



Chairperson's Report 2019

This year the Palmerston North Performing Arts Trust has chosen to continue its promotion only of the Arts Heart Educational Development Project Scheme as it created a broader platform for a wider range of benefit for more participants with PNPAT's thrust '*to serve to enlighten, inspire and enhance the development of talented emerging performing artists*'.

In all, four applications were received with three being successful in receiving funding as their application focus specifically extended opportunities, skills and experience in participation of the performing arts. The successful recipients were:

Creative Sounds Society

An audio engineering and sound reinforcement course for secondary students

Palmerston North Dance Association

Dance workshops covering two genre: Classical Repertoire and Contemporary/Modern Dance

Palmerston North Girls' High School

Two Choral Workshops (May and July) for PNGHS Choir, Cantatrices. At the time of working this report notification has been received that *Cantatrices* has been selected as one of the finalists at the National Finals of the Big Sing in Dunedin's Town Hall.

The unsuccessful applicant did not focus specifically on performing arts.

Although it was disappointing that one of 2017's recipients, Toi Warbrick with their project to develop Palmerston North as the '*Putorino Capital of the World*', reluctantly returned their Arts Heart funding because their creative process and performance making veered in a different direction with other opportunities, Palmerston North has ultimately been enhanced as a thriving artistic and creative destination as a result of Toi Warbrick's endeavours.

A very comprehensive report was received from the Palmerston North Theatre Trust (Centrepoint Theatre) sharing the extensive programme endeavouring to bring secondary students into the city as part of developing improvisational performance skills.

The Palmerston North Performing Arts Trust (PNPAT) complements Palmerston North city's 'creative and exciting city' aspiration. PNPAT provides ongoing support to enable educational opportunities and public appreciation of the performing arts in our city. This year PNPAT's AGM falls in the middle of Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori and the city's whakatauki *Ko te pae tawhiti whaia kia tata, ko te pae tata whakamaua kia tina* acknowledging our future, our opportunity and bind the distant and immediate horizons as they merge. Therefore the relevance of PNPAT's objectives aligning with Palmerston North's creative city vision are more pertinent than ever.

While managing ongoing sustainable funding can be a challenge, it is a delight to be on this Trust as it is most rewarding to have such focused Trustees with Mayor Grant Smith, Margaret May and Advisory Trustees Harry Lilley and Maureen Ax contribute their expertise and enthusiasm with due diligence. Although Rachel Corser had returned to us she is now on parental leave and we wish her well.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sheridan Hickey".

Sheridan Hickey
Chairperson

September 2019