



Manawatu
Multicultural Council Inc.

***"We celebrate, support & connect
multicultural communities in the
Manawatu"***

MMC Newsletter

Te Kaunihera Ahumahi Manawatu

March 2021

MMC President's Message



Warmest greetings everyone!

It has been a wonderful and very busy two months for MMC and for our members, partners and communities. We celebrated a very successful Festival of Cultures with large public attendances and great feedback. Teas and Coffees of the World at Caccia Birch and Festival of Lanterns were beautiful. It was great to see all the wonderful local performers on stage on Festival Day- the biggest participation ever! And also the afternoon Parade of Cultures was a lot of fun. Then we had the Women's Wellbeing workshops, all well attended, and the Race Relations Day celebration.

There have been monthly potluck dinners, the last one at MASH Trust involving the Sri Lankan community. Behind the scenes MMC has been developing projects to support our multicultural community. We look forward to some new developments in the next few months.



Festival of Cultures Parade

Welcome to the MMC new members:

Active Learning

Manawatu Fiji Indian Society

Manawatu Reuniting Refugee Families Trust

Massey University Hong Kong Society

We look forward to seeing you at the
MMC members meeting on 31 March at 5.30pm.

Thank you all for your support and vitality

Nina Kirschbaum, President, MMC.



Teas & Coffees of the World

News and Events

Allan Young Academic Scholarship 2021 Announcement

There two recipients of the Allan Young Academic Scholarship 2021 are Arezo Ali Zadah from the Afghan Community \$1000 and Netra Ghimire \$500, from the Bhutanese community. Congratulations and we wish you well with your studies. Thank you Allan for this wonderful opportunity.

MMC presents World on Stage, 9 July 2021

MMC's flagship performance project will be held this year at the beautiful Regent Theatre on Friday 9 July 7pm. The plan is to have a rehearsal for those who wish to practice on the stage on Saturday 3 July. MMC will be calling for expression of interest, to perform. If we have very many applications there will be a selection process, especially as we want to have a wide variety of different cultures performing. If you are interested please make sure MMC has your up to date contact details and group information. You can email info@mmcnz.org.nz

Community Opportunities

Manawatū People's Radio

offer a platform for your unique cultural voice

Manawatū People's Radio (MPR) is a local Palmerston North based Access Media outlet working alongside the community to enable people to create content by, for and about their unique communities and perspectives.

We work with almost 70 groups and individuals a year, helping people create content so that what they create is diverse.

We broadcast across Manawatū and surrounding districts via radio on 999am and via livestream on our website www.mpr.nz



Additionally, the content is available as podcasts and on demand content via our site, itunes, spotify, the accessmedia.nz app and a number of third party apps.

Over 200,000 people per year listen to us. We play an essential role in ensuring local news, events and stories are accessible and heard.

For members of MMC, this is a unique opportunity to create content in your own way, in your own language for your community of interest, with local, national and global level audience access. We provide training via our station staff and networks (public speaking, interview techniques, media basics, promotion and online advertising etc)

We already work closely with a variety of multicultural content creators including Manmit Sodhi and friends who broadcast 'The Indian Show' in Punjabi and Hindi. We broadcast programmes from Philippine, Samoan, and Brazilian perspectives. For more information please visit www.mpr.nz, or contact Content Coordinator Hugh Dingwall on hugh@mpr.nz

Community Opportunity continued

This year the MYTH Manawatu Youth Theatre, are looking for young aspiring singers/actors/dancers, male and female, for the wonderful stage show Aladdin Jr. It will be a modern version. MYTH would like to see youth aged 10 -16 from all our diverse communities involved.

