

Kia Rere Te Ukurere! A Celebration of Ukes in Schools!

The New Zealand Ukulele Trust | Te Rūnanga Ukurere o Aotearoa is passionate about empowering young people to reach their music potential via the ukulele. Our driving force is to make real the dream of Bill Sevesi that “every child in NZ would get the chance to learn to play the ukulele”

Last year we were the proud recipients of the 2024 Baysting Prize for Children's Champion. This prize is presented at the APRA AMCOS NZ Children's Music Awards to an individual, group, or organisation who has made a significant and outstanding contribution to the development and wellbeing of the tamariki of Aotearoa.

Ukes in Schools Ngā Ukurere i Ngā Kura

Since 2007, we've helped over 1000 schools across Aotearoa New Zealand ignite a love of learning, playing, performing and creating with the ukulele. This is thanks to our Ukes in Schools initiative, which to date has delivered over 4,000 ukuleles to schools/kura across the motu - for free! We want to thank our generous sponsors at Lyn McAllister Music and KBB/Rockshop, who continue to support this wonderful kaupapa.

We are delighted to have the Wright Family Foundation also supporting this kaupapa. Last year they funded 24 class set of ukuleles to schools across the Bay of Plenty and by the time this magazine reaches you, there will be over 65 small rural and isolated schools/kura across the motu enjoying their brand new sets of ukuleles - including, not least of all, Pitt Island school! Ka mau te wehi!

NZ Ukulele trust ambassadors

Te Atamira Jennifer Ward-Lealand & Suzy Cato

This year, we have been delighted to welcome Te Atamira as our new Ambassador. In a recent RNZ interview, she spoke about how her te reo journey was supported by the ukulele. Her fresh energy has galvanized the Trust in its goal to ensure

50% of our songbank is in te reo Māori.

The indomitable Suzy Cato continues to be a source of inspiration as our Ambassador and we thank her for all of the doors she has opened for us at the Trust to continue our mahi.

Beyond Ukes in Schools, the Trust will continue to offer a rich suite of programmes for 2025 including;

Kiwileles Songbank Ngā Waiata Kiwilele

Our Kiwileles Songbank resource is packed with song sheets, teaching tips, practice tracks, and lyric videos of songs, targeted specifically towards the tamariki of Aotearoa New Zealand. We are grateful to the songwriters and their whānau who give us permission to publish their songs and waiata.

Kiwilele Jams Ngā Hui Ukurere

We support our wonderful Kiwileles Uke-Hub Leaders to facilitate Kiwilele Jams - massed ukulele play-alongs across the motu. The emphasis is on PARTICIPATION - no matter where you are at, you will be able to contribute by strumming, singing or signing.

Songwriting Competition Whakataetae Waiata

Each year we run a unique songwriting competition. The winning entries get wonderful prizes and the winning song is recorded professionally, and published in the Kiwileles Songbank, to be shared with our Kiwileles. This year's song is 'Hey There Friend' by Lydia and Finn Clark.



PROUD RECIPIENTS OF THE 2024 BAYSTING PRIZE FOR CHILDREN'S CHAMPION



UKES IN SCHOOLS



AMBASSADORS



BIO: Ali Caldwell is the specialist music teacher at St Clair School, Dunedin. She is Co-Chair of Music Education Otago and Education Trustee of the NZ Ukulele Trust. Her firm belief that every child should have access to a quality music education underpins everything she does.

BIO: Tim Carson is an EdD candidate at Waipapa Taumata Rau / The University of Auckland exploring how the ukulele supports student agency and autonomy in the primary classroom. He is the current chair of Te Rūnanga Ukurere o Aotearoa, trying to follow in the footsteps of his work wife Maria Winder.



ALI CALDWELL

Ukes in Schools

Ngā Ukurere i te Hapori Whānui

Music connects us all. Our Kiwileles have participated in local events and visited retirement villages and pre-schools to share their new skills and love of music. The ukulele brings generations together in harmony.

Can secondary schools join the kiwileles programme too? Absolutely!!

Even if you're just getting started, our free resource hub is packed with practical tools to help you and your students succeed, including:

- Structured strumming exercises
- Ukulele tuning and teaching tips
- A beginner's handbook
- One-chord starter songs.

Explore them all now by scanning this QR code or visiting nzukulele.org.nz/resources

***JOIN THE KIWILELES PROGRAMME**



EXPLORE THEM ALL NOW BY SCANNING THIS QR CODE ABOVE OR VISITING [NZUKULELE.ORG.NZ/RESOURCES](https://nzukulele.org.nz/resources)

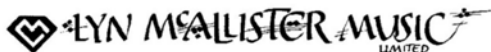
Beyond developing musical skills, the Kiwileles Songbank offers students;

- **Mana Motuhake** - Students can take charge of their own learning: choosing what they want to learn, how they learn it, who they learn with, and for what purpose. Students are able to select songs at the right level of challenge with our "Difficult" and "Key" filters.
- **Whakawhanaungatanga** - Engage with their cultural or faith communities through a wide range of waiata, karakia, hīmene and Songs from the Pacific.
- **Mahitahi** - Step up as student leaders in their own or a local primary school/kura, and be part of Bill Sevesi's dream.

The Kiwileles Songbank is not only a rich, student-driven programme for junior secondary students - it's also a fantastic go-to resource for relievers. With ready-to-use materials, it offers immediate success for singing and playing in any classroom.

You may also consider sponsoring the registration of a local primary school, or hosting a Kiwilele Jam for your local primary schools / kura - do please get in touch if this is something you can do.

Contact Chair Tim Carson | chair@nz-ukulele.org or Education Trustee Ali Caldwell | ali@nz-ukulele.org for more information.



KIWILELE JAMS | NGĀ HUI UKURERE



LYDIA & FINN CLARK