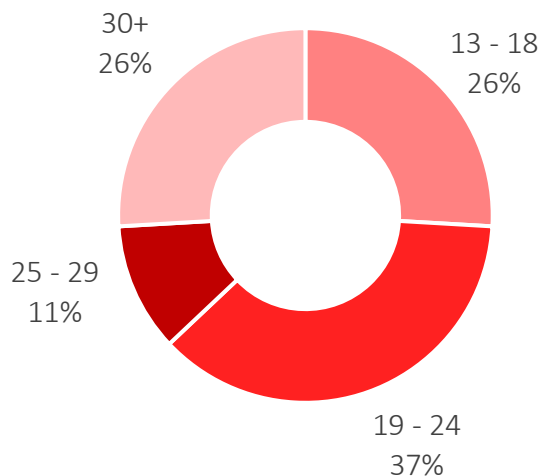
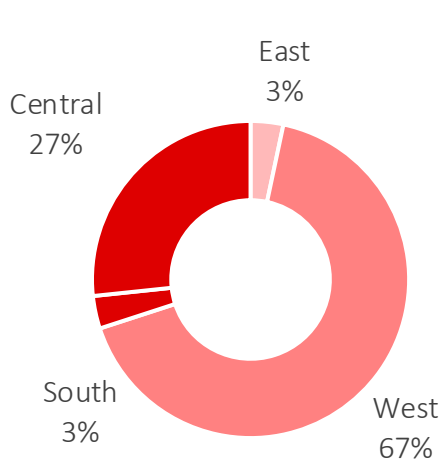
One learning I had was that people are open to exploring the creative process. We had writing exercises that varied every week. Spoken word, third person perspective, 10-minute speed writes etc. But no matter what the challenge was, everyone always rose to the occasion and gave it a crack, with good results as well.

NAVIGATORS / WEST

SUMMARY



Total participants this quarter: **27**



NAVIGATORS / WEST

IMAGES



NAVIGATORS / WAHINE



Facilitated by TK White, Hariata Makiha, Jasmine Pene & Tamzin Naicker

Report by TK White

Tuesday's, Wesley Community Centre, Sandringham

As the season has started moving from warm to cold, we have worked towards creating exciting moments for our participants this quarter. We went to a workshop with Women About Sound, facilitated by Scarlett Lashes (performer, composer and audio engineer) and Miloux (local award-winning Soul/R&B Artist). For our one-year birthday, we filmed a cypher (collaboration of participants rapping/singing on a single track) and we had Miloux come through as a guest speaker to share her story and provide some insight into a life as a musician in NZ. We are also sad to see our day one facilitator, Jasmine, leave us this quarter as she maintains a healthy balance between work and life. But we also welcome Tamzin to the team who facilitates North Navigators.

HIGHLIGHTS

Firstly, the Women About Sound workshop was a major high, not only for us, but for them as well. The purpose of the workshop was to share some demos you'd been working on and get some feedback for them from professionals and others in the room. A few of our wāhine shared some music and we hadn't actually heard any of it before. It was so inspiring because sharing music puts creatives in a vulnerable state, and our participants not only shared in front of their peers, but in front of strangers too. The music they are making is top tier, and it was so cool for them to see genuine reactions that were encouraging and supportive of the work they are making. Furthermore, the facilitators were really impressed with how supportive our crowd were. They said it was the largest group they'd ever had, and really enjoyed our energy and what we brought to the space. Another major high was our cypher. Produced, engineered and written by our talented participants. The theme for the cypher was "What does Wāhine Navigators mean to me?" and these wāhine wrote things like it's a safe space, there's no judgement, celebrating our wins, we don't discriminate, this is where I've built the best version of me. This cypher is a testament to what we've built at Wāhine Navigators.

CHALLENGES

As the season has changed, we have felt the impact of attendance being lower than usual. We were able to bring in some numbers when Miloux came in as a guest speaker, but we have seen a drop this quarter mostly because people are falling sick, even facilitators, or they're too cold to leave the house. Those who do make it to our sessions have really needed it.

LEARNINGS

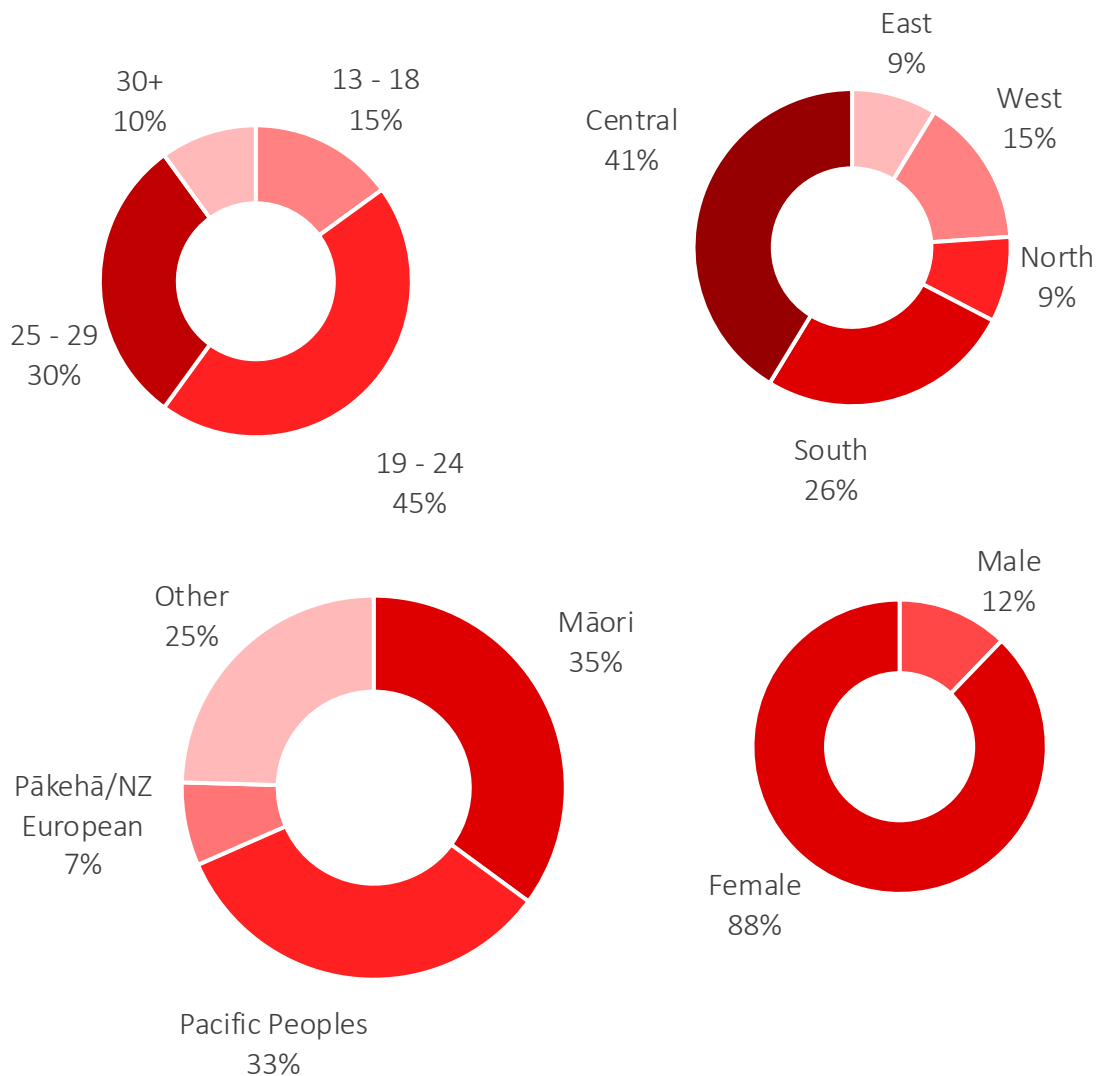
Wāhine Navigators turned one in April, and our kawa (etiquette) still shines through our mahi, evidenced by the participants testimonies on the Cypher. Navigators, in general, is something that someone really needs in their lives, whether it be once a week or three times a week. When our participants are feeling some type of way, they're attending Navigators to rebuild themselves, and often walk away saying "I really needed to be here tonight".

