



Black Grace

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WHEN New Zealand dance company 'Black Grace' performed in New York last year the New York Times reported of the dance company's founder, Neil Ieremia: "He has spread his artistic roots in several rich pasts and grown up and out into a sunlight of his own making". It is the sort of accolade that Black Grace receives wherever it performs its Maori and Pacific contemporary dance forms. The ASB Trusts are supporting the work of Black Grace with a grant of \$50,000 to assist with the running costs. Black Grace was formed in 1995 by Neil Ieremia who is also its artistic director and chief executive. Neil is one of New Zealand's most accomplished choreographers. He has created all Black Grace's major full-length works and choreographed work for the Royal New Zealand Ballet, the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, Opera New Zealand, New Zealand Wearable Arts and the Holland Dance Festival.





Jennifer Gill

Kia Ora and warm Pacific greetings to you all

Recently the Auckland Philharmonia invited me to be the guest speaker at their annual sponsors' function and to talk about the role of philanthropy in the arts. I want to share with you some of my thoughts.

PHILANTHROPY is almost as old as western civilisation. The origins of philanthropy can be traced back to Plato's Academy. At that time philanthropy meant a "love of humankind, and is still defined in the Oxford Dictionary as an "inclination to do good to others"; however, today philanthropy is almost always associated with the giving of money.

Philanthropy is woven into the fabric of New Zealand society and provides the warp and the weft of the artistic and cultural sector of New Zealand. Auckland would not have a cultural sector at all were it not for the generosity of trusts and foundations, individual donors and corporate sponsors and philanthropists.

Compared with other western countries New Zealand may be seen to have a relatively small philanthropic sector and that may be true in terms of private or family foundations but the advent of the community trusts, the result of the sale of the trustee savings banks in the late 1980s, has led to the growth of a phenomenal philanthropic asset, unparalleled in any other country.

In 1985, the J R McKenzie Trust was the largest trust in the country with an annual distribution of \$1.5 million. Twenty years later, in 2005 the ASB Trusts alone will donate over \$50 million into the greater Auckland region. This is one sixth of the estimated \$283 million distributed by trusts and foundations in New Zealand.

A more interesting figure in this context is that the level of personal donations in New Zealand is estimated at \$282 million (equal to that donated by trusts and foundations) and

bequests at \$38 million. These figures are significant for this sector as individual benefactors are particularly important. Many are generous benefactors who care passionately about the Arts and have invested significantly in them not only with money but almost equally important with time as both volunteers and governors.

In April this year the Trustees of the ASB Trusts agreed to adopt a new strategy in the arts: The ASB Trusts will support projects that aim to foster **ACCESS, ENGAGEMENT** and **EXPERIENCE** in the arts and cultural opportunities for all citizens and will work in partnership to achieve the widest possible levels of **PARTICIPATION** in our region.

We are interested in funding projects or organisations that will help us achieve our mission of enhancing the lives of peoples in the communities of Auckland and Northland.

So when the Auckland Philharmonia came to us earlier this year, it was a "no-brainer" for the Trustees of the ASB Trusts to agree to provide a grant of \$540,000 in addition to a grant of \$168,000 to the Royal New Zealand Ballet to allow them to engage the APO for their Auckland season in 2006.

In the first six months of our new strategic direction the Trusts have allocated \$5.5 million to Arts and Culture, this represents 15% of our grants to date.

In this issue of Trustline we have chosen to focus on grants to the arts - future issues will focus on other sectors.

The staff and Board of the ASB Trusts would like to wish you all best wishes for the holiday season.

New staff for the Trusts

The staff at the ASB Trusts has undergone some significant changes recently. The Trusts have appointed a Communications Coordinator and the grants team now consists of four Grants Advisers and a Grants Administrator.



Ross Burton, formerly the Clinic Manger at the Auckland Anxiety Trust, has turned from “poacher to gamekeeper” and has been appointed as Grants Administrator at the ASB Trusts. This is a new position and Ross will be responsible for all issues related to the payment and monitoring of grants once they have received Board approval. Ross has extensive administrative and database management experience in both central and local government and in the not for profit sector and the private sectors.



