



dunedin

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United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



**DUNEDIN**  
CITY OF LITERATURE

• Designated  
• UNESCO Creative City  
• in 2014



## NEW ZEALAND

## ITS PEOPLE AND PLACE IN THE WORLD

Aotearoa New Zealand. Its Māori name means 'The land of the long white cloud', an apt description for this little group of islands situated at the bottom of the world.

New Zealand is remote and mountainous and beautiful. Situated in the southern Pacific, her islands were settled by its first people, the Māori, over 800 years ago. These early ancestors of today's New Zealand Māori (tangatawhenua) were experts at deep sea navigation and journeyed in voyaging canoes (waka hourua) throughout the Pacific, migrating from South-East Asia over many centuries, looking for land.

The discovery of Aotearoa New Zealand engendered a magnificent legend which has been passed down through Māori oral tradition. It tells of a great warrior, Maui, who from his canoe (waka), traditionally represented by the South Island, (one of the two main islands of New Zealand) caught a great fish; the North Island. (The Māori name for the North Island, Te Ika a Maui literally translates as 'the fish of Maui'). The southernmost of New Zealand's three main islands, Rakiura Stewart Island is the mythological anchor of Maui's canoe. Isolated from the rest of the world as they were for hundreds of years, Māori developed their own language and oral histories, as well as a unique and vibrant artistic expression, much of which is still celebrated in various artistic and literary forms today.



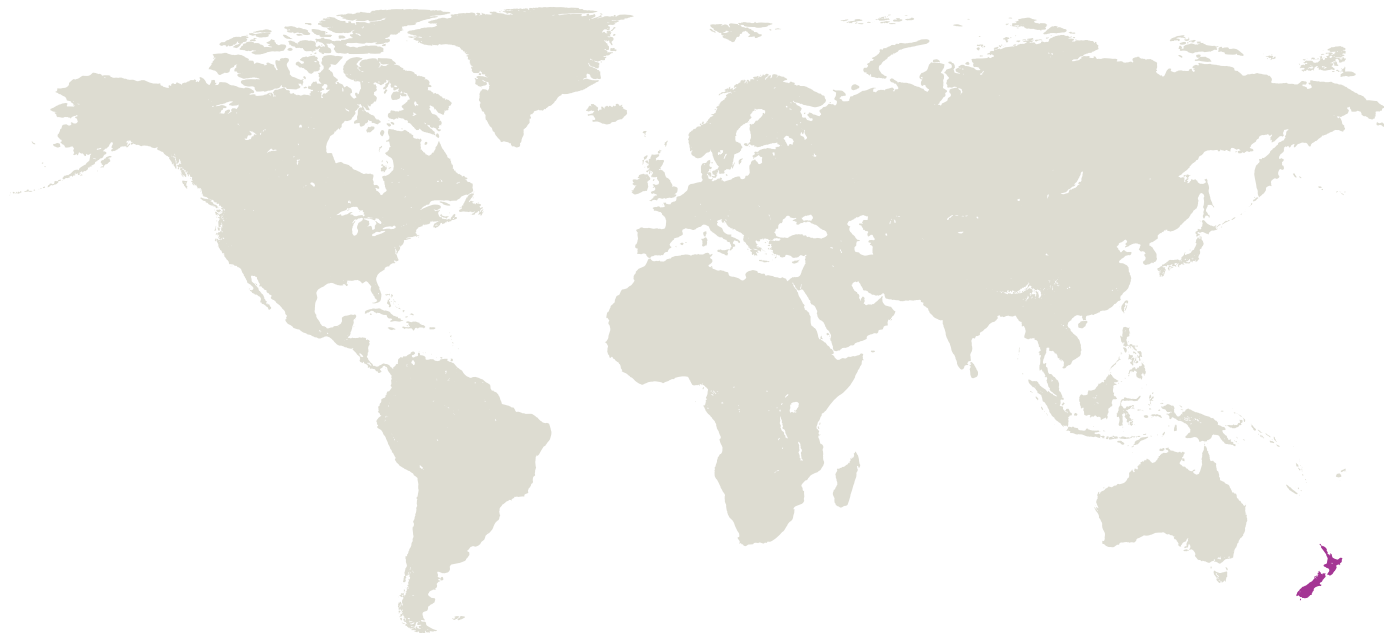
New Zealand has three official languages: English, Māori and sign language. Māori is acknowledged and taught in various contexts throughout New Zealand's education system, as are many European languages including French, German and Spanish. Some Asian languages including Mandarin and Japanese are also taught from high school level.

New Zealand's international reputation as a 'social laboratory' emerged toward the end of the 19th century as a result of innovative labour relations, universal suffrage for women and social welfare legislation. This reputation for social innovation can in part be attributed to the rapid adoption and adaptation

of industrial print production and the diverse environmental and social conditions of these southern islands, remote from the world's major industrial centres. The value in international terms of these innovations is illustrated by New Zealand's contributions which are included on the International Memory of the World Register:

- The Treaty of Waitangi (1840)
- Womens' Suffrage Petition (1893)

New Zealand's literature and literary heritage was celebrated at the Frankfurt Book Fair in 2012, when the country held the prestigious Guest of Honour status.



**THOMAS BRACKEN WROTE  
'GOD DEFEND NEW ZEALAND'  
IN DUNEDIN IN 1898.**



## ABOUT US

## DUNEDIN

Dunedin is a city that fosters creative endeavor and collaboration across the arts and cultural sectors. It has a considerable number of writing fellowships, residencies and performance venues that support a dynamic literary culture. From the 19th century Dunedin of Eleanor Catton's Man Booker prize-winning *The Luminaries*, to the present-day Dunedin in Duncan Sarkies *Two Little Boys*, or Fredrik Brouneus' speculative Dunedin, the city is also a character in its creative fiction.

Storytelling, education and literature have been central to the development of the Dunedin, and are central to its identity. In fact, the Octagon – the physical centre and metaphorical heart of the city – is dominated by a statue of the Scottish poet Robbie Burns, acknowledging the importance of an egalitarian and vernacular literature within and for the community.

Dunedin's residents are voracious readers, and nowhere is this more evident than in the remarkable 24-hour secondhand book sale held every year, that circulates books across the city. Readership is supported by a robust free public library system, the first established in New Zealand and a range of research archive and specialist libraries that are well patronized by the public.

Dunedin has been at the forefront of literary and cultural appreciation, hosting the first literary festival in New Zealand in the 1980s, *Wordstruck!*, and today hosts an *Arts Festival*, *Dunedin Writers and Readers Festival*, and *Fringe Festival*, alongside a variety of other annual events and celebrations in community venues across the city.

Dunedin's commitment to education is evidenced by its establishment of New Zealand's first university, the University of Otago, which enjoys an international reputation for the quality of its education in the humanities, science, commerce, medicine and dentistry. It was the first university in New Zealand to admit women to all its classes and, today, is the South Island's largest employer.

Otago Polytechnic pioneered art and design education in New Zealand from 1870 and has an international reputation for art and design, community education, hospitality, tourism, IT, construction and engineering, horticulture, sport and adventure.

The quality and quantity of Dunedin's educational programmes, from primary to tertiary, support literature in a variety of forms, and New Zealand's literacy rate of 99% has been among the highest in the world for the past 30 years. The University of Otago publishes almost 5000 research publications a year, and is ranked in the top 200 – 300 universities in the world, attracting many international students to its campus in the centre of the city.

The quality of education and the vibrant cultural life of the city attracts national and international students at all levels to a city that celebrates its cultural diversity. A quarter of Dunedin's 123,000 residents are tertiary students at the University of Otago or Otago Polytechnic. One of New Zealand's earliest public secondary schools for boys (Otago Boys High School) was established in Dunedin in 1863 and the first public secondary school for girls in the southern hemisphere (Otago Girls' High School) was established in Dunedin in 1870. The College of Education at the University of Otago educates primary and secondary teachers and supports schools in the region. This flow of young, creative individuals into Dunedin ensures it remains a dynamic, creative and engaging city that contributes to cultural capital of the world.

In the Creative Economy Report 2013, Helen Clark and Irina Bokova state: 'Investing in culture and the creative sector as a driver of social development can also lead to results that contribute to the overall well-being of communities, individual self-esteem and quality of life, dialogue and cohesion.' In her video message accompanying the release of the report, Helen Clark spoke of the importance of her former role in New Zealand as both Prime Minister and Minister of Culture and Heritage at effecting this at a national level.



The 2010 *Global Creativity Index* prepared by the Martin Prosperity Institute ranked New Zealand 6th in the world, moving from 18th place in 2004. The GCI assesses the prospects for sustainable prosperity across 82 nations according to a combination of underlying economic, social, and cultural factors – Technology, Talent (the ability to generate, attract, and retain skilled and enterprising people), and Tolerance. It also compares the GCI to a series of other metrics of competitiveness and prosperity, from conventional measures of economic growth to alternative measures of economic equality, human development, happiness and wellbeing. New Zealand is also ranked 9th on the *World Press Freedom Index* in 2014.

The Dunedin City Council recognises that arts, culture and education contribute to city vibrancy and vitality and as such it has a commitment to the healthy future of the arts through its Arts and Culture Strategy, *Ara Toi – Our Creative Future* which affirms that Dunedin’s legacy of creative and artistic activity is supported and promoted, and that Dunedin is a city where all creative practices are valued and integrated in the design and development of the city.

