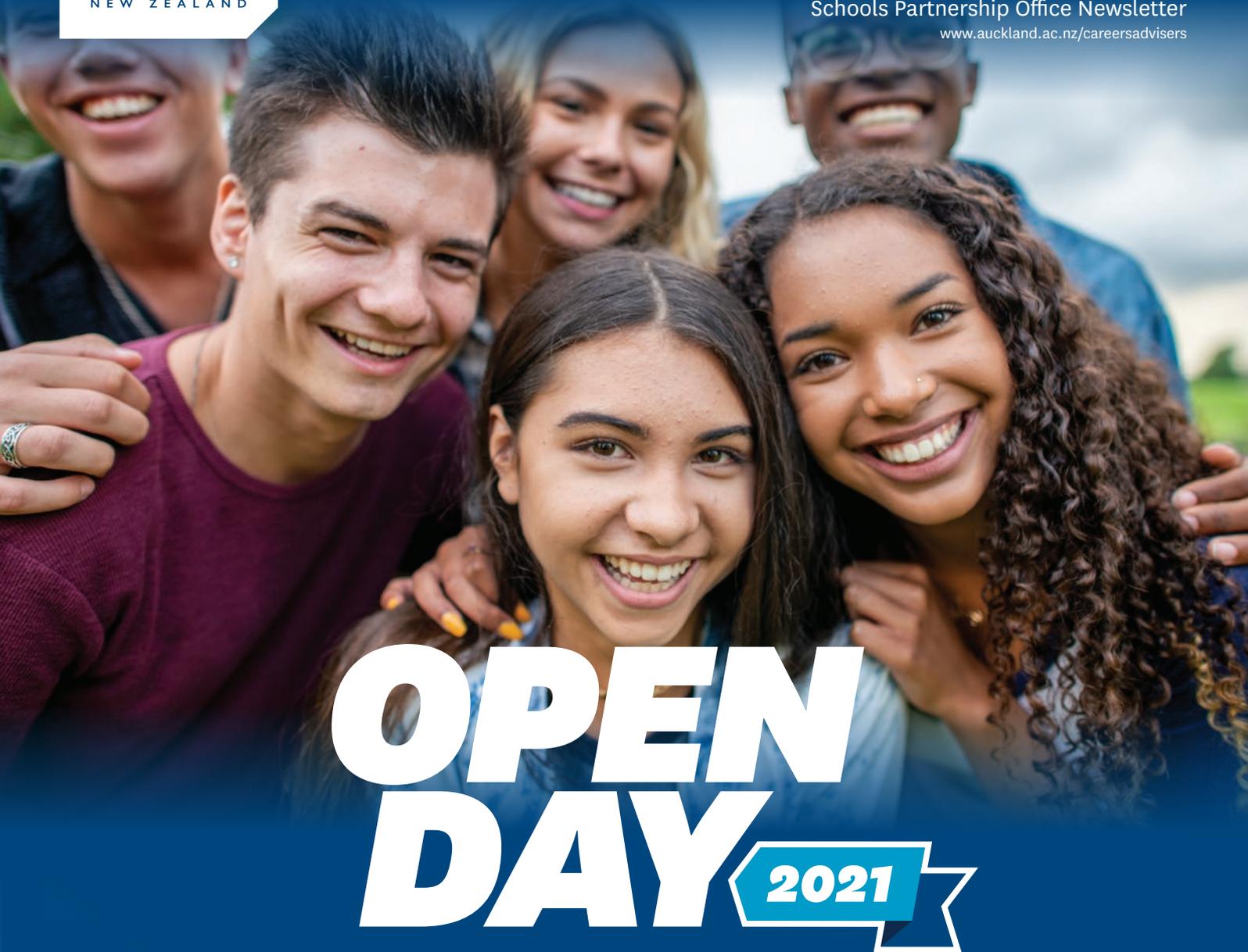




# Link NEWS

AUGUST  
2021

Schools Partnership Office Newsletter  
[www.auckland.ac.nz/careersadvisers](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/careersadvisers)



## OPEN DAY 2021

**Saturday 28 August, 9am–3.30pm**

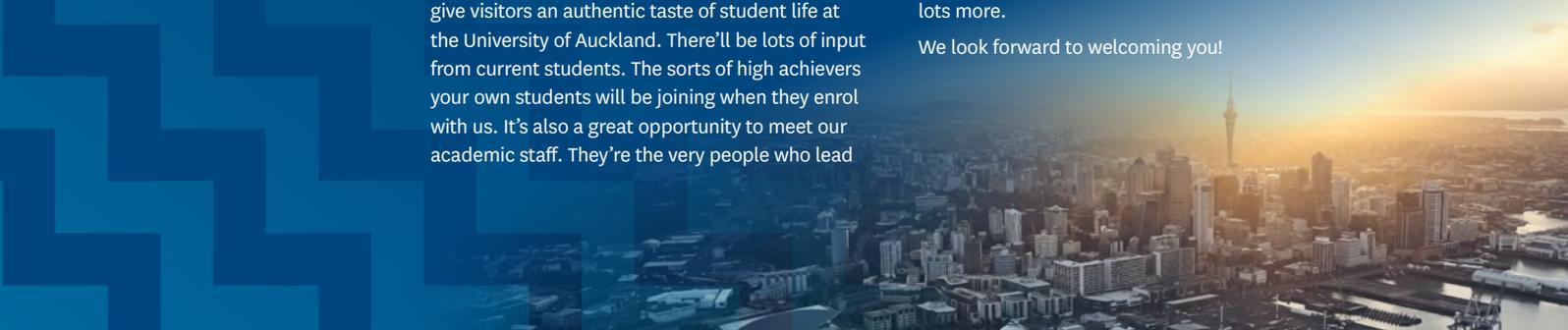
We'd love to meet you, your students, and their families at our vibrant Open Day. The whole experience is designed not only to inform but also to excite, inspire and motivate your students.

