

Toi Ihiihi Wānanga

Te Herenga Waka ki Te Whanganui ā Tara

Phase 5

10-12 April 2026

Toi Ihiihi is about using art, music, movement, and drama to share your ideas, feelings, and stories.

It helps you to be creative, confident, and excited about learning.



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He Kōrero Whakataki – Opening Panel

Toi Ihiihi brings together the creative knowledge and practices of six artists whose work reflects the richness of mātauranga Māori.

Through sound, movement, weaving, storytelling, and traditional practices, each artist carries forward the wisdom of their tūpuna while sharing it with new generations.

From the living sounds of taonga pūoro performed by Horomona Horo, to the natural expressions of light, colour, and environment in the artwork of Regan Balzer, we are invited to experience the world through a Māori lens.

The movement and rhythm of ngā taonga tākaro shared by Wiremu Sarich remind us that learning lives within play and storytelling.

Through the skilled hands of Kylie Simeon, Kat Lilly and Hera Maxwell, the traditions of rāranga and tāniko continue to weave connections between people, whenua, and moana.

Ashleigh Zimmerman is grounded in the works of clay to form taonga uku with intricate designs that replicate pūrākau

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Karakia

Tapatapa ki te papa
Whakatangi ki te rangi

Manahua te manawa

Tau mai, te mauri e

Hā ki roto
Hā ki waho

Ihi, Wehi, Wanawana
Whēoro, Pūoro

Ihi rangaranga e

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Karakia mō te kohi rauemi

A karakia that you can use before you collect your natural resources

**Unuhia, unuhia Unuhia ki te uru tapu
nui a Tāne**

**Kia wātea, kia māmā,
te ngākau, te tinana,
te wairua i te ara takatā**

**Koia rā e Rongo, whakairia ake ki runga
Kia tina! TINA! Hui e! TĀIKI E!**

*Draw on, draw on, Draw on the supreme
sacredness To clear, to free the heart, the
body and the spirit of mankind Rongo,
suspended high above us (i.e. in 'heaven')*

Draw together! Affirm!

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Harakeke



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Introducing Kylie Simeon

Kylie Simeon – Te Toi Rāranga

Within the gentle strength of harakeke, Kylie Simeon brings to life the art of rāranga.

With patient hands and deep respect for the traditions of her tūpuna, she transforms the natural fibres of the land into pāke, ika, kete, whakakai and rourou

Each strand carries its own story – of the whenua from which it was gathered, of the knowledge passed down through generations, and of the careful hands that weave it together. Kylie's work reflects the enduring relationship between people and the natural world.

Through the rhythmic practice of weaving, she continues a living tradition where design, pattern, and form hold cultural meaning.

Her creations are not only objects of beauty, but expressions of identity, whakapapa, and connection – woven together through the strength and resilience of harakeke.

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Karakia



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body and the spirit of mankind Rongo,
suspended high above us (i.e. in ‘heaven’)
Draw together! Afrm!*