Against this background of strong literary and educational history, Dunedin’s city authorities, academic and creative sectors recognise the value and collaborative possibilities of a UNESCO City of Literature relationship with the Creative Cities Network. Such designation enhances not only the city’s commitment to strengthening and perpetuating its own literary, educational and artistic community, it will also provide a magnificent opportunity for the city to contribute in a meaningful way to the appreciation and understanding of diverse literary and educational structures through supportive connections, interaction and exchanges with Cities of Literature across the globe. As the *Creative Economy Report 2013* argues the next frontier for knowledge generation is at the local, city level, Dunedin is committed to, and has the creative resources for inclusive social and economic development, that facilitate environmental sustainability and peace and security.

To learn more see our website: [www.cityofliterature.co.nz](http://www.cityofliterature.co.nz)



University Clocktower. Courtesy of the University of Otago



CITY'S LAYOUT AND GEOGRAPHICAL AREA

Dunedin is New Zealand's largest city by area and arguably the most spectacular in terms of contrasting landscapes. It is a sprawling city that encompasses the best of urban and rural communities. It is situated at the head of the magnificent Otago Harbour and stretches from the shores of the Pacific Ocean to the wilds of the Otago hinterland some 100kms west.

Its dramatic scenery, home to some of the world's rarest wildlife, has featured in many internationally recognised movies and is often considered a character in its own right. It is a landscape which has always inspired poets and writers, including internationally recognised writers such as Janet Frame and more recently, Booker prize winner Eleanor Catton.

Dunedin's personality and many of its defining architectural characteristics are the results of its Victorian heyday and the gold rush of the late 1800s, which briefly transformed the city into the most prosperous commercial centre in New Zealand.



This economic boom gifted the city with some of the southern hemisphere's most iconic and noteworthy buildings and the largest concentration and best-preserved heritage architecture in New Zealand, for which it is nationally and internationally renowned. It also provided the city with a range of cultural legacies such as theatres, libraries, museums, parks and gardens.

The city's formal layout was established in the mid-1800's by its Scottish settlers to emulate the city of Edinburgh. At the heart of the city is The Octagon, with its prolific selection of cafes and restaurants that provide a wide range of local fare and top quality coffee.

POPULATION AND ECONOMY

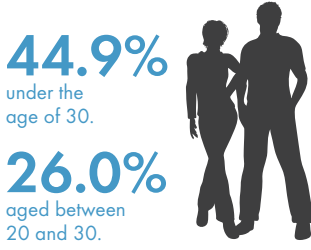
Dunedin is one of the six main urban centres in New Zealand. Its population of 123,000 includes a tertiary student population of 30,000. As a result of its high proportion of students Dunedin has a young population, with 44.9% of residents aged 30 years or younger, compared with 41.3% nationally.

Dunedin also has a highly educated population, with the largest concentration of postgraduate qualifications of anywhere in New Zealand. Consequently Dunedin is acknowledged as a centre of learning excellence, with a solid reputation for creativity, innovation, research and technology. The 2014 NZ Core Cities report determined that Dunedin has 'advantages in creative industries, education, research and ICT' compared with other cities in New Zealand.

As at June 2012 44.9% of Dunedin's population is under the age of 30 compared to 41.3% nationwide

As at June 2012 26.0% of Dunedin's population is aged between 20 and 30 compared to 20.4% nationwide.

SOURCE: Statistics New Zealand 2012



Dunedin is culturally rich and diverse, with an abundance of museums, galleries, theatres, libraries, parks and gardens. Over two-thirds (70%) of residents agree that the city has a diverse and vibrant arts and culture scene, which compares favorably with the average across the six major New Zealand cities of just 47%. Dunedin City Council's resident's opinion survey, conducted in 2013, reinforced the importance of arts and culture to the community and reported very high levels of use and satisfaction (over 90%) with a range of Dunedin arts and cultural offerings.

The large majority (84%) of Dunedin residents agree that Dunedin is a great place to live, compared with 76% of residents in the six major New Zealand cities.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Dunedin hosts a substantial literary infrastructure including five public libraries, the Athenaeum library, and several other libraries associated with the university. Many significant literary collections are housed in Dunedin. The city also boasts high quality new and second-hand book stores (many of which also have an online presence, including ebooks), as well as art galleries and museums and the Centre for the Book which is affiliated with the University of Otago, New Zealand's oldest and internationally respected university. These are discussed in more detail later in the proposal.

MUNICIPAL/GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE

Dunedin City is governed by a Council comprising a Mayor and 14 Councillors, elected every three years. There are also six elected community boards that report to the Council on matters directly affecting their respective communities. The operational structure of the Dunedin City Council is overseen by a Chief Executive with responsibilities as delegated by the Council.

The Council responsibilities and processes are specified in a Local Governance Statement that outlines the democratic process and procedures to which all Councils must adhere. This includes how the Council engages with the residents of Dunedin; how it

makes decisions; and supports local democracy by providing the community with information on ways to influence and participate in local democratic processes and decision-making.

URBAN PLANNING, POLICY AND STRATEGY

Dunedin City Council's commitment to urban design is detailed in its developed spatial plan, *Dunedin Towards 2050 - a Spatial Plan for Dunedin*. This document sets the strategic direction for Dunedin's growth and development for the next 30 years, and outlines a broad set of principles, strategic directions, and actions and visually illustrates how the city may develop in the future.

The spatial plan is primarily concerned with Dunedin's urban design. The spatial plan aims to guide and manage change and development in Dunedin, drawing on recognised principles of good urban planning and design while reflecting and supporting the varied aspirations of the city's communities - including the vibrant arts, education and literary communities - and the design and use of public spaces.



Ōiākou Marae. Courtesy of Allied Press

# MULTI-CULTURAL HERITAGE

Prior to the arrival and settlement of Europeans, the South Island of New Zealand, Te Waipounamu, the land of the greenstone waters, was – and remains – the ancestral home of Ngāi Tahu, Kāti Māmoe and Waitaha people, whose histories and stories add rich threads to the fabric of this vibrant city. Today there are three local Ngāi Tahu marae (meeting places), Ōtākou, Puketeraki and Moeraki, which retain their mana whenua status, Māori cultural authority, for the city of Dunedin.

In 1848 a new wave of Scottish migration brought the literature of Burns and the Bible to Dunedin. The important partnership between Māori and European settlers is reflected in the City of Dunedin’s Coat of Arms: the supporter on the left is a kilted Scotsman to symbolize the Scottish settlement of Dunedin and the supporter on the right is a rangatira, Māori chief, to symbolize Māori as tangata whenua, the original inhabitants of the land. The motto of the City is *Maiorum Institutis Utendo* meaning, “In the Steps of our Forefathers” which encompasses the histories, cultures and heritage of both Māori and European peoples who together established the City of Dunedin.

The bicultural foundation of Dunedin was subsequently strengthened by other migrations to the city, particularly during the gold rushes of the 1860s when many Chinese, Irish and middle-Eastern migrants came, stayed and contributed their unique traditions to Dunedin. These communities are valued and celebrated, and the multicultural diversity of Dunedin has grown further with more recent migrations from other Asian, European and African countries.

Today significant New Zealand writers from a diverse range of cultures are honoured in the Writers’ Walk situated in the Octagon, many of whom have held the prestigious Burns literary fellowship at Otago University and all of whom have or had some connection to Dunedin’s literary community.



A wide-angle photograph of the University of Otago Clocktower and its surrounding campus in winter. The clocktower is a tall, ornate Gothic Revival structure with a green-tiled roof and multiple clock faces. It is part of a larger building complex with a blue-tiled roof. The foreground is a snow-covered lawn with several bare trees. A stone wall and a small stream are visible in the lower right. The sky is filled with heavy, grey clouds.

## DUNEDIN'S LITERARY CULTURAL ASSETS





## TE PUKAPUKA MĀORI MĀORI LITERATURE

Five metre long triptych *Rain* by Ralph Hotere.  
The work was inspired by the poem *Rain*, by late  
Kaka Point poet Hone Tuwhare.

## WHAOA KI TE KUPU, KA KETE MĀTAURANGA

*Fill it with words and it shall become a kit/basket of knowledge*

The Ngāi Tahu (Kāi Tahu in the southern dialect) people of Araiteuru have occupied the Otago area for generations, establishing a society based on whānau (family) hapu (sub-tribe) and iwi (tribe). With the arrival of Captain Cook in 1769 came whalers, sealers, inter-marriage, Christianity, a market economy and literacy. Ngāi Tahu were very eager to read and write – to “speak at a distance” – and the Reverend James Watkins’ arrival on 17 May 1840 was “hailed with pleasure by the Natives.” Watkins recorded that “The Natives are anxious to learn, which cheers me in my efforts to teach them (in his kitchen at night) ... some of them learn very rapidly...” By November Watkins had started regular schools at Waikouaiti, “a school for men and boys at early morning, and one for the women and girls in the evening.” The Superintendent of Otago, Captain Cargill described the Māori as a “singularly gifted race” as evidenced by the rapid spread of literacy. He ensured that a school was established at Ōtākou in the 1850s.

### THE TREATY IS SIGNED AT PUKEKURA

The *Treaty of Waitangi* was signed by the Ōtākou (Otago) chiefs Karetai and Korako on board the HMS Herald moored off Pukekura in the Otago Harbour on 13 June 1840. This founding document of New Zealand transferred the sovereignty of the Māori chiefs to Queen Victoria in return for the acknowledgement of their tinorangatiratanga (self-determination) and the same rights and privileges of the people of England. The Treaty cleared the way for the formal settlement and purchase of Ngāi Tahu lands by the Crown Agents as well as unparalleled access to new technologies such as the written word.

