

## **Unitec School of Creative Industries - Weekly Newsletter: 16 Mar 2020**

On Saturday 21 March, Eden Arts Trust is holding their annual Artists in Eden event, the participating artists are Unitec DCA lecturer **Paul Woodruffe**, as well as Unitec contemporary arts grads; **Krystie Wade, Tira Walsh, and Gabby Tionson**. Artists in Eden is Auckland's longest running art event of its kind which brings together a large number of recognised Auckland artists who draw and paint from the Essex Road Reserve in Mt Eden. The completed works are auctioned the same day to provide funds for community arts initiatives. Around 40 visual artists work in the park during the day. More info [here](#).



Congrats to all our Unitec students & alumni who were recognised at the recent **Auckland Fringe Awards**. Special mention to those involved in *Taurite*/Auckland Arts Festival 'Best of the Fringe' Award & Pick of the Fringe & Best Dance; *Lunar State*/Winner PANNZ emerging artist award & Taurima Vibes Grassroots Awards (pictured below; Unitec acting grads: **Benny Smith, Sheyney Ansin, Bridie Sisson, Emily Hurley**); *Alone*/Winner PANNZ emerging artist award & Best Theatre and *Jelly Baby*/Best Contemporary Performance and Live Art & Spirit of Fringe. See all the winners [here](#).



Unitec acting grad (2017), **Kiri Naik** (pictured seated below), will play 'Pirihira' alongside a cast of talented actors in *The Wairau Affray*. The play is based on the 'Wairau Massacre' which was the first significant armed conflict between Māori and British settlers after the signing of Tiriti o Waitangi. *The Wairau Affray* still ripples through history for local iwi Ngāti Toa almost 177 years after it happened. *The Wairau Affray* has seven shows staging at the Suter Theatre during the Nelson Heritage Festival between April 15 and April 19 and will be staged again in Blenheim in June. For tickets/info, visit [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz). Read more [here](#).



Unitec dance students were filmed last week performing Unitec's response to the **ASB Polyfest Dance Challenge**. #ASBPolyfest2020



The connection between two spirit animals of the Māori and Native American cultures are being put on show in a performance as part of the New Zealand Festival of the Arts. *Hōkioi me te Vwōhali* has been created by Ōkāreka Dance company choreographer Taiaroa Royal in collaboration with choreographers Missy and Andrew Hubbard from the US-based dance company, Exhale Dance Tribe and features Unitec dance grads; **Cuba Haslam, Cory-Toalei Roycroft, Jesse Wikiriwhi**. More [here](#).



Also staged during the NZ Festival of the Arts last week was Choreoco's 'New Dance Group' choreographed by Unitec dance grads, **Josie Archer** and **Kosta Bogoievski** and featuring Unitec dance grad, **Brittany Kohler**. More [here](#).

*Strasbourg 1518* (NZ International Arts Festival) at Wellington's Circa Theatre last week featured Unitec grads **Hannah Tasker-Poland, Xin Ji**, and **Sean MacDonald** and guest lecturer, **Michael Parmenter**.





## **COMING UP**

### **March**

18-21	ASB Polyfest (Unitec Diversity Stage)
27	Year 2 PASA Noho Marae
31	Unitec Autumn Graduation (and 1 April)

ENDS/

*Check out more news on our social media channels, [Unitec's Art & Design Facebook page](#) or [Unitec's Performing & Screen Arts Facebook page](#).*

*For all other social media updates on Unitec's School of Creative Industries visit our [official facebook page](#) and also our Instagram and Twitter channels @unitec\_creative*