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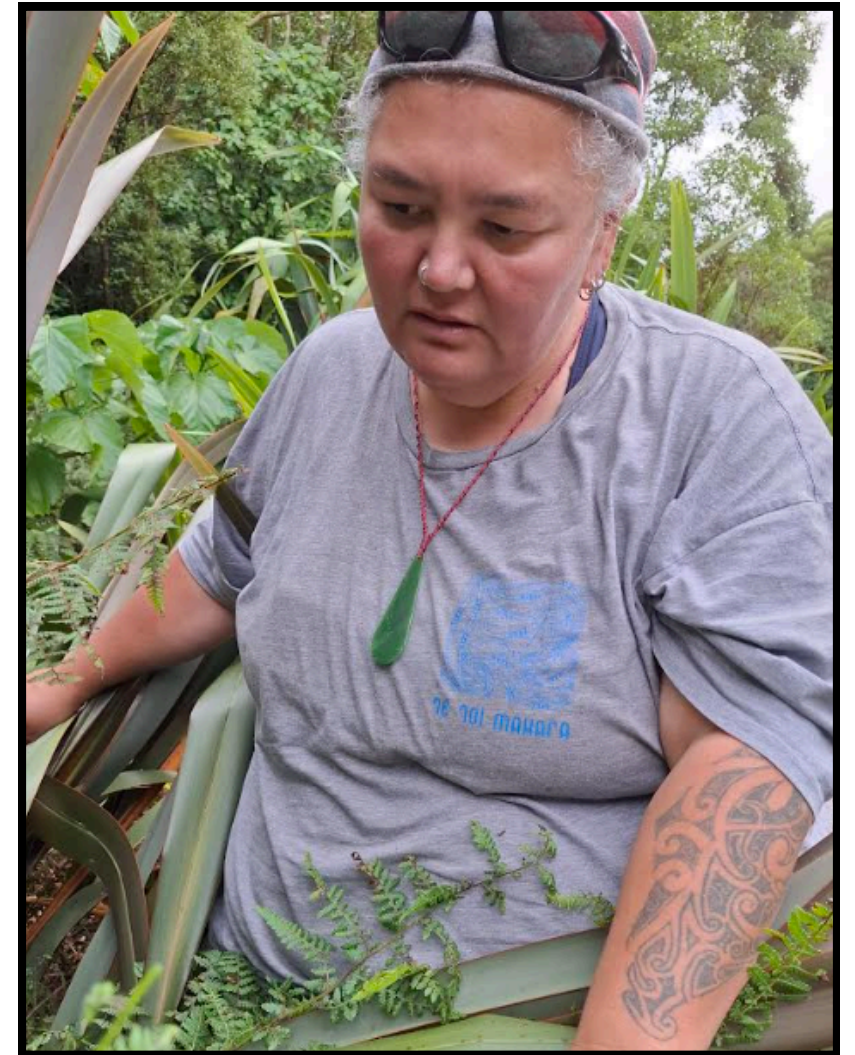
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Kylie Simeon - Toi Rāranga

Collecting harakeke from Ōtari - Wilton's Bush, Wellington



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Kylie Simeon Toi Rāranga

Harakeke samples of work



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Uku tangi



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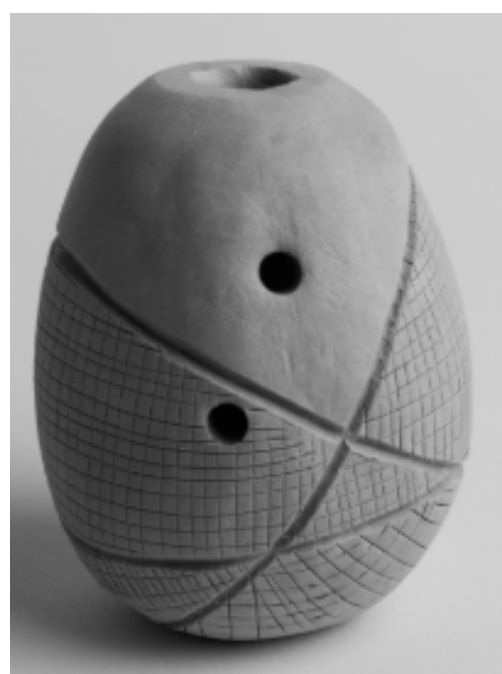
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Introducing Ashleigh Zimmerman

Ashleigh Zimmerman (Kai Tahu) is an artist whose uku practice is grounded in the whenua, shaped by ancestral knowledge and lived experience. Working with clay to form vessels, she explores wāhine identity in relation to whakapapa and pūrākau, creating textured forms that hold both strength and vulnerability.

In this workshop participants will create an uku tangi using uku hand building techniques. They will learn pinch pot forming, joining methods, and paddle shaping, before adorning their uku tangi with carved patterns that explore both form and story telling through uku.



