



**Wairarapa**  
Youth Orchestra

# ANNUAL REPORT

2023 - 2024

# Wairarapa Youth Orchestra

## Chair Report to AGM, 25 March 2024

### Overview

Formed in 2021 by Caitlin Morris and Andrew Atkins, the Wairarapa Youth Orchestra (WYO) is a not-for-profit organisation focused on providing young people from across the Wairarapa with the opportunity to learn and enjoy orchestral music for free under the guidance of experienced tutors.

At the request of Caitlin and Andrew, a new committee was established in April 2023 to provide additional leadership and support. On behalf of the committee, I am delighted to report that WYO has gone from strength to strength over the past year. Clear committee roles and dedicated effort have been key to accessing more funding to enable the orchestra to develop. While our funding is year-by-year at present, it is enabling us to develop foundational systems, policies and processes that will serve the orchestra well as it continues to grow.

The support WYO receives from the Wairarapa community and the New Zealand Arts community is essential to its success and we sincerely thank all of our supporters. From parents who donate items for our raffles to Creative New Zealand who have entrusted us with substantial funds to deliver a new 'scholarship programme', we are truly grateful to you all. Together we are enhancing the lives of many people, young and not so young! Ngā mihi nui kia koutou katoa.

### Our aim and values

We aim to provide a fun and supportive environment for our members to learn, play, and perform orchestral music. Everything we do is guided by our values:

1. **Education and accessibility** – providing free high quality orchestral music opportunities for primary and secondary aged students embracing Tiriti principles of partnership and participation
2. **Youth and the arts** – supporting young people through the creation and development of the arts on a sustainable and professional basis
3. **Youth communities** – creating an inclusive device free space for Tamariki and rangatahi so they can develop relationships, work together and make friends
4. **Wairarapa music** – performing and promoting learning throughout our local Wairarapa community including the provision of instruments and tuition to students who may not otherwise have musical opportunities.

## Our programmes

WYO offers three programmes:

1. The **full orchestra** comprising approximately 55 school-aged students that rehearses regularly at Kuranui College and delivers several major concerts each year, with the gala event being the mid-winter concert at the Carterton Events Centre. Our June 2023 concert 'A Movie Matinee' was a highlight, with over 320 people enjoying a wonderful toe-tapping performance and we are looking forward to doing it all again on 8 June 2024, this time with Disney music.
2. The **busking group** that is a newly-formed sub-set of the orchestra and performs at events to fundraise for the full orchestra. A recent highlight for this group was performing at the Featherston First evening and the Martinborough Fair.
3. The **scholarship programme** that provides free lessons and instrument loan to participating students (currently 18) who become part of the full orchestra when they are ready. This programme is made possible by generous funding from Creative New Zealand for 2023 and 2024.

All programmes are given visibility through our marketing and communications workstream, ably led by Roger Fraser and Iris Ewart. During 2023 we increased our Facebook presence, established a Givealittle Page, launched a new website ([www.wyo.org.nz](http://www.wyo.org.nz)) and secured local media coverage of events and the scholarship programme. Our marketing activities aim to:

- a) raise the profile of WYO to attract new students and sponsors; and
- b) acknowledge the generosity of our sponsors and the impact of their support.

## Team WYO

The WYO team made up of the committee, tutors, students and their whanau is a strong team. Together, we can see the benefits WYO offers young people in our region and we are excited by the potential ahead.

The 2023 Committee was chaired by Lana Stockman and myself and benefited from the expertise of:

- Caitlin Morris (orchestra co-ordinator and creative lead)
- Andrew Atkins (musical director)
- Todd Priest (treasurer)
- Kathryn Seagrave (scholarship programme lead)
- Roger Fraser (fundraising, marketing and communication)

- Rachel Millar (grants and music logistics)
- Nicola Belsham (marketing and sponsorship)
- Melissa Ewart (administration, grants and co-ordination).

In early 2024 we reluctantly farewelled Nicola and Lana from the Committee and thanked them for their contributions; both were instrumental in the successes of 2023. Caitlin has indicated she will step aside from the Committee in 2024 to enable her to focus on reporting aspects of WYO, particularly to meet external funding obligations.

Being on the committee is a voluntary role and expressions of interest are sought from interested people who have time and organisational skills to share in 2024.

