

AUGUST 2023

THE YEAR SO FAR

It's been a busy 12 months since I started and I count myself lucky to witness your passion for Speech New Zealand and its impact on your communities.

In 2023 we began our te reo Māori classes with Tohu Ora, released the new Teacher Dashboard, completed our EPC professional development webinar series and released our updated teacher resources (Poetry and Reading Aloud). So much has been achieved and I thank everyone for their hard work and willingness to learn and adapt.

National Office and the Trustees came together in April to share our vision of success and the future of Speech New Zealand. We welcomed Jaime Winter (Exam Administrator) over that weekend and Kelly Gilbride (Marketing and Sponsorship Coordinator) in June.

National Office staff continue to show their strengths in creative problem solving and their commitment to a positive experience for teachers, examiners, supervisors, parents, students, schools and businesses. Kim completed the rigorous project of loading approximately 3000 historical student records (ASB and above) to our online database.

Claire held the entire tour process for 5 months while we recruited and trained Jaime. Amy developed our beautiful dashboard video tutorials. Kelly has taken over our social media and continues to optimise the content we publish while Jaime has jumped in to exam administration with a sincere desire to do the best by all. They are a team of amazing women who place kindness at the centre of everything. Thank you team!

I must specifically acknowledge the hours of charitable time from Stephen Holdaway our Web App Developer (with assistance from Daniel van der Spuy) in developing the Dashboard capabilities and for always listening to our needs at National Office. In just 7 months, Stephen has already committed 70% of the hours he did for the entire of 2022!

As we move in to the exam heavy period, I begin my work on planning for 2024 with excitement to see what we can achieve! My passion for leadership comes from a desire to help others reach their goals and an environment where people are less stressed and valued for their contribution. To that end, thank you to those who have provided feedback, ideas or thoughts, your insights are truly appreciated.



Ki te kotahi te kākaho, ka whati; ki te kāpuia e kore e whati
When a reed stands alone it is vulnerable, but a group of reeds together is unbreakable

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WELCOME TO OUR NEW STAFF MEMBERS



EXAM ADMINISTRATOR - JAMIE WINTER

Born and bred in the Hutt Valley, but recently moved to the warmer climate of the Kāpiti Coast. I have spent an enjoyable amount of my adult life involved in the Wellington Hospitality Industry before moving into the Corporate Sector where I spent the last 6 years as the Skills Training administrator for the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons.

In 2022 I decided to move to a part-time role to better support my 2 growing boys and help with my husband's building business. I am enjoying my new role as Exam Administrator with Speech NZ and look forward to learning aspects of a new industry.



MARKETING & SPONSORSHIP COORDINATOR - KELLY GILBRIDE

Kelly Gilbride is an award-winning creative producer turned director over several mediums including theatre, podcast and film. She has produced and directed numerous music videos, theatre productions and documentaries and was co-producer on a multi-award winning RNZ podcast series.

She has extensive experience working with major festivals like Pop-up Globe, Doc Edge and the Auckland Arts Festival. Previously she worked as the Marketing & Events Coordinator with the Directors and Editors Guild of Aotearoa New Zealand.

She grew up studying Speech & Drama with Trinity College and has ambitions to become a Speech & Drama teacher to inspire confidence and empower all tamariki across Aotearoa.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW PERFORMANCE EXAMINERS



GLEND A PEARCE

Glenda is the Director and Founder of *The School Of Voice and Drama Skills*, which has been operating as a company for over 30 years in Northland and Auckland. She employs several tutors to work alongside her - and energy, trust and confidence are a key element of the fun classes and workshops they run. Senior students and adults appreciate the expertise Glenda has.

Glenda has extensive expertise in assessment - having previously worked for NZQA as a National moderator. Being an examiner is an honour and a privilege. She has been a HOD Drama, English, taught ESOL students, worked in tertiary training and currently still loves teaching within her extensive private practice.

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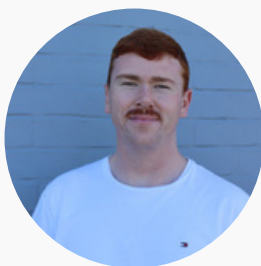


ANGELA NEWELL

Beginning her career in education as a secondary school teacher, Angela went on to garner two more decades of experience in arts development, event management, theatre production, writing and governance. She now works as a freelancer, most recently for Manatū Taonga, Ministry of Culture and Heritage as a grants assessor for the CARE fund.

