Orientation Week
University of Auckland, 25 February – 3 March

Don’t miss O Week – from figuring out how to find your classes and use the library, through to toga parties and Party in the Park. Each faculty has different orientation events, check out yours at auckland.ac.nz/orientation

CHECK OUT
Fancy yourself a film buff? You can’t go past the Documentary Edge Film Festival in May [docedge.nz] and the New Zealand International Film Festival [nziff.com].
Nights in
Friday 5pm
Friday nights are usually spent relaxing at home with a glass of vino. I have three close friends, one of whom I live with and the other two live close so our house tends to be a meeting point.

Breakfast club
Saturday 8am
A friend introduced me to The Candy Shop recently and I fell in love. Now I try and find any excuse to go and sit in the sun-filled lane for an early pre-studio breakfast. The kimchi fries are a must, regardless of the time of day!

Time out
Saturday 11.30am
As an artist I don’t actually have any days off as my weekends are always spent working in studio. For a break I often grab a coffee from the Auckland Art Gallery café and go for a walk around Albert Park.

On the town
Saturday 8pm
I swear you can go to Amano at any time of the week and it’s guaranteed to be busy. I can’t go past the beef carpaccio and crayfish tortellini.

Stocking up
Sunday 10am
I always pop in to the food refillery Good For and stock up on supplies for the week. All their products are in beautifully displayed bins and jars and you can take your own jars to refill.

In the zone
Sunday 6.30pm
My Sunday evenings are always a relaxing time to wind down before a busy week. I look forward to the candlelit yin yoga class at Om Yoga Studio in Stonefields every week.

MY WEEKEND
Grace Wright is an Elam fine arts graduate and masters student.

St Jerome’s Laneway Festival
Albert Park, Monday 28 January
If you’re even a little bit hipster, you’ll love Laneway. With an ever-evolving indie line up the festival, which takes place in the lush surrounds of the city’s Albert Park, is unmissable.

Bowen Lne, central Auckland

Vodafone Warriors
Mt Smart Stadium, March – September
It’s theirs every year according to their die-hard fans, and 2019 is no different! Take the train to Penrose and enjoy a beer, some hot chips and maybe some cheeky hot doughnuts as you take in the action. warriors.kiw

Splore
Tapapakanga Regional Park
Friday 21 – Sunday 24 February
‘Merry-making festivities, carousing and frolicking’ – as far as definitions go, we want in on this one! The boutique arts and music festival delivers an eclectic mix of musicians, carnival and costume. Deerys Rd, Auckland

Lantern Festival
Auckland Domain from Tuesday 19 February
The Lantern Festival has gone from small beginnings to the extravaganza of recent years. Head to Auckland Domain for hundreds of handmade Chinese lanterns, stalls selling food and crafts, and a dizzying array of performances. aucklandnz.com/lantern-festival

On the cover
Grace’s Wright’s ‘You Should Be On TV’, 2018. Grace is interested in creating a sense of dynamism through sweeping gestures reminiscent of the body and falling into the painted surface.

Festival, usually on from mid-July to early August [nziff.co.nz], which both feature award-winning and indie films from international and Kiwi film-makers
1. Shaolin Kung Fu Noodle
Lumpy, punchy noodle dishes and plenty more besides

This brightly decorated restaurant serves food from the Henan province in central mainland China – all spicy and lamb-y – and is one of the best cheap eats in the whole city. Get a group of four together and order the following: fried cumin lamb noodles, cleaver-sliced chicken noodles, four lamb kebabs, and one Chinese-style spring onion pizza. No one should leave hungry. 486 Queen St, and city-wide

2. Sal’s Pizza
Grab a slice

You’ll forgive the savage burn on the roof of your mouth after eating a slice of pizza here, because it will have only cost you five bucks. Good for feeding a crowd, with gigantic 18-inch pizzas – ideal to split with your buds. We like the pepperoni. 265 Queen St, and city-wide

3. Tanuki’s Cave
A fun bar/restaurant hybrid

This is probably more of a snack than a meal but a couple of rounds of skewers at Tanuki’s come in around the $10 mark. The chicken wings, chicken hearts, or kumara with butter and salt are the business. Go with a date or generous friend and get them to shout the beers. 319 Queen St

4. Amano Bakery
Buttery pastries and hot coffee

You won’t snag a main for much less than $20 at this temple for seasonal, locally-grown food but at Amano’s in-house bakery the pastries are exceptional value. Generous, flaky and filled with butter it’s hard to go past the pain au chocolat. The cinnamon morning buns and nutty almond croissants are also worth a look. 66–68 Tyler St

10, $10 bites within 10 minutes of the University of Auckland. Ditch instant noodles for one of these excellent cheap eats.