NAVIGATORS / WAHINE

SUMMARY



Total participants this quarter: 40



NAVIGATORS / WAHINE

IMAGES



NAVIGATORS / CENTRAL



Facilitated by Elijah Manū, Aidan Fine, Bronson Price & Dera Meelan

Report by Elijah Manū

Wednesday's, Wesley Community Centre, Sandringham

This quarter at Central Navigators we focused a lot on creative process and collaboration. We had lots of conversation around the balance of art and commerce and how we consume media. This led to creative work where our participants had to think outside of the box and work together in order to create within the parameters set by the facilitators. This helped us to introduce the group to new genres, ways of storytelling and song arrangement. All important aspects of creative process.

HIGHLIGHTS

Collaboration has always been a highlight of central navigators. Having the access to the booths to record has made it second nature to create together every week. What I love about this is how open everyone is to working with new people or people that may have been outside of their friend group within our program. This builds genuine connection as we meet each other on an even playing field of music.

CHALLENGES

This quarter has been strong for us so while I can't speak on challenges in a traditional sense, I would like to work on our time management and be more concise every week. Participants can often show up late which holds off on us beginning and then often take their time leaving the booths which can make us rush in the end. Ultimately being more conscious of time is something we can work on.

LEARNINGS

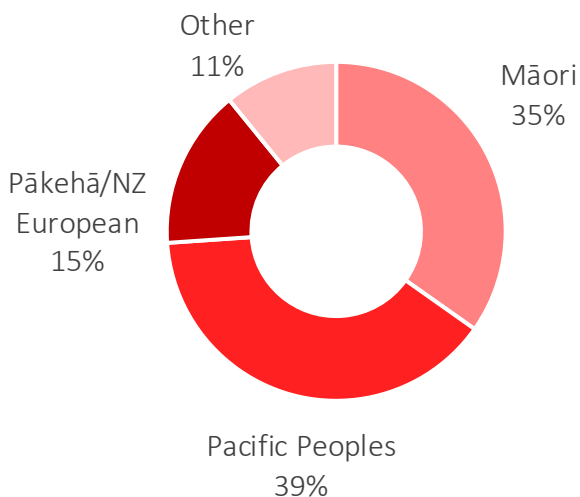
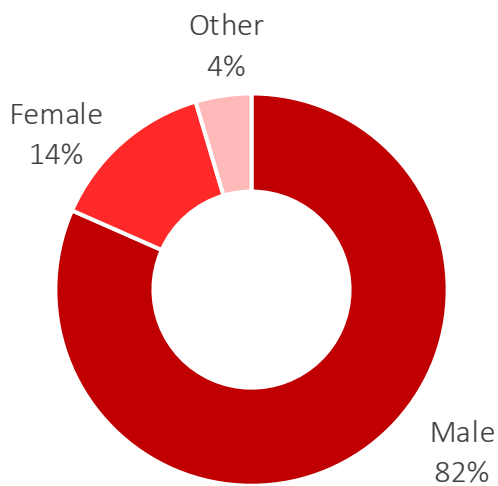
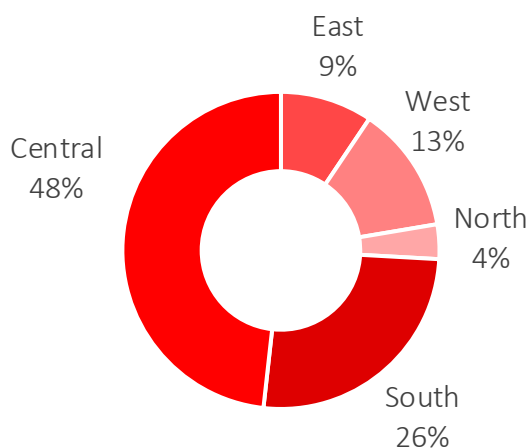
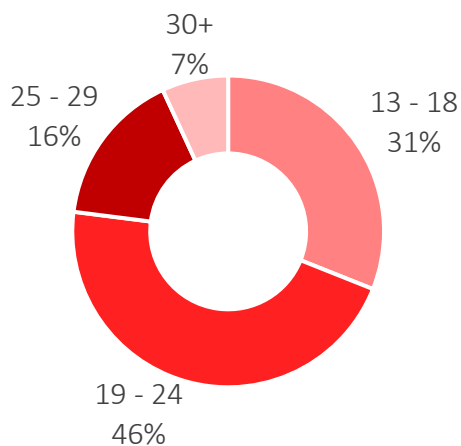
Creativity can be achieved through collaboration. We've seen the most development and growth in our participants when we put them in groups for their creative work. Naturally, in teams they think about new approaches to music. It's something that's become an emphasis for us and purely based off the good energy it brings every week.

NAVIGATORS / CENTRAL



SUMMARY

Total participants this quarter: **87**



NAVIGATORS / CENTRAL

IMAGES



NAVIGATORS / PRODUCER



Facilitated by Oliva Luki, Dera Meelan & Raneem Caco

Report by Raneem Caco

Tuesday's, OMAC, Ōtara

Over these months, the team focused on nestling into the new space (OMAC) with an open-mind catering towards what participants aimed to get out of the program. Notably, the talanoa section of the program grew to be quite favoured among participants and facilitators. As many of the participants are producers, they felt that they had a quality platform to share and discuss their ideas and express challenges amongst peers in similar positions creatively. Inversely, the creative section hasn't been so concrete in its direction as the common theme has tended to focus on discussing what to do, rather than demonstrate how to do.

HIGHLIGHTS

The engagement from each participant has grown immensely, particularly as we've added an emphasis to the talanoa/cypher showcase section. Compared to previous outcomes, we're more likely now to see participants return week after week and I believe this to be the reason why.

CHALLENGES

While successful as a discussion platform, the creative section of our program is the harder part to promote to potential participants. While we are always brainstorming ideas for creative, we also have to respond to who turns up for the program that night, which can overthrow our planning and preparation. Additionally, we have seen a fluctuation in attendance. On some occasions, we may have many, on others, we may have very few.

LEARNINGS

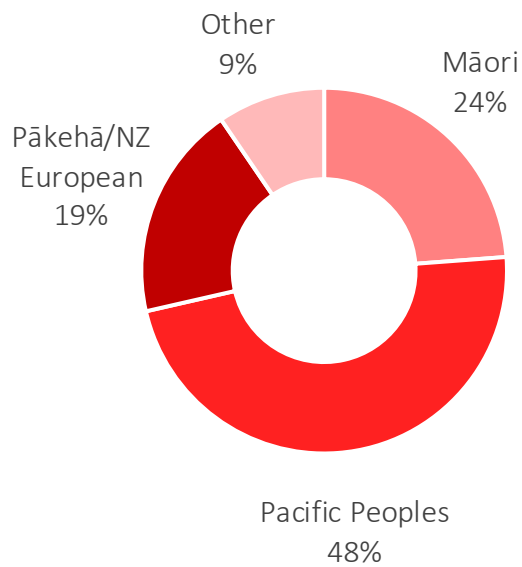
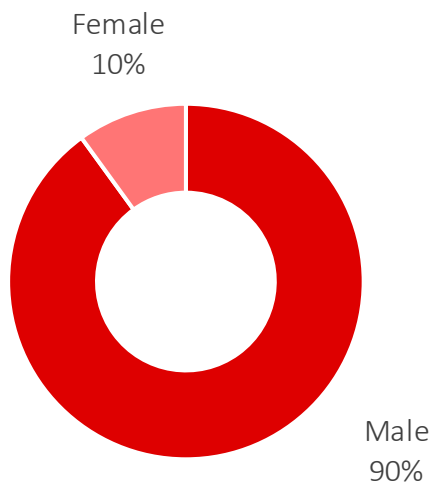
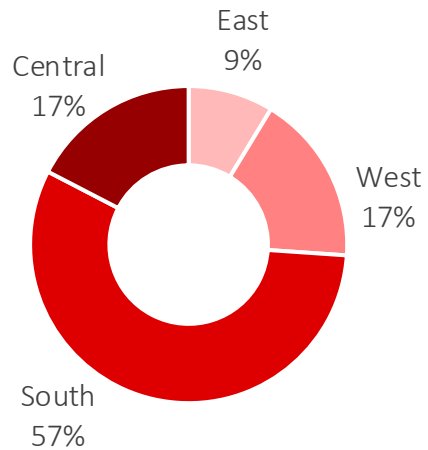
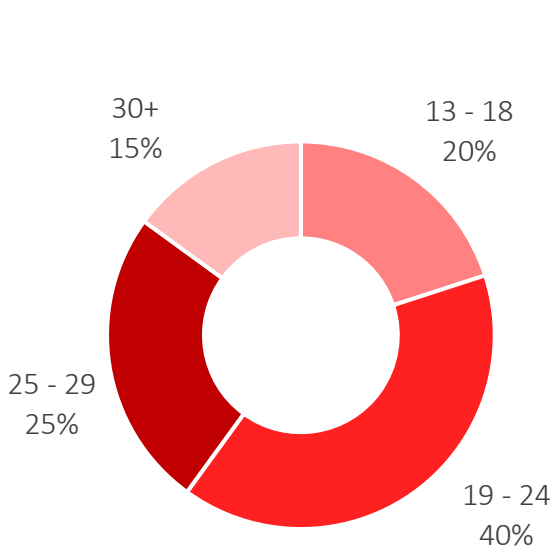
The team has come to terms with the many nuances that being a producer entails, and in saying so, aim to crack down on two major factors that we believe will uplift the program to its potential. 1. Properly directing the program in order to fairly and adequately meet participant needs across all, or most, relevant fronts that we can condense into a weekly session. 2. Recognise what talents each individual facilitator possesses in order to maximise our utility as facilitators.

