

EXPRESSIONS ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE

Overview

The Expressions Arts and Entertainment Centre activity relates to the provision of cultural, arts and leisure opportunities in the city based at the Centre complex.

The Expressions Arts and Entertainment Centre was opened in September 2003, and has been leased to the Expressions Arts and Entertainment Trust. The Trust is charged with the advancement of, and education in, cultural activities, the arts, recreation and leisure. It is classed as a Council controlled organisation.

The Centre comprises Genesis Energy Theatre (a 200-seat theatre), the Rotary Foyer, the Mount Marua and Vector Exhibition Galleries, Riverstone Recreation (sports and recreation hall) a café and offices.

The Expressions Arts and Entertainment Centre activity contributes to the following Community Outcomes:

- 1 Upper Hutt is the city of choice for people from all walks of life
- 2 Upper Hutt has a vibrant city heart
- 3 The economy is robust innovative and growing
- 5 The community is safe healthy and strong
- 6 Leisure opportunities are outstanding.

Level of Service Statement

- The Expressions Arts and Entertainment Centre will be a quality facility for cultural, arts, leisure and business events and activities.
- The Expressions Arts and Entertainment Centre will provide a wide range of arts opportunities.
- The Centre building and fittings will be maintained to a 'fit for purpose' standard.

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Level of Service Objectives and Performance Measures

Indicator	Performance Measure	Target 2007/08	Achievements at 30 June 2008
Objective: Council will ensure provision of a quality facility for cultural, arts, leisure and recreation.			
1 OPPORTUNITIES			
1a Satisfaction	Community satisfaction with the range and number of arts opportunities in the city	90% of respondents are satisfied or very satisfied ¹	Achieved. 96.4% of persons surveyed rated their satisfaction with the range and number of arts opportunities in the city as satisfactory or better.
1b Attendance at Events	Number of visitors to arts, cultural and recreational events at the Expressions Arts and Entertainment Centre	50,000 visitors ²	Not achieved. 45,461 visitors attended events for the year to date. This is a reflection of reduced venue hire activity due to a less favourable economic climate.
1c Attendance at Exhibitions	Number of visitors to exhibitions at the Expressions Arts and Entertainment Centre	15,000 visitors ²	Achieved. 15,147 visitors attended exhibitions for the year to date.

¹ Annual Community Survey

² In-house Expressions Survey

Work Programme 2007/08

Capital Works	Budget (\$000)	Actual (\$000)	Achievements at 30 June 2008
CAPITAL WORKS			
Additional Toilets and Storage	93	0	Architects have been engaged to scope options for the additional toilets as part of the development of the Riverstone Hall. A proposal will be considered as part of the upcoming Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) process.
Total	93	0	

Activities Undertaken Supporting the Community

COMMUNITY OUTCOME	Significant Actions Taken at 30 June 2008
<p>1 Upper Hutt is the city of choice for people from all walks of life</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ENSURE a venue is provided where people may participate in arts and cultural opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expressions continues to attract visitors with its busy programme of events as detailed below. The Expressions Trust's highly successful fundraising campaign for a Concert Grand Piano was completed in June with a \$25,000 grant from Council. A Steinway Model D Concert Grand Piano was ordered for the Centre and is expected to arrive from Hamburg around October 2008. Design student Yang Gan from Hutt International Boys' School (HIBS) was presented with the Expressions Visual Art Award for 2008. Local vocalist Jason Henderson was presented with the inaugural Expressions Performing Arts Award for 2008.
<p>2 Upper Hutt has a vibrant city heart</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ENSURE a venue is provided that contributes to creating a vibrant city heart 	<p>84% of all theatre occupied hours for the year were for performance arts use. Public performances in the theatre included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Songs of the Sea (Capital E National Theatre for Children production - Expressions event) Grand Piano Gala featuring Michael Houstoun and Diedre Irons (Classical Expressions event for Concert Piano Fund) Last Night of the Proms (Upper Hutt Cosmopolitan Club Brass Band) National Youth Brass Band (self promotion, part of their National tour) Pig Hunt (Expressions theatre show partnership with Parallel Universe Productions) Jubilation Singers (promoted by Rimutaka Baptist Church) New Zealand Piano Quartet (Classical Expressions event) Don't Shoot Me I'm Only the Piano Player (Expressions Concert Piano Fund event with Australian Comic pianist David Scheel) Montessori School annual production season Mr Fungus (Children's school holiday comedian, Expressions Event) The New Zealand String Quartet (Classical Expressions event) The New Zealand High Schools Jazz Orchestra (self promotion) Rob Guest in Concert – 3 sell out performances (self promotion) MovieFest 2007 – 3 screenings (Upper Hutt City Council promotion) Hutt City Dance Centre end of year show – 6 performances Danzworx end of year show – 4 performances Anita's Dance Academy end of year show – 7 performances Variety Dance Centre end of year show – 4 performances