Uku - Clay

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**Practical ideas to support Kaiako
throughout Aotearoa**

Ashleigh Zimmerman

**Karakia to begin uku tangi
workshop**

**Manawa mai tēnei i Ahuone mai
Manawa mai tēnei i whenuatia
Manawa mai tēnei he kapunga oneone**

**Tēnei te mauri o Papatūānuku
o Tūparimaunga
o Ukurangi**

E whakaata mai nei e...

Kōkiri

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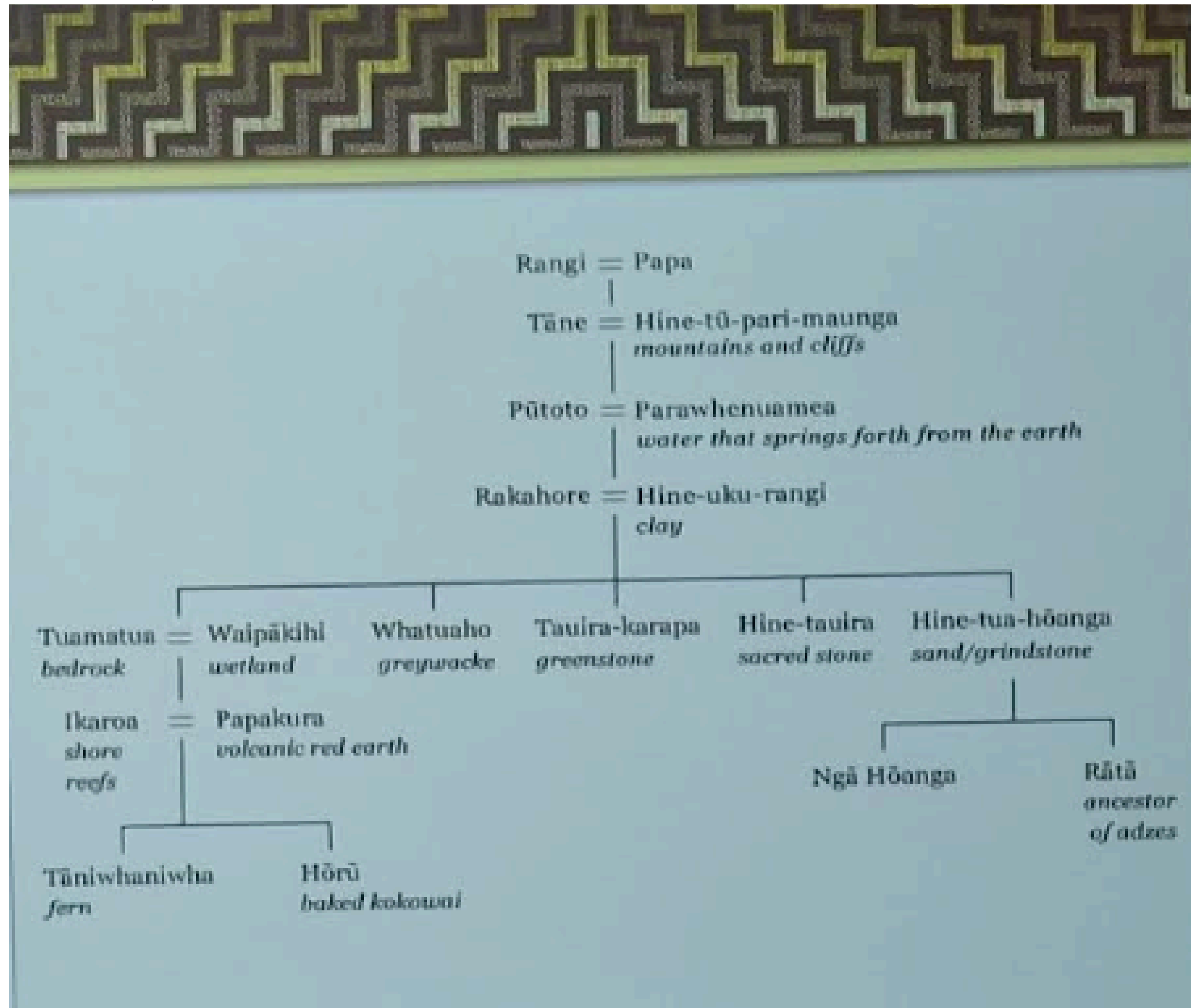
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throughout Aotearoa