NAVIGATORS / PRODUCER



SUMMARY

Total participants this quarter: **20**



NAVIGATORS / PRODUCER

IMAGES



NAVIGATORS / TALANOA



Facilitated by Rizvan Tu'itahi, Siose Solo & Ben Tuimaseve

Report by Ben Tuimaseve

Tuesday's, Taro Patch Creative, Papatoetoe

People consistently turned up every Tuesday to talk about all things 'life' and it has been a beautiful thing to share with others. The only real goal is to discuss things 'in raw form' and to leave the space having learned something - whether it be about yourself, or an angle you may not have considered - which I think has worked in favour of Talanoa Tuesdays. We have talked about an extensive list of things from help, relationships, self-esteem, generational differences, values, goals, conflict, change to wills and bequests with no one being offended or feeling unsafe. The collective respect, safety and understanding we have built is really serving the purpose of the space. Talanoa is the theory for us to apply better action for ourselves.

HIGHLIGHTS

The main highlight has been witnessing the courage of participants asking for help to better themselves and speaking their truth without fear of judgement. One participant is now seeing a counsellor, as they identified (themselves) that they needed help to navigate the life changes they were going through. There is also a young couple in the space who openly speak of the challenges and changes they go through in real time which I believe does three things: it improves their art of communication, lessens potential shame when they get it wrong, and is highly relatable to others in the space. The other highlights include new people coming into the space and complimenting it on its feeling of safety. We, as facilitators, consistently communicate and debrief with each other in hopes of making the space one of empowerment.

CHALLENGES

The hardest thing is not fully knowing what a person is going through as we talk about things and whether what we talk about is better or worse for someone. That said, everyone currently in the space is 19 years or older and as we constantly preach that we do not have the answers, that everyone holds their own, and collectively we can work towards creating more clearer answers for ourselves. Everyone seems to understand that kaupapa and they feel safer exploring harder topics alongside others rather than being alone.

LEARNINGS

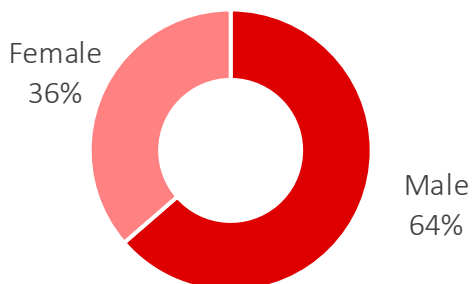
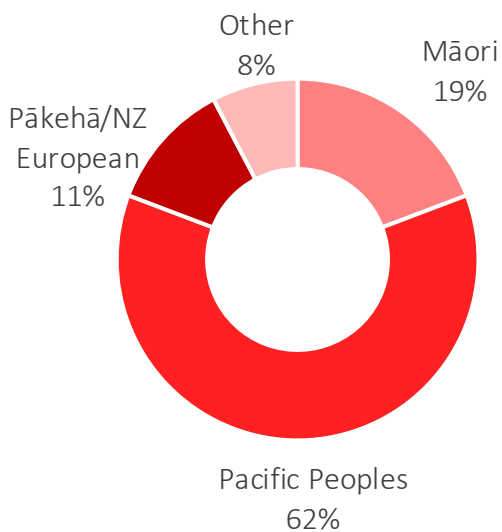
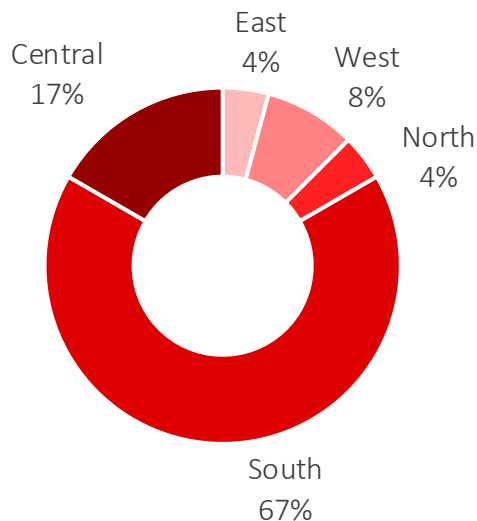
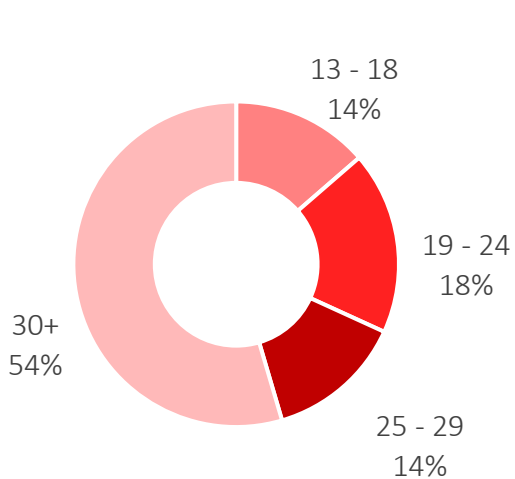
We have learned that, as facilitators, constant communication about the space really helps us to keep it one of safety and empowerment. I just want to give flowers to our team and how we work alongside each other to make the space one of value as much as possible. Shout out to Siose and Rizvan who also facilitate this program. I learned we have an amazing team.