We're offering a skilfully crafted and very varied programme. There will be stands and displays, live presentations, and plenty of entertainment to give visitors an authentic taste of student life at the University of Auckland. There'll be lots of input from current students. The sorts of high achievers your own students will be joining when they enrol with us. It's also a great opportunity to meet our academic staff. They're the very people who lead

programme development and deliver unparalleled learning experiences.

You can enjoy tours of our cutting edge facilities – and of our attractive and exciting campus environments. We'll also showcase our comfortable, convenient, and safe accommodation options. And we're working on lots more.

We look forward to welcoming you!



# Meet the Team

---



**Dennis Matene**

**Director**

**Phone:** +64 9 923 4465

**Email:** d.matene@auckland.ac.nz



**Cheryl Martin**

**Student Recruitment Manager**

Contact for schools in Nelson, Marlborough, West Coast, Otago and Southland

**Phone:** +64 9 923 8397

**Mobile:** 027 624 2766

**Email:** c.martin@auckland.ac.nz



**Teri Fong**

**Senior Adviser**

Schools in Auckland, Waikato and Coromandel

**Mobile:** 021 565 501

**Email:** teri.fong@auckland.ac.nz



**Mere Mansell**

**Schools Adviser – Wellington based**

Schools in Wellington and Wairarapa

**Phone:** +64 9 923 4167

**Email:** m.mansell@auckland.ac.nz



**Junior Toailoa**

**Pacific Schools Adviser**

Schools in Auckland

**Mobile:** 027 801 2422

**Email:** j.isara@auckland.ac.nz



**Ella Lyon**

**Māori Schools Adviser**

Schools in Auckland, Bay of Plenty (excl. Tauranga), Gisborne, Far North and Māori Boarding Schools

**Mobile:** 027 259 8319

**Email:** ella.lyon@auckland.ac.nz



**Ata Houpapa**

**Schools Adviser**

Schools in Auckland, South Waikato, Taupō and Tauranga

**Mobile:** 027 356 0583

**Email:** ata.houpapa@auckland.ac.nz



**Veronica Kim**

**Schools Adviser**

Schools in Auckland and Canterbury

**Mobile:** 027 358 7537

**Email:** veronica.kim@auckland.ac.nz



**Jaime Henley**

**Schools Adviser**

Schools in Auckland, Taranaki and Hawkes Bay

**Mobile:** 027 204 9429

**Email:** j.henley@auckland.ac.nz



**Max Murray**

**Schools Adviser**

Schools in Auckland, Whangārei and Manawatū-Wanganui

**Mobile:** 021 939 341

**Email:** max.murray@auckland.ac.nz

# From the Schools Partnership Office



**Tēnā koutou katoa**  
**Kei te mihi nui ki a koutou**  
**Kei to mihi, kei te mihi, kei te mihi**

As Term Two draws to a close and we welcome in Term Three, Cheryl, Teri and I would like to thank you all for hosting our team at your schools in Auckland and throughout the regions. It's been a busy term, with great attendance reported at all events. Thanks for all the positive comments we've received from you. We appreciate any and all feedback, especially as we plan for next year's activities!

The University of Auckland is currently reviewing recruitment, outreach and engagement, with a period of consultation starting in the coming months. We hope you will be able to provide your thoughts during this process.

Finally, thank you to my team of committed and energetic school advisers. Thank you Cheryl and Teri for your leadership in sometimes very hectic times, especially on the road.

To all our school communities, stay safe and have a great start to the new term.

**Ngā mihi**  
**Dennis**



## Unleash Space: Where you can develop a venture and unleash your potential!

Open Day On Campus is a great opportunity to tour Unleash Space, the University's state-of-the-art innovation hub and maker space. On Open Day, we'll be running Unleash Space tours every half hour from 9.30am to 3pm.

Run by the Business School's Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CIE), the space provides all students and staff with free access to a range of equipment, including 3D printers, laser cutters, CNC routers, vinyl cutters, and more.

No matter what your students go on to do, creative problem-solving, resilience, teamwork, a global outlook, and courage are skills and attitudes they will need for the new world of work. Our maker space and CIE's extracurricular programmes are available to support their development. We teach

cutting-edge frameworks and learning by doing. We also help students build connections within the entrepreneurial ecosystem.

