# KUMEUARTS

# **Annual Report**

July 2021 - June 2022



Our Objectives

"To Promote and Foster a Creative Community"

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'Our Aotearoa' 2021 - Member's exhibition

# **Exhibitions at Kumeu Arts**

Our exhibition schedule was in full swing in 2021 with an amazing installation for Matariki and a stunning group show by the 'Cold Wax Collective' in July. Then suddenly it was cut short and our galleries were forced to shut on August the 17<sup>th</sup> during our annual ceramics exhibition, because of a Covid lockdown which affected the country. The ceramics exhibition had to wait until we reopened on November 11<sup>th</sup> to run its course. While we were closed, we attempted to still highlight the art work by using items from the exhibition to create window displays. We hoped that people walking past could still appreciate the artwork or even make purchases by ordering them online. Sadly, as the Lockdown went on many other scheduled exhibitions in 2021 were forced to cancel, such Art Week, and an exhibition by local school children.

In November, we switched our annual Art Awards online and curated two virtual galleries, adapting to the Covid situation. This was very well received by viewers and participating artists.

Pleasingly, since reopening we have managed to reschedule most of the events planned for the previous year. In February 2022, we finally managed to host young artist George Rakich whose exhibition dates changed four times. We've also re-booked the local school for later this year as well as the artists who missed out on Art Week 2021 as we persevere with an adapted schedule.

Entries to our annual member's exhibitions, the 'Affordable Arts Sale' in December and 'Our Aotearoa' in February were still high and we had an excellent response for both. Our members had clearly been very productive during the Lockdown. But without the normal attendance at the Centre due to classes being postponed, visitor numbers to our galleries were noticeably lower than previous years. We also felt the impact of not being able to run our normal public opening events, and sales also reflected a dramatic decrease as people appeared cautious about venturing out.

2022 has been much better and gradually we've seen visitor numbers rise as well as attendance at opening events. The KAA Winners' Exhibition was an outstanding collection and the public were suitably impressed by the quality of art on display. Our group show 'Multiples' which opened on April Fool's day saw one of the best turn-outs to an opening event in our history, and sales amounted to \$3235. Now our exhibition schedule is full until March 2023 with a range of engaging and dynamic events planned, as we continue to bounce back to what we know and love doing at Kumeu Arts.

Ashlee Tawhiti – Ara : Ora 24<sup>th</sup> June – 17<sup>th</sup> July 2021 Pod Gallery



Ashlee Tawhiti (Ngāti Porou, Ngāi Te Rangi, Ngāti Maniapoto) is an installation artist of Māori and European descent. Her work seeks a deeper connection to matauranga and kaupapa maori.

This interactive installation for Matariki 2021 combined raranga (flax weaving), sound recordings of native birds and light. Ashlee said in her statement "I encourage the viewer to navigate themselves deeper into the installation, sit on the whariki and consider their relationship to the natural world and Papatuanuku. In each basket, there is something you can play with/touch/hold." Ashlee sold \$680 of work.

Matariki – Members and Student Exhibition 24<sup>th</sup> June – 17<sup>th</sup> July 2021 Main Gallery



Work by our members

To coincide with Ashlee's installation in our second gallery we invited our members to contribute to Matariki. Their work included paintings, ceramics, weaving and photography. Our tamariki in the Kumeu Children's Art Club also displayed their work after studying Matariki during term two. Works sold to the value of \$237.

# Arbitrary Ground - Post-Painterly (Im)Possibilities 20<sup>th</sup> July – 7<sup>th</sup> August 2021 Main Gallery



This group exhibition featured the work of five artists who, while working in different styles, have in common their love of cold wax medium and its unique effects. As the group met and participated during cold wax workshops held at Kumeu Arts, it was natural that they should choose our gallery to exhibit their collection. Their opening night (photographed above by artsdiary.co.nz) was a huge success and around approx 70 people came along to support. During the exhibition, they sold \$2,710 worth of work.