NAVIGATORS / TALANOA



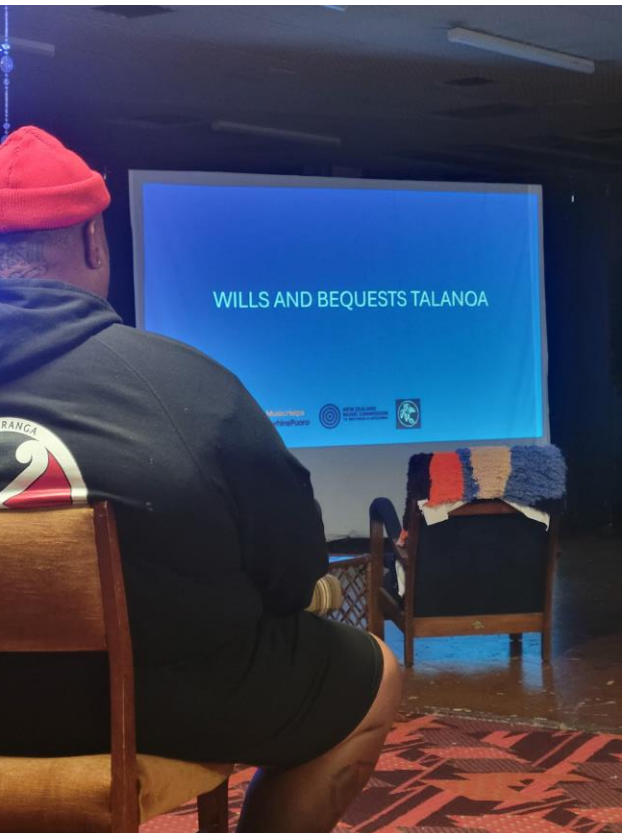
SUMMARY

Total participants this quarter: **24**



NAVIGATORS / TALANOA

IMAGES



NAVIGATORS / SOUTH



Facilitated by Oliva Luki, Ben Tuimaseve & Noah Tauti

Report by Ben Tuimaseve

Monday's, OMAC, Ōtara

Like Andre 3000 said 'the South's got something to say' and in this quarter, we've seen that the participants have started to raise their voice in their creative confidence, endeavors and general esteem. We've had a fluctuation in numbers due to it being a busy season of events for participants/music community which has meant we've kept things quite simple at Navigators (this quarter). With that said, people always show up, which proves to us that having that space open, and available as an option every week, is necessary and we still exercise creativity and have in-depth talanoa.

HIGHLIGHTS

The general creative confidence of the participants has risen this quarter. A number of people have done music videos, released music, got funding, booking consistent studio time, done numerous gigs and had opportunities like tv work, employment and interviews come about because they are 'shooting their shot'. On an individual level, seeing one participant really start to believe in herself and her talent, absolutely own her live performances, experiment with her sound and having fun has been fulfilling. We hope all of the participants can experience this, but this particular participant is quite driven and it's beautiful to witness. We also did a time capsule where we all did a piece of art, wrote a letter to ourselves, took photos and had interviews amongst other things so we could collate and put away to revisit together in five years.

CHALLENGES

I think it's been really hard to know exactly where someone is at with things so that we can support them as best as possible. It seems like a guessing game at times and that guessing can cause slight doubt if we're doing the right thing but due to the heart our team holds - that's really just driven us to ask questions to the participants and ourselves to try build better bridges. The other challenge is time, how to better use it to serve our participants. Our format works but sometimes we need more talanoa than creativity and vice versa, especially with participants attending Navigators for more than a year.

LEARNINGS

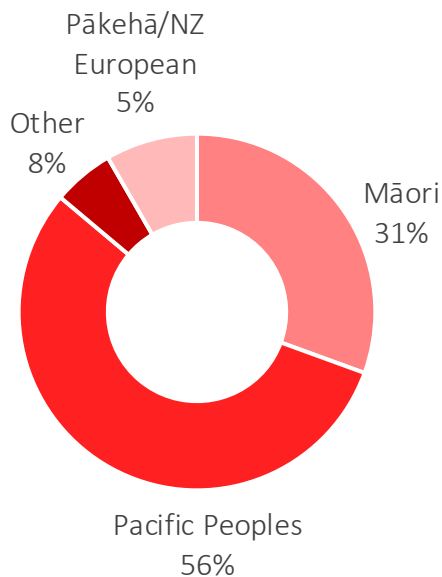
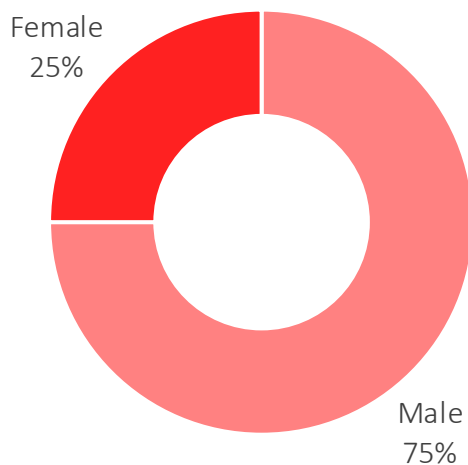
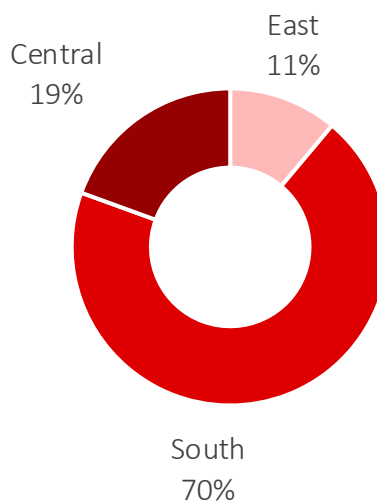
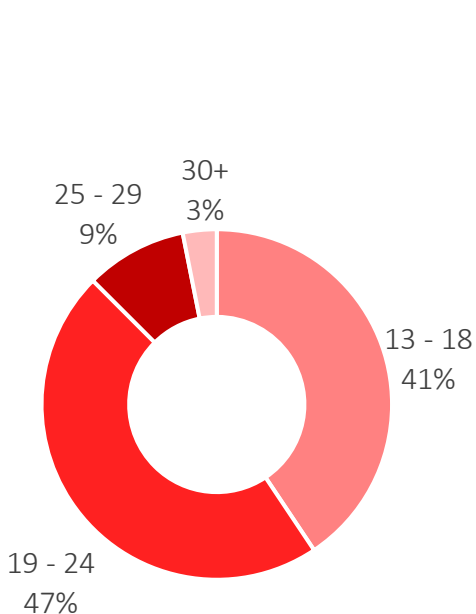
We learned that our approach to walking alongside youth holds weight. We allow them to grow and shape their lives in their own time and guide them along the way, if needed. The fact that we don't try dictate a narrative based on our own biases or solely tick boxes that potentially causes disconnect, does wonders for rapport and the collective as a whole, consistently.

NAVIGATORS / SOUTH

SUMMARY



Total participants this quarter: 39



NAVIGATORS / SOUTH

IMAGES



NAVIGATORS / SPOKEN WORD



Facilitated by Noah Tauti & Luani Nansen

Report by Noah Tauti

Wednesday's, OMAC, Ōtara

We launched Spoken Word Navs last quarter in February, so we are still quite a new program, having just completed our first, full quarter. At this time, there aren't many spaces for poets (aspiring or established) to create pieces, share space, or test their drafts in non-competitive, or showcasing environments. This is why I believe Spoken Word Navs is needed in our poetry community. On some occasions this quarter we've gone to some Spoken Word Open Mic events as part of our delivery and witnessed some of our participants share their poetry at these events.

HIGHLIGHTS

Poets usually create in solitude and this can be lonely, and demotivating sometimes, so a major high has been revitalising the joy in poetry for returning poets. We've been able to spark enjoyment in new poets who walked in with pre-conceived ideas about poetry. One of the participants usually raps, and they've joined us to learn more about the spoken word aspect of poetry and build their confidence to do poetry. Finally, our major highs have been the Spoken Word Open Mic nights. We've attended 2 this quarter, which have fallen on the same night as our program. The participant who usually raps, got up on the mic at these events, which has been so solid to watch his transformation. The growth in his mana and confidence has been admirable for us facilitators to watch.

CHALLENGES

One of our biggest challenges this quarter has been the talanoa section because it can sometimes take up more time than we would like. Although we can have rich conversations, we also have awkward silence. As new facilitators of a new program, we are aware that we need to be more confident in closing talanoa when we feel it has come to a natural end, instead of trying to force more conversation.