We encourage teachers and careers advisers to visit Unleash Space for professional development. Secondary schools across New Zealand have been touring Unleash Space for inspiration in developing their own maker spaces. This recognises the importance of increasing students' technological capability.

Find out more about the wide range of facilities and opportunities the CIE has on offer to develop students' entrepreneurial mindsets and innovative capability.

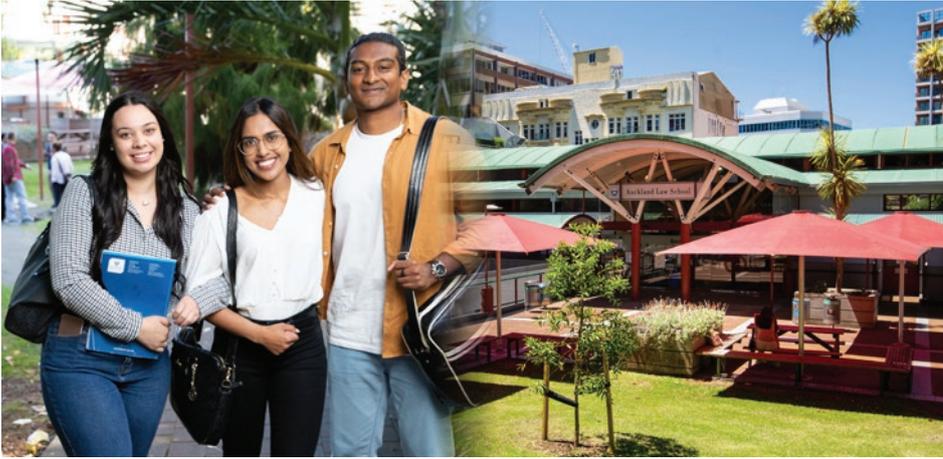
[www.cie.auckland.ac.nz](http://www.cie.auckland.ac.nz)

## Ordering Prospectuses

The *Undergraduate Prospectus 2022* is now available. If you would like to order these for your school, please fill in the order form available via our website: [www.auckland.ac.nz/link](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/link)



# Law



## Open Day On Campus with Law

Open Day On Campus is just around the corner, and Auckland Law School has some exciting sessions lined up for school leavers and their caregivers.

There will be a presentation on career pathways in Law, where we've invited some of our successful graduates to discuss their experiences and offer tips on transitioning from high school to Law School.

Also lined up is a mooting demonstration – an exciting live court simulation where a “lawyer” must represent a “client”, presenting his/her defence for their case in front of “judges”, something students will become especially familiar with during their time at Auckland Law School.

We also look forward to our hui for Māori school leavers, our talanoa for Pasifika school leavers, our Clubs Expo, tours of the Law School and more.

If you represent a school and would like more info about Open Day at Law School, please email us.

[Lawevents@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:Lawevents@auckland.ac.nz)

If you're a student, follow us on Facebook for information and updates leading up to the day.

[www.facebook.com/akllawschool](https://www.facebook.com/akllawschool)

# Arts



## Open Day on Campus with Arts

We know there's a lot to figure out when it comes to study options and the University experience, so drop by the Faculty of Arts display at Open Day on Saturday 28 August. It's the best place to discover what to expect from BA studies, the skills students learn and possible career areas. Staff will be on hand to chat, so it's a great opportunity to meet people face-to-face and ask questions.

We're also hosting a range of lectures to provide key information about the BA. “Making your BA work for you” includes vital advice on enrolment and study planning, and “Careers with a BA” delves into future job pathways and career opportunities. Because students are curious about specific subjects, we're holding individual lectures on each BA major. Visitors can meet the lecturers who could be teaching them next year and get a taste of the Arts experience.

Register at [www.openday.ac.nz](http://www.openday.ac.nz)

Read more from Arts on page 8

# Business School



## Toroa students prepare for take-off

First-year Māori and Pacific students will be the first to experience the new Toroa career and employability programme at the Business School in Semester Two this year.

The programme is designed as a holistic, transformative experience, enhancing students' career-readiness and helping them to plan for the future.

“The Toroa Programme is beneficial for our young Māori and Pacific students because it integrates their cultural values and identity with their future recruitment and career plans. We're introducing career choices early in their university study to develop confident young leaders, with the career skills and attributes to be competent candidates for any future pathway they decide on.” Willie Uili, Student Support Adviser (Māori and Pacific)

Our young Toroa will experience a wide-ranging programme of careers workshops, days in industry and cultural celebrations.

Students who come to Open Day On Campus can find out more at our lecture “Māori and Pacific Business students: supporting your success” 10.20am, Saturday 28 August, or visit: [www.business.auckland.ac.nz/toroa](http://www.business.auckland.ac.nz/toroa)

### The significance of Toroa/Toloa (Albatross)

The Sir Owen G Glenn Building, the home of the Business School is in the shape of the “Toroa” in its landing stance. This represents a place where we welcome all our new and current students who are landing into the building and the University for the next stage of their careers.