Chloe Harwood has recently returned to New Zealand from her OE. While she was in London Chloe was working for the National Endowment for Science Technology and the Arts (NESTA) awarding funding to innovative and pioneering learning projects. A graduate of Canterbury University Chloe first started work with the ASB Trusts in April this year working with the Chief Executive Officer on the implementation of the Strategic Plan. Chloe has recently accepted a permanent position with the Trusts taking responsibility for policy development, for the development of evaluation protocols and for the arts and culture and heritage and environment sectors.



A resident of Waiheke Island, Kim Calcott has been appointed a member of the Grants Team. Kim has a degree in Psychology from the University of Otago. Kim worked for the Auckland City Council for five years and has experience in the assessment of funding applications, facilitation and training in the community sector, events promotion, administration and project management. Most recently she has been employed as a Business Development Officer by United Way of NZ. Kim will focus on Auckland and Waitakere Cities with responsibility for policy development in health and social services.

And they join



Katrina Dansted
Grants Adviser,
Counties Manukau with
responsibility for policy
development in sport
and recreation



Karyn McLeod
Grants Adviser, Northland, Kaipara,
Rodney and North Shore with
responsibility for policy development
in education and community
economic development

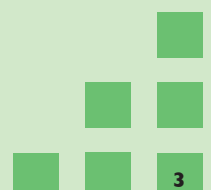


Russell Joyce has been appointed as Communications Coordinator. Russell is an experienced journalist who was Advertising Features Editor with the Sunday Star-Times. Russell has a BA from the University of Waikato and a Diploma in Journalism from Wellington Polytechnic. Russell has a background in public relations, journalism, and website development. Russell is also a black belt in Aikido and is currently learning to speak Spanish.



Shabana Banu joined the Trusts in August this year as Relief Receptionist. Shabana is from Mt Albert and has a son who has just started school.

Siti Mavo has left the ASB Trusts after sixteen years as Donations Assessor. Siti has left the Trusts to pursue other interests and the staff and Trustees wish him well in the future



Focus on the Arts



Auckland Philharmonia

One of the most important performing arts institutions in the Auckland region is undoubtedly the Auckland Philharmonia. Now in its 25th year the orchestra has become part of the very fabric of Auckland. While thousands of people appreciate the orchestra each year many are not aware of the struggle the orchestra has to maintain its finances and ensure its future. To help with this the ASB Trusts have granted \$540,000. The orchestra has a reputation for innovation and creativity and has commissioned and performed numerous New Zealand compositions and for two decades has benefited from its composer-in residence programme. Its concert calendar includes classical concerts featuring international soloists, a pop series and family and outdoor concerts. The orchestra regularly accompanies international ballets and opera celebrities and plays a major part in special community events. Over 20,000 Auckland students participate in the orchestra's educational programmes and the orchestra also has an association with groups such as the Auckland Youth Orchestra.



Literature Foundation

A grant of \$40,000 to the Children's Literature Foundation of New Zealand helped with its annual Story-line Festival of New Zealand children's writers, illustrators and story-tellers. The Foundation promotes reading and literacy for New Zealand children.





Ignite

A grant of \$27,000 was made towards the Ignite Festival that presents students and artists with a range of opportunities to interact with experienced practitioners in theatre, dance, new technologies in music, digi-art, film and disc-jockeying.



Auckland Opera Studio

A grant of \$12,750 will help the Auckland Opera Studio in its work providing intensive long-term training to young opera singers who are recognised as being of national importance to the world of New Zealand Opera. New Zealand's 2005 Arts Laureate, Simon O'Neill, performed a recital for members of the Opera Studio. Simon is now in great demand internationally.



Royal NZ Ballet

A grant of \$168,000 will enable the ballet company to hire the Auckland Philharmonia for a series of performances including Kiri's Wedding - a new work based on a story of a post colonial, multi-cultural wedding written by Witi Ihimaera



The director of Dance Aotearoa in Auckland, Susan Jordan moving into her dance house.

Dance Aotearoa

A major dance development project is now underway in Auckland following a \$139,000 grant from the Trusts. Known as Dance Aotearoa the project will provide a 'dance house' style centre that will provide career and production advice and training from creation and performance to educational employment and small business skills for members of the 'dance industry'. Dance Aotearoa 'dance house' is in Sandringham Road, Kingsland.

Auckland Art Gallery



The Auckland Art Gallery is to undergo a major development. The vision is to create a world-class public art gallery that values its architectural heritage and its unique site. The Gallery will be 'decommissioned' late next year and will not re-open until late 2009 or early 2010 when its building has been extensively upgraded.