Ashleigh Zimmerman

Whakapapa Uku



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Ashleigh Zimmerman

Resources you can use to make

uku tangi

Rauemi/Resources

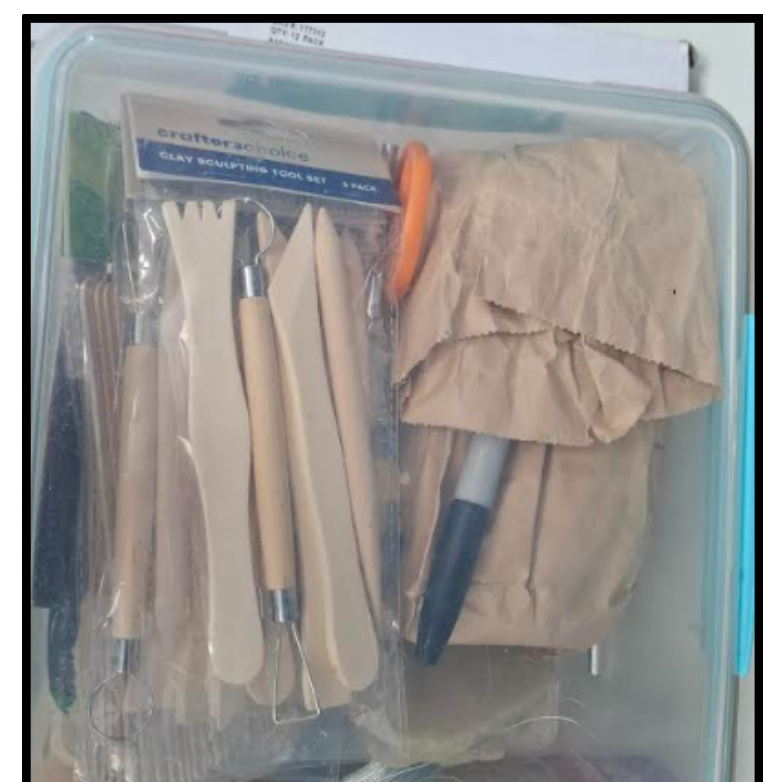
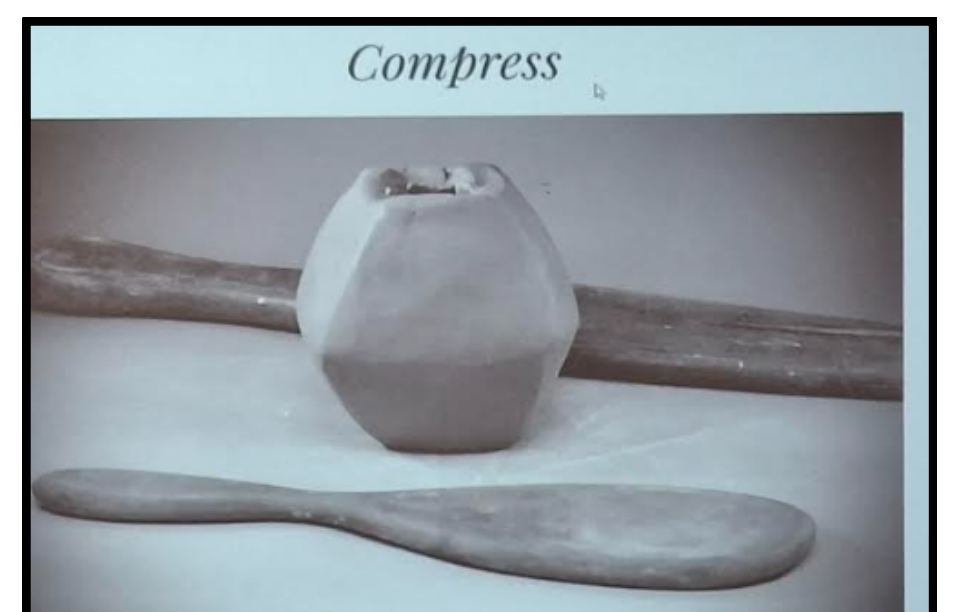
2 x Bags Macs Mud MB2 Clay