## Open Day on Campus with the Business School: Experiential Workshop “Explore the trading room floor”

Your students could be amongst the first people to get hands-on in the Business School's newly opened BNZ Financial Trading Room. Encourage them to join us for a workshop at Open Day on Campus, 11am Saturday 28 August. They'll discover first-hand what it's like to work in a state-of-the-art trading room. It's a very authentic taste of a possible future in which they could be managing complex investments, making deals, trading and managing portfolios.

The trading room is a unique learning space and training ground for Finance students – but all first-year Business School students will complete core courses and workshops in this one-of-a-kind facility.

# From the Office of the Pro-Vice Chancellor Pacific

“O le ala is le pule o le tautua” – The pathway to leadership is service. For many of us raised in Fa’a Samoa and versed in the Gagana Samoa, this phrase is ingrained in our soul. Polyfest has always been a vessel in which we put the philosophy into practice. And in 2021, the University of Auckland engaged authentically with Pacific communities. Through the Office of the Pro-Vice Chancellor Pacific, our staff and student ambassadors hosted the Samoan Stage. For many of our students, it was an opportunity to reflect on their cultural identity and their journey from high school into their study programmes at the University. The stories below detail what it has been like for our ambassadors to return to the event this year.

**Lulia Autagavia – Vaiola Palauli, Siumu, Salelavalu, Faleasi’u, Nofoali’i ma Fasito’outa**

**Bachelor of Laws/Bachelor of Arts (Conjoint), Epsom Girls Grammar**

“I attended a high school with a very small Pacific population. Growing up watching my sister participate in Polyfest, I got to see the stresses and triumphs of what goes into bringing it all together. Also my mother was the parent-in-charge that year for my sister’s group. During their practice, I got to listen and sing along to Pese o le aso (Songs based on the annual theme).

“Coming into my performance years, I valued the contributions from a lot of our South Auckland schools who had strong Samoan units to support them. However, in being part of my group at Epsom, I came to appreciate the journey our group was on too. Moving through our pese’s, if we made a mistake, it was important to move on and keep going. I was truly thankful for having been part of our Polyfest groups and for the many friendships I made.

“At University, I’ve participated many times as a University of Auckland Ambassador for the Samoan stage. The hosting duties we undertook this year added pressure to provide a high level of lagolago (support) and tautua (service). I had asked my parents for help with simple Gagana phrases to help interact with judges and students because the language used differs according to age and ranking. Through this tautua, and my leadership positions in PILSA (the Pacific Island Law Students’ Association), I’ve felt a strong connection with my Samoan culture and heritage. This has strengthened my identity and enriched my journey as a University student.”

**Colin Chan-Chui – Afega and Fagali’i**

**Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery, Onehunga College**

“In intermediate, I remember watching a video of St Peters performing at Polyfest. This was the first interaction with the festival I can remember. From a young age, I was involved in dance and belonged to many cultural groups at school. I attended a lot of schools that were predominantly Pākehā before attending Onehunga College. Being immersed in my culture, I knew a lot about the different pese and siva Samoa so that was a benefit for Polyfest. However, the many stresses and long hours were shared by us all: students, teachers, tutors, and parents alike.

“As Head Boy of Onehunga College, the pressures were high. However, I’m grateful for the dance and song leaders’ work. Their ability to connect with and assist students helped to carry us forward. That year, we were the last to perform. For me, this moment is one of my greatest memories as it allowed me to reflect on all the work we put in to perform not just for the audience, but also for ourselves.

“Returning to the University of Auckland Samoan Stage in the final years of my MBChB has given me heartfelt appreciation of my culture, my people, and the future generations of Samoan students at the University. Also the opportunity to share my experiences as an ambassador on stage during the 2021 Polyfest was a blessing I won’t forget.”

**Elisha Ng Lam – Falefa, Moamoa, Satuimaluflufi, Safotu**

**Bachelor of Arts, St Dominic’s College**

“My first real interaction with Polyfest came from attending my brother’s college Fiafia night, where the Samoan group performed a full set of siva Samoa (dance) and pese (songs). As the boys went through each item, I saw elders and parents watching closely. It wasn’t until later in life I learnt the support that a lot our aiga (family) invested into what we did for Polyfest and how important this event was for preserving our culture and heritage.

“Attending St Dominic’s College, I was given the opportunity to participate myself in Years 11 and 13. Getting to experience this with other students, our tutors and teachers helped connect me with my cultural identity. This became especially important my second time around when I was a house leader. I was able to use my leadership skills to assist where needed. The opportunity to relive this experience through my time as a University of Auckland Ambassador in 2021 was one I am grateful for. Having worked backstage helping students, and meeting many in our University sponsor tent, I’ve come to see our culture as integral to my and many others’ high school journey.”



# UniBound Summer

As an academic enrichment programme, UniBound Summer provides Pacific students with a great start to tertiary life. For the past few years, we've witnessed growth and innovations that have provided opportunities for mentees to become strong ambassadors who represent our university, their faculties, and the wider Auckland community. The following stories encapsulate the journeys of four UniBound mentees.