See noted.co.nz/dining for our sibling magazine Metro’s Top 50 restaurants, cheap eats and cafes guides and up-to-the-minute food content.
5. Xi’an Food Bar
Down and dirty cheap eats
It’ll only take 10 minutes to reach Xi’an Food Bar if you run – think of it as a pre-dinner workout. Everything about this place from the quirky calculator ordering system to the lumpy noodles and spicy, healing soups is fab, but you’re here for the Chinese pita bread burgers, two for a tenner. 11 Anzac Ave

6. Better Burger
A classic
A honey-infused bun, secret sauce, locally-sourced tomatoes and lettuce, an Angus beef patty, cheese, pickle and onions, and then the lid. Great doesn’t need to be complicated or expensive – grab a hamburger and fries for $10 here or a cheeseburger and cold soda for $9. 19 Vulcan Ln

7. No. 1 Pancake
An Auckland student fave
A long-time student favourite, you can grab lunch for a fiver at No. 1 pancake. The chicken and cheese option is super-filling and includes at least a portion of your five a day in the form of cabbage and carrot. Slather with Sriracha or BBQ sauce from the bottle by the till and wolf down quick, street-side, before the cheese goes cold. Cnr Wellesley & Lorne Sts

8. Kai Eatery
Chick, chick, chicken
A piece of marinated and fried chicken thigh as big as your head only costs $10 at this bright orange food truck. Certainly better value and better tasting than the Colonel’s recipe, and cheaper to boot. 1 Rutland St

9. Barilla Dumpling
A satisfying mouthful
Now on campus as well as Dominion Road, demolishing a plate of dumplings here is an Auckland rite of passage. The pork and chive, beef and coriander or vegetarian iterations are all $10 for 15. 2 Alfred St

10. Genzui Ramen
Slurpy, soupy noodles
Here’s one for the hungry – giant, steamy bowls of soup with more than enough noodles for one. Almost half the options on the menu are $10 or less and there are vegetarian dishes, too. Upstairs, Atrium on Elliot

AUCKLAND’S BEST HAPPY HOURS

Conch Records Kitchen & Bar
What started life as a record store is now a trendy city-fringe bar and restaurant – Conch is a great first-date spot and crucially, the drinks are cheap between 5-7 weekdays. New specials daily. 115A Ponsonby Rd, Ponsonby.

Spitting Feathers
It’s $4 Heinekens from midday until 10pm daily here, but on Thursdays the deals are even better: $6 Absolut vodka and Red Bulls, $5 house wines, $5 ciders and $5 pizzas. 16 Wyndham St, central city.

Coco’s Cantina
Sit outside on the gingham-clad tables and soak up some of Karangahape Road’s lively atmosphere. There are $7 coups of prosecco, Sawmill pilsners and house wines from 5-7pm daily and $28 jugs of sangria in the summertime. 376 Karangahape Rd, K’Rd District.

The Mexican Café
$5 tap beers, $5 house wines and $9 margaritas from 5-7pm daily, and all within stumbling distance of your halls of residence. 67 Victoria St West, central city.

Fort St Union
If you aren’t already sick of Heinekens, they’re $5 a pop here between 4-7pm daily as are house wines. Basic pizzas, $15 each, should take the edge off. 16 Fort St, Britomart.

Their Instagram @metromagnz and Facebook pages offer sneak peeks of the latest bar, cafe and restaurant openings as well as food news and general goings-on.
Ask a retail pro
Kayla McGregor, Recycle Boutique

Do you have a typical customer in store? Recycle Boutique is pretty diverse in my opinion, you never know who’s going to walk into your store.

What’s your favorite piece in store? This 60’s lime green two-piece set, too bad it doesn’t fit me.

How would you define good style? For me, good style is more than just ‘cool clothes’. It should embody the person wearing them.

What’s your perfect go-to uni outfit? Fitted high waist pants and a crop, I don’t think this look can ever go wrong.

What do you think is the biggest trend on-campus at the moment? Logo hoodies – comfy, warm and practical.

What advice would you give a first-year uni student who’s thinking about planning a uni-appropriate wardrobe? Thrift everything. Pair basics with statement pieces. Invest in dresses, dungarees and one pieces. Make it effortless.
What would be your ideal outfit for the first day of uni? Your first day is all about attracting your tribe, so wear something comfortable that really represents you. Style is a way to say who you are without having to speak (thanks Rachel Zoe), but clothes are also a great icebreaker!

What was your personal style like at uni? Relaxed but put-together. My go-to was kind of a riff on Audrey Hepburn in *Funny Face* — black skinny jeans, black jumper and ballet flats which I would’ve liked people to think were Repetto (cool at the time) but were from The Warehouse.

What would your number one accessory for a uni student be? A good, sturdy bag that can take the weight of all your textbooks. I foolishly lugged mine around in a studded Alexander Wang tote which itself weighed around 4kg. It looked great but I’ve basically had shoulder spasms for the past decade.

STREET STYLE
Cool threads around campus

Who: Ciara O’Sullivan
Studying: Psychology and English conjoint
Where: Student Commons
Wearing: Boyfriend’s uncle’s jacket and jeans, top I found at a party, high-top Vans
Going: To stats

Who: Karen Rubado
Studying: Master of Fine Arts
Where: Student Commons
Wearing: Ricochet sweater, op shop pants, Mi Piaci shoes, Surface To Air sunglasses
Going: To the Elam building

What Auckland fashion-lovers are currently coveting
Phoebe Watt, University of Auckland graduate and associate editor of missfq.co.nz @missfqnz

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What would be your advice to a student who’s keen to experiment with their look? You have 45 years of dressing conservatively to look forward to once you’re part of the workforce, so make the most of the loose dress code. FTLOG though, leave the onesie at home.

If you’re not a fan of op-shopping, hit up Dressmart in Onehunga where you’ll find everything from high street to high end stores, all at a discount. Happy shopping!
Golden girl
From refugee to 2017 Young New Zealander of the Year, Rez Gardi has come a long way. She talks life, learning and finding what you love at uni.