HB Pencils

National Art Supplies Economy Wood cutting Tools:

40 x Small V Carving Tools

20 x Medium V Carving Tools



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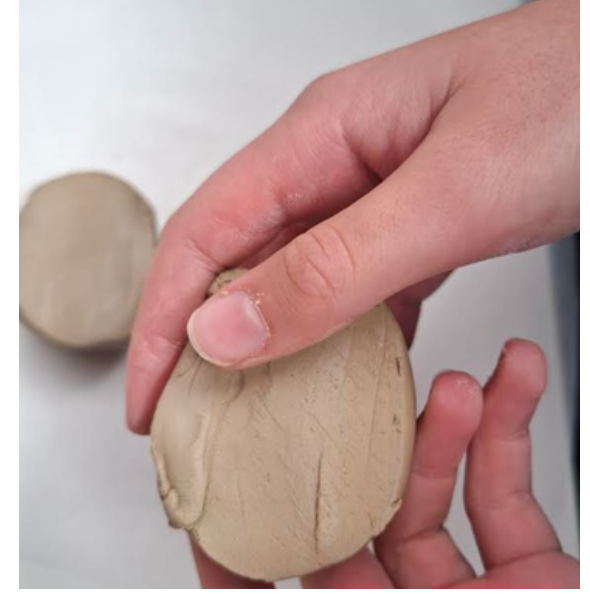
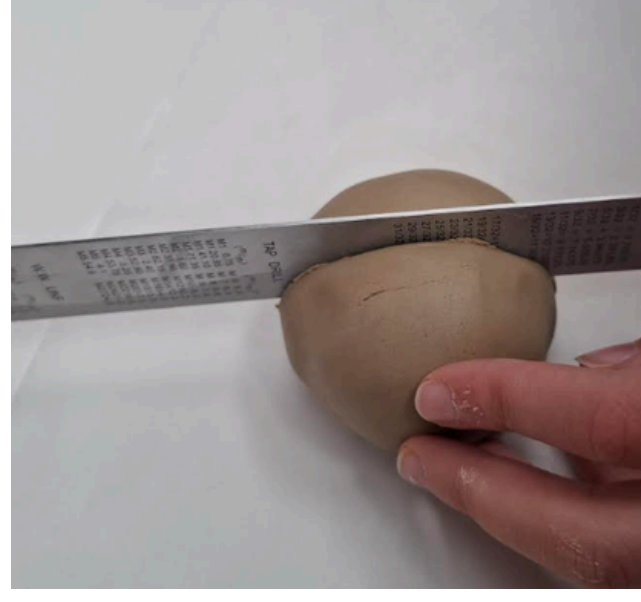
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Ashleigh Zimmerman

Resources you can use to make ...
uku tangi

A step by step guide



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Tāniko



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Introducing Kat Lilly



Ko Tarahaoa te maunga
Ko Te umu kaha te awa
Ko Tāki timu te waka
Nō Ngai Tahu ahau
Ko Ngati Huirapa te hapū
Ko Arowhenua te marae
Ko Te Hapa o Niu Tireni tōku whare
Ko Ōtautahi te hau kainga
Ko Katrina Lilly tōku ingoa

I am a Visual Art teacher with 20 years of experience in the creative industry and education. Originally I trained in Photography, but over time, my passion for visual arts and creative narratives have led me beyond the frame of the camera and into raranga, whakairo pounamu and uku. I strive to create learning environments that are inclusive, culturally responsive, and inspiring, ensuring that every student can connect meaningfully with visual arts in ways that resonate with their own experiences and identities. My practice is grounded in kaitiakitanga, which informs both my approach to materials and my philosophy as an artist. I am particularly motivated by the desire to create mahi toi that is connected to the natural world.