Accessing new funding streams has meant we are progressing well towards being able to pay our many tutors for their wonderful work with the students during rehearsals and performances throughout the year. We thank them for their commitment and the hours they give on a voluntary basis in addition to their paid services. The knowledge, care and opportunities they provide to our tamariki and rangatahi is invaluable and they are an integral part of the WYO team.

As a result of two Creative New Zealand grants received during 2023, WYO is able to contract professional administrative support from Melissa Ewart. Mel coming on board in mid 2023 was music to all of our ears and she has made a big difference to WYO behind the scenes. Thank you, Mel, for your professionalism, flexibility and can-do approach. We all really appreciate it.

The people section of this report would not be complete without a special mention of the WYO co-founders, Andrew and Caitlin. They have graciously welcomed the new Committee to work beside them to realise their dream of a free and fun youth orchestra. The Committee's goal from day one was to enable Caitlin and Andrew to do what they do best and free them up a bit, and that is starting to occur.

### **Financial position**

A separate report will be tabled by our Treasurer Todd Priest, who has continued to develop systems and processes behind the scene to enable WYO to get a clear view on our financial position and ensure we are meeting obligations to funders and stakeholders. We are fortunate to have Todd's expertise, especially as we are now the custodians of significant community grant funding. Thank you, Todd.

### **Committee focus for 2024**

To ensure the orchestra is set up for success, the Committee has identified the need to explore options to formalise our legal and governance structure. We are currently an 'unincorporated group' and are looking at trust and incorporated society models.

The goals we seek to achieve from becoming a formal entity with recognised standing are:

1. Putting the orchestra on a sustainable, long term footing so it is not dependent on key individuals in the future and will continue if individuals depart;
2. Becoming a registered charity so we and our supporters can benefit from that status as many more funding options open up if we are a recognised charity;
3. Ensuring appropriate protection mechanisms are in place to avoid WYO volunteers being exposed to personal liability as they work in good-faith to support the orchestra.
4. Minimising reporting and compliance burdens while ensuring transparency and accountability to founders, members and supporters.

We are currently investigating options and talking with other similar organisations across the country to capture their learnings and advice. The Committee plans to consider an options paper in May 2024 and then progress with a preferred approach.

During 2024 we will also continue to seek longer term funding partnerships. And we are keen to establish an Orchestra Plus programme, perhaps even with school holiday orchestra workshops, so watch this space.

### **How you can help**

WYO has a range of needs that are noted below. If you can help, please get in touch with any Committee member. Currently we are looking for:

1. Someone to professionally film our mid-year concert performance at the Carterton Events Centre (June 8<sup>th</sup>).
2. People to help with the logistics of orchestra performances, especially set-up and pack-down for events, including transporting gear and instruments. We need about ten willing volunteers with station wagons, trailers and tarpaulins.
3. Design, sponsorship and procurement of orchestra banners to display at events to identify the orchestra and our fundraising efforts.
4. Someone to make us a couple of nice donation boxes that we can take to busking events to help legitimise our collection methods.
5. Pro-bono legal and accounting advice to support our establishment as a formal, charitable entity during 2024/25.
6. New committee members who have expertise in event management and can help with organising, co-ordinating, arranging and chasing!

I know I speak for all of the Committee members when I say it is an honour to support the WYO. We look forward to helping the orchestra go from strength to strength for the benefit of our tamariki and rangatahi. Feedback and suggestions are very welcome, please get in touch anytime.



Lisa Rossiter, Chair

25 March 2024

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Wairarapa Youth Orchestra

# Musical Director Report

## 2023

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Kia Ora Koutou,

It is with great pleasure that I address you today as one of the co-founders of the Wairarapa Youth Orchestra and current Musical Director. 2023 marked the second full year that the orchestra has run, delivering music education to the tamariki and rangatahi of the Wairarapa region. My job is to help select, arrange, and work the orchestra through the music over the course of the year. We present many different styles of music and concerts during the year and our students work hard to strive for the high quality of performance that we achieve.

The orchestra has moved from strength to strength! I am always in awe of the determination displayed by all tamariki and rangatahi involved to give it their best. As the group has grown in size and confidence it has been a real blessing to watch them develop friendships, display teamwork and perseverance skills, and progress in their own musicianship and technical skill level. Providing an opportunity for youth to experience group performance such as orchestra playing is something that I am deeply passionate about. I am glad that, with the help of my wife and our wonderful committee, we are able to keep doing this.

The Wairarapa Youth Orchestra is working on an exciting new programme of music for 2024 and I am looking forward to helping bring these works to life. I hope that you will all continue to support your youth orchestra as we dive into our third year of operation.