There have been many moments in Rez Gardi’s life that haven’t seemed real. Like the time she and her family, who had been trapped in a Pakistan refugee camp after fleeing war-torn Kurdistan for 10 years, were told they were being resettled in New Zealand.

When she tried her first sip of Coke as she waited for her flight out of Pakistan, and it “tasted like hope.” When she got a question wrong during her first week of school in New Zealand, and wasn’t beaten for not having the correct answer.

Or, when she walked across the stage of Auckland’s Aotea centre in a cap and gown, about to graduate from the University of Auckland not only with a Bachelor of Laws (Honours) but a Bachelor of Arts as well, double majoring in Criminology and International Relations.

“I still have moments where I think this isn’t real,” says the bubbly 26-year-old lawyer and human rights activist, who in 2017 was named Young New Zealander of the Year for her work with refugees.

“I’ve had a lot against me in my life, and I’ve always been really tough on myself, but I always think that I can do things that aren’t possible. There’s no reason why we limit ourselves with things we assume aren’t possible, without even trying.”

Rez’s story starts in Pakistan, where she was born into the United Nations refugee camp her parents had fled to from Iran two years previously. As prominent Kurdish activists, they’d faced persecution in their town, with Rez’s dad imprisoned and tortured multiple times. So, they decided to run, escaping Iran in the back of a cargo truck in 1989.

“I remember the camp – we shared big tents with around four or five other families,” Rez tells.

“Actually, my most vivid memory is the kids who had worms. It was awful.”

It was in Pakistan where Rez first went to school, though that experience still haunts her now. She could speak two languages – Kurdish and Farsi – but struggled with Urdu, Pakistan’s national tongue.

“It was a horrible part of my childhood. My brother, sister and I stuck out like sore thumbs. The other kids didn’t like us because we were refugees, and the teachers would beat us because we didn’t know the language. The memories are still horrible; I remember really not wanting to go to school, not wanting to learn. I used to run and hide under my

Above Rez Gardi, on Vulcan Lane, a short walk from her office on Shortland Street.
brother’s desk.”

But soon after starting school came the news she and her family had been dreaming of. They were being resettled in New Zealand – although the well-meaning staff at the UN camp told the Gardi family that New Zealand was a city in Australia.

Fast-forward a few months and Rez was looking out the window of an airplane, watching Auckland come into view – her new home.

“It was so green, I’d never seen so many trees!” she laughs. “It was a real shock – we’d literally come from the middle of nowhere in the desert. And then we landed, and everything was so calm, and clean and nice – and white! There wasn’t too much diversity back then.”

Arriving at the Mangere refugee resettlement centre, Rez and her family embarked on a six-week course to help them settle into Kiwi life, before they moved into a house all on their own. It was a time of intense joy, but great uncertainty for the Gardi’s, who at that stage couldn’t speak English.

“I knew I couldn’t be a freedom fighter like my parents, but it dawned on me – what if I could do something from little old New Zealand?”

“I mean, I knew three languages, but unfortunately English wasn’t one of them!” she laughs now. “I picked it up pretty quickly though, I think that’s why. But moving into a home just for my family was the weirdest thing. We’d been sharing one room with four other families, and to have all this space was so isolating and shocking. It took us a long time to get used to.”

Rez started her Kiwi schooling soon after, and within a year the gifted student went from only being able to say one phrase – ‘my name is Rez’, much to the amusement of her classmates – to being promoted to the gifted student stream at her primary school.

“I think that was because I’d come from this extreme hatred and fear, and then all of a sudden, I had this freedom to learn,” she says.

“Actually, I first thought that all Kiwi kids were geniuses, because they were putting their hands up and answering questions, and I thought they weren’t getting any of them wrong, because they weren’t getting beaten. I was like, ‘Wow! These kids are smart!’ Then I learnt English and realised the teachers were just nice!”

Rez’s real turning point came in 2005, when she and her family returned to Kurdistan following the toppling of Saddam Hussein’s regime. Listening to all her cousins insistently discuss their dreams of going to high school, the then 13-year-old Rez realised the gift she’d been given, and resolved to make the most of her education and to help make a difference for those like her family still living in the Middle East.

“I knew I couldn’t be a freedom fighter like my parents, but it dawned on me – what if I could do something from little old New Zealand?”

And so Rez made it her mission to study law at the University of Auckland, eventually earning a scholarship and making it through the tough coursework to graduate with honours.

“My first day was one of those ‘pinch me’ moments; although I felt like everyone was super-smart and I was the dumbest person in the room,” she admits.

It was at university where Rez says she found what her true passions were – and weren’t.

“I changed my major a few times. I started thinking I’d do sociology or politics, and I tried anthropology and did some Spanish and psychology papers.

“People freak out about changing their majors, but so many people do, it’s fine. University is so much more than just study and getting good grades – it’s exploring other interests.

“My advice to any student would be, if you don’t have a set career path in mind, don’t freak out. Go and try things, sit in on different lectures. You might like something you never thought you would in high school – I loved geography at school, and when I went to a uni lecture, I hated it! Just give things a go.”

Giving things a go may as well be Rez’s motto – since leaving the University of Auckland, she’s gone on to be New Zealand’s first female Kiwi-Kurdish lawyer, 2017 Young New Zealander of the Year, found her own charity, Empower, represent New Zealand at the UN refugee agency, and take up work at the Human Rights commission.

Oh, and she’s just started her masters in law at Harvard University in Boston.