**Sepe Huch – Mutalau and Saumauga (Savai'i) and Magiagi (Apia) – Niue/Samoa**

**Bachelor of Architectural Studies, UniBound Mentee 2021, Avondale College**

"Knowing that I wanted to study at UoA, UniBound was the best way for me to get a head start with my studies. I was lucky that my friends had signed up for 2021 after hearing about the programme from several past students at our high school. Having that community already established meant I felt at home but was also ready to take on new challenges.

"After being awarded a Vaka Moana scholarship, I was excited at the prospect of living in the halls. However, I was nervous about the other students in accommodation. After being allocated my pou/group in the first week of UniBound, I was relieved to find out some of my fellow members were also scholarship awardees. Getting to know them and participating with them in workshops and activities brought me out of my comfort zone and made me confident in who I am. Nearing the end of my first semester in Architecture, I am reminded of my Pacific culture and the wisdom of my mentors (Eric and Roni) in owning this space for our people."



**Herilla Salu – Vailoa Palauli and Saleologa, Savai'i and Afega and Lefaga, Upolu – Samoa**

**Bachelor of Commerce, UniBound Mentee 2021, Mangere College**

"Mangere College had a strong history with UniBound, as many past students were mentees and mentors on the programme. Because of this, I already knew quite a lot about it before coming in for an interview. My interviewer was a mentor, Moana, who made me feel calm and open to answering questions about who I was and what I wanted to achieve at University.

"I was in one of the smaller pou's (groups) and so had more interaction with my mentors. I valued the leadership balance, with one mentor who kept me on my toes and one who showed me to be relaxed but professional. I was part of a project pathway with lecturers from the Business School. I've always found finance interesting and this was why I applied to study for a Bachelor of Commerce. Having an early opportunity to learn the basics of marketing and advertising through UniBound gave me insight into what was to come in my first semester.

"Importantly, UniBound introduced me to COP's, Commerce 'O Pasifika, the Business School's Pacific students' association. I'd learnt a lot as Head Girl in 2020, so I stood and was elected First Year representative on the executive.

"Having learnt many lessons and built many networks in UniBound, I now feel more passionate about participating in student and campus life."



**Cecilia Koloamatangi – Fasi moe afi and Ma'ufanga – Tonga**

**2nd Year MBChB, UniBound Mentee 2020/Mentor 2021, Baradene College of the Sacred Heart**

"I had heard about UniBound from my friend and so we both signed up. I was applying for Medicine, knowing the workload was quite demanding, so I thought this would help with my transition into university studies. Coming into a Pacific space taught me to be more open and confident about my culture, but also introduced me to current Pacific students who were in the programme I was applying for. I had Colin Chan-Chui, a current medical student, as a mentor. He explained what my faculty and studies were going to be like and inspired me about my first year, which lay just ahead.

"Fast-forward to this year! As a mentor I felt empowered to provide the same service and leadership I had received. UniBound has provided me an assurance of the Pacific space I occupy and confidence to take up new opportunities, such as becoming a mentor for our First-Year cohort in MAPAS [Māori and Pacific Admission Scheme]."

# Scholarships update

We're often asked what we're looking for in a successful scholarship applicant.

We have a variety of scholarships that recognise characteristics such as high academic achievement, as well as demonstrated leadership potential, achievement in academic, sports or arts competitions, and community involvement. We also recognise formal academic mentoring or tutoring in the two years before a student applies for a scholarship. So now is a good time for Year 11 and 12 students to get involved!

Previous awardees of our scholarships have participated in one or more of the following activities:

- Academic competitions: Maths Olympiad, debating championships, essay writing competitions, Young Enterprise, NZ Interscholars Chess Championships
- Sports competitions: selection as a representative or participant in the finals of a sports competition at international, national or regional level
- Sports coaching or umpiring
- Arts competitions: Polyfest, Rockquest, Pasifika by Nature, Stage Challenge, Sheila Winn National Shakespeare Festival, NZ Concert Bands Association, Race Unity Speech Awards, creative writing competitions, song-writing competitions, NZ Schools Hip-Hop Competition, Auckland Secondary School Production Competition, Young Singers in Harmony
- Visual and Performing Arts: member of a dance company, player in NZSS orchestra or Youth Symphonic, exhibitor in a community or commercial gallery, participant in a community play or musical in an acting, musical or production role, successful candidate in

external speech, drama or music examinations

- School leadership roles such as: head girl/boy, deputy head girl/boy, prefect, house captain, sports captain, leader of a school committee, peer group leader, student representative on board of trustees
- Academic mentoring: formal academic mentor or tutor over one or more school years either at current school or kura or at an external organisation, school or kura
- Community-based awards and community involvement: Prime Minister's Youth Pacific Awards, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, Trustpower Youth Community Spirit Award
- External leadership programmes: Spirit of Adventure, Outward Bound, Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Award, Model UN, member of District Youth Council, Young Enviro Leaders Forum, Red Cross Forum, Unicef Youth Ambassador, World Challenge Expedition
- Cultural leadership and participation: involvement in programmes and support services and events offered by groups and organisations such as Wānanga, the Rangatahi Programme, Whakapiki Ake Project, Kia Ora Hauora, Hapai te Hauora, Pacific Islander Leaders of Tomorrow, Pacific cultural groups and committees

We recognise that not all students will have opportunities to participate in these types of activities. Further scholarships and awards are available for different personal circumstances, such as demonstrated financial need, most recent study at a low-decile secondary school or kura, Māori or Pacific background, being the first family member to attend university, a refugee background, disabilities, or a rural background.