Danielle Lloyd - Fluid Art 20<sup>th</sup> July – 14<sup>th</sup> August 2021 Pod Gallery



Local artist Danielle said, "I have been delving into the captivating medium of alcohol inks for a few years now, in place of a paintbrush is a heat gun. This tool uses the elements of heat and air, encouraging the inks to dance across the page creating beautiful abstract details." She has also held workshops at Kumeu Arts demonstrating the process. Danielle displayed a stunning collection of her creations in the Pod to much acclaim from visitors. She sold \$829 worth of work. One visitor wrote "Stunning —a joy to see"

# Ceramics – Member's Exhibition 11<sup>th</sup> August – 27<sup>th</sup> November 2021 (Including approx. 3 month's closure) Main Gallery



Work by KACI member's

Our annual ceramics exhibition is always a highlight of our calendar. In 2021 we had 14 artists and approx 113 ceramic pieces entered. We also ran a new initiative - a coinciding 'Pop up Mug Sale' in the Pod. Our ceramic artists provided over 80 mugs to choose from and our visitors were able to receive a free barista coffee with any mug purchased. Sadly, that didn't last long until we had to close for Lockdown. But we did manage to hold an opening event which 25 people attended and we sold works to the value of \$1317.

### The Kumeu Arts Awards Online November 2021 Virtual Galleries



We received 92 entries during Lockdown for our fifth annual awards exhibition. As the Lockdown continued we decided to hold the Awards online and we selected 80 to hang across both two virtual galleries in the 'Youth' and 'Adult' sections. We used a platform called Exhibit.com. Prizes this year also increased with an additional Photography prize and a new sponsor Print Art supporting us.

#### The Kumeu Arts Awards Ceremony Friday 12<sup>th</sup> of November 2021



We held a live prize giving ceremony on Zoom, which 25 People attended. Our Chair Christine Rose spoke and the Judge Virginia Were announced her choices while presenting a slide show. It was a really lovely, intimate experience and all the artists (including young artists) spoke as we signed off.

Judge Virginia Were awarded prizes on the night as follows:

Supreme Award Winner: Arwen Flowers, "Connected across time and distance", mixed media

Second place: Tracey Coakley, "Sing", oil on board

Third Place: Natalia Scott, "The Planet 2", acrylic and pastel on 360gsm paper

Highly Commended: Oliver Cain, "Banana Vase", ceramic Runner Up 1: Natalie Gelder, "It's raining", oil on board

Runner Up 2: Katie Russell, "Wolves in the Garden", woodcut print

Runner up 3: Cindy Scott, "The Village"

Highly Commended Photo: Rahui Tailor, "Mother Nature 1", photograph Youth – 16 – 18 years: Theeratatt Tongbai, "Untitled", watercolor

Youth - 12 – 15 years: Greer Stanton-Kerr, "Tyler, The Creator portrait", oil on canvas

Thank you to all our sponsors of this event; Gordon Harris, The Picture Framers NZ, Art News, New World, Hallertau, Rollercoaster, Print Art, and Creative Matters, as well as our funders; The Rodney Local Board, Foundation North, and The Lotteries Grants Board.

#### Feedback for the awards:

"I just wanted to say thank you. I am so impressed with the level of professionalism, and communication of your organisation. It blows all the others I have dealt with out of the water. I am also very impressed with the online exhibition, and it is proof that in this current climate, there are ways and means to do things, without resorting to cancellation. Absolutely brilliant job." Tanya – artist

"I so enjoyed looking at this exhibition. The online experience is better than I thought it would be. Really nice to see the variety of work in the show." Camila - artist

"What an outstanding presentation!" – Diana Brown – Sponsor

Note# Physical visitor comments not available for the following exhibitions due to Covid.

# The Affordable Arts Sale – Member's Exhibition December 2<sup>nd</sup> – Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> 2022 Main Gallery



Since reopening the shop and galleries during limited opening hours we held our annual member's exhibition, the Affordable Arts Sale. We had a great response from our members. 33 artists entered 90 artworks. The exhibition spanned both galleries. However, visitor numbers were low and we only sold three works from this exhibition totaling \$620.00 compared to \$1,400 in the previous year.

# Our Aotearoa – Member's Exhibition 25<sup>th</sup> January – 26<sup>th</sup> February 2022 Main Gallery



Once again, we had an excellent response from our call for entries and we received 61 entries from 25 artists. It was a beautiful exhibition highlighting the beauty of NZ and celebrating "the places and things we love about NZ".

We held an opening (mid-way) event on Friday 11th February but as Omicron had recently spread through the community numbers were still low in the gallery. We sold one work on the final day of our annual 'summer show', to the value of \$85.

George Rakich – Piece of Mind 3<sup>rd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> February 2022 Pod Gallery



We were proud to host this, the first ever exhibition for talented young artist George. "George creates worlds within the confines of his page - sometimes filling almost every particle with ink, at other times allowing playful spaces. He's developed a visual language brimming with characters and motifs that sometimes transcend themselves into 3.D objects or onto other surfaces".