Looking back, Rez admits it’s a lot – but she’s never had the time to reflect on her success.

“I need to work on that!” she laughs. “I’m just always thinking of the next thing.

“But despite everything, I feel very fortunate by my misfortune, because it decided a path for me before I even knew it. Being raised around injustice and a lack of human rights, I knew what those concepts were before I even knew they were concepts!

“Now, I get to combine my lived experiences with an academic and theoretical background. It’s a very powerful thing, and I’m thankful every day.”

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YOU BELONG
Finding your tribe

The University of Auckland is a place for everyone – regardless of who you love, what you believe, or what you hope to become. While there’s a massive network of social and wellbeing groups you can get amongst – see page 19 for more details – there are also plenty of ways to make getting to uni easier in the first place.

Scholarships
There are around 470 scholarships you can apply for. They cover everyone from those students who are experiencing hardship, through to exceptional academic ability and potential. There are also special scholarships on offer for Māori and Pacific students, and those who are from a refugee background, like Rez.

Funding
There are funds available for students who are experiencing hardship, but might not qualify for a scholarship. These include a student emergency fund, and the AUSA hardship grant. Visit auckland.ac.nz/hardship-support for more information.

Religion
Students who wish to practice their religion on-campus are well-catered for. The Maclaurin Chapel serves staff and students alike when it comes to matters of faith. A Chaplain for Muslims was appointed in 2018 and the City Campus also has a dedicated Muslim prayer room, while rooms for all faiths are located on each campus. See auckland.ac.nz/spiritual-support.
Navigating the different facets of university life can be tough and daunting at the best of times. So having your own caped crusader – otherwise known as a mentor – can make all the difference when it comes to feeling supported and focused during study. Paperboy spoke to three University of Auckland students on different paths, and their mentors.

Joanne Elfybase, 18, student, with her mentor Adrianne Mendes-Underwood, 21, UniBound mentor

ADRIANNE: Having the ability to influence and help a younger generation coming through university is a very big positive for me as a person. I like to help out, especially when it comes to helping Māori and Pacific students getting through tertiary education. I was actually mentored during my first year of university in UniBound, and they asked me to come back as a mentor. I get what it’s like, when I first came to university I was really shy. But UniBound had people like me and people with the same cultural practices which helped me feel more confident and not feel like such a minority. With Joanne, we have two to three check-ups throughout a semester.

JOANNE: I didn’t get into university the first time I applied and that’s when the University UniBound team contacted me about doing a foundation programme. I was interested right away because I saw it was mainly aimed at Māori and Pacific students, so I thought it was a good opportunity to get to know people before the semester started. It’s really helped my confidence grow. Having Adrianne as a mentor is pretty helpful because she helps I keep track of how she's going, if she needs any help with anything, and we talk about if anything is troubling her with uni or accessing programmes. She's pretty onto it and doesn't need as much help. She's really focused and that's one of the big things that really help this relationship work. Because your mentee has to want to be helped to get the most out of the support.
me when I need it, and she’s even there to help when I don’t ask for it. Having that relationship makes me feel confident about my studies, knowing I can come to her. And it’s not just the advice, but she also offers me resources and places to go for help. After I graduate I’m hoping to get into engineering next year.

**GEOFF:** We didn’t have mentors when I was growing up but I think it’s one of the greatest inventions we’ve seen.

The area I mentor in is based on experience and I think that’s one thing a mentor brings — wisdom. You can bring a perspective from experience which is important. You help to develop the person or alert them to avoid mistakes of the past, giving guidance to work around a problem.

I’ve mentored many students like Matthew since 2003, and I get a real joy out of helping students realise that business has a soul and a purpose, and enabling them to be the best they can be, while getting the best out of the organisation. It’s helpful for Matthew to be able to download his problems knowing it’s in a confidential space.

It’s important to let them know they’re not alone, that others might have grappled with the same sort of problems. It’s a two-way street though, as Matthew is teaching me everything happen smoothly. So when I was first appointed a few people told me Geoff would be a fantastic person to meet with.

We meet every second week and we talk about Velocity, but it’s more than that. He keeps me in check with my university grades and makes sure I’m happy and healthy as well.

I often come into the sessions with a lot of unanswered questions, a lot of things that I can’t really talk about or consult with the rest of my team, so Geoff will be the only person I can bounce these off. And I walk away from these meetings having much more clarity about where we’re going, what we need to do and that we’re on the right path. I’ve also started mentoring high school students in their young enterprise programme. A lot of it has been driven by the relationship Geoff and I have had, for me to be able to say actually I could help some high school students are going through something I went through five years ago.

**MATTHEW:** Going into the role of CEO can be quite daunting given that there are 35 people relying on your guidance and direction and your leadership to pull off the year and make
about the youth outlook on the world, which is very interesting and valuable. I’ve stayed connected to a lot of these people who’ve gone on to do some really interesting things and so I’ve been rewarded by them taking me along in their journey.

**JARED:** Well it’s definitely good having all the RA’s there because they’ve already lived in halls, and they’ve had their first year of university so you can always ask them for advice.

Many of us have only just moved out of home and aren’t used to being away from parents. So having someone there who’s already been through that is really nice.

My family is still in Auckland so I’m pretty supported across the board, but for those who live far from home in other New Zealand cities, they go to the RA’s for a chat if they’re having a bad day. So we all really appreciate them.