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Introducing Hera Maxwell



**Taranaki te Maunga
Te Atiawa taku Iwi
Ko Hera Maxwell taku Ingoa
Ko Ōtautahi taku Kāinga**

My weaving journey began approximately 15 years ago. Throughout this time, I have been learning through Te Wānanga o Aotearoa (TWOA) in Ōtautahi, studying under Kaiako Morehu Flutey-Henare.

I continue to work alongside Morehu, providing support as a Kaiawhina for her classes. This year, I am further advancing my craft by undertaking a Level 7 Bachelor's degree (Maunga Kura Toi) through TWOA in Papaiōea.

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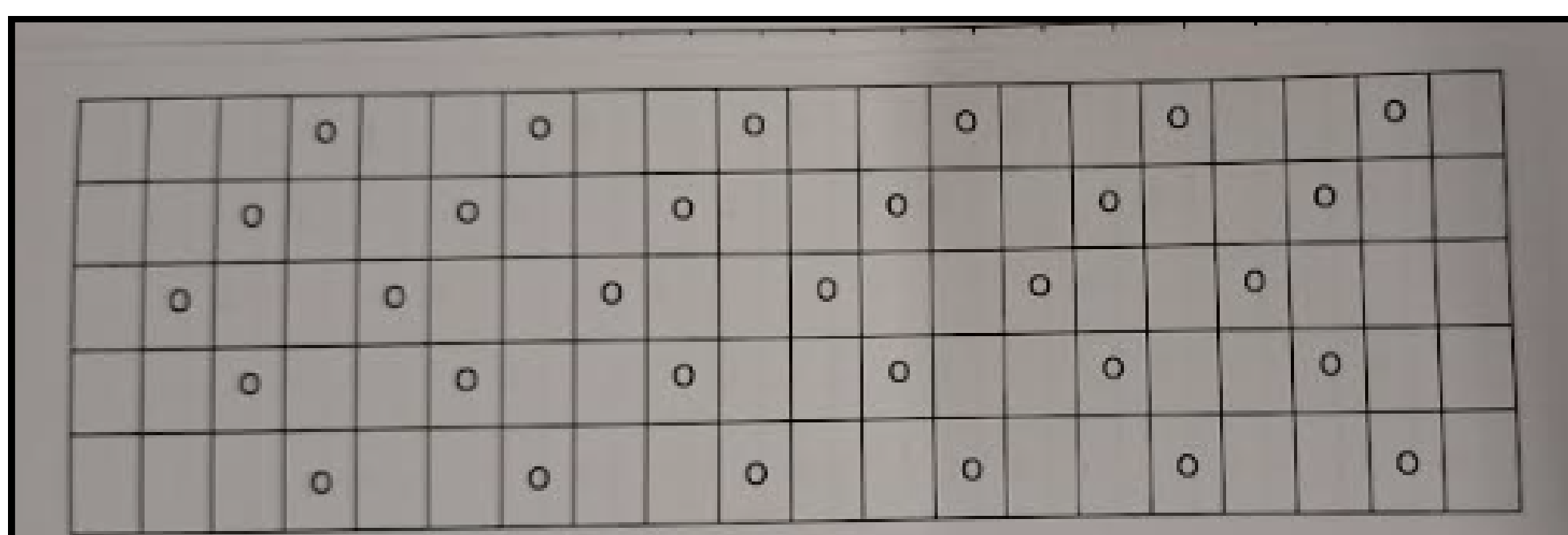
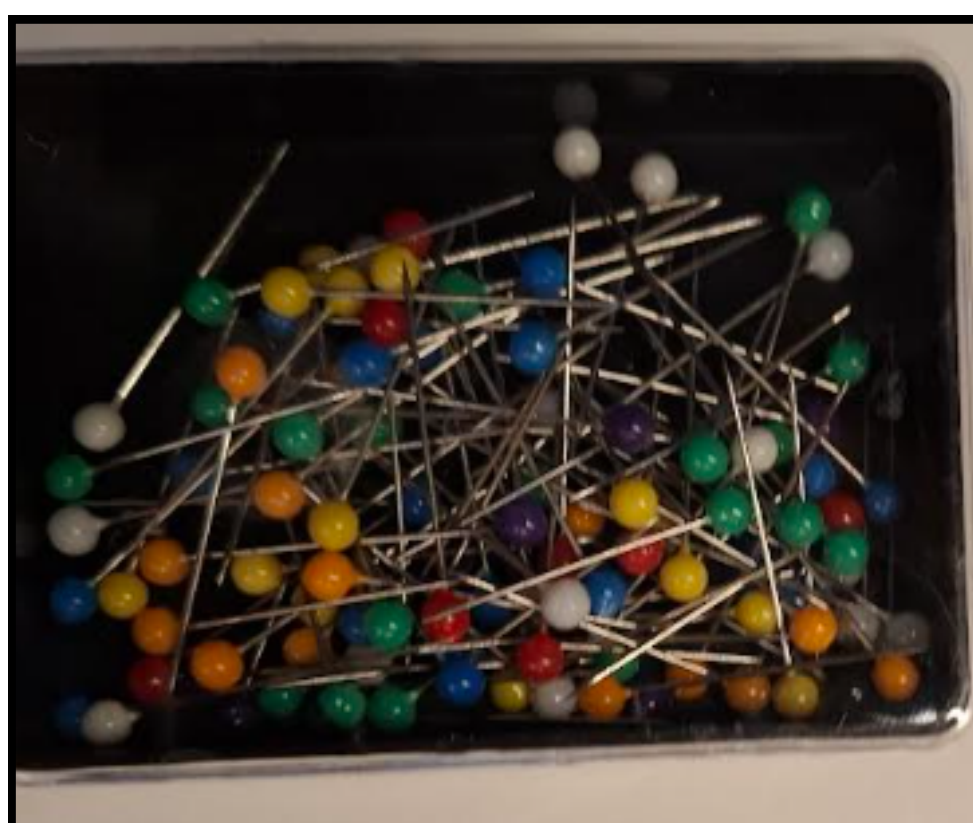
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Practical ideas to support Kaiako throughout
Aotearoa