LEARNINGS

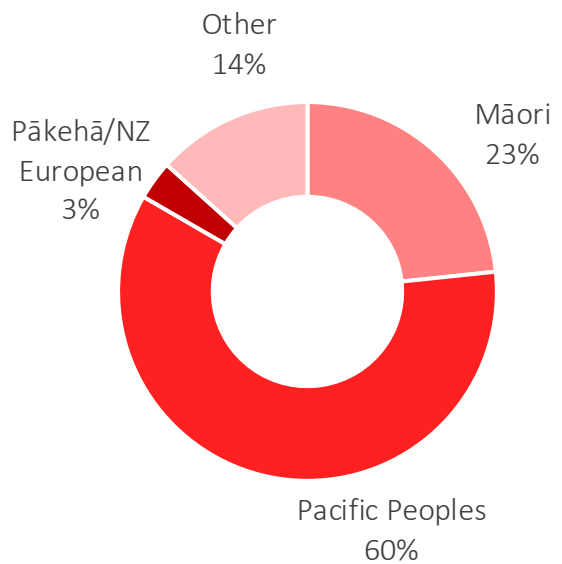
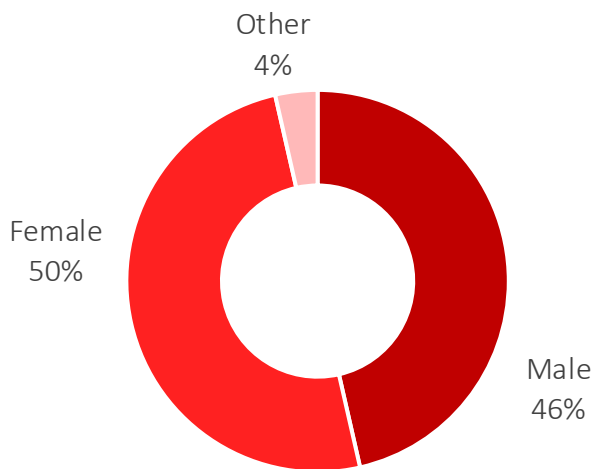
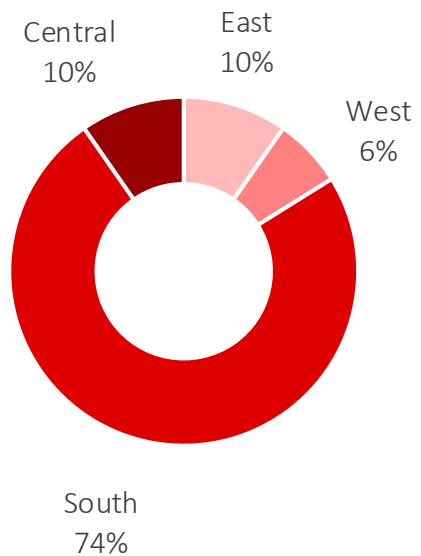
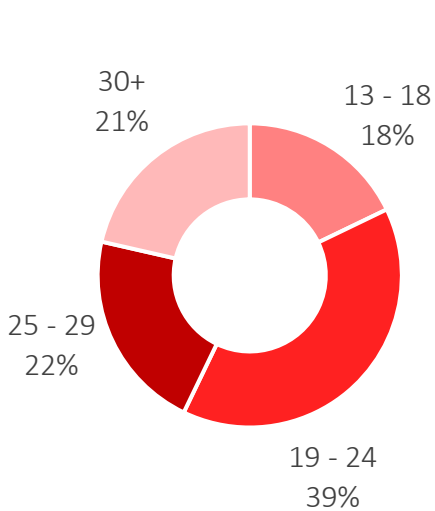
Our space is a unique one, and we are lucky to be able to provide a space for aspiring and established poets, and even non-poets. Young people are coming to our space to experience it, whether they're a poet or not, and they've felt comfortable to walk alongside us despite doubting their poetic abilities. The program has started off well. Looking forward to how much more the space can serve for more people on top of the existing participants.

NAVIGATORS / SPOKEN WORD

SUMMARY



Total participants this quarter: **28**



NAVIGATORS / SPOKEN WORD

IMAGES



CREATIVE LABS



OVERVIEW

Free weekly studio program that empowers youth with local resources, equipment, and guidance. Fostering creativity, connecting like-minded individuals, and nurturing the next generation of artists and musicians.



CREATIVE LABS / CENTRAL



Facilitated by Taimana Davis, Raneem Caco, Dera Meelan & Aidan Fine

Report by Dera Meelan

Mon, Weds, Thurs, Wesley Community Centre, Sandringham

Our goal this quarter was to maximise participant involvement and create an environment where creativity could flourish for our youth. We've also seen a transition from participant to facilitator, as we brought on a new staff member on a casual basis, one of our long-standing participants who has really transformed since he started with us a few years back. We've also had another facilitator join us to help some at-risk youth in creating album art, which is a little outside of what we do at C-labs, but it is also an additional resource we provide.

HIGHLIGHTS

Creative Labs has many highlights. One of them is the overwhelming demand for bookings, which are mostly filled within an hour of our booking form being refreshed. So much music has come out of this space and people just come to hang out and be part of the atmosphere. Participants often bring 5-10 friends to record together. Furthermore, a major highlight is seeing some of our more at-risk youth coming with their friends to make music and chill, which is a positive outcome for these young people, hanging out in a safe and positive environment.

CHALLENGES

Most of our challenges this quarter have just been technical. Although we bought new computers for our studio, some of our other resources are still older, and can slow down the progression of some of participants. Also, because it's not an actual studio space, sound still leaks through other studios while participants are using them.

LEARNINGS

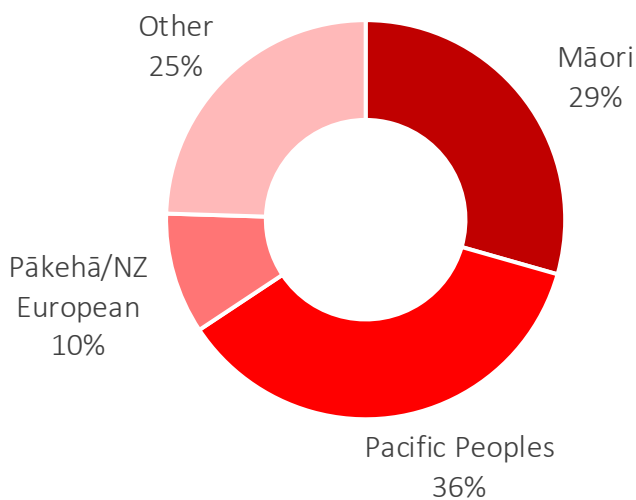
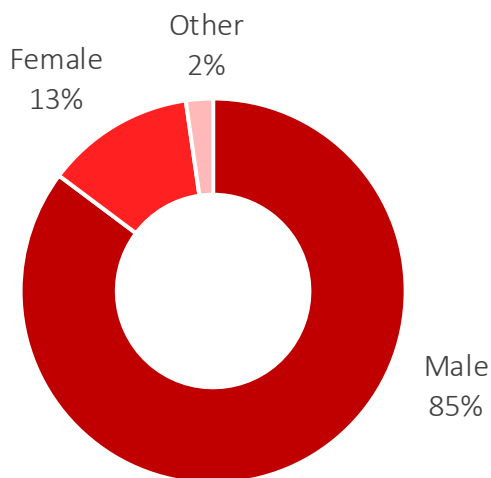
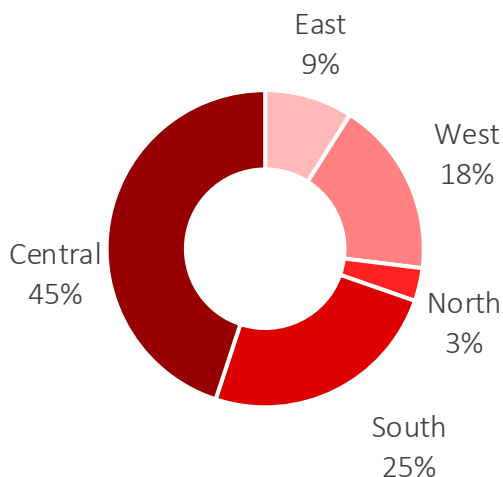
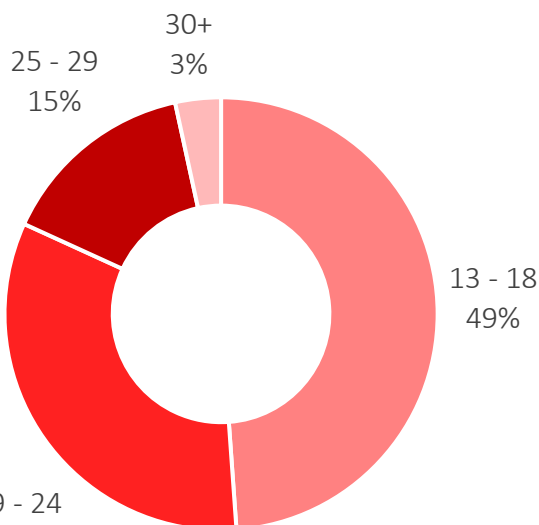
Contrary to the challenges, we have learned that this programme serves as a safe space and an environment that sparks creativity, and doesn't necessarily need to be a flashy, million-dollar facility. Our participants have diverse needs - some are just starting out, while others have been releasing music for years. Above all, we've seen that having the space available provides a valuable escape for people. With like-minded individuals around, it offers a much-needed break for many of our participants.