I find it’s so important to have a mentor and it really makes a difference. If we didn’t have the RA’s here, it would just be a bunch of people who would have no idea what they were doing, just trying to struggle through together, and you can’t really help each other when you don’t know what you’re doing. Having an RA at Huia is really great for determining your direction, and not having to find out things the hard way.

**MEGAN:** During my first year here at Huia, I was really inspired by the Resident Advisor I had, and I really wanted an opportunity to grow in my leadership. For me, being an RA provides an area where I can exhibit my empathy and other similar characteristics. Because I know that a lot of the students have stress on them and a lot of work they need to do. I’d liken it to being a mother figure to them, providing that unconditional empathetic and mental support. And it’s definitely not a nine-to-five role. You’re always on duty even if you’re not rostered on. You don’t look past things, if you see an issue that pops up, you address it there and then. So it’s definitely a challenge having to do university work while being an RA at the same time, but I find it helps me to grow. I’m mentored myself as the RA’s have a manager. They are always making sure we are doing alright too. Because you do have to set boundaries for yourself. You ask yourself what can I give of myself to make sure I’m equally supporting each student while taking care of myself at the same time?

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Hidden gems

Auckland has a heap of ‘Must-Do’s’ and ‘Must-See’s’ – Sky Tower, anyone? But if you’re looking to walk a road less travelled, we’ve got you sorted with a list of our best-kept secrets.

1. Mexican Specialties
There used to be a time where this unassuming restaurant was open just 14 hours a week, but with extended hours of operation, it’s almost always a good time to head to Ellerslie for the city’s most authentic Mexican food. You’ll see names of dishes that you won’t know – give them a try. 92 Marua Rd, Ellerslie

2. Secret Cove
Yes this Devonport haven is literally called Secret Cove, and has only been accessible to the public since 2017 when the council purchased a narrow strip of land connecting the road and beach. Locals call it “magical” – and you can now swim under a canopy of pohutukawa trees, watching the sun set behind the Harbour Bridge. No wonder they wanted to keep it secret. 60a Stanley Point Rd, Devonport

3. Junk and Disorderly
If your taste verges to the eclectic, Junk and Disorderly is the perfect place for you to pick up, well, who knows. A mix of new stuff and vintage finds, you’ll never know what you’ll discover – perfect if you’re furnishing a flat. 18 Kawana St, Northcote

4. Silo Park
Described as a community of good times, this waterfront location is always playing host to innovative events. Be it an outdoor movie, an edgy exhibition or some laidback live music on a Sunday afternoon. It’s also just a really great place to chill in the sun and watch the world go by. Beaumont St and Jellicoe St, Auckland CBD

5. Waiheke Island
Not exactly a secret as it’s home to more than 8000 Aucklanders, but well worth a visit. A 40-minute ferry ride from the city, you’ll be eligible for a ticket discount thanks to an Auckland University tertiary concession. Once you’re there start talking to the super-friendly locals who will share with you insider knowledge on the best places to go, from beautiful beaches to adrenaline-inducing zip lines. Catch a ferry from the Auckland Ferry Terminal, Quay St

6. Duder Regional Park
Make a day-trip to Auckland’s seriously underrated south-east and visit Duder Regional Park. You’ll be rewarded with snow-white sand and 360-degree views from Maraetai through to the Hunua Ranges and the Hauraki Gulf Islands. North Rd, Clevedon

7. Satya Chai Lounge
Hidden down an inconspicuous alleyway next to the main restaurant, Satya Chai Lounge isn’t easy to spot, but you’ll be happy you found it. Think Indian tapas, accompanied by cocktails like a mango rum lassi, or one of the huge number of craft beers. 515 Sandringham Rd & 271 K’ Road

8. Academy Theatre
It’s a movie theatre but not as you know it, showcasing the best art-house and independent films from across the globe. The best part is, it’s located right next to the Central City Library so you can hit the books then reward yourself with a classic movie marathon or a special double feature. Tickets can start at as little as $5. 44 Lorne St, Auckland CBD

9. Rotoroa Island
In need of an island escape? Often overshadowed by its bigger siblings Rangitoto and Waiheke, Rotoroa Island might just be the most serene of them all. Get there by ferry and stay for the day, or bunk down for the night and try to spot a kiwi. Hauraki Gulf

10. Luxury Karaoke Bar
Sometimes, you just need a good old fashioned sing-a-long with your pals – but not in front of random...
old mates who’ve shored up at the bar. Go to a private room and sing your little hearts out. Bonus? Cheap beer. Queen St, Auckland CBD

11. La Cigale French Markets
OK, these Parnell markets aren’t too secretive, but they’re definitely worth a visit on a weekend morning. Grab a coffee, try some of the incredible locally-made produce, and pick up some fresh fruit and veges to take home. 69 St Georges Bay Rd

12. Waterview Shared Path
A great shout if you’re one to cycle, spend an afternoon biking on the north-western cycleway –

13. Avondale Sunday Markets
If you’re keen to bulk buy some fruit and veges, head to Avondale for their Sunday markets, especially if you’re living out west – also good for bargains, and stuff you didn’t know you needed, from whole fish to chainsaws. Maybe don’t combine those two. Ash St

14. Whammy Bar
One of the city’s best venues for indie and folk tunes, Whammy is your best bet for live music. Handily, a tunnel connects Whammy to The Wine Cellar. Post-exam drinks, anyone? 183 Karangahape Rd