### THE BLUE BOOK

In 1848 the Ngāi Tahu people undertook their own tribal census - the world’s first census of an indigenous population. It has always been referred to as the *Blue Book* as it was originally published with a blue cover. To be a registered beneficiary of Te Rūnaka O Ngāi Tahu today requires that individuals must be a descendant of a person named in the *Blue Book*.

### THE FLOURISHING OF MĀORI LITERATURE

Since those early years the Ngāi Tahu people have excelled in literature by transforming the spoken word into the written word in both te reo Māori (Māori language) and English. A new dimension was given to kōrero (stories and histories), whakapapa (genealogy), whaikōrero (oration), waiata (song), mōteatea (laments) and whiti (poetry).

For over 100 years the University of Otago Medical School has graduated a number of Māori doctors including Te Rangi Hiroa (Sir Peter Buck), Professor Eru Pomare, and Dr Paratene Ngata who made significant literary contributions in a variety of disciplines. The University of Otago has also awarded the *Robert Burns Fellowship* to Hone Tuwhare, Witi Ihimaera and Rawiri Paratene. In recent years Professor Sir Mason Durie and Dr Papaarangi Reid have authored numerous publications on hauora Māori (Māori health) and Māori advancement whilst Professor John Broughton paved the way for contemporary Māori theatre. A number of literary works have been supported by renowned artist and Frances Hodgkins Fellow, Ralph Hotere.





Image of Janet Frame. Courtesy of Allied Press

## A GREAT CITY FOR WRITERS

Dunedin has been, and continues to be, home to many of New Zealand's most celebrated writers and poets since the 19th century. Benjamin Farjeon (father of Eleanor Farjeon who wrote the enduring hymn *Morning Has Broken*) was an early manager and editor of the Otago Witness newspaper, which subsequently became the Otago Daily Times, New Zealand's oldest independently-owned newspaper. Ben Farjeon began writing plays and novels about the Otago gold rush in the 1860s and published a further 60 novels.

### WRITERS

In 1889 Julius Vogel, a newspaper colleague of Farjeon's and later Premier of New Zealand, wrote the prescient utopian novel *Anno Domini 2000: Women's Destiny* that accurately predicted that the major positions of political power in New Zealand would all be held by women in the year 2000.

Poet, journalist and politician, Thomas Bracken, who wrote New Zealand's national anthem, was credited by Premier Robert Stout with 'helping create a national literature.' Charles Brasch, founder of *Landfall*, the country's foremost literary journal, published many internationally acclaimed writers, including Janet Frame, Nobel Prize nominee for her fiction; poet, dramatist and social critic James K Baxter; and poet laureates Hone Tuwhare (1999), Brian Turner (2003), Cilla McQueen (2010) and Vincent O'Sullivan (2013). Dunedin has also been home to internationally respected New Zealand poets, Denis Glover, Ruth Dallas, Alistair Te Ariki Campbell, and Fleur Adcock.

Award-winning writers such as Philip Temple and Neville Peat and contemporary poets David Eggleton (current editor of *Landfall*), are proud of their connections to the city and continue to celebrate it in their creative writing.

Dunedin has been a strong setting for fiction. Dan Davin wrote two novels set in Dunedin in 1945 and 1970, despite living and working as an editor at Oxford University Press. Contemporary novelist and poet Emma Neale's second novel *The Fosterling* imagines a seven-foot yeti roaming the streets of the city, while Fredrik Brounéus

set a comic sci-fi novel about the *Afterlife in Dunedin*. Similarly Duncan Sarkies' *Two Little Boys* was filmed in the city. Dunedin-educated Fergus Hume wrote the classic thriller *The Mystery of a Hansom Cab*, which once rivalled Sherlock Holmes. Today Dunedin continues to boast a quartet of internationally recognised contemporary crime writers including Vanda Symon, Paddy Richardson, Rogelio Guedea and Liam McIlvanney.

### WRITERS GROUPS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Dunedin has a lively and highly regarded writers' scene, with many groups that meet regularly for literary encouragement and stimulation. The city boasts a thriving branch of the New Zealand Society of Authors and is home to many members of the New Zealand Writers' Guild, many of whom generously share their knowledge and talents with the next generation of writers through workshops and master classes in schools and writers' groups.

Writing Dunedin is a supportive writing group for experienced writers, which meets every three weeks. The Octagon Poetry Collective hosts monthly poetry readings featuring nationally and internationally renowned poets. The Otago University Poetry Collective has hosted many leading New Zealand poets including Bill Manhire, Michele Leggott, Selina Marsh, Lisa Samuels, and Fiona Farrell. The Back Beach Writers is a group for new and emerging writers who live on the north shore of the Otago Harbour. Dunedin Playwrights Group meets every two weeks at Allen Hall Theatre Rehearsal Room, Otago University, and provides an opportunity for anyone interested in professional playwriting and its development in Dunedin to share and develop their work. Dunedin Writers Workshop meets regularly and assists new and established writers. Southern Writers New Zealand is a support group for published and aspiring writers.

Creative Writing Dunedin offers a range of face-to-face or online creative writing courses designed for beginning and more advanced writers and covering Fiction, Writing Your Life, Poetry and Nonfiction.





Robert Burns Statue in the Octagon, Dunedin. Courtesy of Dunedin City Council

## RESIDENCIES AND AWARDS

In 1947 celebrated Dunedin writer and arts patron, Charles Brasch, founded *Landfall*, New Zealand's foremost literary journal, which provided the first regular outlet for new creative writing, visual arts and criticism. It continues to be published in Dunedin by Otago University Press, and is edited by performance poet and writer David Eggleton.

Brasch was instrumental in establishing New Zealand's oldest and most prestigious literary fellowship, the *Robert Burns Fellowship*, in 1958 arguing 'it is only through imaginative thinking that society grows, materially and intellectually'. The Fellowship was established to commemorate the bicentenary of the birth of Robert Burns, and to perpetuate the community's appreciation of the part played by the related Dunedin family of Dr Thomas Burns in the early settlement of Otago. Administered by the University of Otago's English Department, the Fellowship aims to encourage and promote imaginative New Zealand literature and to associate writers with the University. It is open to published writers of poetry, drama, fiction, biography, autobiography, essays or literary criticism who are normally resident in New Zealand. It provides a paid sabbatical year for leading writers – many of whom continue to live in the city.

Brasch's personal encouragement of New Zealand writers identified one of New Zealand's most original and remarkable literary talents, Janet Frame, who was shortlisted for the Nobel Prize in 1998 and 2003. His journals and papers, which are held in the Hocken Collections, have recently been added to the New Zealand section of the UNESCO Memory of the World project.

The holiday cottage of Brasch has played a rich and vital part in supporting New Zealand art and literature, regularly hosting some of the best known writers and artists of the time – among them Janet Frame, C.K. Stead, R.A.K. Mason, and Ruth Dallas. Brasch, who passed away in 1973, bequeathed his cottage to acclaimed writer John Caselberg and his wife, artist Anna Caselberg, who lived and worked there for the next 30 years.



The Caselberg Trust subsequently transformed the home into a residence for visiting writers and artists. The Caselberg Trust Creative Connections residency is run in close collaboration with the Otago Arts Fellows. Through the residency the Trust supports projects that make links across a variety of creative media, professional disciplines, and artistic communities. A number of Robert Burns Fellows have used the residence since its inception in 2006.

In 2010 the Caselberg Trust established the highly successful annual *Caselberg Trust International Poetry Prize*, the winning entries of which are published in the journal *Landfall*. The Trust also supports the poetry project at the local Broad Bay primary school, which is judged by the incumbent Burns Fellow.

The Janet Frame Literary Trust is based in Dunedin, and income from Janet Frame’s literary estate is used to give an annual award to New Zealand writers of poetry and imaginative fiction. Janet Frame’s childhood home in Oamaru, north of Dunedin, is preserved by the Janet Frame Eden Street Trust, which encourages literary tourism of the city so evocatively imagined in her autobiography *To the Is-Land*.

The Hone Tuwhare Charitable Trust, established in 2010, will provide an international writer’s residency in the home of this Māori writer, widely recognized as ‘the people’s poet.’ Hone Tuwhare was a Robert Burns and Hocken Fellow, the Te Mata Poet Laureate in 1999, and named one of New Zealand’s ten greatest living artists in 2003.

The University of Otago College of Education/Creative New Zealand Children’s Writer in Residence programme is the only residency dedicated to writers for children. Established in 1992, it offers a six-month residency and stipend. It is offered in conjunction with the Robert Lord Trust which provides rent-free accommodation to writers in the 100-year-old worker’s cottage bequeathed by the internationally acclaimed playwright Robert Lord. The Robert Lord Cottage Residencies also offer a range of residencies for writers in all genres for the other six months.

The Otago Fellows also include residencies in music (Mozart Fellowship), visual arts (Frances Hodgkins Fellowship) and community dance (Caroline Plummer Fellowship), and cross-fertilisation across the arts is encouraged. There is also a further three-month arts Wallace Residency at the Pah Homestead open to alumni of the Otago Arts fellowships and other creative scholars in Auckland. The Pah Homestead, which houses a major collection of New Zealand art, also hosts a three-month University of Otago Scottish Writers Fellowship, open to writers of Scottish residency, background or affiliation.

Otago University also houses the Otakou Press room which offers the opportunity to experiment with traditional letter-press printing through a *Printer in Residence* programme. Since the programme’s inception in 2003 limited editions of works by such highly respected poets as Ruth Dallas, Hone Tuwhare and Brian Turner have been produced in collaboration with leading artists, illustrators and fine press printers.