THE ASB Trusts have made a major contribution towards the cost of seismically strengthening the building and extending it. The total cost of the project is \$88.4 million. Until the work is completed gallery staff and selected gallery functions are to be relocated to the New Gallery and various other sites. Essential work is required to maintain the current building's structural and architectural integrity and its preservation as a Category 1 heritage listed building. Increased display and exhibition space will enable greater public access to the collections while at the same time modernising and integrating the building's public and functional roles.



Somali Education

A grant of \$74,000 to the Auckland Somali Community Association helps provide a cultural and education programme for young Somalis. This improves their educational outcomes and helps with social integration while at the same time retaining their own culture.

Above (L-R): Abdikarem Yusuf, teacher Gavin Sheppard, Alim Yusuf and Ahmed Mohamed at a weekend science class. Above Right: (L-R) Fatuma Dahir, Khadija Ali, community leader Mahad Warsame and Lucky Abdi also at the science class.

First Tee NZ

The self-discipline of golf is being used to teach young New Zealanders life skills.

Operated by First Tee New Zealand, the life skill curriculum is run in conjunction with golf instruction for children between the ages of seven and 17 with the objective of helping them become better citizens.

The concept was developed in the United States where similar programmes have been most successful. First Tee New Zealand is based at the Manukau City Firmount Golf Park and the ASB Trusts have contributed \$100,000 to the \$350,000 cost of a headquarters building known as The First Tee Learning Centre.

It is anticipated that 200 children will attend the centre in its first year and 500 a year in following years with a target of 15,000 having had The First Tee experience by 2010. Children for the programme are selected from a wide variety of local community organisations and a 'golfership' fund has been established for those who cannot afford to pay. The patron of First Tee New Zealand is golfer Phil Taurangi.



Are you thinking of applying to the ASB Trusts? ... here's how!

Our Mission

To enhance the lives of all the peoples of our region by wisely allocating, equitably sharing and responsibly managing the resources that we hold in trust for present and future generations to allow for inter-generational equity.

Our areas of Interest

To ensure that funding provided by the ASB Trusts is achieving maximum impact in our communities, we have decided to focus on six areas of interest:

Health and Social Service

The ASB Trusts seek to address **Social Issues**, improve equity between groups and **Reduce Poverty**, making our communities **Better Places** for everyone to live, particularly through supporting women and their families, children and young people, older people and people who experience disability. **Contact:** *Kim Calcott*

Education

The ASB Trusts will support projects that facilitate **Improved** educational outcomes for children and young people in our region by adding value to the sector, with a focus on **Innovative Projects** and **Programmes** that are generally not eligible for government funding. We will, however, work in **Partnership** on projects that meet our criteria.

Contact: *Karyn McLeod*

Sport and Recreation

The ASB Trusts will support projects that **Encourage** people of all ages to **Participate** in sport and recreation with a particular focus on the **Participation** of young people and of older people and the **Promotion** of health and fitness.

Contact: *Katrina Dansted*

Arts and Culture

The ASB Trusts will support projects that aim to foster **Access Engagement**, and **Experience** in the arts and cultural opportunities for all citizens and will work in partnership to achieve the widest possible levels of **Participation** in our region.

Contact: *Chloe Harwood*

Environment and Heritage

In order to increase the quality of life of current and future generations in this region, the ASB Trusts will support projects that will preserve the heritage of the communities of our region and that will protect and enhance the environment in which we live.

Contact: *Chloe Harwood*

Community Economic Development

The ASB Trusts will work in partnership with local and central government agencies, and Maori and Iwi organisations to identify projects that will assist with social development and economic growth. As this is an area where the Trusts have not provided funding in the past and there is significant national input, the Trusts will initially only support pilot projects in Northland.

Contact: *Karyn McLeod*

Who can apply?

To be considered for funding from the ASB Trusts an organisation must be either a registered incorporated society, a registered charitable trust, or controlled by an organisation operating under adopted constitution and rules with annually audited accounts.

How to apply

For an **Application Form** and a copy of our **Funding Guidelines** please either go to our website at www.asbtrusts.org.nz or call us on **0800 272 878**

Please refer to our website for information on eligibility and the types of funding available to organisations. Alternatively please contact a member of the Grants Team on **0800 272 878**