She established and directed the Southland Arts Festival for eleven years, along with Shakespeare in the Park and developing the ILT Kidzone Festival. She also coordinated the Creative NZ Communities Scheme for Southland District Council. She is qualified to teach in the NZ Education sector and holds a Licentiate Diploma from Trinity College.

WELCOME TO THE BOARD



LIAM DAVIES

Liam joined the board in January of this year!

Based in Wellington, Liam has over six years' experience working in student advocacy and governance; having held a number of board and committee positions both in the secondary and tertiary education space.

A past student of Speech NZ, he sat a variety of exams through us and holds an Advanced Certificate and Diploma in Professional Speaking, an Associate Diploma in Public Speaking and Communication Performance and a Bachelor of Communication.

As a Valedictorian of Massey University in 2021, Liam was heavily involved in student politics throughout his studies and eventually served as the National Vice President for the New Zealand Union of Students' Associations (commonly known as NZUSA) in 2021.

Currently, Liam is Governance Coordinator for Wellington Water. Outside of work and commitments he is an avid runner, plays piano, loves to read a good thriller novel, and frequently travels to Hawke's Bay where he grew up.

BOARD UPDATES

Del Costello has taken leave of absence until the end of the year to concentrate on her business.

We welcome Lucinda Wightman on her return after her leave of absence.

The Board held a Strategy Day in April to discussing our culturally competency and our strategic plan for 2024. Cultural competency is important for any work and grants we plan to apply for and a requirement of work alongside government departments.

Several Board members and teachers have begun lessons in te reo Māori with Tohu Ora. This has been an exciting learning experience.



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FAREWELLING LUCIE DURKIN

We wish to thank Lucie Durkin for her contributions to the board of Trustees and wish her the best of luck as she focuses on her students in Christchurch.

All the best in your future endeavours Lucie.

NEW RESOURCES

This year we are releasing brand new teaching resources. Whether the teachers work from the the Speech NZ syllabus, Trinity or NCEA, these resources are useful and packed with tips and tools to ensure their students can excel.

So far we have released two: **Reading Aloud & Poetry**. Drama skills is on it's way soon! They have been met with great interest.

For more information, visit our [website](#).



2022 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

A warm congratulations to the recipients of the 2022 Speech New Zealand Scholarships. A fantastic achievement for all those students and their teachers!

For more information on the scholarships, please visit our [website](#).



congratulations!

Ania-Kanu Saklani, Dunedin
Joshua Wang, North Shore
Leila Luckhurst, Dunedin
Ihita Nath, Rotorua
Tate Tisdall, Rotorua
Nikhel Patel, Hutt Valley
Catherine Chen, North Shore
Vinushan Kanthasuvani, Hutt Valley
Annabelle Marsh, Christchurch
Niamh Hallissey (Nominated by Dinie Bevers)
James Kennedy (Nominated by Jessica Rees)
Ella Broadley
Hannah Seo
Nancy Farmer
Tate Tisdall
Matthew McFayden
Tate Tisdall
Shivani Shanthakumar

NEW SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE

We are delighted to announce a new Speech New Zealand scholarship for students completing Grade 8 in Speech and Drama.

Graciously created and supported by Ciara O'Donnell, a past student of Mary Flaherty, the Ciara O'Donnell Scholarship is available to all students who have enjoyed their time with Speech NZ. There is no particular result level required for applicants.

Students will receive:
\$100 for themselves
\$50 towards an afternoon tea with their teacher



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ANNUAL REPORT

The 2022 Annual Report is available on our website. You can download and review [here](#), or contact us for your own printed copy.



GRADUATION

Due to lack of registrations, we decided to cancel the online June graduation ceremony.

However we are delighted to be taking submissions for our November graduation ceremony. There will be two options:

Option 1: Join our Online Graduation and invite anyone from around the world! Speech NZ will organise a keynote speaker.

Option 2: Teachers hold a local event with a contribution from Speech NZ.

COMING UP...

We are excited to launch our first Communication in Leadership holiday programme. The programme aimed at years 7+ will be held over one week throughout the October school holidays.

It will be held online so anyone from around the country can join! Share with your students / friends and networks! Register at: info@speechnz.co.nz

SPEECH NZ HISTORY

Help us build a history of Speech NZ through your stories emailed to

kelly.gilbride@speechnz.co.nz

<https://www.speechnz.co.nz/about-us/about-speech-nz/looking-back/>

SEEKING SUCCESS STORIES

Have you or one of your students reached an exciting milestone in your Speech NZ journey? Have you had a recent triumph in your life?

Share with us so we can celebrate you!