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Significant Actions Taken at 30 June 2008

- Peter Hill Piano Concert (Registered Music Teachers Association event)
- Life Boat – 3 performances, 1 public (New Zealand International Festival of the Arts event)
- Aesops Fables – 3 performances, 1 public (New Zealand International Festival of the Arts event)
- Beyond the Realm (Sue Nicholson) – 2 Shows
- Pascal Rogé and Ami Hakuno (Classical Expressions Event)
- A Celebration of Scottish Fiddle (International School of Scottish Fiddle)
- Last Night of the Proms (Upper Hutt Cosmopolitan Brass Band)
- Kiwi Moon (Capital E National Theatre for Children)
- Upper Hutt Young Achiever Awards (Upper Hutt City Council event sponsored by Expressions)
- Holly Hoffman and Mike Wofford (Expressions Queens Birthday Jazz and Blues Festival Event)
- Roy Phillips and the Rodger Fox Big Band (Expressions Queens Birthday Jazz and Blues Festival Event)
- Blues Double Bill Show (Expressions Queens Birthday Jazz and Blues Festival Event)
- New Zealand Piano Quartet (Classical Expressions event)

Expressions Inaugural Queens Birthday Jazz and Blues Festival sponsored by the Rimutaka Trust was highly successful in attracting regional audiences to the city. The festival also included a concert with UK rock legend Spencer Davis and his full American band 'The Spencer Davis Group'. A regional Café scene and Jazz Movies at Ascot Cinema helped to promote the ticketed Upper Hutt events to new audiences.

Major public events held in the Riverstone Recreation hall are included below. Staff noted the low number of public trade fair style events in the hall this year.

- Persian Cat Fanciers Championships
- Upper Hutt Excellence in Business Awards (Experience Upper Hutt event)
- The Jubilance Choir (Rimutaka Baptist Church)
- Wellington Supreme Cat Show (Persian Cat Fanciers Club)
- ICT Expo (combined schools project)
- Annual Line Dancing Convention
- Tai Chi National Event
- Wellington Vintage Car Club Rally
- Dancesport Wellington Metropolitan Championship
- Annual Poultry and Pigeon Show
- Spencer Davis Group (Expressions Queens Birthday Jazz and Blues Festival)

COMMUNITY OUTCOME	Significant Actions Taken at 30 June 2008
<p>3 The economy is robust, innovative and growing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ENSURE a venue is provided that responds to commercial needs • ENSURE that public funding for venue operation is used wisely, and in accordance with sound business practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 32 conference and function events were held which reflects a reduction from the 56 events held in the previous peak year. This reduction is also being experienced throughout the venue hire industry and reflects the economic climate of the time. • Art work sales for the year again surpassed budget and previous years, and the Vector Gallery continues to be an important outlet for supporting producing artists. • An unqualified Audit Opinion was received for the 2006/2007 financial accounts and non-financial performance. The 2007/2008 Audit report is expected in September 2008.
<p>5 The community is safe, healthy and strong</p> <p>ENSURE a venue is provided that encourages use by the community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 83% of occupied hours throughout the whole venue were for local use this year. • In addition to the Expressions Trust and the Friends of Expressions committee, the operational volunteers contributed 610 hours to the Centre operations during the year. • 55% of occupied hours in the venue were for active recreation bookings, mainly in the Riverstone Recreation hall. <p>A variety of community exhibitions and education programmes were offered with the exhibition programme including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expressions once again sponsored the annual Upper Hutt Youth Awards held in Genesis Energy Theatre on 27 July. • In association with YATA (Youth Access to Alcohol) and in celebration of the Upper Hutt Youth Awards 2007, a Youth Photographic Exhibition was held in the Rotary Foyer from 23 July to 12 August. Local youth were given cameras and were encouraged to photograph and comment on their local surroundings. • The Upper Hutt College Year 12 Visual Arts Exhibition was held in the Rotary Foyer from 13 to 31 August. This group show consisted of paintings, photography, and chair sculptures by year 12 art and design students. A private opening was held on 15 August. • ‘The Spring Collection’ exhibition from 1 September to 7 October, linked with the Upper Hutt Spring Festival, featured 17 artists with Spring themed works in half of the Vector Gallery. • Entries from the Upper Hutt Spring Festival Decorate a Gumboot Competition were displayed in the Rotary Foyer from 1 to 7 September. • ‘The Babel Peace Project’ from 10 to 30 September was a community driven artist collaboration focusing on peace. • In Celebration of Spring, paintings created by pre-school children attending Doris Nicholson Kindergarten were displayed in the Rotary Foyer from 1 to 9 September. This was an independent fundraising activity for the Kindergarten. • Community fundraisers for the Concert Piano Fund including Domino Knitting patterns by Noelene Dobson and friends, an art work raffle by artist Robert Franken, and gift cards by Elizabeth Leatherbarrow were displayed in the Rotary Foyer from 13 August to 30 September.