Established in association with Otago University Press, the Seresin Estate offers an annual writer’s residency for four weeks each year in either Tuscany, Italy, or Marlborough, New Zealand. The residency supports the work of *Landfall* magazine and the literary arts in New Zealand.

Auckland poet Kathleen Grattan generously left the literary magazine *Landfall* a bequest with which to establish an award in her memory. This is presented each year and is open to new and established New Zealand poets.

The *Dunedin Theatre Awards* celebrate and highlight Dunedin’s amazing theatre talent. The awards are inclusive with no distinction made between professional and amateur and aim to celebrate excellence across open-to-the-public productions, performances, works, readings are eligible.

## COMPETITIONS

The *Athenaeum Essay Competition* was a major event in the early and mid-20th century. To celebrate the Athenaeum’s connection with Dunedin City and its literary heritage, the committee reinstated the competition as an annual event in 2012, open to all Year 12 students attending a Dunedin high school.

The *Landfall Essay Competition*, administered by Otago University Press, encourages New Zealand writers to think aloud about New Zealand culture, and to revive and sustain the tradition of vivid, contentious and creative essay writing in this country. The winner receives \$3000 and a year’s subscription to *Landfall*.

The *Robert Burns Poetry Competition* is a collaboration between the Dunedin Public Libraries and The Dunedin Burns Club. Entrants are encouraged to write a poem in English or Scottish, inspired by the life or works of Robert Burns. Entries are judged by associates of the Robert Burns Fellowship and the winners are announced and presented with prizes on Robert Burns’ birthday, 25th January.

*Robbie Rocks Dunedin* is organised by Toitū Otago Settlers Museum. This event calls for entrants to rejuvenate the musical genius of Robert Burns and rock their version of a Burns’ classic. There are two categories, a youth section and an open section.

Short Film Otago supports the growth and development of screen-drama in Dunedin and the wider Otago province and encourages writers to develop excellence in short film scriptwriting. The best scripts submitted are guided through a rigorous script editing process, with two or three selected each year for production.

*4 X 4 Young Playwrights Initiative*, sponsored by Fortune Theatre, offers an opportunity for writers, aged between 18–35, to be supported by a script advisor, trainee directors and the artistic director of the theatre with an opportunity to observe first-hand all the processes that go into developing a new work and creating live professional theatre.

## SUPPORTING WRITERS AND WRITING NEW ZEALAND

Nationally New Zealand has a strong network of support for their writers. The Ministry for Culture and Heritage works to create culture and preserve heritage and is in charge of national institutions such as the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, the National Library, and Archives New Zealand.

Specialised support for projects by writers and publishers is offered through Creative New Zealand, which also provides recurrent funding to the New Zealand Book Council, and Booksellers New Zealand. Creative New Zealand also supports many residencies throughout New Zealand Universities, administers Public Lending Rights for New Zealand Authors, and compensates authors for loss of royalties through books held in libraries.

The New Zealand Society of Authors (PEN NZ) promotes and protects the interests of New Zealand writers, with nine branches throughout New Zealand. The New Zealand Writers Guild also represents the professional interests of writers in the fields of film, television, theatre, radio, comics and new media.

Considerable support for writers is also available through many awards, competitions and fellowships offered to established published and unpublished writers. Major recognition of the value of our writers is also evident through the Prime Minister’s Awards for Literary Achievement, ensuring the Government’s ongoing commitment to creating our national literature. At a local level, Dunedin offers 19 literary awards and residencies.

Throughout the year publishers from Australia and New Zealand also tour local, national and international authors. Dunedin works closely with a variety of publicists from Penguin NZ, Hachette NZ, Hyndman Publishing, Random House NZ (among others) to take advantage of these opportunities to bring writers to an eager Dunedin audience.

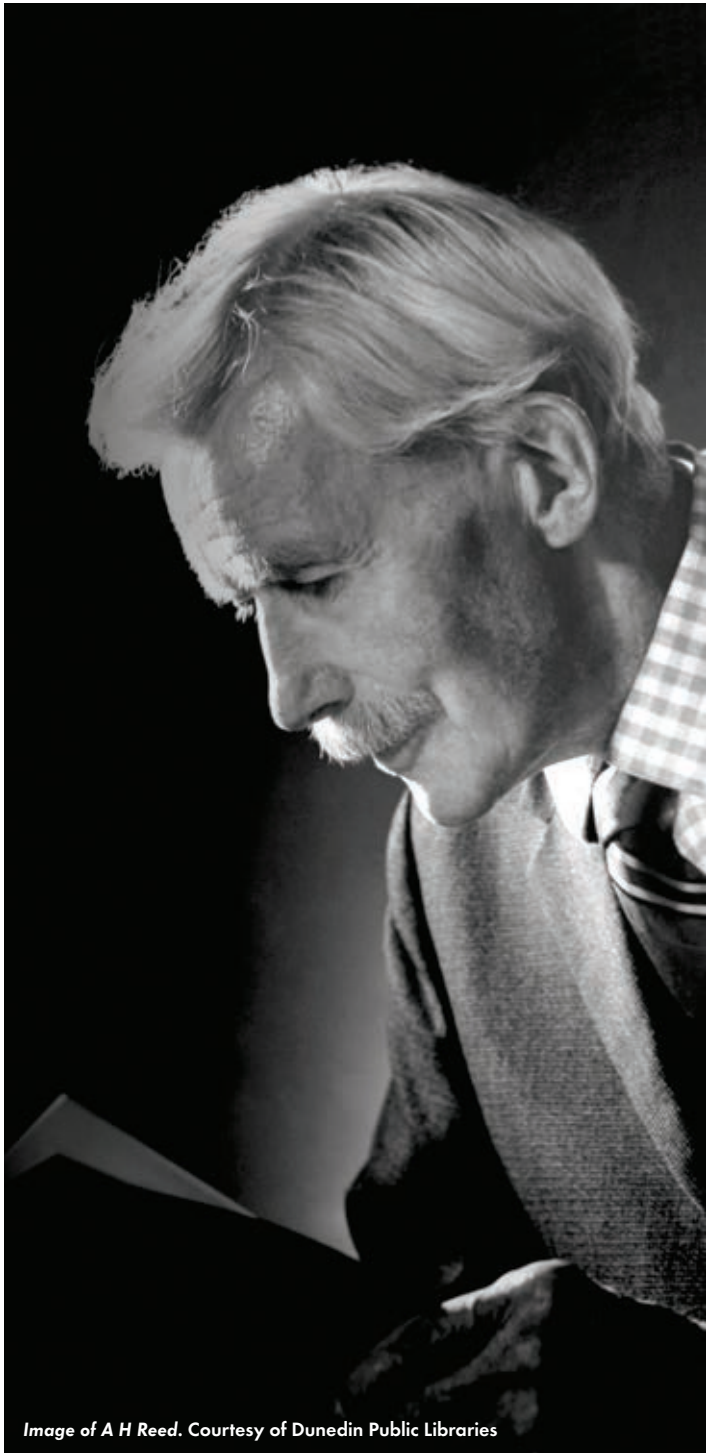


Image of A H Reed. Courtesy of Dunedin Public Libraries

## IMPRESSIVE PUBLISHING HERITAGE

In the 19th century Dunedin was home to New Zealand's leading printing, papermaking and publishing companies, and many of New Zealand's best-known publishers have their roots in the city.

Coulls Somerville Wilkie, now known as bookseller Whitcoulls, is New Zealand's largest publisher and retail vendor. It can trace its origins to Dunedin from 1872 when the Coulls Brothers printing and publishing company was opened. Several mergers later and Coulls Somerville and Wilkie was formed in 1922 and continued operating until 1971, when it merged with Christchurch-based Whitcombe and Tombs, becoming Whitcoulls.

For much of the 20th century, publishers A H & A W Reed created a popular audience for New Zealand writing. John McIndoe Publishers led the publication of creative writing in the South Island under the editorship of poet Brian Turner. Longacre Press, acquired by Random House, was established in Dunedin in 1994 and continues to operate under its own imprint. The Otakou Press operates 19th century handpresses and encourages collaborations between artists and writers through its Printer-in-Residence programme, and numerous small presses also specialise in poetry, hand-printed books and historical reprints. Rebound Books publishes quality limited editions of hand bound books and letters.

Otago University Press, established in 1958, is New Zealand's oldest academic publisher. It publishes a wide range of non-fiction books on New Zealand and the Pacific, with special emphasis on social history, natural history, biography, poetry and the arts. Otago University Press publishes about 25 new titles a year and has a vibrant backlist of about 150 titles.

The Otago Daily Time (ODT), established in 1861, is the only remaining New Zealand-owned and independent daily, and enjoys one of the highest market penetration rates in the nation for a paid daily. It boasts the longest daily publication record of any newspaper in New Zealand. The city also has a number of community newspapers, all of which support the arts community through articles, opinion pieces, and arts noticeboards.

## CENTRE FOR THE BOOK

In 2011 the University of Otago approved the establishment of the Centre for the Book with the purpose of providing a unique centre of excellence in book history, print culture, and investigations into new platforms and models of book publication and distribution. It fosters new research, promotes book-related activities such as publications and workshops, and liaises and develops creative partnerships with relevant national and international organisations and businesses. The Centre also hosts many printing and book-related conferences and symposia, including the Australasian Rare Book School. The Centre also marks World Book Day in early March each year with a guest lecture and dinner.