Contact : kelly.gilbride@speechnz.co.nz



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RACE UNITY AWARDS

The Race Unity Speech Awards are a platform for rangatahi across the motu to share their vision for race unity in Aotearoa. Held annually, senior school students address racism in speeches they research, write and perform. In 2023, the National Finals were held in Tāmaki Makaurau | Auckland.

The winner of the Speech NZ Award for Delivery went to Esther Sovincet, head girl at Selwyn College, Auckland. This special award goes to the speaker that lifts the written words off the page, delivering a captivating and rich speech for the audience.

We were delighted to have Speech NZ examiner Meredith Caisley present this award (pictured below with Esther) supported by Speech NZ and Dr Margriet Theron ONZM.

Esther was also the recipient of the National Champions Award.

You can watch Esther's speech [here](#).

Speech New Zealand student Gargi Vaidya from Rotorua was also part of the National Finals. Gargi, a student of Jennifer Wicks, has been part of Speech New Zealand since she was very young and credits her training, in part, to helping her build her confidence and ease her nerves whilst performing.

She was awarded the Tohu Aumangea [Hedi Moani Memorial Award for Advocacy] and was the Central North Island Regional Champion A fantastic achievement Gargi!

"In the world we live in now, it's not enough to be a bystander, we must be an upstander, which is to lead by example. We must root out the systemic barriers present in our workforce and the educational sector....New Zealand should use the power of education to deconstruct racial narratives." - Gargi Vaidya

You can watch Gargi's speech [here](#).



ESTHER SOVINCET &
MEREDITH CAISLEY
(PICTURED TOP RIGHT)



GARGI VAIDYA

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CHAIRPERSON'S SIGN OFF

We have had a very busy and productive year. My special thanks go to Helena at National Office as she navigates staff changes and new initiatives for Speech New Zealand. Thank you to teachers and examiners for the work you do encouraging students and promoting Speech New Zealand.

I have recently spent a month visiting our family in Brasilia. This amazing capital city was built from nothing, in the desert, in three years, with 10,000 workers coming in from all over the state. After touring the main complexes, we travelled to the north east to Salvador, founded by the Portuguese in the 1700s.

3 million African slaves were brought in to work in the sugar cane fields. They blended their religion and customs with Catholicism. These customs and traditions are practiced widely today, and the old part of the city has been preserved to become a UNESCO world heritage site. We then travelled with the family to the northeast coast to a beautiful resort. As it was winter in Brazil, temperatures were about 26 degrees, and the resort was half price!

The huge gap between rich and poor was very evident as this is still a developing country. I thought about the increasing poverty gap in our own country and how important it is to give young people the opportunity to develop their communication skills.

Blessings and good wishes for the remainder of 2023.



***Effective communication is
your ticket to success.***

Theo Gold



PAULINE PREDNERGAST
Chairperson Speech NZ

**Ko tōku reo tōku
ohooho, ko tōku reo
tōku māpihi maurea.**

*My language is my awakening, my
language is the window to my
soul.*

PARTNERSHIP

*As New Zealanders, we value
relationships that encourage
and respect diversity in all
forms*

CREDIBILITY

*As educators, we strive to
deliver the best outcomes for
all our stakeholders*

EMPOWERMENT

*As an organisation, we are
committed to supporting the
growth and development of
all stakeholders*

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PROFESSIONAL SPEAKING FOR MIGRANTS



Nial Baker successfully delivered Hamilton's first ever Professional Speaking for Migrants course. All nine students passed their Speech NZ examinations - seven passed with Distinction and two passed with Merit!

Photographed: students of the course, Nial Baker, Arlen Spencer, Rob Gray, Waimarie Community House Manager and Speech NZ examiner, Colleen Bassett.



2023 WORKSHOPS

Recently EPC have had a series of fantastic online talks. Each talk features a prolific expert from a different faction of the performing arts. They offer unique insight into the creative process, using art as a vehicle for social change and explore the themes and influences behind beloved works of art.

If you have missed any of the talks, you can still purchase access to the recordings to watch in your own time.

For more information, email: info@epc.org.nz

2023 SPEAKERS

Embracing the Black Dog | Lynda Chanwai-Earle

Tikanga and Uara Within Organisational Structure | Tānemahuta Gray

Gender Roles - Writing for Inclusion and Representation | Vincent Konrad

Reflections of a Diverse Aotearoa | Brannavan Gnanalingham

A Voice for the Voiceless | Nina Nawalowalo ONZM

Themes and Influences | Victor Rodger

Poetry for the End of the World | Chris Tse

Voice for Film, Stage and Online | Kirstie O'Sullivan and Dame Miranda Harcourt