At his opening event on the 11<sup>th</sup> of February he was joined by around 70 friends and family. It was good to see so many young people here. During the exhibition, each Saturday from 10am, George developed the large scale drawing live in the gallery. George sold 31 pieces for a total of \$1275.00

#### The KAA 2021 Winners' Exhibition 2<sup>nd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> March 2022 Both galleries



This was an exciting group exhibition by nine artists who won awards last year at our annual Kumeu Arts Awards. Due to Covid, the 2021 Awards were held online (as discussed earlier). During this March show our visitors were able to see them 'in the flesh' in both galleries hanging alongside other new works. Beside the works we displayed the comments from last year's judge Virginia Were, along with a short biography about each artist. The exhibition opening was on Friday 4th of March, with approx. 20 people attending.

While it was a quiet night, it was a nice opportunity for some of the artists involved to meet each other. One work sold from this exhibition for \$500. We feel it is a good concept for future exhibitions and a good platform to highlight our awards and add value to prize winners.

'Multiples' 30th March – 23rd April Both Galleries

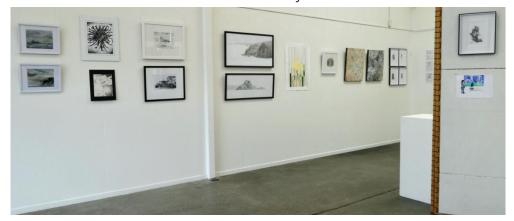


Nine artists (including staff and committee) took part in this fun, dynamic group show which featured art made by artists working in a series. It spanned both our galleries. The selected artists had all produced at least 10 artworks connected through theme, scale and media.

Around 125 people attended a hugely successful opening night on April Fool's Day. It was the largest crowd we'd seen since pre-Covid and it was wonderful to see the galleries and the outside space full. We also made lots of sales on the night and throughout the show we sold a total of \$3235. Comments read "Such a great night! Thanks Kumeu Arts for organizing and making everything look so

Comments read "Such a great night! Thanks Kumeu Arts for organizing and making everything look so good" and "lots of fun, interesting and beautifulwork".

## Drawn In – Member's Exhibition 28<sup>th</sup> April – 21<sup>st</sup> May 2022 Main Gallery



This collection included a whopping 57 artworks on display by our members. The artworks demonstrated the breadth of processes, media and motivation involved in drawing.

The exhibition also included a 'drawing machine' live in action. We had a fun opening event on Friday 6th of May which 28 people attended. We sold 5 artworks totaling \$600.00.

The Kumeu Children's Art Club Exhibition 28<sup>th</sup> April – 21<sup>st</sup> May 2022 Pod Gallery



The Kumeu Children's Art Club of nine young artists, selected works to be displayed from those they had made during Term One. These included works across a variety of mediums - printmaking, map making, painting and their fabulous batik tee shirts. The opening, serving juice and popcorn, was well attended by 35 friends and family of the artists.

Gail Stent and Judy Stokes - Natural Collaboration the Auckland Festival of Photography 25 May - June 18th 2022 Main Gallery



This collaborative exhibition between Gail and Judy included 35 photographic works. These artworks took visitors through the natural environment from garden, bush and sea, ending with an evocative short movie, set to a poem created by Gail Stent.

The artists also hosted an outdoor workshop with five participants, before their exhibition opening, on a Saturday afternoon. The opening was attended by 30 people.

It was a beautiful show and lots of people were very impressed by the effects that Judy and Gail achieved with their cameras and editing. We sold one artwork totaling \$250.00.

# Kumeu In Focus – Member's Photography Exhibition 25 May - June 18th 2022 Pod Gallery



This Kumeu Photography group and Member's exhibition included 44 photographic works (Five member's works and 39 Photography Group entries). The artworks were all images tied together by theme of the natural environment.

The exhibition opening, on a Saturday afternoon, coincided with Natural Collaboration's opening and was attended by 30 people. Three artworks were sold, totaling \$405.00.

Maria Owens Light to Dark 22 June - 16 July 2022 Main Gallery



Maria Owens' exhibition consisted of 21 paintings and 19 sculptures of figures. She had a great response from social media and as a result, sold three works in the first week. Maria came and sculpted in the gallery on Saturdays and at the Matariki Whanau Hub event on Sunday 3rd July. This was a great way to interact with visitors and promote her work.

Matariki Installation 23 June - 16th July 2022 Pod Gallery





Four artists took part in this Matariki exhibition - Riki Waugh, Rebecca Faull, Toni Tanner and Alex Jamieson. They produced artworks which connected Matariki and Maoridom. Alongside their work was the Community installation of woven stars and wishes for the new year.