The Centre for the Book. Courtesy of the University of Otago





The Information Services Building (Central Library) at the University of Otago. Courtesy of the University of Otago

## LIBRARIES

Dunedin is home to many nationally significant libraries and library collections, offering a rich and varied array of historical and cultural literature to residents, researchers and literary tourists. The Dunedin Public Library, New Zealand's first free public library, was established in Dunedin in 1908. Today the library is a network of five libraries and two book buses, and a home delivery service. The per capita use of the library is impressive, with more than a million people through the doors annually.

The Public Library also houses two significant and internationally recognised book collections: The McNab New Zealand Collection and the Alfred and Isabel Reed Special Collections. The McNab New Zealand Collection contains around 83,000 items concerning the history of the New Zealand and Pacific regions. The Reed Special Collection contains around 10,000 items dating from the 10th century to the present, covering literature, religion, and the history of the book. The Reed Collection's illuminated mediaeval manuscripts are one of the most outstanding assemblies of European visual art from the Middle Ages in Australasia. With the Otago Museum's holdings of Classical art, and the Dunedin Public Art Gallery's collections of Mediaeval, Renaissance and later European art, they are a key element in the city's reconnaissance of European art, which is unparalleled in New Zealand.

Before the advent of a free public library, the Athenaeum and Mechanics Institute was established in 1851 to provide access to books, periodicals and public lectures, and is one of the oldest surviving main-centre athenaeums still used for its original purpose in New Zealand. 'The Athenaeum' as it is generally known, has recently enjoyed a revival of interest and membership from residents who value its unique service to the community. The building, which has architectural significance and has a New Zealand Historic Places Trust designation, has recently been purchased by a developer committed to heritage reuse, who plans to restore it and give it new life as a fully functioning arts hub, with the Athenaeum library as its centrepiece.

The Hocken Collection owes its existence to the vigorous collecting and subsequent generosity of a Dunedin doctor, Thomas Morland Hocken (1836 – 1910). Hocken collected books, newspapers, maps, pamphlets, photographs, pictures and artefacts relating to New Zealand, the Pacific and early Australia, and gifted it to the University of Otago in trust for the nation. He wrote the important *Bibliography of the Literature relating to New Zealand* in 1909, and the Hocken Collection was open to the public in 1910. The Archives and Manuscripts collection holds material of national importance but particular emphasis is placed on documenting the history of Otago and Southland. It currently houses over 8,000 linear meters of archives and manuscripts, and includes New Zealand's most important collection of literary manuscripts from New Zealand's leading writers. The Pictures Collection comprises over 12,000 works of art relating to New Zealand and the Pacific, from the 18th century to the present, and is supported by an active exhibition programme in its own gallery and an important collection of New Zealand artists' archives and manuscripts. The Hocken is also home to the Charles Brasch papers, designated part of the UNESCO Memory of the World project.

Other libraries of national and international significance include the University of Otago Library (which encompasses the Central Library, the Sir Robert Stout Law Library, the Medical Library, the Dental Library, the Science Library, the Robertson Library and the Southland Campus Library) and the Hewitson Library, located on the campus of Knox College, which has one of New Zealand's largest theological collections of print material and rare books in religious studies and spirituality. Special Collections, within the University Library system, has holdings of national and international significance: the de Beer Collection with its John Evelyn, John Locke, 19th century verse collection, travel and architecture; the Brasch Collection; Pulp and Science Fiction; and works by poet Robert Graves, and the Dunedin-born artist John Buckland Wright. It has a vigorous outreach programme of four exhibitions per year, which are all digitally archived, as well as hosting the international Printer-in-Residence programme since 2003.





Woodhaugh Garden, Dunedin by Alan Dove

## BOOKS FOR CHILDREN

Dunedin Public Library pioneered library services to children, establishing a dedicated children's library in 1910. In 1938 Dorothy Neal White, an internationally respected advocate for children's literature, was appointed the city's first professional children's librarian. She organised a successful service to schools throughout the Otago province in cooperation with the Otago Education Board, which was subsequently adopted by the New Zealand National Library service. Her groundbreaking development of professional children library services was recognised in 1980 when the National Library of New Zealand named its collection of children's books published prior to 1940 the *Dorothy Neale White Collection*.

Today the Dunedin Public Library coordinates the Books for Babies scheme, which introduces reading from soon after birth, to around 2,000 of Dunedin's newest citizens every year. During preschool years, a professional creative storytelling programme, Storytelling Adventures, is delivered to preschools and libraries, delighting children with stories and song. A collaboration between Sport Otago and Dunedin Public Libraries offers Wriggle and Rhyme sessions for children from newborn to 24 months. As children grow and learn to read, a popular summer reading programme is offered to encourage a lifetime love of reading and learning.

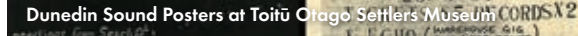
Many award-winning writers and illustrators of children's books live and work in Dunedin. The University Book Shop provides the Children's Room, dedicated to browsing and interactive experiences of books and reading for children.

The Storylines Festival for children is a popular national event that is supported in Dunedin. It is an opportunity to meet some of New Zealand's leading authors and illustrators.

## BOOKSHOPS

From the early 20th century bookshops such as Newbold's and Modern Books in the city centre were where Dunedin's intelligentsia would meet. Today the city has a wide range of book retailers, from specialist online booksellers like Vintage Books to Good Keen Kiwi Books which operates from a mobile van. Notable bookshops include the Hard to Find (But Worth the Effort) Bookshop on Dowling Street, a treasure trove of quality and fascinating second hand books, where owner Warwick Jordan has the single largest bookstore in New Zealand. The University Book Shop is one of the oldest and largest independent bookshops in New Zealand, it has its own book blog and is an advocate for literary pursuits and arts in the city, as well as providing a book to every newborn at Dunedin's Queen Mary Maternity Centre through Books for Babies and hosting book launches and storytimes for children. New Zealand's largest publisher and retail vendor, Whitcoulls, traces its origins to Dunedin from 1872, when the Coulls Brothers opened a printing and publishing company.





Today, Dunedin boasts a flourishing popular music culture with the world renowned 'Dunedin Sound'. Songwriters including Graeme Downes (The Verlaines), Martin Phillipps (The Chills) and David Kilgour (The Clean) are the poets at the heart of the city's musical soundscape. For over three decades they have inspired a cultural legacy through poetry and song that has indelibly marked Dunedin as an ongoing vibrant and creative musical community.

## LITERATURE-FOCUSED FESTIVALS

The Dunedin Writers and Readers Festival (formerly Wordstruck!) was New Zealand's first annual literary festival. It is run by a charitable trust that receives funding and support from the Dunedin City Council, Otago University, Creative New Zealand and local businesses including the University Book Shop. The Festival attracts participants from throughout New Zealand and the world, and in 2014 had the unique distinction of presenting New Zealand's 2013 Man Booker prize winner, Eleanor Catton, as well as more than 50 other writers and poets.

In June 2015 Dunedin presented its first New Zealand Young Writers Festival, supported by Phantom Billstickers and the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO.

Dunedin actively participates in the annual New Zealand Book Month with events staged at various venues throughout the city, in particular the Dunedin Libraries. New Zealand Book Month is a non-profit initiative promoting books, reading and literacy throughout New Zealand. It works alongside a wide range of organisations including publishers, booksellers, libraries, and schools and provide support for the encouragement of reading and literacy throughout the country.

The ScienceTeller Festival is held in October every second year. Organised by the Centre for Science Communication at the University of Otago, the festival is a celebration of storytelling and science dedicated to documentary filmmaking, writing and other creative media. The festival programme combines public screenings, events and workshops with stimulating talks by a wide range of guest speakers.

Storylines is a celebration of children's literature which is held in August each year. Guest writers and illustrators offer fun presentations for children and their families. In Dunedin, the festival is hosted by Dunedin Public Libraries.





# DUNEDIN'S CREATIVE CITY ASSETS

## ARTS & CULTURE

### THEATRES AND PLAY-WRIGHTS

The Fortune Theatre is the world's southern-most professional theatre company. It has a close association with leading New Zealand playwright Roger Hall and almost all of his plays have been performed there.

The Globe Theatre occupies an important place in New Zealand's theatre history. Established in 1961 by Patric and Rosalie Carey, it brought classical drama including the works of Ibsen and Chekov, Beckett, Ionesco and Pinter to the Dunedin public. It has a particular commitment to New Zealand and local dramatists and the works of one of New Zealand's best-known poets, James K. Baxter, first premiered there.

Allen Hall at the University of Otago provides a venue for student productions including lunch-time theatre. The Department of Theatre Studies maintains Theatre Aotearoa, an archive of information about New Zealand stage productions from the nineteenth century to the present day. The University's German Programme regularly produces plays in German and the Classics Department annually produces classical tragedies and comedies translated into English by award-winning playwright Harry Love.

Other theatres include the Mayfair in South Dunedin, which has a long association with opera and is also used for touring professional and amateur theatre productions, and the recently refurbished Regent in the Octagon which regularly hosts musicals, opera and dance performances as well as film festivals and events of the biennial Otago Festival of the Arts.

The Performing Arts Centre, which is part of the Kings High School campus, is also a popular venue for shows and musical performances. The professional Southern Sinfonia often uses it as a more intimate venue for their Sunday afternoon concerts and the Dunedin Writers and Readers Festival find it an excellent venue for staging some of their young adult sessions.

The Playhouse theatre specialises in producing theatre by and for young people.