[www.auckland.ac.nz/schoolleaverscholarships](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/schoolleaverscholarships)



**Maria Toleafoa – Salelesi (Upolu) and Satapuala (Upolu) – Samoa**

**Graduate, Bachelor of Arts, Student, Bachelor of Arts (Honours), UniBound Mentee 2018, UniBound Mentor 2020/2021, Mangere College**

"I was introduced to UniBound through our careers evening in my last year of high school and was interested in how they assisted Pacific students into university. My brother had completed UniBound in 2016, and so I enrolled into the programme on the night. I was fascinated by social issues and the study of Criminology, but also passionate about disputing negative perceptions about South Auckland. Coming into the campus on my first day, I was nervous because of the portrayal of the University as big and out of reach. After a few weeks, I became more confident in being here and knowing that I belonged. This was consolidated by my pou (group) mentors having created a safe and comfortable environment for us.

"With a strong focus on academic preparation, I was given opportunities to engage with university staff and network with current students before even starting my degree. One important lesson I took away as a mentee was never to be afraid to ask for help. I carried this lesson with me when I was a mentor in 2020 and 2021. Working alongside my Māori counterpart, I learnt a lot about teamwork and the important role our current Māori and Pacific students have in inspiring the next generation.

"Following on, in our UniBound Pacific programme for 2021, I had again grown to recognise the importance of my role as a strong Pacific woman in supporting our teine (younger siblings) coming through. As I prepare to graduate and complete my first semester as a postgraduate student, I am thankful for what I have learnt during my time in the UniBound team. I came here to defeat the stereotype that we, Pacific peoples, are not good enough for University. I am proof of this; I graduated with my Bachelor of Arts degree in June 2021."



# Arts continued



## Introducing our new Schools Outreach and Recruitment Manager

The Faculty of Arts is delighted to introduce Rosie Boxall, our new Schools Outreach and Recruitment Manager.

“My own study and research in Arts has taken me all over the world and enabled me to study and work in places I never would have visited otherwise. When I first decided to do a BA (Hons) in History, everyone asked me if I was going to be a teacher or a politician. Instead, I’ve studied in Cambridge, New York City, Vancouver and Auckland, and worked with some of the top academics in the field. Studying Arts has been the best decision I made, and I’m excited to connect with students and share all the opportunities and pathways that the Faculty of Arts can open for them.

“Two of the University’s key principles are manaakitanga (care and hospitality) and whanaungatanga (connectedness, kinship and relationships). These values extend to school students, teachers, careers advisers, and parents – whoever you are and wherever you’re reading this! The University of Auckland and the Faculty of Arts are places where you will always be welcomed.

“I’m excited to nourish the relationships many of you already have with us, as well as building new relationships over the coming months. I’m looking forward to hosting some amazing events for teachers and schools on campus, as well as getting out and about to share our BA, BGlobalSt, and new Bachelor

of Communication (BC) with you all. If you would like to chat, ask questions, organise a school visit, or suggest an idea for an event, please send me an email, and I’ll see how I can support you and your students!”

[rosalyn.d.boxall@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:rosalyn.d.boxall@auckland.ac.nz)

[www.auckland.ac.nz/arts-school-or-campus-visit](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/arts-school-or-campus-visit)

## It’s Official! The Bachelor of Communication

Students can now apply for our new Bachelor of Communication, launching in 2022.

This three-year degree provides students with an advanced understanding of how communication works in our world and prepares them for a career in the professional field.

They’ll develop specialist skills in writing, public speaking, critical and creative thinking, leadership, research and cultural competency. Depending on students’ interests and career plans, they can opt for one of three majors: Communication and Social Change, Communication and Technology, and Communication in Leadership.

Find out about this new degree at [www.auckland.ac.nz/bc](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/bc)

## Why a BA?

At its core, the Bachelor of Arts is about studying people, culture and ideas. Explore what’s involved in a BA and the benefits it provides, and see whether it fits your students’ goals and interests.

- **The more you understand the world, the better you can shape it:** A BA is about giving students multiple lenses through which to study society and life. Studying Arts provides opportunities to engage with today’s challenges, including inequality, globalisation and sustainability.
- **Flexibility opens doors:** With over 40 subjects across the humanities, social sciences, cultures and languages, students have the freedom to explore a range of areas to gain a well-rounded and interconnected experience.
- **Dive deep with a BA:** Once students have explored their options, they choose two subjects as their double major, developing substantial and advanced knowledge in those fields. Our BA double major provides greater academic depth than a single major.
- **Future proof your career:** The world of work is being transformed through social change, economic developments, and digital disruption. A BA helps students to cultivate the adaptability and expertise needed to thrive in a future filled with new jobs, changing industries, and emerging career opportunities.
- **Combine with another degree:** The BA’s flexibility makes it easy to study alongside another degree through a conjoint programme. In a conjoint programme, students enrol in two degrees at the same time and complete them sooner than they would have if they’d studied them separately.