Resources you can use to make Tāniko

Tāniko



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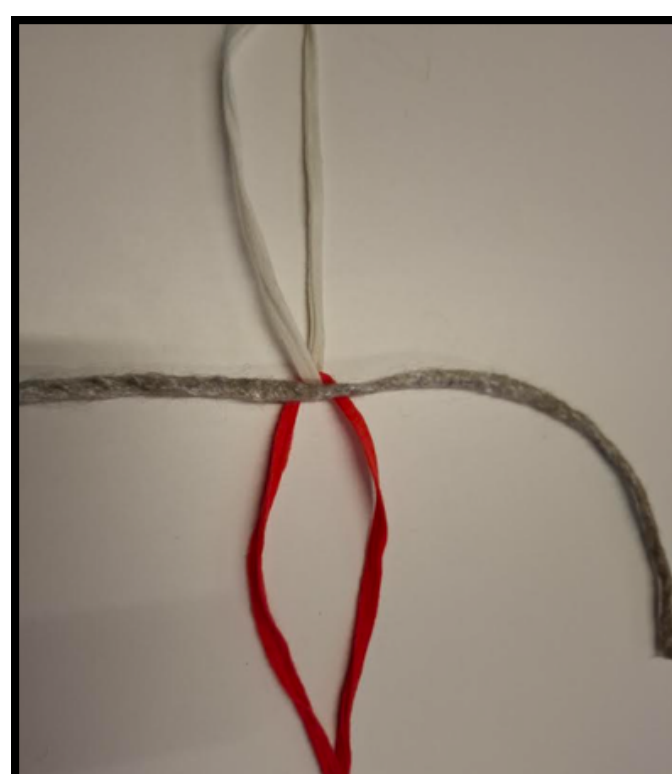
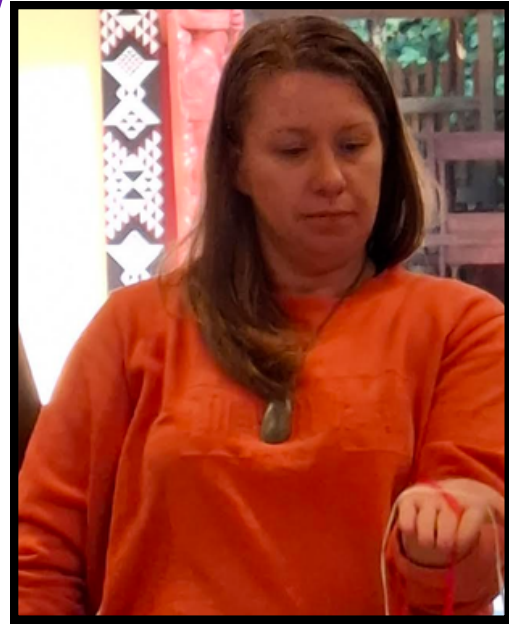
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Practical ideas to support Kaiako
throughout Aotearoa