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- 'Needle Culture' was hosted in the Vector Gallery from 11 October to 4 November and featured work by members of the Upper Hutt Embroiderers Guild. The exhibition utilised stitches originating from different countries and also depicted a range of overseas scenery. The exhibition was accompanied by a floor talk on 13 October and included a 'stitch in' on 31 October. The associated Children's activity 'Stitch' included a selection of coloured wool, beads and fabric for creative exploration.
- Year 5 and 6 children attending the Gateway Art Programme displayed clay masks, busts and self portraits created during their week long workshop from 2 to 14 October.
- Massey University School of Fashion and Textiles Students Graduation Show. A collaborative project between the NZ School of Music and the Art Textile students from Massey University's College of Creative Arts. This Rotary Foyer exhibition from 17 to 31 October included an opening featuring The Blair Latham Octet from the NZ School of Music who performed five especially written compositions evocative of Wellington to accompany the exhibition.
- Wellington Vintage Car Club celebrated their 50th Anniversary with a Vintage Car Rally. Expressions hosted a display in the Rotary Foyer which featured 50 years of the club's achievements to coincide with the rally (2 to 25 November 2007). Children were able to cut, colour and assembled paper vintage cars and put their name in the draw to win a Ride in a Vintage Car.
- The feature artist in Vector Gallery from 10 November to 6 January was Veronica Green with her 'Drift With Me' series.
- In support of the dance school end of year show titled 'Canvas', a selection of artworks created by students were displayed in the entrance way.
- A selection of colourful wearable art creations using recycled and found materials by Plateau School students were displayed in the Rotary Foyer.
- A selection of craft materials were available for children to make a decoration for Expressions' Christmas tree.
- 'Race Day's series' was hosted from 10 January to 17 February in the Vector Gallery to link with Cup Week and the Trifecta installation in Mount Marua Gallery. Wellington based artist Barbara Strathdee took a light hearted look at racing and betting. The series of work consisted of comical sketches onto the racing pages from the Dominion Post of horses, jockeys and other imagery associated with racing.
- 'Caravans Galore: Reigniting Memories' from 22 February to 25 May featured caravan broaches by Wellington based artist and jeweller Lindsay Park. The exhibition aimed to document the artist's memories of caravanning life whilst tripping around the coastal areas of New Zealand.

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- On 28 February, Lindsay Park presented a floor talk on her experiences during her one year caravanning trip and offered an insight into the processes used to create her unique caravan broaches.
- 'Capture, An Exploration of Creative Photography from The Photo School' was exhibited from 11 March until 25 May. A private opening was held on 11 March. This exhibition featured a selection of photographic works from students who trained at The Photo School based at Raumati Beach.
- The annual celebration of Children's Day on 2 March was supported by Expressions with a craft activity in the Rotary Foyer. Children made miniature screens in the style of the artists in the exhibition 'Girls, Girls, Girls'.
- The Upper Hutt Community Calendar school entries and winning drawings and poems were displayed in the Rotary Foyer during March.
- The Upper Hutt Floral Art club also displayed items from their floral fashion extravaganza during March.
- A craft making activity was available for children throughout the holiday period.
- Militaria from the Mainly Military Museum in Featherston were displayed in the Rotary Foyer from 23 April to 30 April in commemoration of Anzac Day.
- New Zealand Post Book Awards 'Create a Card' Art Competition winning and finalist entries were displayed in the Rotary Foyer from 20 May to 10 July. The Awards were held in association with the Upper Hutt City Library and New Zealand Post. The theme for this year's art competition was 'Coolest Kiwi Holiday Ever'
- During Youth Week from 26 May to 1 June a Graffiti Art Banner created by local teenagers, supported by Team Extreme was displayed in the Rotary Foyer.
- The Anglican Sesquicentennial display was held from 11 June to 14 July in the Rotary Foyer. This was a celebratory display of images commemorating 150 years of the Anglican Church in the Hutt Valley.
- 'STARLAB' Celebrating Matariki in 2008 on 25 and 26 June. An inflatable planetarium was set up in the Riverstone Recreation Hall over a period of two days. Educator Mary Sheridan from Te Manawa Science Museum in Palmerston North conducted educational visits through the planetarium and talked about the night sky and its significance to Māori at this important time of year. This project was supported by The Timberlea Residents Association and Funded by Te Puni Kōkiri. 307 Visitors experienced Starlab over the two days including 2 local Kōhanga Reo, 1 level one Māori emersion class, several school and kindergarten groups and after-school programmes.