15. Oakley Creek Reserve
Yearning for some space and serenity but don’t have time to head out of the city? Then check out this urban oasis. Take one of the walkways from Great North Rd in Waterview, and within a couple of minutes the noise of traffic will have been replaced by native birdsong. Venture down the walkway a bit further and you’ll find a 6m natural waterfall. In the summer months you can join the locals for a dip in the stream. 1520 Great North Rd, Waterview

16. Fo Guang Shan Temple
Perfect for a bit of serenity, Aotearoa’s largest Buddhist temple welcomes visitors. Make sure to stop by the tea house for a cuppa, or a vegetarian lunch – we recommend the laksa and barbecue wonton noodles. 16 Stancombe Rd, Flat Bush

17. Elliott Stables
If you find it near impossible to please everyone when choosing a restaurant, go to Elliott Stables, just a minute from Queen St. Think classy food court – the complex has Spanish, Latin American, Mexican, German and Japanese offerings, and more. 39 Elliot St

18. Camper Coffee
Little more than a hole in the wall, you’ll have one of the best brews of your life here. Tucked down Kent St, main man Lee offers a simple menu – black, white or filter. Trust the simplicity. 2-8 Kent St, Newmarket

19. Puhoi
A perfect place for a day trip, the little northern village is truly a hidden gem you’ll want to take advantage of. Head to the famous pub for lunch, then venture to river for a kayak or swim. And of course, make sure to pick up some legendary Puhoi cheese to take home. Head north on SH1

20. Auckland Night Markets
Taking place in eight different locations across the city, there’s a night market close to wherever you are. Head there for cheap eats from dozens of different cultures, as well as fashion, toys and live entertainment. Go to aucklandnightmarkets.co.nz to find locations and times.
Here’s a handy guide to getting in on all that’s good around campus. Treat yo’self – and make friends that’ll last a lifetime.

Let’s go clubbing
Beyond books and bar-hopping, there’s plenty to get into around campus

With more than 200 clubs and societies active at the University of Auckland, you’re guaranteed to find a group of pals that tickle your pickle. Alongside the usual offerings like religious, sporting, cultural and political groups, there are also some slightly more quirky options for the discerning first-year student. We profile some of the more niche clubs below.

**The Meat Club**
Its mission is simply “to provide an exhaustible supply of meat, thus creating peace and prosperity throughout the world”. If you’re a keen carnivore, this one’s for you – and even if you’re not that committed to a good hunk of meat, the club provides regular BBQ’s around campus.

**Anime and Manga Club**
Get your manga on – this club seeks to promote all forms of Otaku-ness and Japanese culture, so if it’s anime, manga, fanfiction, drawing or VNS, they’ll have you sorted.

**Egyptological Association**
For all those interested in ancient Egypt, including language, archaeology, pop culture and literature. Turns out, it’s more than just pyramids.

**Engineers without Borders**
A great one to support, even if you’re not mechanically inclined, these awesome guys and gals connect, educate and empower

**CHECK OUT**
There are plenty of ways to keep up with all that’s happening at the University of Auckland, by connecting with them on their social pages.
people through humanitarian engineering, ensuring as many people as possible have access to the skills they need to live free from poverty. EWB also hold networking opportunities as well as pub quiz fundraisers.

Dessert Club
Literally what it says in the title, Dessert Club is one of the largest on campus for obvious reasons. Movie nights, Easter egg hunts, and a whole lot of delicious chocolate – it’s the most delicious setting to make new friends.

Acrobatics and Circus Club
Because, why not? If you ever wanted to run away and join the circus, now’s your chance. Learn the basics of acrobatics, plus they also run free juggling nights. No need to worry if you can’t do a push up or touch your toes – the club caters to all levels of experience. Upskill those party tricks.

Glee Club
If you’ve dreamed a dream to sing on stage with like-minded musical theatre buffs and dance in sync to some mashed-up show tunes – or maybe you’ve just busted out ballads in the bathroom – then the Glee Club is right up your alley. They also host glow in the dark karaoke nights at uni bar Shadows.

Social me
Pages you simply must follow

What’s On at the University of Auckland
Pretty self-explanatory! Your one-stop shop for knowing what’s up on campus. auckland.ac.nz/en/on-campus/life-on-campus/whats-on.html

Second Hand Books – Auckland Uni
Save some $. Buy what you can second hand. You won’t need them forever! facebook.com/groups/113962292028305/

AUSA The home of the Auckland University Student Association, they’ll keep you in the know about what’s going on – it’s run by students, for students. Visit ausa.org.nz

Overheard @ University of Auckland
Because if you can’t laugh at yourself, who can you laugh at. facebook.com/groups/354582891237/

Get connected, stay well
Finding the services you need at uni

Adapting to uni life can be tough – for the first time in your life you’re on your own and you’re making such pretty big decisions about your future. No dramas – there’s a heap of services and organisations that are on-hand to help you out so you can live in sync to your best life, whether it’s academically, socially or physically.