CREATIVE LABS / CENTRAL



SUMMARY

Total participants this quarter: **88**



CREATIVE LABS / CENTRAL

IMAGES



CREATIVE LABS / SOUTH



Facilitated by Oliva Luki

Report by Oliva Luki

Mon, Tues & Weds, OMAC, Ōtara

We've had a good run at C-Labs South this quarter. My goal was to get the studio booked every week and so far, we've had a full studio every day, with the odd person pulling out here and there. I've been able to watch people grow in their creativity and confidence this quarter and their becoming more comfortable in the studio. We've also added one more day this quarter, Wednesdays, which has provided more space for more participants to join.

HIGHLIGHTS

Some major highs this quarter is booking out the studio every day. Two participants released some music this quarter, after having come through to record. Some songs are in their final mixing stages, which is a solid outcome compared to last quarter. One participant recorded nine tracks this quarter, and although they haven't released any of them, this participant's drive to really achieve their music goals and find themselves on the mic is admirable.

CHALLENGES

Not many, if any, challenges this month. Just some technical difficulties with our studio, but these have since been sorted.

LEARNINGS

I've learned that I have to be consistent with bookings. I've created a process where I send a message to a group chat on Sundays to book the studio. One of the cool things that's been happening is that they have been booking on Sunday's anyways, regardless of whether I've followed up, which shows me that they like structure and consistency and they're also making more of an effort to work on their art. Also, building rapport with them, and showing them that I believe in them, is rewarding for their confidence and drive and they work much better when they feel comfortable in the studio with me, so making sure that we have a good, foundational relationship from the beginning makes a huge difference to their personal and professional success.

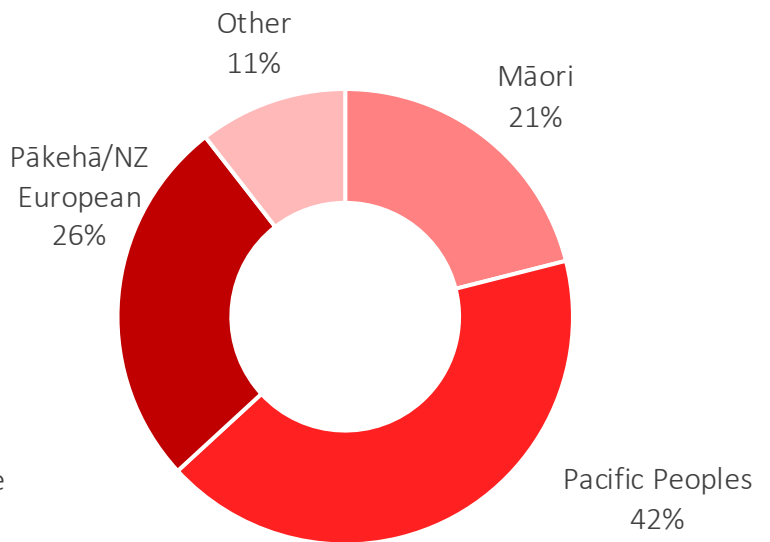
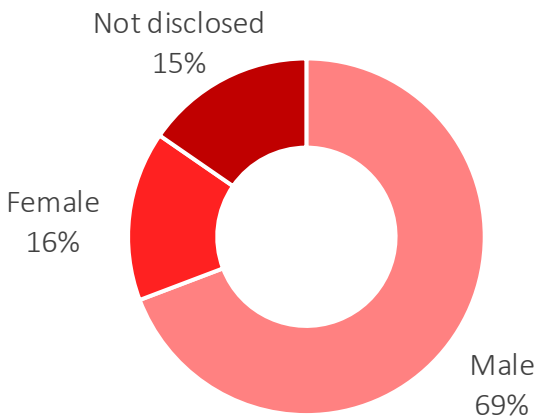
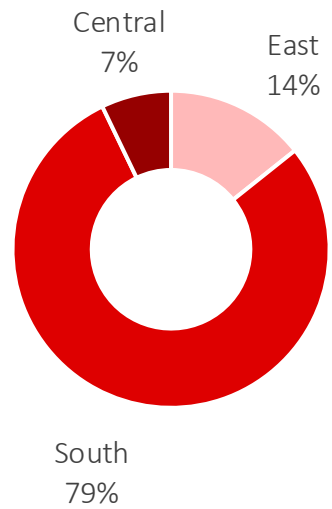
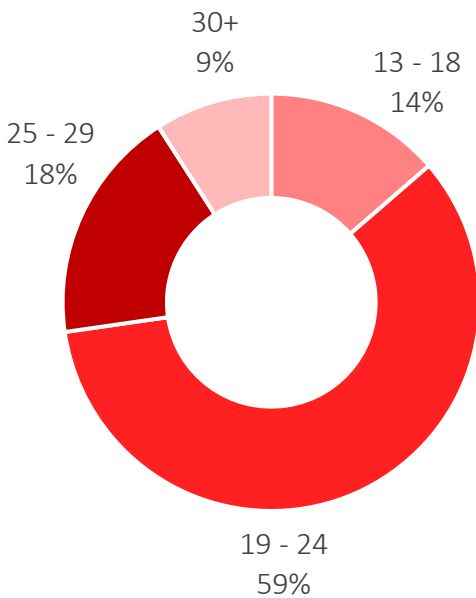


CREATIVE LABS / SOUTH



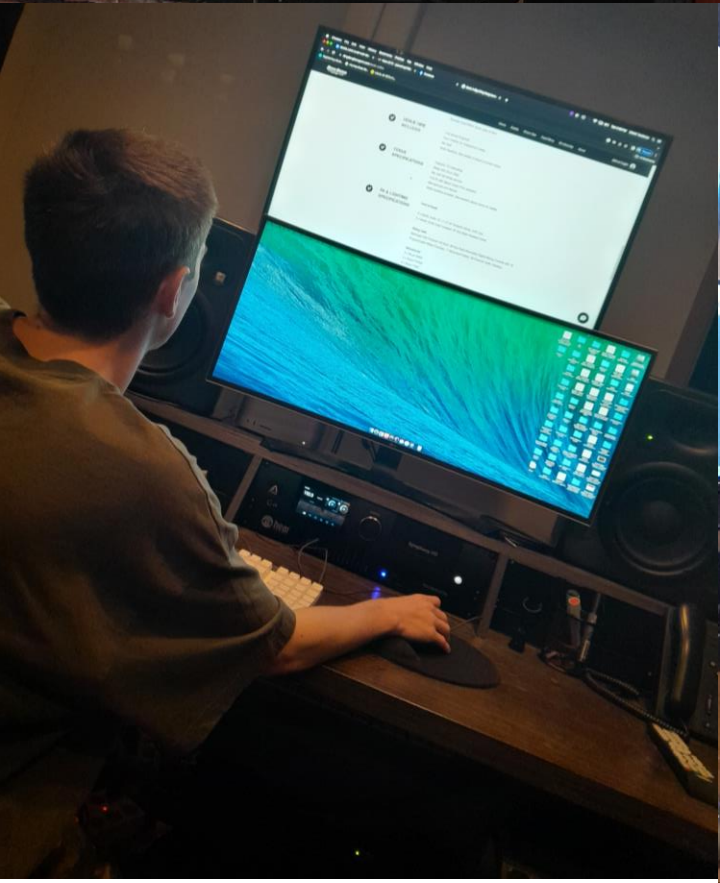
SUMMARY

Total participants this quarter: **22**



CREATIVE LABS / SOUTH

IMAGES



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & ENTREPRENEURSHIP



OVERVIEW

An internal program preparing aspiring creatives for future work environments. Supporting rangatahi with business ideas and focusing on artist professional, personal, and business development within the arts.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & ENTREPRENEURSHIP