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COMMUNITY OUTCOME	Significant Actions Taken at 30 June 2008
<p>6 Leisure opportunities are outstanding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ENSURE that the Expressions Arts and Entertainment Centre is recognised as an outstanding venue for cultural activities, the arts and leisure activities 	<p>317 exhibition days were achieved in Mount Marua and Vector Galleries this year.</p> <p>Mount Marua Gallery exhibitions included:</p> <p><i>Here there and back again...</i> a collection of new observational works by Stuart Forsyth from 30 June to 29 July. Upper Hutt raised artist Stuart Forsyth produced drawings, photography and sculpture which reflected his recent travel experiences in South America.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exhibition included an opening and a floor talk attended by 70 people on 30 June which was reported in the previous reporting period. The public were invited to share their travel stories and experiences, 11 of these were displayed with accompanying photographs in the Rotary Foyer. The accompanying children's activity enabled children to experiment with a variety of drawing materials on a large scale. The Artist in Feature in Vector Gallery during the show was Hutt Valley resident Elizabeth Madle with photography from her 'Intrepid Journey'. <p><i>Rapt with Paper</i> from 3 August to 16 September. This group show featured Upper Hutt artist Sheelagh Leary, former Upper Hutt resident Mark Lander from Christchurch, and former Kapiti artist Prue Townsend from Tauranga. The works demonstrated how paper making can be an intrinsic component of development when creating art.</p> <p>The following public programme included Expressions' first full day Master Class and a host of workshops and events that involved 339 visitors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adults paper workshop - Education Coordinator Rebecca Pubben and Artist Sheelagh Leary taught paper making and paper weaving. This was a free 2 hour activity on 23 August. Children's paper workshop - Education Coordinator Rebecca Pubben demonstrated the process of making recycled paper and the children experimented with creative techniques. This was a free 2 hour activity on 26 August. Master Class – accomplished paper maker Prue Townsend provided a full day master class on 13 September for 8 adults held at Archibald's Art School. Prue Townsend also delivered two popular floor talks for the public and for Expressions volunteers as part of her visit. 4 educational visits from primary and preschools were hosted by Education Coordinator Rebecca Pubben between 5 and 13 September The associated children's activity provided a selection of paper strips for visitors to make woven paper creations in the style of artist Sheelagh Leary.

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The artist in feature during this time was Kapiti artist and regular Vector stockist Hester De Ruiter.

Malcolm Harrison: Open and Closed Spaces from 21 September to 4 November - This solo exhibition explored issues of love and kinship whilst challenging the expectations of painting and embroidery as an art making medium. Public programming for this exhibition took place during the Second Quarter.

The children's activity entitled 'Stitch' provided a selection of coloured wool, fabric and beads for visitors to experiment with.

Pūmanawa Toi from 10 November to 6 January – This group show included a selection of Contemporary Māori artists from around the North Island which reflected differing styles, techniques and concepts associated with Māori Culture and Māori Art. Featuring Amorangi Hikuroa, Andre Te Hira, Carla Ruka, Hiwirori Maynard, Kohai Grace, Kylie Tiuka, Ngaahina Hohaia, Sandy Rodgers, Tania Niwa, Peata Larkin, Reuben Friend, Russell Wilson.

- The exhibition was supported by Orongomai Marae and included an opening attended by 100 guests on 10 November.
- A floor talk on 6 December at which Professor Robert Jahnke from Te Pūtahi-a-Toi, School of Māori Studies at Massey University made a presentation on Pūmanawa Toi exploring identity construction through Māori Art was attended by 45 people.
- An artist in residency held 8 and 9 December with tattooist Russell Wilson demonstrated Ta Moko (Māori Tattoo) in the Mount Marua Gallery. The public were able to book appointments for their own Ta Moko session. Ta Moko was extended until Monday 10 December to complete all 10 bookings.
- The education programme included Silverstream School on 6 December. 78 Children and 10 adults visited the centre in two groups. Expressions staff guided them around the Pūmanawa Toi exhibition. Children made Poi as an associated art activity and later spent an hour with dance tutors learning Hip Hop dance, providing an all-round arts experience.
- On 19 December, 60 children from Upper Hutt School also visited the Pūmanawa Toi exhibition and Vector Gallery. They were guided through the galleries and made Poi, and then practised using them with song in Riverstone Recreation.