The Fire Station Theatre in Mosgiel on the Taieri Plain has a lively and enthusiastic band of amateur players who perform short plays in the venue several times a year.

### MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

Dunedin is home to a range of respected cultural institutions. Otago Museum and Toitū Otago Settlers Museum are leaders nationally and internationally with strong collections, as is the Dunedin Public Art Gallery, which houses New Zealand's oldest public art collection. Each of these institutions have solid international relationships, and have exhibited their collections throughout New Zealand and internationally. The Dunedin Gasworks Museum is part of the now closed Dunedin Gasworks which was New Zealand's first and last gasworks, operating from 1863 until 1987. It is one of only three known preserved gasworks museums in the world.

### GARDENS AND WALKS

Poetry and story readings are held at the Chinese Garden, a traditional scholar's garden modelled on an ancient version in Dunedin's sister city of Shanghai. This garden, crafted by artisans from Shanghai, was a gift to the city to celebrate the contribution of the city's Chinese community to the Shanghai sister city relationship. Readings and writing competitions are usually held around Chinese New Year and the Moon Festival in October.

Illustrating the love of literature in Dunedin is the Elizabethan style Knot Garden planted out in 1934 using Box (*Buxus sempervirens*), at the Dunedin Botanic Garden. One of Dunedin's best kept secrets, this garden is a replica of Shakespeare's own garden in Stratford on Avon. In recognition of this great literary master, a performance is often held in the garden on his birthday, April 23rd.

Stiltwalker outside the Regent Theatre. Courtesy of Dunedin City Council



The Southern Heritage Trust published Writers’ Dunedin detailing three literary walks in the city. The Octagon Writers’ Walk features the words of Dunedin writers as they relate to the city.

## CINEMAS

The city hosts a number of art-house and mainstream cinemas. In July and August the International Film Festival is held at the Regent Theatre and a number of other cinemas. It is always well attended, attracting an audience from all over the region. Other film festivals are held during the year, including the 48 hour Film Festival, French and Italian film festivals, a festival of film documentaries, and another on architecture and design.

## VENUES

The Octagon is one of Dunedin’s most versatile venues, acting as the centre of the Dunedin Fringe Festival, hosting the Dunedin Midwinter Carnival and the Dunedin Writers and Readers Festival.

The Dunedin Public Art Gallery, Otago Museum and Toitū Otago Settlers Museum all hold events throughout the year, including public programmes, film screenings and talks. The Dunedin Public Library network offers multifaceted venues, hosting a range of events, musical recitals, exhibitions, book and poetry readings and film screenings.

The Fortune Theatre and the Regent Theatre host national and international theatre, comedy, classical music, ballet and film screenings, as well as literary events.

The internationally significant Botanic Gardens, established in 1863 as New Zealand’s first botanic garden, hosts Sunday Sounds in its band rotunda each week, surrounded by bronze statues of Peter Pan and Wendy.

The most photographed building in the country, the Dunedin Railway Station, is home to iD Fashion Week each year, the weekly

Otago Farmers Market, and it houses the New Zealand Sports Hall of Fame and the Otago Arts Society.

The Dunedin Chinese Garden offers the Scholars Garden and library, and New Zealand’s only castle, Larnach Castle, provides Victorian ghost stories to a captive audience on the shortest day. Glenfalloch Gardens on the Otago Peninsula also hosts leading poets.

The Forsyth Barr Stadium, Dunedin’s largest venue, holds a mixture of events including sports fixtures, festivals, concerts, and community celebrations, markets and events.

In addition to these more formal venues, Dunedin is home to 19th century pubs, such as the Robert Burns, Captain Cook and Bowling Green, which were the periodic haunts of every Dunedin writer from Dan Davin to Hone Tuwhare and Peter Olds. Maurice Duggan actually lived in the Cook during his Burns Fellowship 1960–61. The city is also home to a number of music venues, including student bar Re:Fuel, Sammy's, Port Chalmers' Chicks Hotel and the Dunedin Centre that includes the Town Hall.



Dunedin Chinese Garden by Graham Warman





Regent 24 Hour Book Sale by David Wall

## EVENTS

Dunedin has a vibrant annual calendar of literary events and is famous for a long-standing tradition of public readings and poetry.

New Zealand's first annual literary festival, Wordstruck! was established in Dunedin in the 1980s, with participating writers and readers from New Zealand and the world. In 2006 it became part of the wider Otago Festival of the Arts but has recently been reinstated as the Dunedin Writers and Readers Festival, which takes place in May each year.

The Dunedin Public Library regularly collaborates with local writers by hosting author talks, workshops and supporting book launches. The library ensures that the work of Dunedin writers is well-represented in its collections for residents to enjoy, and also keeps a pristine heritage copy for future generations through the McNab New Zealand Collection.

New Zealand Poetry Day is celebrated every July when the work of local poets is read and displayed. In Dunedin posters of selected poets and poems are installed around the city and in school and public libraries, and readings by the poets are held at various venues around the city.

Two annual sales are held to support the Regent Theatre in the Octagon: the 24-hour Regent Book Sale and the Anything But Books Sale. These are a vital component of the theatre's income and attract collectors and enthusiasts from throughout the country.

NZ Book Month is a non-profit initiative promoting books and reading and literacy in New Zealand, with the goal of forming a North to South community of readers. NZ Book Month works with a wide range of organisations, including publishers, booksellers, libraries and schools.

Every month the Octagon Poetry Collective holds an open mike evening at the Circadian Rhythm cafe. These readings have been running on a voluntary basis for almost a decade. The Otago Daily Times newspaper publishes and pays for a new poem every Monday by established or new writers. It also publishes independent book reviews, profiles of writers and related stories.

Poems in the Waiting Room is an initiative started in Dunedin by Ruth Arnison (an accomplished poet) to provide, free of charge, brochures of poems in waiting rooms of health providers and hospitals in Dunedin.

### OTHER CREATIVE FESTIVALS

The Otago Festival of the Arts was established in 1999 to present a biennial arts festival in Dunedin, celebrating the excellent and the extraordinary as 'a boutique festival in a boutique city.' The festival attracts acts and guests from throughout the world and presents a sustainable and diverse event of the performing arts.

The Dunedin Fringe Festival is the only fringe festival in the South Island of New Zealand, and supports the presentation of experimental contemporary art and the work of emerging artists to a wide audience. The annual Dunedin Fringe attracts local, national and international artists, with a mix of established and emerging artists. It has grown in popularity each year.

Every year Dunedin hosts the Dunedin Heritage Festival, which celebrates an aspect of her rich heritage. Themes such as architecture, our Chinese community and Otago's gold discoveries have been traversed. In 2013 the architectural heritage theme included seminars, city walking tours and musical recitals centred on the Dunedin railway station, one of New Zealand's most photographed buildings and often regarded as one of the world's most beautiful railway stations.

Whare Flat Folk Festival is held over three days at Whare Flat, one of Dunedin's beautiful rural areas, at the beginning of January every year. The festival features local, national and international artists and celebrates a blend of well known, traditional and original music.

New Zealand Music Month takes place each May. It is promoted by the New Zealand Music Commission in association with organisations including Radio New Zealand, Independent New Zealand and the Radio Broadcasters' Association. Its aim is to



encourage and promote the playing of New Zealand artists and composers throughout the month. Dunedin’s radio stations (of which there are seven) are enthusiastic promoters of New Zealand Music Month.

The very successful and popular NZ International Science Festival is held in Dunedin in July each year. The festival is run by a charitable organisation established to celebrate and promote education and research in the fields of science, with its main partners being the Dunedin City Council and the University of Otago.

The New Zealand International Film Festival is held annually across New Zealand throughout the latter half of the year. Founded in 1977 the Dunedin manifestation of the Festival presents a highlights package of approximately 75 features, plus shorts, at the Regent Theatre.

#### CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS

Matariki/Māori New Year is a uniquely New Zealand celebration. The first rising of the Matariki (Seven Sisters) cluster of stars is celebrated as Māori New Year. This takes place around the winter solstice (northern summer solstice) in late June each year. Celebrations focus on the wellbeing of our community and whanau (extended family), acknowledging our achievements and remembering those who have passed on.

Chinese New Year is a week of celebration of Dunedin’s connection to her Chinese diaspora and her sister city, Shanghai. The celebrations centre round the beautiful scholar’s garden.

#### ICONIC EVENTS

iD Fashion Week is a must-experience creative fashion design event, that has grown from small beginnings to become an internationally recognised creative fashion event, attracting designers from across the world. The annual Emerging Designer Awards are always breathtaking in the scope of originality and international interest, attracting entries from some of the world’s most prominent fashion design schools.

The annual Regent 24 Hour Book Sale has grown to become a highlight of Dunedin’s literary calendar, attracting book lovers and bargain hunters from all over New Zealand. Thousands of books are collected and sorted, and from the moment the doors open, there are queues of people waiting to enter. Through the day (and the night) guest artists perform to entertain the crowd, often with the best acts performing in the middle of the night to ensure the attendance numbers remain high throughout.

Every July Dunedin gets a chocolate fix with a week of chocolate-themed events at the Cadbury Chocolate Carnival. This annual carnival delights chocolate-lovers with chocolate tours, chocolate decorating, chocolate painting and chocolate facials, as well as the iconic Cadbury Crunchie Train and the world famous Jaffa Race, when thousands of the orange sugar-coated chocolate confections are raced down Dunedin’s Baldwin Street – the world’s steepest street.