UniGuide
Campus is a massive place – whether it’s finding where your classes are, figuring out what building’s what, or making new friends, it can be tricky getting used to your new normal. The UniGuide programme is a free service that buddies you up with a student mentor who’ll help you sort it all out, from transport and books, through to general uni life – plus, you’ve got a ready-made coffee buddy. Email uniguide@auckland.ac.nz

Wellness
You can also drop in to one of the dozens of Wellbeing Groups, which will help you stay on top of uni life – from mood management, mindfulness for academic success, or social confidence. Visit auckland.ac.nz/en/on-campus/student-support/personal-support

Health and Counselling Services
There’s a doctor’s office on campus, and if you enrol with them as your Primary Health Care. They can help with all the usual stuff you’d talk to your GP about, like medical certificates, ACC consults, family planning and minor surgeries. Counselling is also available, whether you just need a half-hour chat, or something more in-depth. Also, there’s a stack of self-help resources, like tips for dealing with anxiety, study skills, harassment and alcohol online.

Support
If you’re Māori, Pasifika, have a disability or identify as LGBTI+, there’s support systems in place just for you, if you need them. Tuākana is the university’s learning community for Māori and Pacific students, which offers small-group learning, meetings and workshops, while there are a heap of rainbow groups for LGBTI staff and students. Go to auckland.ac.nz/en/on-campus/student-support/personal-support.

Check them out on Facebook [@uniofakl] or find them on Instagram [@universityofauckland]. Have SnapChat? They’re on there too: @snapuoa
Keeping it green

Kyle Fredrick studied Engineering at the University of Auckland and now works his dream job at Morphum Environmental.

When you think of engineering, it’s easy for your mind to go to bridges and buildings, or tunnels and dams.

But soon you might be hearing a lot more about environmental engineering.

For Kyle Fredrick, a University of Auckland engineering graduate, what happens in our waterways and marine ecosystems is just as important as figuring out the ins and outs of a new motorway or airport.

After four years of study to earn his Bachelor of Engineering with Honours, Kyle, at just 24 years of age, now works his dream job on the operations team at Auckland engineering firm Morphum Environmental.

These days, you can find him applying mathematical and scientific principles to help find environmentally sustainable solutions to problems that affect Auckland’s environment, for clients such as Auckland Council, as well as private developers.

Kyle’s enthusiasm for the subject is infectious. Just try and get him to talk about anything else. Spoiler: he won’t.

At school, biology was Kyle’s “get out of bed passion,” so environmental engineering has felt like a natural fit, but he says prospective engineering students also need to have strong grades in calculus and physics as well as being driven and hardworking. He reckons it doesn’t matter how smart you are as long as you work hard, and asked whether he’s naturally super-brainy he modestly says “it depends who you ask”.

When it came time for choosing a degree, it didn’t take too long for Kyle to figure out that the University of Auckland was where he needed to be.

After some research into undergraduate programmes during his final year at Birkenhead College, he found out that the University of Auckland is New Zealand’s top ranked university for Engineering. So, he
cheekily asked his parents if he could keep his room at home – they said yes, luckily for Kyle – and his journey began.

“Why would I move to the other side of the country when I had the best programme right on my doorstep,” he nods.

Kyle admits that going into the programme he felt nervous, but immediately found common connections with his classmates.

“The main thing I enjoyed was meeting people with similar interests; there are a whole bunch of people there that want to be engineers and I've made some lifelong friends,” he beams.

He recommends working while studying to anyone who gets the opportunity, even if it’s sometimes tricky to fit everything in.

He largely attributes these friendships to his success in engineering, saying that having a solid group of close friends at university can help alleviate stress, while also making you feel like part of a community. Despite not living on campus (after all, he did have access to mum’s cooking!) Kyle says it’s easy to fit in and be a part of the university lifestyle.

Kyle’s drive to preserve Auckland’s waterways and the natural environment stems from his love of biology, but also the fact he’s a keen scuba diver. He has been ever since the age of 12 – the legal age to dive in New Zealand – when his dad, also a diver, asked him if he’d be keen to come out with him. They still dive together regularly, and his dream is to make sure he’ll have a chance to do the same with his own kids. He wished he’d followed this passion when choosing his specialty in third year.

“I originally followed my classmates into structural engineering my third year,” he says, “but I didn’t enjoy it much and now don’t use it.” His advice to those in the same position he was in? Be brave and do the course you want to do, even if it’s a hard choice.

Group projects, while sometimes logistically challenging, were some of Kyle’s favourite parts of the engineering programme. His role at Morphum requires a lot of project management and delegation, and he says papers such as construction management and delegation, and he says this industry exposure also helped him secure a graduate position at the firm, and he recommends working while studying to anyone who gets the opportunity, even if it’s sometimes tricky to fit everything in.

But it hasn’t all been smooth sailing, he readily admits, adding he’s had his fair share of less-than-ideal grades and setbacks, just like any other student. The trick, he tells, is to learn from the mistakes – and wherever he’s failed, his ambition just grows bigger.

Now, his biggest passion is the conservation of New Zealand’s beautiful freshwater and marine ecosystems – a real hot topic of late – and his current projects focus on stormwater, wastewater and water supply projects in Auckland’s regional parks.

He’s more pumped than ever to see how far he can take his career in this vibrant, progressive industry.

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**BRIGHT SPARKS**

Have a stellar idea? Here's how to turn it into a reality at The University of Auckland

All great ideas are born of a problem, a gap or an issue. To help the next generations of thinkers, makers, leaders and problem-solvers, the University of Auckland has a heap of programmes, spaces and challenges to help you develop your idea into the Next Big Thing.

**Velocity**

Velocity is the University of Auckland’s entrepreneurship development programme, and are all about giving momentum and energy to students’ lightbulb moments and dreams. Based in the Business School, Velocity offers seminars, workshops and challenges for students, and do whatever they can to inspire, educate and motivate future entrepreneurs. You’ll also be able to pick the brains of like-minded classmates who are keen to make their mark in the world – and there’s even the chance to win some $ to make it happen.