A step by step guide

Tāniko



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**Practical ideas to support Kaiako
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Tāniko



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**Tāniko - Wānanga
samples**



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**Tāniko- Wānanga
samples**



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Introducing Hunia Here Waenga



Kia ora koutou,
Ko Tihirau te maunga
Ko Whangaparaoa te awa
Ko Te Whānau ā Apanui te iwi
Ko Kauaetangohia te hapū
Ko Taurira mai Tawhiti me Mataatua me Horouta ngā waka
Ko Apanui te tangata
Ko Hunia Here Waenga toku ingoa
Tena kautau katoa.

Kia ora whanau my name is Hunia I have always had a love and passion for expressing myself creatively. Over the past five years, I have been developing my skills in pounamu carving. Through carving pounamu, I have begun to rediscover my roots, who I am as a Maori, where I belong, and who my people are. I have gained more confidence, belief, and an eagerness to attempt new ideas and creations. The main thing I have found pounamu has allowed me to do is reconnect, not only for myself but also for others searching for their identity.

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Introducing Wiremu Sarich

Wiremu Sarich – Te Ao o Ngā Taonga Tākaro

Within the movement of rākau and the weaving of string lives a world of stories. Wiremu Sarich brings this world to life through the practice of ngā taonga tākaro Māori – traditional Māori games that carry knowledge, skill, and identity across generations.

Through tī rākau and whai, he transforms simple materials into pathways of learning, rhythm, and connection.

Guided by the legends and pūrākau of Aotearoa, Wiremu's work invites people to engage not only with play, but with the deeper meanings held within these traditions.

Each movement, pattern, and story reflects the wisdom of tūpuna and the landscapes from which these games were born.

Through his practice, Wiremu reminds us that taonga tākaro are living expressions of culture – where learning is shared through movement, storytelling, and the collective spirit of community.

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Wiremu Sarich refers to the following karakia to open his taonga tākaro session using Tī Rākau. This karakia/waiata was composed at Te Papa o Rotu marae, Whatawhata, Hamilton

Karakia

Tapatapa ki te papa
Whakatangi ki te rangi

Manahua te manawa

Tau mai, te mauri e

Hā ki roto
Hā ki waho

Ihi, Wehi, Wanawana
Whēoro, Pūoro

Ihi rangaranga e

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**Practical ideas to support Kaiako
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**Wiremu Sarich - Te Ao o ngā Taonga Tākaro
Outcome**

Through traditional Māori games such as
tī rākau learners reconnect with mātauranga
Māori.

Tī Rākau

Wiremu Sarich Toi Ihiihi