Facilitated by Elijah Manū, Rizvan Tu'itahi, Abraham Kunin, Oliva Luki & Raneem Caco

Report by All facilitators

This quarter we have been working consistently with ambitious participants who receive one on one mentoring with our facilitators. Being an entrepreneur in the arts is a bit different than normal entrepreneurship. Being a paid musician is definitely a goal, but being an independent artist, who can consistently monetise off their talent, is what BTG focuses on. We have seen several young people have their first ever independently achieved paid gigs this quarter, where they had to learn to negotiate, invoice for the payment and manage expenses and tax obligations. We're working with several participants on running their first independent event from scratch, which sets them up in event management and teaches them budgeting, profit margins, business skills and marketing. We are also supporting participants to develop their own product/merch lines such as garments, posters and other branded products. All of our participants are learning best practice on how to independently & professionally release and promote their music on all popular streaming platforms like Spotify and Apple Music, to monetise off plays and split profits fairly between collaborators. The program aligns itself with NZ on air funding and a key goal or outcome of BTG is becoming eligible and capable of applying for and NZ on air grant.

HIGHLIGHTS

Overall, we've experienced a lot of wins with our participants on this program to date. First times are a common theme for BTG. We've been able to offer many participants their first time doing paid performances in front of live audiences and first professional online music releases. Participants have experimented with merch design, production, advertising and sales, exploring different potential income streams for artists and the financial literacy needed to succeed. We've seen massive growth in several of our participants, not just as artists, but as 'independent professional artists' who are better understanding how to monetise off their talent and sustain their passions. Our seed funding has helped several participants start regular paid collaborative events, start their own product/merch lines, and to get the necessary equipment needed to get hired for internships and placements in ongoing paid work opportunities in the creative industries.

CHALLENGES

Some of our participants started the program, and although driven and determined to complete the program, they have encountered personal issues that mean they can no longer commit. However, we have been able to take on other participants in their place. Being an artist also means being vulnerable - and some of our participants have faced some confidence barriers, such as not fully believing in themselves. It has been so rewarding watching them evolve through it as they continue to turn up to each session and push through the challenges to achieve their goals.

LEARNINGS

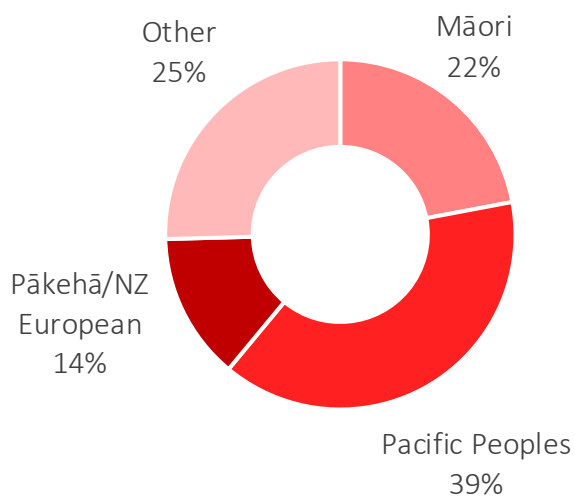
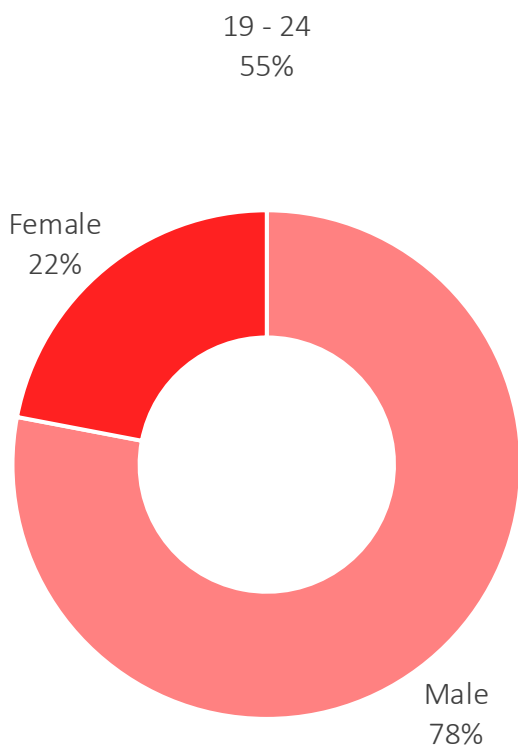
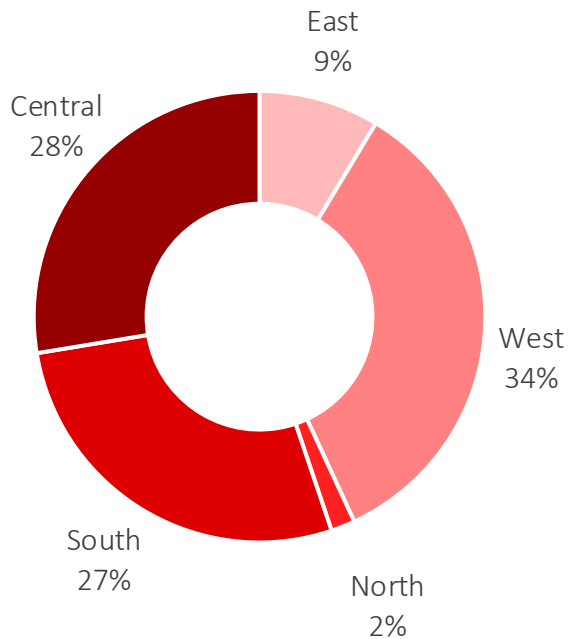
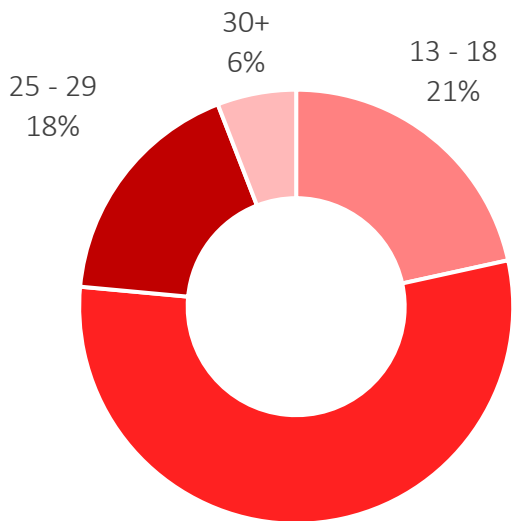
We have noticed that younger participants are more likely to show up consistently every week. This could be because of the additional responsibilities that older participants may have e.g. work, family, money. We've also learned to remain patient with our participants, especially meeting them where they are at, whilst still helping them find themselves as artistic entrepreneurs. Furthermore, emerging into the NZ music scene is a lengthy process, but reassuring participants of the outcomes, and not being fixed on specific details, has helped to develop healthy relationships between them and their enterprise.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

SUMMARY



Total participants this quarter: **51**



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & ENTREPRENEURSHIP IMAGES





OVERVIEW

Rap-n-Rec is a music program delivered to young people in youth justice or schools, empowering them to share stories through music to normalise music as a means of emotional expression.



RAP N REC YJ



Facilitated by Rizvan Tu'itapu & Siose Solo

Report by TK White

Tues, Thurs Whakatakāpōkai & Kingslea School

This quarter we continued to deliver Rap n Rec YJ at Whakatakāpōkai and Kingslea School. Kingslea is a school for young people within residential and also non-residential care who have been referred by Care and Protection or Youth Justice. We've had a whole new cohort come through Whakatakāpōkai, but they are keen and enthusiastic about doing this program. We were able to shoot a basic music video in the girl's unit, to give them the experience of shooting a video clip and have recorded over 10+ songs with all the youth in these programs.