This is such a wonderful opportunity to get stage experience and have a great time!! Auditions are 10/11 April, rehearsals are May to July and the show begins 14 July. So it's a commitment, but also a wonderful adventure to be involved in. There is no cost to be involved if you are cast in the production. MYTH also like to mentor youth who are interested in other aspects of stagecraft such as Sound, Lighting and backstage. If you want to audition or need more information email Aladdin.myth.2021@gmail.com

Code Switch, youth performance at The Globe Theatre 16 - 17 April

"Code Switch" is great theatre for young people on the theme of youth making choices between different social environments/cultures in their everyday experience. The story follows low-decile students Hemi and Anna who are finding their way to success in the 'real world'. It is a combination of film and live theatre led by Aorere College in Papatoetoe, Auckland, who have been collaborating with Palmerston Boys and Girls High Schools and Freyberg High School.

A family friendly show which is 1 hour and 40 mins, with a 20 mins. Interval. Tickets from \$11. To book or for more information go to the Globe Theatre web site https://nz.patronbase.com/_GlobeTheatre/Productions/COSW/Performances

MMC Project Roundup

MMC monthly potluck dinners

These are usually held from 5.30pm on the last Friday of the month.

This year they have been held in different venues to enable our members to see the diverse support we have in Palmerston North.

Friday March 26 was held at MASH Trust, mental health service, 180 Cuba Street, PN.

The wonderful dinner was kindly supported by the Sri Lankan Community.

<http://www.mashtrust.org.nz/> supports people facing problems with mental health and addiction



Celebrating Race Relations Day on March 17

17th of March “Elimination of Racial Discrimination” or Race Relations Day was celebrated by MMC and partners at the Central Library, followed by a shared lunch. We had honour of welcoming very special guest speakers, his worship the Mayor of Palmerston North Grant Smith, Dr. Tuwe Regional Manager of Community Engagement at Department of Internal Affairs and the honourable MP Tangi Utikere, through a very powerful written statement read by Councillor Lorna Johnson. He emphasised: “we believe that we all have the right to be treated fairly, with respect and to be free from racial discrimination.”



My welcoming speech highlighted the importance of being proud of ourselves. It was great watching the performance of the students of ELP and ETC and seeing how they are very proud of themselves and their cultural background and admirably sang a waiata. The tēpu kai was full of dishes from all around the world.

“We need to give to receive, we need to include to be included and we need to respect to be respected..... racism is not ok and not acceptable in any kind or form”.

This event could not have been realised without the support and collaboration of the PN Central Library, especially Jeremie Corroenne, the staff and volunteers of Manawatu Multicultural Council, ETC, ELP and PNCC. Our very special thank you to all migrants and refugees that have chosen Palmy as a home and joined us for this very special day of celebration.

Maria Loureiro, MMC Vice President



Multicultural Women's Activities.

Women's Wellbeing Workshop 2

On 22 March we held the second very successful Women's Health and Wellbeing workshop, kindly funded by the Ministry for Women.

Women from a variety of backgrounds gathered at Te Manawa to hear about the many community services available for them and how to get involved in the community.

Presenters such as Think Hauora and St John covered emergency calls, health awareness and screening (breast, cervical smear, bowel cancer etc), sexual health, first aid and youth programmes.

There was information from the Women's Health Collective and Supporting Families in Mental Illness as well as wellbeing activities.

Our deepest gratitude to all who took part and supported the event.

Christine Mukabalinda Centre Manager



Regular Events

SESSIONS & CLASSES

English conversation classes

Beginners: Tues, Thursday from 10am-12noon
Advanced: Monday to Thursday from 1pm-3pm

Outdoor English Conversation

Every Friday from 1-3pm at the Esplanade

Sharing Art Culture

Wednesday 10am - 11.30am at the Centre.

Basic cooking classes

Every second Friday of the month, from 12-1pm at the Centre.

Potluck dinner

Last Friday of the month, 6pm-8pm at the Centre

To get updates on our activities, visit and like our Facebook page or email us on info@mmcnz.org.nz to receive notifications

Thanks to our Supporters

Palmerston North City Council

Palmerston North Community Services Council

Ministry of Social Development

Lottery Grants

Ethnic Community Development Fund

COGS

The Lion Foundation

Thomas MacArthy Trust

Mainland Foundation

Olive Tree Trust

East & Central Community Trust


NZ Federation of Multicultural Council

United Way & Pub Charity

MMC NEWSLETTER

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