In October 2014, Dunedin celebrated its first Vogel Street Party, a local celebration of progress on the achievements of local businesses, building owners, residents and the arts community in advancing Dunedin’s Warehouse Precinct Revitalisation Plan. The Plan itself is a multi-disciplinary place-based project, working to save a significant heritage area in the city through collaboration between a range of sectors, with creativity in the broadest sense at the heart of the Plan.

The 2015 Vogel Street Party has adopted the theme of ‘literature and light’, celebrating UNESCO’s Year of Light and Dunedin’s 2014 designation as a UNESCO City of Literature. The Warehouse Precinct area already has a strong literary history, and hopes to elaborate and celebrate this legacy during the Party and leave a creative literary footprint for the future on the streets.



Kapa Haka Group by Justin Spiers





The Robertson Library. Courtesy of the University of Otago

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Dunedin boasts a range of first-class academic institutions from primary to tertiary, including New Zealand’s first university and medical school. The University of Otago supports postgraduate teaching and research, with many Otago graduates having gone on to illustrious international careers, including Rhodes Scholarships. The university’s first Rhodes’ Scholarship was awarded in 1904 and 10 have been awarded to Otago graduates in the last 12 years. The Otago Polytechnic emphasises creativity and innovation and offers quality tertiary education in such spheres as art and sculpture, app development and design. Many students successfully showcase their fashions in the internationally renowned iD fashion week. These institutions demonstrate the high value placed on education and literacy in a city where ‘town and gown’ have a natural symbiosis.

### PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

A full list of Dunedin’s many secondary and primary schools, includes architectural gem Otago Boys’ High School, and Arthur Street School, where Janet Frame once taught. The whole Otago region includes over 140 schools. All Dunedin primary and secondary schools also encourage creative writing.

### OTAGO POLYTECHNIC

Otago Polytechnic graduates are well-prepared for a range of creative career options in the fields of communication, fashion, interiors and product design. They learn to work in multidisciplinary teams and gain industry experience through work placements, internships and live client and community projects. The new Bachelors of Culinary Arts is the only one of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere. This advanced, applied degree provides students with knowledge, tools and techniques that increase employment potential within the professional Culinary Arts.

### UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO

The Department of English and Linguistics has a distinguished record of teaching and research, including major contributions to the field of bibliography. It offers both a major and a minor in English literature, a minor in Writing, and also hosts the programme in Linguistics. The English programme provides students with opportunities to read and discuss a wide range of poetry, essays, novels, plays and films across a range of time and nations. It also teaches creative writing, provides a series of free public poetry readings with leading New Zealand poets, and hosts New Zealand’s longest-running online literary journal *Deep South*, which regularly publishes major national and international authors. The Department also publishes a series of reprints of pre-1930 fiction, *New Zealand Colonial Texts*.

The Linguistics programme addresses questions about language, the nature of its structure, and use and development. The Department has a large postgraduate programme, with a particular strength in New Zealand and Pacific literature, and runs a postgraduate poetry and poetics seminar that regularly hosts renowned international writers and literary scholars. The QS World University Rankings recently rated the Otago English Department 28th in the world.

The Department of Languages and Cultures engages in high-quality research and research-informed teaching in the seven languages and three area studies programmes it offers. The Department promotes language acquisition as an important life skill in a diverse and rapidly internationalising world. More generally through its programmes and research, it aims to raise understanding of the importance of intercultural skills and understanding and to contribute to cultural debates.

Te Tumu School of Māori, Pacific and Indigenous Studies is committed to high quality research and research-informed teaching, with the aim of producing graduates committed to Māori, Pacific and Indigenous knowledge, heritage and values, and equipped with the skills to be developers of communities and nations in



the global context. Te Tumu is rapidly gaining an international reputation as one of the best places in New Zealand to learn about Māori, Pacific and indigenous languages, cultures and societies.

Māori Studies is dedicated to the study of te reo me nga tikanga Māori (the Māori language, Māori customary lore, Māori history, Māori performing arts, Māori education and Māori research) in Aotearoa and Te Waipounamu. The introduction of an immersion Māori language programme based on the *Te Whanake* series by Professor John C. Moorfield provides a strong foundation for the multidisciplinary offerings of papers which constitute the curriculum.

The Centre for Irish and Scottish Studies provides an opportunity to study the literature, history, film and theatre of Ireland over the past 200 years, and the history, literature and culture of Scotland and the Scottish diaspora since the late seventeenth century. The Irish Studies programme focuses on the topics of identity, ethnicity, the concept of 'nation building', and the history of their contestation. The Scottish Studies programme studies both the internal development of Scotland and the international impact of the Scottish diaspora, as a reflection of Scotland's history as one of the most mobile societies in Europe.

The Bachelor of Performing Arts is an exciting collaboration between the University's programmes and departments in theatre, music and dance and gives students a rare opportunity to study a variety of art forms blended into one degree. Students develop knowledge and skills in a variety of different performance forms as well as with the history, theories and key practitioners in the worlds of theatre, dance and music.

Music at Otago offers a wide range of opportunities to pursue interests and dreams. It covers performance of both classical and contemporary, composition, popular music, and world music, and has an extensive public concert series and a world-class production studio.

Theatre Studies draws on the rich diversity of theatrical expression

in different cultures and eras. It offers an exciting combination of practical skills and academic training, in preparation for a range of careers both within and beyond theatre and the performing arts.

Design is taught at undergraduate and postgraduate levels within the Applied Sciences Department at Otago University, offering a Design for Innovation and Design for Engineering stream within the Design for Technology major. Design staff have undertaken research and consultancy projects in creative tourism across the South Island.

The Denniston Rose Trail iPhone application provides an interactive self-guided literary trail to the place that inspired the best-selling books *The Denniston Rose* and *The Heart of Coal* by Jenny Patrick. It was developed by the Scope Design Lab at the University of Otago in conjunction with the Department of Conservation's Westport office. Scope worked closely with field centre staff, Department of Conservation archeologists, and community historians to produce an interactive tour companion to augment the visitor's experience when visiting the Denniston plateau.

#### **CAPACITY BUILDING AND INFORMAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

Creative Writing Dunedin is designed for all writers, covering fiction, writing your life, poetry and nonfiction. Award-winning author Diane Brown is the designer and tutor for most of the courses with award-winning writer Philip Temple acting as a consultant and occasional tutor.

The Caselberg Trust holds several writing workshops each year, where celebrated poets and writers participate enthusiastically to encourage new and emerging writers.



Teen Space at the Dunedin City Library by Bill Nichol





## CITY'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE CREATIVE CITY NETWORK

### POLICY

Dunedin's commitment to the Creative Cities Network Mission Statement is underscored by its arts and culture strategy. The strategy has been developed by the Dunedin City Council in partnership with Transforming Dunedin, a team of local arts and culture specialists, who have agreed that the vision is for Dunedin to be one of the world's great small cities, where arts, culture and creativity are valued and celebrated, and recognised as an integral part of the city's character and personality.

The strategy states that Dunedin will be a city with an arts and culture world view; of innovation and excellence; vibrant and memorable spaces and places; creative connections; where everyone can participate in arts and culture; where everyone is proud of its distinctive identity.

The strategy recognises that arts and culture are essential to the health and wellbeing of society, and like any essential service they should be available to all citizens regardless of circumstance, income or race.

Furthermore, the artistic and cultural life of Dunedin is a central feature of the city's character and identity and is responsible for attracting permanent residents and many of the city's tourists and visitors.

There is an increasing interdependence between heritage and cultural policy, employment and economic development to the extent that a vital, coordinated heritage and cultural programme is integral to Council policy.



## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

### SISTER CITIES NETWORK

Dunedin has an active and vibrant model for contribution to an international cities network through its long established sister cities network. The city currently has regular interchanges with four sister cities – Edinburgh in Scotland, Otaru in Japan, Shanghai in China and Portsmouth in the United States of America. Dunedin City Council contributes funding to the sister city societies annually and supports the connection with regular business and artistic exchanges. The Sister Cities New Zealand conference was hosted by Dunedin in 2010. In 2012 Dunedin and Shanghai started an exchange programme for high school students.

### OTAGO MUSEUM

The biggest and most complex exhibition staged by the Otago Museum overseas opened in July 2011 at the Shanghai Museum. Featuring 337 taoka (treasures), *Te Ao Māori: Māori Treasures* from the Otago Museum is the first ever exhibition of Māori taoka in a Chinese Museum, and introduces Māori culture and mythology, with a particular focus on Ngāi Tahu culture. The Otago Museum also signed an agreement with the Shanghai Science and Technology Museum which will see the implementation of a staff exchange programme between the two organisations.

A second major exhibition was held at the Shanghai Natural History Museum, *New Zealand: The Wonders of the Natural World*. The exhibition showcased New Zealand’s remarkable natural science and visitors introduced to the creation story of Rakinui and Papatūānuku, as well as other Māori legends, in order to provide a mainly Chinese audience with a greater understanding of New Zealand’s people and unique environment.

### TOITŪ OTAGO SETTLERS MUSEUM

In 1998 Toitū Otago Settlers Museum organised an exhibition swap of historic paintings between Dunedin and Edinburgh. *Southern Lights: 150 Years of Otago Landscape Art* was sent to Edinburgh

for exhibition at the City Gallery, accompanied by a catalogue with essays by local experts, and the City Gallery sent a show of Scottish works for exhibition to the Dunedin Public Art Gallery.

As part of the National Museum of Scotland’s Scotland in the World programme, the NMS in Edinburgh exhibited *Altogether a Delightful Country: the Scots in Otago*, an exhibition based primarily on collection items borrowed from the Otago Settlers Museum in 2001. The exhibition was extended twice, remaining on show in Edinburgh until 2003.