Discover more about the BA at

[www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/ba-study](http://www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/ba-study)





## Creative Arts and Industries

### Know before you go: Helping high school students make informed choices

For schools in the Auckland region, subject-based workshops are now available at the Faculty of Creative Arts and Industries. Designed to prepare your students for their university decisions, the workshops will be delivered by current students and staff in the comfort of your classroom. The workshops are based on first-year assignments and so they provide insights into the early stages of particular degrees. Workshops can be booked

for **either 20 or 50 minutes**. They're available for students in **Years 11 to 13**.

These engaging sessions will include activities, such as student performances in the Music and Dance options. Having experienced an informative, motivational session, students will leave knowing why the creative arts may be a great career choice for them. They'll also appreciate what to expect in terms of our programmes' workload and assignments.

Schools can choose their 20- or 50-minute option in the following areas:

- Architecture
- Urban Planning
- Design
- Fine Arts
- Dance
- Music (either song writing, which is pop-based, or brass, which is more classical)

Follow this link for online booking:

[www.bit.ly/CAIWorkshop](http://www.bit.ly/CAIWorkshop)

# Education and Social Work



**Karishma Kumar**

**Graduate: Bachelor of Sport, Health and Physical Education**  
**Student: Graduate Diploma in Teaching (Secondary)**

"I chose the Bachelor of Sport, Health and Physical Education because of the many pathways it offers. I knew the flexibility of the programme would allow me to go into any area of the sporting industry that I was interested in. I went into the teaching pathway, because PE teaching perfectly combines my interest in helping kids with my love of sport. The highlight of my study has been building relationships with my peers and lecturers. Through my practical placement at Onehunga High School, I got to experience a PE classroom and a health classroom. That gave me a chance to spend time in the environment I hope to work in for the rest of my life."



**Lauren Bartley**

**Student: Bachelor of Social Work**

"I chose to study at the University of Auckland because it's got the best social work programme in the country. Throughout the course, I learnt so much about myself and the world around me: about my identity and what that means in practice, about systems and structures that impact on people's lives and choices, about Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the ongoing impacts of colonisation, and about what can be done to bring social change and social justice into the world. During the degree, I went on two 12-week placements in a social work organisation. I got to see social work in real life and build connections and networks which will set me up for my career. My peers in the programme will go on to become my colleagues, and I've made some lifelong friends. For anyone who has a passion for social justice and seeing change in the world, a Bachelor of Social Work at the University of Auckland is a great option!"



**Tyler Kini**  
**Ngāi tahu / Kāi tahu**

**Student: Bachelor of Education (Teaching)**

"I have always wanted to study teaching. I'm a real people person so working in school environments and building relationships with all the staff and students has been really great. The amazing students and staff members at the Tai Tokerau campus, who are all so supportive, are one of the best things about studying here. We're like one big family. You build relationships with people in your year and are looked after by the amazing staff on campus. Following my graduation, I'm looking forward to securing a job at a local school in Whangārei and beginning my teaching career."



**Kiharoa Iversen**  
**Ngāi te Rangi and Ngāti Whakaue**

**Graduate: Bachelor of Arts in Education**  
**Student: Master of Arts**

"Studying Education within the Bachelor of Arts gave me a really well-rounded degree and solid experience and skills for my future studies. The Education courses complement the other courses I took for my second major in History. I am now doing my Masters in Education, working with Helene Connor, Lincoln Dam and Jay Marlow on research involving refugees and sport from a Māori perspective."



## Introducing the Bachelor of Early Childhood Education Studies

The Bachelor of Early Childhood Studies is a new programme starting in Semester One 2022. Students will develop specialist knowledge of the vital early years of children's lives, from birth to eight years old. The programme offers a range of courses and practical placements in educational and early childhood settings, providing a solid foundation for work in educational environments and in policy and leadership roles in New Zealand and overseas.



**EDSWUOA**

## We're on Instagram!

The Faculty of Education and Social Work has joined Instagram! Follow us @edswuoa to stay in the loop with our campuses, keep up with our students and staff and be in to win prizes! Keep your eyes peeled on our posts and stories for all upcoming competitions and events.

# Equity at the University

Equity is embedded across the University so everyone with the potential to succeed here can do so. We support equity groups who may face barriers to tertiary education, including LGBTQI Takatāpui+, students with a refugee background, and many others. [www.auckland.ac.nz/equity](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/equity)

## Student Disability Services: How we can help

Student Disability Services is available to provide dedicated support to all students with disabilities. We offer a range of services to make studying at the University an accessible and positive experience. We tailor our support to suit each individual student as we acknowledge every disability affects people differently. Students can make an appointment with a disability adviser ahead of coming to University. They can book online: [www.disability.auckland.ac.nz](http://www.disability.auckland.ac.nz)

We'll talk about our services in more detail at **Open Day On Campus, Saturday 28 August**. Come along to find out more: 12.20-12.50pm, room OGGB5, Level 0, Sir Owen G Glenn Building, 12 Grafton Rd.