HIGHLIGHTS

On a wider scale, we've been able to teach some valuable skills to our participants, such as mic etiquette, taking breaths while they're on the mic, energy, delivery and conviction in their words and the participants are truly taking it in and applying it, showing that they are serious about this mahi, and are really engaged in it. We've also noticed that they are growing on our facilitators. Building rapport with them, and building trust, has been super beneficial for their growth as expressionists.

CHALLENGES

We haven't really encountered many, if any, major challenges this quarter. Because of the nature of the residencies, these participants could be with us for one week or twenty. Sometimes their departures are sudden, and we are constantly meeting new young people. With the sudden departures, we can't always give them their music before they leave.

LEARNINGS

In a professional capacity, we've realised that our team is bigger now, and more people can contribute to the delivery of these programs especially our newer staff, who were participants, as they are younger and can relate to our young people more than us 'maturer' facilitators. This is especially good for our participants cos they can see themselves in our younger facilitators.

RAP N REC / YJ

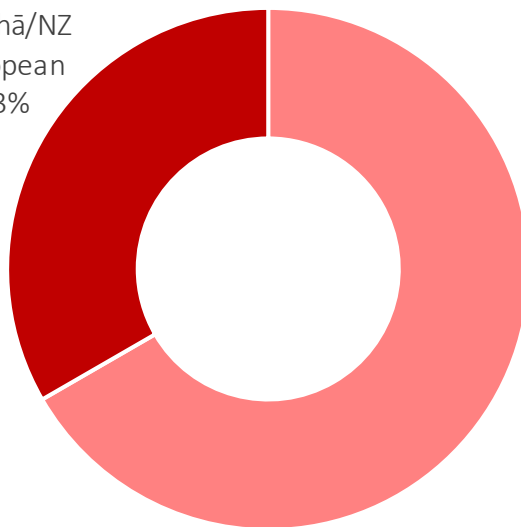


SUMMARY

Total participants this quarter: **18**

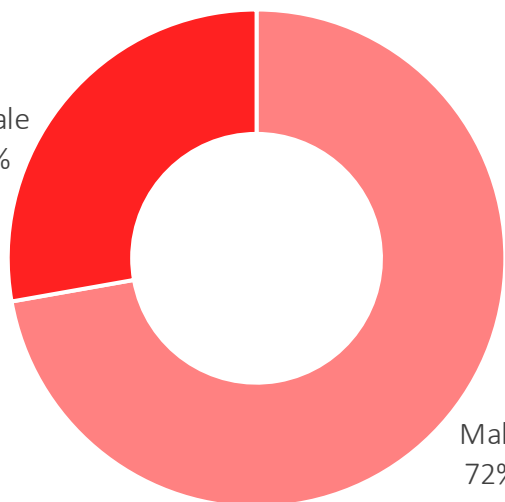
All participants between 14 – 17 yrs old

Pākehā/NZ
European
33%



Māori
67%

Female
28%



Male
72%



RAP N REC / SCHOOLS



Facilitated by Rizvan Tu'itapu & Noah Tauti

Report by TK White

Thursday's Manurewa Highschool

This quarter, we are excited to share of our program being delivered at Manurewa High School. We are currently working with 7 young females, all really keen on learning how to write, rap and record. We've brought in a guest, one of our newest staff members (previous participant), who is an aspiring female MC, to share her experience as a female MC in the rap scene. Furthermore, we will be taking these participants on a field trip to OMAC studios in Ōtara to give them experience in a professional setting.

HIGHLIGHTS

Delivering in Manurewa High is a massive high for us as we haven't really been in schools the past couple years. When we brought our female staff member in to talk to them, they could really relate to her and were more motivated to give this program a solid go after seeing how successful it can be for a female MC in Tāmaki Makaurau. Furthermore, this cohort has warmed up to our facilitators and built rapport easily. They're comfortable in creating, expressing, and sharing with us, which really testifies to the work that we do.

CHALLENGES

Not many challenges, if any at all. Maybe just the time we have with them being limited. It would be cool to spend more time with them throughout the week.

LEARNINGS

Females get inspired by other females. Taking our female staff member in to speak with them was a huge success as the participants could see themselves in her. She's a younger staff member, so she could relate to them and they could relate to her. And their lights started shining after meeting her.

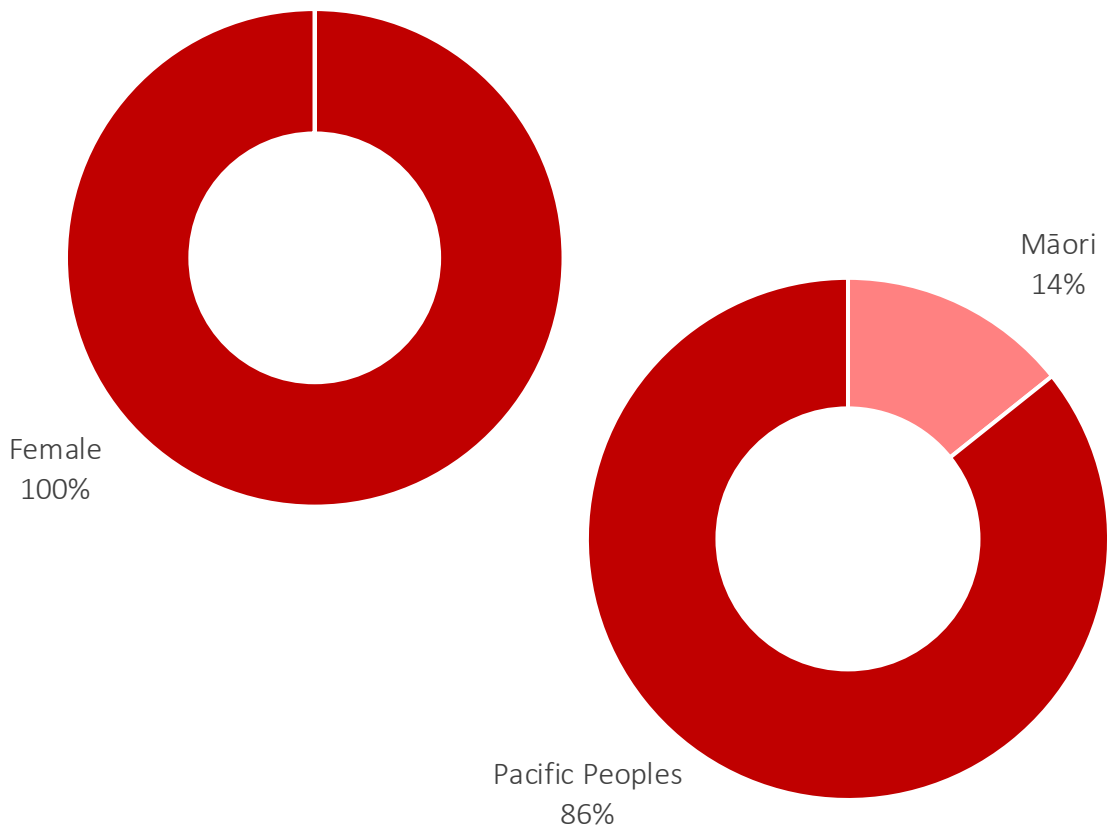
RAP N REC / SCHOOLS



SUMMARY

Total participants this quarter: 7

All participants between 14 – 17 yrs old



RAP N REC / SCHOOLS

IMAGES



RANGATAHI HIGHLIGHTS



I love the family vibe and being able to chat and hang out with other people who make music and like similar things



The safe space, its what boosts my week by week, its one of my homes, its where I don't give up and understand that life has its highs and lows



Safe space to release, realign, and tap into my creative side with like minded individuals who support

Having a community away from home was really important to me like a second family except a lot bigger

It's a safe and entertaining space to have awesome talanoa as well as a place to support and work on our art as a collective

Having a space to be raw with your emotions, feelings without judgement

The relationships I built through this program have helped me develop my career in ways I didn't even think were possible.

MORE IMAGES



MORE IMAGES



MORE IMAGES



MORE IMAGES



MORE IMAGES



MORE IMAGES