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

**Velocity 100k Challenge**

If you’re a budding entrepreneur with a wicked idea, then keep reading! Yes, you read right, $100,000 is up for grabs. The challenge revolves around solving a challenge or realising an idea – whether it’s a social issue, an environmental problem, a market opportunity, or you’ve just got an idea based on research. Prospective entrants create an entry to show just how their idea could become a reality, and those that make it to the shortlist win a place in the Velocity Launch Pad programme, where students score precious mentoring and access to workshops to help develop their genius idea further. Then at the grand final they compete for seed capital and support for their burgeoning venture. Our advice? Get your thinking caps on now!

**Unleash Space**

Sometimes, you just need to be around like-minded people – so if you don’t know where to go when you’re dreaming up your million-dollar idea, check out the new Unleash Space. Available to all students, it’s a hub where you can create, play, make, invent, experiment and do. There’s a ‘collide’ space – a flexible working environment where you can brainstorm, chill or collaborate with others; an ‘inspire’ space where events and workshops are held; and the ‘maker’ space, where students have access to cool gear such as 3D printers and scanners, laser cutters, mobile photo studios, and even a vacuum former. Check out [unleashspace.ac.nz](http://unleashspace.ac.nz) for more information.

Faculty of Engineering building, Room 427-402, 20 Symonds St, City Campus
My Auckland

Audrey Kan, on an exchange from Seattle University, shares her highlights and discoveries from around Auckland City.

1. This was taken outside the University’s Fale Pasifika. I’m an exchange student at the University of Auckland, and for now I’m calling the Carlaw Park Student Village in Parnell home. Back in the States, I’m a student at Seattle University in Seattle, but my hometown is San Francisco in California.

2. I go for walks around Auckland when I need some fresh air or a study break, but no matter where I wander off to, I always wind up at the end of Queens Wharf. The Lighthouse by Michael Parekōwhai – not your conventional lighthouse – is hands down my number one spot to be in Auckland’s CBD.

3. Playing volleyball has been my hobby for over ten years now. Every week I go to the Social Sessions at the Rec Centre, but this particular weekend was the Inter-Residential Volleyball Tournament. Several of us from Carlaw Park Student Village got together and played some scrimmage rounds against residents at Parnell Student Village on their grass courts.

4. Gibbs Sculpture Farm in Kaipara Harbour was my first weekend trip outside of Auckland by myself! Walking among all the large sculptures was an absolutely surreal experience. I loved how this sculpture, Dismemberment by Anish Kapoor, made us all look like ants.

5. This room of the Engineering building will forever be my favorite spot on the City Campus. I always come here during my breaks to study or eat lunch on the couches. I think what always draws me back to this room is the constant glow of intense, yet comforting red light. (Colony, inspired by Waitomo glow worms, is made by Elam graduate Paul Hartigan.)

6. I often take a couple of minutes out of my evening to watch the vibrant pinks in the sky turn to mellow blues. My favourite part is when the last rays of sun hit the Sky Tower and the surrounding buildings in the CBD, creating the faintest orange highlight.

7. A nice stroll down Quay Street, around the Viaduct Harbour, and through Wynyard Quarter will bring you to Silo Park. The first time I came here was for Auckland Arts Festival’s House of Mirrors – then I came every week after that for the atmosphere, street food, live music, and Silo Park’s Friday Films.

8. My fourth floor room at Carlaw Park Student Village looks over the edge of the Auckland Domain every morning. I was lucky enough to get the corner room (two windows!) and the most spacious room in the flat.
My Auckland

Business student John Lee studied abroad in Singapore. Here’s what he missed about Auckland while overseas.

1. My favourite hobby is photography and doing that is the best way for me to de-stress from my busy schedule. Living in Auckland is great because it is a photogenic place with scenic streets and nature.

2. Giapo is one of my favourite ice cream parlours in the city that serves beautifully presented ice cream with special flavours. They offer discounts to members of certain student clubs at the University of Auckland, so keep an eye out.

3. One thing I love about study breaks is the ability to travel to amazing locations like the breathtaking Tongariro Alpine Crossing, which is where this picture of me was taken.

4. Milse’s Bombe Alaska is one of the most flavourful desserts that I have tried in Auckland. I would recommend that everyone visits Milse at least once to try their amazing desserts.

5. Every month I like to treat myself to some good food and try out new restaurants around the city with my mates. This was taken at Dr Rudi’s Rooftop Brewing Co which serves delicious ribs.

6. The Waitematā Harbour is one of my favourite places to go during my weekends because it has a beautiful view of the city and many tasty restaurants. It’s also only 20 minutes walking distance from the City Campus.

7. The Duck Pond in the Auckland Domain – a 15-minute walk from the City Campus – is also one of my favourite places to go. If you want the ducks to like you, you can bring some bread and feed them. I assure you that you will be their buddy and they will follow you around.

8. On sunny days, I like to study outdoors and get some fresh air. One of my favourite locations to do that is next to the pool at my home in UniLodge, one of the student accommodations at the University of Auckland.

The University of Auckland’s 360° International exchange programme partners with 125 universities in 25 countries, so you can earn credits towards your degree while ticking off your travel bucket list. Visit auckland.ac.nz/en/study/study-options/360-international.html