

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES 2019

TERM 3

EXPRESSIONS WHIRINAKI ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE

Expressions Whirinaki Arts & Entertainment Centre is Upper Hutt's own art hub. We are committed to offering engaging and accessible visual and performing art experiences for local students and have a range of exciting and world class programmes.

Expressions Whirinaki Arts & Entertainment Centre presents a vibrant and diverse exhibition programme throughout the year including artworks and exhibitions of national significance as well as those representing artists from the wider Wellington Region and our own Upper Hutt community.

With an ever changing exhibition programme and most exhibitions suitable for children, schools can visit on a regular basis.

During an educational visit students will learn to look closely and think critically to develop a greater understanding of art, culture and history. Educational visits are ALWAYS FREE.

They are tailored to suit the age of the students and usually involve a tour and discussion about the exhibition and an associated hands-on art or craft activity. They are presented by an experienced art facilitator and they can run from an hour to one and a half hours.

TUIA 250

In 2019, New Zealand will mark 250 years since the first meetings between Maori and Europeans during James Cook and the Endeavour's 1769 voyage to Aotearoa New Zealand. A national commemoration Tuia - Encounters will acknowledge this pivotal moment in our nation's history, as well as the exceptional feats of Pacific Voyagers who reached and settled in Aotearoa many years earlier.

Our 2019 programme will endorse these commemorations through our programme, weaving relevant content on the first meetings between early settlers and local Maori into our vision of the shared future of Aotearoa.



BUGS!

Our Backyard Heroes

29 June-11 September

TERM 3

BUGS! Our Backyard Heroes is an exhibition that reveals and celebrates the incredible talents of creepy crawlies!

Bugs play an important role in our ecosystem, biosecurity and in our own backyards—they are our Backyard Heroes.

This hands-on educational experience brings visitors face-to-face with some real live mini-monsters; 'Eugene', the giant poisonous centipede, and his friends the tree wētā, stick insects, locusts, crickets, cockroaches and Avondale spiders.



Explore the secret world of bugs and the vital role they play in our lives without us even realising it! During an educational visit, students will learn about the different native species of bugs in New Zealand and the sometimes precarious position they hold in the ecosystem, due to threats from imported pests and environmental threats. As part of the education visit students will also take part in an art activity in response to the exhibition , as well as an environmentally friendly craft.

There are plenty of hands-on activities for students to get involved in, including dress-ups, creating their own superpower bug, a huge picture puzzle, and a collection of post visit activity cards to take home with instructions how to create a backyard bug hotel, a bug census and homes for wētā.

Students can also learn how to become a citizen scientist and how bugs inspire those on the frontline of technology.

The themes within the exhibition include New Zealand native species, super heroes, bio security, citizen scientists and forensic entomology.



Educational links: the Arts

This exhibition also has strong links to the visual arts curriculum, around the learning strands of developing ideas in the visual arts. Students will explore and describe how different media influence the communication and interpretation of ideas in their own and in other work.

They will use critical analysis to inform, interpret and respond to the representation of bugs in the exhibition, both artistic and scientific.

BUGS! Our Backyard heroes links to the TUIA 250 programme by encouraging students to think about our nations biosecurity. Students will look at the impact of introducing new species to Aotearoa, specifically at the times of Maori and European settlement. Students will investigate what bugs the settlers and ocean voyagers bought along with them, knowing, or unknowingly, and how this has affected our nation.

They will also look at our intention going forward as a 'Clean and Green' nation, and what we might do to preserve and encourage our natural environment as its kaitiaki, or guardians.

Educational Visits

Exhibition tour: free

Exhibition tour and gallery visit: free (90-120 minutes)

BUGS! Activity: Collaborative art and bee bombs

Students will make their own 'bee bombs' to take home and plant, to encourage bees to thrive, bringing to attention the important role bugs play in our ecosystem. They will also work as a class to create a collaborative artwork around the theme of bugs, reflecting on their in gallery experience of BUGS! and appreciating the beauty that is revealed in our natural environment, when we take the time to study closely.



Educational links: science

The exhibition has strong links to the science curriculum. Students will learn about the nature of science, particularly the living world, understanding the processes of life and coming to an understanding of the diversity of living things. The exhibit enables students to come to an understanding of the interaction between living and non-living environment, understand the processes that drive change over time, and be able to discuss the implication of these changes.



PUMPKIN COTTAGE

Permanent collection lesson, available on request.

Expressions Whirinaki owns a significant collection of early impressionist paintings from 1840: the Pumpkin Cottage Collection. This collection has local and national historical significance, as an example of our indigenous interpretation of the impressionist movement. Education visits will comprise of a classroom lesson outlining the movement and the Pumpkin Cottage group of artists, and viewing selected artworks from the collection. They will also take part in a related art activity.

Curriculum links

The Pumpkin Cottage education package has strong links to the New Zealand social sciences curriculum. It addresses the learning objectives of students' gaining the knowledge, skills and experience to understand how the causes and consequences of past events, that are of significance to New Zealanders, shape the lives of people and society. Especially in this case, our local history of Upper Hutt.

It also has strong links to the visual arts curriculum, where students will apply knowledge of elements, principles, and conventions in a selected field of the visual arts, in this case painting. Students will extend and refine skills with techniques, tools, and materials to produce a piece of work in this selected field.



Tuia 250 in Pumpkin Cottage

This package links to the Tuia 250 Project, created by the ministry for culture and Heritage by introducing students to a piece of our local history, with the aim of creating a shared legacy for all New Zealanders.

Students will share ideas about the art of the Pumpkin Cottage movement, and explore how the early relationships between the settlers and Maori changed Aotearoa.

Educational visits

Classroom lesson: free.

Classroom lesson & creative activity: 60-120 minutes: free

Students will learn and apply Impressionist techniques with thickened acrylics, to create their own 'En plein air' painting outside.

PLANNING A VISIT

Getting here

Public Transport:

With buses and trains stopping at Upper Hutt Station, Expressions is just a five minute walk down the road.

Bringing your own bus or cars:

Car parking and bus drop off points are right behind Expressions in the carpark near H2O Xtream swimming pool.

During Your Visit

Lunch & morning tea:

We have an indoor space to enjoy morning and afternoon tea should the weather require (subject to availability)

School bags & jackets:

Yes you can bring your school bags and jackets as we have a space for them while you visit.



For further information or to book a visit please contact

Claire Mepham, Learning Programmes Specialist
Expressions Whirinaki Arts and Entertainment Centre
Ph (04) 5290086
education@expressions.org.nz
www.expressions.org.nz

Claire is also available throughout the year to visit your school and discuss the exhibition programme and the opportunities for your students.

Please contact her to make a time to visit you.