Kia Kaha, nga mihi nui,



Andrew Atkins

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**WAIRARAPA YOUTH ORCHESTRA  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
AS AT 31-DEC-2023**

**Current Assets**

Cash at Bank	\$ 4,848.34
Petty Cash	\$ 422.60

**TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS** **\$ 5,270.94**

**TOTAL ASSETS** **\$ 5,270.94**

**Current Liabilities**

Accounts Payable	1 \$ 3,606.75
Income in Advance	2 \$ 1,580.00
Provision for 2023 CNZ Grant Refund	\$ 56.00

**TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES** **\$ 5,242.75**

**TOTAL LIABILITIES** **\$ 5,242.75**

**Equity**

Retained Earnings	\$ 28.19
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**TOTAL EQUITY** **\$ 28.19**

<sup>1</sup> Accounts payable consists of amounts owed to:

Music Warehouse totalling \$2,326.75 (balance is aged 90 days), payment has been approved by committee in February 2024

Roger Fraser totalling \$1,080.00, paid on 1st February 2024

Wairarapa College totalling \$200.00, paid on 1st February 2024

<sup>2</sup> Two grants were received from CDC and MDC (both for \$790.00) to fund expenditure in Term 1 2024



**WAIRARAPA YOUTH ORCHESTRA  
STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31-DEC-2023**

**Income**

CNZ Grant Funds	\$ 35,480.00
Donations	\$ 9,755.80
Ticket Sales	\$ 3,780.00
Interest	\$ 107.85

**TOTAL INCOME** **\$ 49,123.65**

**Expenditure**

Tutor Fees	\$ 23,300.00
Admin & Marketing	\$ 12,000.00
Scholarship Programme	\$ 10,080.00
Instruments	\$ 2,326.75
Venue Hire	\$ 1,087.50
Instrument Repairs	\$ 840.00
Van Hire	\$ 750.00
Marketing Costs	\$ 230.00
Roadshow Costs	\$ 168.97
Bank Fees	\$ 12.54

**TOTAL EXPENDITURE** **\$ 50,795.76**

**NET PROFIT/(LOSS)** **-\$ 1,672.11**

Other Comprehensive Income	\$ -
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**TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME/(EXPENSE)** **-\$ 1,672.11**

**WAIRARAPA YOUTH ORCHESTRA  
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31-DEC-2023**

**BALANCE AT 1 JANUARY**

Retained Earnings

\$ 1,700.30

**\$ 1,700.30**

**Add**

Total Comprehensive Revenue and Expense for the Year

-\$ 1,672.11

**BALANCE AT 31 DECEMBER**

**\$ 28.19**

**WAIRARAPA YOUTH ORCHESTRA  
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31-DEC-2023**

**Cash Flows from Operating Activities**

Net Profit/(Loss)	-\$ 1,672.11	
Increase in Accounts Payable	\$ 3,606.75	
Increase in Income in Advance	\$ 1,580.00	
Increase in Provisions	\$ 56.00	
<b>NET CASH FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>\$ 3,570.64</b>	
<b>NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>	<b>\$ 3,570.64</b>	
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PERIOD</b>	<b>\$ 1,700.30</b>	
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE PERIOD</b>	<b>\$ 5,270.94</b>	

**A bouquet to all our amazing sponsors – WYO would not be here without you! THANK YOU for your support throughout 2023/24**

**Creative New Zealand**



**Masterton District Council Creative Communities**



**Carterton District Council Creative Communities**



**South Wairarapa District Council Creative Communities**



**Wairarapa Building Society**



**Greytown Lions**



**Lions Clubs New Zealand**  
*Kia Manaaki | We Serve*

**Carterton Lions**



**Lions Clubs New Zealand**

*Kia Manaaki | We Serve*

**South Wairarapa Workingmen's Club**



**Martinborough Music Festival**



**St Matthews Collegiate**



**Kuranui College**



**Wairarapa College**



**Featherston First Fridays**



**Martinborough Fair (South Wairarapa Rotary)**

South Wairarapa  
**Rotary**



**Masterton Host Waipoua Lions**



**Lions Clubs New Zealand**  
*Kia Manaaki | We Serve*

**Te Heparā Pai, Masterton | Wairarapa Anglican Maori Pastorate**

**JR Orchards, Greytown**

**Owls of Featherston**