Curator Sean Brosnahan was invited by the National Museums of Scotland and the University of Edinburgh to attend an experts’ workshop on the Scottish military diaspora in 2012.

The Museum opened the exhibition *DUNedinburgh* in 2014, which is a reflection on Dunedin’s Scottish heritage that includes items from the National Museums of Scotland, mostly associated with the 1843 Disruption which was the key historical event that indirectly gave rise to the Otago settlement scheme.

### UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO

The University has strong international links through its Global Student Exchange agreements with more than 90 educational institutions worldwide. The Global Student Exchange has exchanges with universities in existing Cities of Literature; Edinburgh, Dublin, Reykjavik, and Norwich. Twenty-six postgraduate scholarships encourage international knowledge exchange and enable current Otago students to study at a range of international universities.

The ‘town and gown’ relationship between the university and the rest of the city is very close and this is no better illustrated than through the collaborative networks in which the university participates with the rest of the city through exchanges, public lectures and symposia. It is anticipated that these already-established strategies and links will be exploited and expanded to include a meaningful and dynamic commitment to the City of Literature/Creative Cities.

The University of Otago is a member of the Matariki Network (Dartmouth College, Durham University, Queen’s University, University of Tübingen, University of Western Australia, Uppsala University), which is dedicated to enhancing diversity, sharing ideas and expertise, learning international best practice from each other, recognising the shared commitment to an ethos of excellence in research, scholarship and campus-based teaching.

The Department of English regularly hosts a number of major national and international literary conferences and symposia each year. It also runs a postgraduate poetry and poetics seminar that regularly hosts renowned international writers and literary scholars, such as Rachel Blau Du Plessis, Cris Cheek, and Brian Reed. The Comparative and Cross-Cultural Studies Research Theme also regularly hosts literary events, and in August 2014 hosted a talk and reading from Edith Grossman, arguably the world’s foremost English translator of Spanish literature.

The University of Otago Scottish Writers Fellowship is a three-month residency for writers of Scottish residency, background or affiliation, and is hosted at the Pah Homestead in Auckland, which houses a major collection of New Zealand art.

The Centre for the Book has international partnerships with other Centres for the Book, and has facilitated exchanges with Edinburgh Napier University’s Scottish Centre for the Book and hosted numerous international book scholars. The Printer in Residence Programme offers use of 19th-century handpresses in the Otakou Press Room to facilitate collaborations between fine press printers, artists and writers to produce limited edition works.

### NATURAL HISTORY NEW ZEALAND

Natural History New Zealand (NHNZ) started in Dunedin as an independent film company some 20 years ago to produce wildlife documentaries for international consumption. Since then the

organisation has received many international awards for the quality of their storytelling. They are producers of excellent environmental documentaries on a global scale, with state-of-the-art production facilities and a global distribution network. Many of their films are made in collaboration with such organisations as the BBC and film-makers in Europe and the Americas.

The Centre for Science Communication at the University of Otago is the world’s largest postgraduate facility for science communication, and partners with Natural History New Zealand. It offers a Postgraduate Diploma, Masters and PhD programmes, focused on film making, writing and popularizing science. Students’ work have won awards at the BANFF Mountain Film Festival, WildScreen, Byron Bay International Film Festival and Colorado International Film Festival.

### THE OTAGO INSTITUTE OF DESIGN

The Otago Institute of Design is a partnership between Otago Polytechnic and the University of Otago, and is a member of the CUMULUS International Association of Universities and Colleges of Art, Design and Media, consisting of 198 members from 48 countries. It signed a collaborative agreement with the Design Research Society in 2013 to further design education and research.

### OTAGO POLYTECHNIC

Wayne Mackintosh is the Founding Director of Otago Polytechnic’s International Centre for Open Education, and the UNESCO – Commonwealth of Learning (COL) Chair in Open Educational Resources (OER) at Otago Polytechnic. The OER Foundation was established to support the planning and implementation of the OER, to support free online global education.

The Otago Polytechnic offers Summer Scholarships to Shanghai, and design student exchanges in Italy. The international Dunedin iD Fashion Show offers exchanges of models and fashion students with Shanghai.

The Master of Design Enterprise supports design-led innovation





through human-centred design. The Otago Polytechnic also operates a design research and development centre, innovation workspace, supporting entrepreneurial and innovative product development and is a leading Technology Transfer partner with Callaghan Innovation, a Government-funded advanced technology institute.

The Splash Communication Design studio brings together young designers and developers with industry professionals to produce innovative communication design.

The Art School was the first established in New Zealand and sculptor and Senior Lecturer Scott Eady has exhibited at the Venice and Gwangju Biennales.

Bougainville governor Joe Lera signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Otago Polytechnic in March 2014 to develop a tertiary campus in Bougainville and establish a television station to address the damage caused by the civil war in that country.

#### THE NEW ZEALAND BOOK COUNCIL

The New Zealand Book Council is a small, dedicated and passionate group of people who inspire New Zealanders to read, write, share ideas, and to promote and nurture our nation's writers and writing. One of their flagship programmes is the highly valued Writers in Schools programme, where writers and illustrators visit over 50,000 children and help inspire their creative writing and illustration dreams. Dunedin has several writers, illustrators and schools who are part of this programme.

The New Zealand Book Council also provides an International Travel Fund, with Creative New Zealand, to assist New Zealand writers attend high-profile international literary events, encouraging long-term relationships with a range of international festivals and events. NZBC has been developing a relationship with Melbourne literary institutions, including The Wheeler Centre, The Melbourne Writers Festival and Text Publishing. A range of initiatives and projects have been developed with an emphasis on raising the profile of our New Zealand writing talent in Melbourne.

#### OTHER COOPERATIVE INITIATIVES

Creative New Zealand and the British Council have created a new partnership, MOMENTUM New Zealand, to support greater artistic collaboration and exchange. New Zealand delegates are introduced to Scottish, UK and international producers, festival directors and venue managers and supported by Creative Scotland and Festivals Edinburgh to develop their own professional networks via hosted events and individual meetings. In 2013 MOMENTUM New Zealand supported a delegation of 18 arts professionals, including the Otago Festival of the Arts, Dunedin City Council and Dunedin Public Art Gallery, to attend Edinburgh Festivals. In the same year, the British Council brought the Queen's Baton Relay for the 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games to Dunedin on St Andrew's Day.

New Zealand was the Guest of Honour at the 2012 Frankfurt Book Festival. Over 60 authors were present with New Zealand performers, artists and chefs. In 2013 New Zealand resident Eleanor Catton became the youngest author to win the Man Booker Prize with her historical novel *The Luminaries*, which is set in 19th-century Hokitika and Dunedin.

The Library in the Dunedin Chinese Garden is a collaborative initiative between the Shanghai Municipal Library, the Dunedin City Library, the Chinese Consulate, and Dunedin residents, offering a range of books focused on Chinese culture in both English and Mandarin. In addition, Dunedin Public Library's *Window of Shanghai* collection was donated by the Shanghai Public Library in 2008 as part of its *China Book International* project.

The Dunedin Fringe Festival offers an opportunity for emerging New Zealand and international talent to perform on the streets of Dunedin. In 2014 it hosted over 200 performers in 40 events, including Canadian Circus Company Vague de Cirque. A mobile caravan cinema, *Reels on Wheels*, presented New Zealand and international short films at a variety of locations. Danish business student Nick Nissen joined three New Zealand interns to gain

valuable experience in event organizing, marketing and sales.

The Dunedin Public Libraries contributes to the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award. Books are nominated for 'high literary merit' by invited public libraries in cities throughout the world.

There are numerous national exchanges that can benefit Dunedin residents, ranging from Rotary Youth Exchange for high school students through to Creative New Zealand University of Iowa Writers' Residency and the Fulbright Creative New Zealand Pacific Writer's Residency at the University of Hawaii.





# CITY OF LITERATURE VISION

*Dunedin will sustain a  
healthy, creative and  
prosperous city through  
celebrating and sharing  
a diverse and inclusive  
literature that connects  
people and place.*

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

### PARTNERSHIPS

- Build strong creative local, national and international partnerships, and cultivate links with cultures connected to New Zealand through the Creative Cities Network.
- Encourage exchanges between current and future Cities of Literature and sister cities that enhance Dunedin's literary wealth and that of all the participating cities.
- Foster connections through creative writing, indigenous storytelling and translation.

### COLLABORATION

- Work collaboratively and creatively as a city, to take pride in our past, enrich our present and design for the future.
- Establish meaningful and enduring partnerships which facilitate the production and distribution of New Zealand literature nationally and internationally, with particular emphasis on new media and research.

### SUSTAINABILITY

- Support, encourage and facilitate inclusive access to, and participation in creative educational opportunities, especially children and young adults, that meet the needs and challenges of the 21st century.
- Encourage ongoing participation and support from Dunedin's business community in all aspects of the Creative Cities initiative.

### INNOVATION

- Explore and develop new modes of creative collaboration, production and dissemination, particularly those that encourage a closer connection between people and place, and sustain community health and wellbeing.
- Encourage children to imagine new communities of writing and reading that might script our common future.

*Underpinning these goals is the philosophy of Manaakitanga – hospitality and welcoming people to New Zealand, its literature and people, and fostering respectful and enduring international relationships.*





Vogel Street Mural. Courtesy of Allied Press





[www.cityofliterature.co.nz](http://www.cityofliterature.co.nz)