Trifecta by Lauren Lysacht was held from 10 January to 17 February. This installation reused objects associated with horse racing and gambling such as discarded tote boards and betting chits to create an imaginary fairytale environment for the viewer to experience.

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This touring exhibition was timed to coincide with Wellington Cup Day at Trentham Racecourse and appealed to audiences with an interest in gambling and horse racing.

- On Friday 11 January Lauren Lysaght presented a floor talk, attended by 24 visitors, discussing her extensive art practice which included an explanation of Trifecta.
- *Girls, Girls, Girls* was exhibited from 22 February to 6 April and featured the work of four women artists each portraying their own experiences of femininity. The artists included were Laura Hudson, local quilter Katherine Morrison, Leigh Anderton and Tracey Williams. The exhibition utilised printmaking, embroidery, painting and quilt making as a medium to carry the viewer on a personal journey of domesticity, identity, and women's heritage.
- On Thursday 6 March, 'Girls, Girls, Girls' artist Katherine Morrison presented a floor talk on her Star Mother Series of quilted cloaks which explored ideas of protection and nurturing.
- On Thursday 13 March, 'Girls, Girls, Girls' artist Laura Hudson presented an illustrated floor talk on her Heroines of Everyday Series of embellished aprons and her Train work. The floor talk focussed on Hudson's personal experiences as a woman and how this has influenced her art practice over the years.
- On Tuesday 3 April, 'Girls, Girls, Girls' artist Leigh Anderton presented a floor talk on her large scale oil on canvas installation which explored the identity of the artist.
- The associated children's art activity 'Make, Make, Make' was held throughout the exhibition period.

Hidden Treasures was exhibited from 11 April to 18 May 2008. This exhibition featured a selection of private collections from Upper Hutt residents which focused on the motivations associated with building a personal collection. The exhibition also aimed to highlight the treasures within the community and the importance of their associated histories and stories. Members of the public were able to be involved at a curatorial level in the exhibition process.

Out of the Ark was exhibited from 11 April to 18 May 2008 alongside *Hidden Treasures*. The exhibition featured a selection of works from Upper Hutt's own hidden treasure, painter and sculptor Bob Gerrard. Many of the works included were inspired by the biblical tale of Noah's Ark and had been produced over Gerrard's long and prolific art career.

- On Friday 11 April, Tim Walker, Director of the New Dowse presented a floor talk and discussion about Bob Gerrard and his works. Bob Gerrard was in attendance.
- These exhibitions were visited by the following hosted groups; Silverstream 60's Up on 8 April, Hutt Valley Retired Persons Association on 29 April, and Woburn Probus Club on 30 April.

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	<p><i>Solid Gold: Classic Hits from the Rutherford Trust Collection</i> was exhibited from 24 May to 27 July 2008. This colourful and high profile exhibition featured works from the Rutherford Trust Collection by Gretchen Albrecht, Don Binney, Phillip Clairmont, Tony Fomison, John Bevan Ford, Ralph Hotere, Colin McCahon and many others. The show was toured and supported by Aratoi – Wairarapa Museum of Art and History, The Rutherford Trust, New Zealand Post and Hawke's Bay Cultural Trust. This exhibition offered the Upper Hutt Community access to art works of national significance by artists who have helped to form New Zealand's art history. A floor talk for this exhibition was scheduled for July.</p>

Significant Acquisitions/Replacements

- None.

COST OF SERVICES STATEMENT	Actual 30 Jun 08 (\$000)	Actual 30 Jun 07 (\$000)	Forecast 30 Jun 08 (\$000)
Operating Expenditure			
Insurance	41	31	32
Direct Expenses	500	520	510
Administration Support	60	57	53
Depreciation	358	274	275
Total Operating Expenditure	959	882	870
Operating Revenue			
Subsidies and Grants	0	(4)	0
Total Operating Revenue	0	(4)	0
Net Operating Costs of Services	959	878	870
BALANCE SHEET TRANSACTIONS			
Net Operating Costs of Services	959	878	870
Share of Management Support Income	(18)	(16)	(15)
Non Cash Transactions (Management Support)	(8)	(5)	(4)
Add (less) non - cash items	(357)	(274)	(275)
Cost Of Services (Funding)	576	583	576
Capital Expenditure	0	25	93
Net Transfer to Funds	0	(25)	(93)
Net Transfer from Funds	2	2	2
Rates Funding Required	578	585	578