## From refugee to future doctor: Meet Tai-iba

Tai-iba Hassanian and her family fled persecution in Afghanistan and Pakistan, arriving in New Zealand as refugees when Tai-iba was only three years old. Now she is studying towards her dream of becoming a doctor.

Tai-iba, 19, acknowledges the many challenges she and her family have faced. She says scholarships have been an important form of support, as have

the University's web pages for students from a refugee background.

Students from a refugee background don't usually have family members who have been to University in New Zealand, so they may not have people to talk to about tertiary study.

"Knowing there are these web pages specifically for refugee-background students is really helpful."

Tai-iba is one of more than 800 students from refugee backgrounds currently studying at the University of Auckland. The Equity Office Te Ara

Tautika's web pages offer information on forms of support, including student advisers and scholarships.

Tai-iba's parents made the decision to leave their village in central Afghanistan, because they are Shi'ite Hazaras, an ethnic minority who, as the Taliban gained control, were being persecuted.

Seeking a stable place to live, the family travelled to New Zealand as refugees, staying first in the Mangere Refugee Resettlement Centre, and later moving to Christchurch for work opportunities.

Tai-iba found it difficult growing up in such a different country, especially staying true to a culture she treasured, while making new friends in New Zealand.

Her dream of studying Medicine came about at a young age through travelling to health appointments with her parents, so she could translate for them from English to Persian and back.

"I realised I wanted to help people get better and improve their quality of life."

Plus, Tai-iba loved school and studying and was careful to choose the right subjects at Papanui High School to further her dream of becoming a doctor.

Now, Tai-iba is looking forward to medical school, where she is attracted to family medicine, as a family-oriented person. That's something she will explore more in the next few years.

Learn more about how we support students from refugee backgrounds.

[www.equity.auckland.ac.nz/SSRB](http://www.equity.auckland.ac.nz/SSRB)



# SPOTlight!



## *Tālofa lava, Mālō e lelei, Kia Orana, Bula Vinaka and Warm Pacific Greetings.*

My name is Junior Toailoa, I'm a proud Samoan and I come from the villages of Saleaula, Neiafu, Tafatafa and Luatuanu'u. Born and raised in Auckland, I grew up out in New Lynn and attended Kelston Boys' High School. After high school I enrolled at the University of Auckland and went on to graduate with a Bachelor of Science – majoring in Mathematics.

At the beginning of Year 13 I wasn't clear on what I wanted to do after high school. I was fortunate to have been approached by one of our Assistant Principals who was recruiting students to be a part of the MATES programme. The AP had said to me

that, based on my NCEA Level 1 and 2 results, I had the potential to succeed at University and recommended that I join the MATES programme. I didn't initially see myself being capable of studying at University and always thought only the smartest of the smartest in each school got in.

I didn't know many people – let alone any Pacific Islanders – studying at a university so I never really saw myself in that position. This actually made studying at the University of Auckland an attractive option as I wanted to inspire my young brother and family members to also consider tertiary study (or to reach their potential).

The MATES programme\* was very beneficial for me in transitioning from high school to my first year of university. The relationships I had formed with the mentors made the University of Auckland a very

desirable place for me to study. As I became more interested in the university, I had to decide which programme was best suited for me. I followed the same advice I now share with senior students today – select a programme or subject you enjoy or are most passionate about. For me, it was either Mathematics or Physical Education. Long story short, I chose Maths as I wanted to become a maths teacher. I know there's a need for more Pasifika teachers in STEM subjects, and I thought this was the best way to inspire Pasifika students to dream big, achieve amazing things and continue to break barriers.

Fast forward years later and I've been blessed with the opportunity to work in a space where I can give back to our schools and improve quality of life through education, especially for Pacific people. I've always been a big believer in education and I know that study at the University of Auckland gives students the opportunity to become successful, regardless of the programme they choose.

One of my proudest achievements was being a source of inspiration for my younger brother, Lone, during his university journey. I truly believe that had I not studied at university, my brother may not have been able to graduate from university himself. In his earlier years, I was able to provide him with useful tips that had helped me at university. Fast forward to 2020, Lone completed his final semester in one of the world's top public universities – The University of California, Berkeley.

I hope I can help inspire generational change as I continue to serve as a Pacific Schools Adviser.

**Soifua ma ia manuia.**

**Junior Toailoa**



**THE UNIVERSITY OF  
AUCKLAND**  
Te Whare Wānanga o Tāmaki Makaurau  
NEW ZEALAND

## Schools Partnership Office

The University of Auckland  
Private Bag 92019  
Auckland 1142, New Zealand  
Email: [spo@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:spo@auckland.ac.nz)

[www.auckland.ac.nz](http://www.auckland.ac.nz)