Around 50 people, including the Children's Art Club and Goodwood Park (a regular user group who run a class for residents with mental health and brain injury trauma), attended a successful opening night on the eve of the first Matariki public holiday. It was a lovely night eating soup and talking under the stars.

Lovely feedback from the night was "I just wanted to say how much our girls and I enjoyed our visit to your Matariki evening at The Pod. Lisa and I have taken away our stars which we will use to decorate our own spaces). Thanks so much for making us feel so welcome."

# **Events**



Our schedule of events this year was severely impacted by Covid. Many events were canceled or postponed including our annual family festival 'Arts in Action' (for the second year running), National Poetry Day and Art Week Auckland. Kumeu Art Awards night, which has also developed into one of the highlights of our calendar, was held online, as was our AGM.

To adapt with the Covid mandates and level restrictions, opening events in early 2022, included vaccine passports, mask wearing inside, with drinks and nibbles outside. Though some openings have lacked the usual attendance and buzz, we have managed to fit some events in over the year as listed below, and gradually these are gaining momentum again. As mentioned previously the opening nights for 'Multiples' this April was the one of the busiest ever.

Matariki Festival 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021





We celebrated Matariki across the two years with an opening night for two exhibitions across both our galleries. In the main gallery, our members and students had their work on display. This included work by children attending the Kumeu Children's Art Club.

Many families came along and shared kai (including the manager's home-made soup in 2022). In the Pod gallery Ashlee Tawhiti's installation Ara: Ora delighted our visitors in 2021.

Give a Kid a Blanket June-August 2021 and 2022



We support this cause every year and have become a collection point for donations. We had a huge response in 2021 and were extremely happy to be able to contribute once again.

# Kumeu Live Concerts Periodically throughout 2021-2022



Our not for profit Kumeu Live concerts have also been hugely compromised by Covid and with so much uncertainty it's been very difficult for organisers Guy and Michelle to keep it running. But Kumeu Live keeps bouncing back!

Last year prior to the nationwide Lockdown in August they squeezed in a few more great acts such as Graeme James, Mireya Ramos, The Bads, Derek Lind and Tom Cunliffe. In more recent times since moving into the traffic light system, Kendall Elise, Alargo and The Nukes have all performed here albeit to a more limited audience due to social distancing requirements. Jenny Mitchell recently had a sell-out performance.

We are hopeful in the future that Kumeu Live can get back to previous sell-out audiences. It's possible that with the development of the new Huapai Hub stage behind us that Kumeu Live may also be able to utilize the outdoor space too and hold additional outdoor concerts next spring and summer.

# <u>About</u>

#### 1. Covid

The pandemic has affected, shaped and disrupted so much of what we do at Kumeu Arts over the last year. We closed down for classes and workshops for roughly six months. On reopening the galleries and shop, we followed advice from the Government guidelines and the Auckland City Council. We always aired on the side of caution, putting our community's well being at the top of our priorities when making decisions.

Also on opening, Kumeu Arts implemented policies and restrictions clearly outlined in our 'Traffic Light System - Covid response Plan'. This document has, and continues, to guide our management of the health crisis.

In essence we called for a 'community response' and asked our tutors and venue hire users to take a shared role in helping oversee it. This strategy aligned well with our values and operational model.

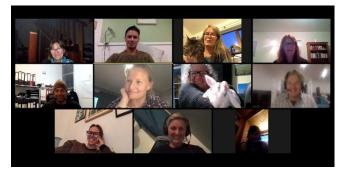


Visitors to an Opening event in 2022

During the prolonged Lockdown in 2021 we continued to promote arts and artists in our region through the Awards online as well as through our Facebook page and our community group page 'Kumeu Arts Community – tips in advice for hard times'. We stayed connected to our database and maintained our monthly newsletters, creating content which we hoped would help entertain people and keep them positive.

This included one newsletter called 'The Art on My Walls' featuring the collections of some of our members along with commentary about their significance. Another titled 'Love in Lockdown' received hugely warm feedback such as; "What an amazing interesting email," "Thank you so much for this little beacon of light", "Very loving and inspiring and cheered me up no end," and "Gave me a good laugh and really made my day".

Throughout the Lockdown our committee members also kept meeting on a monthly basis online, including with pets (pictured)t o check in with each other (sometimes setting monthly creative 'homework challenges') and continuing to strategize. We believe this kept our committee unified and in fact created closer bonds.



The manager Jago Neal was also regularly meeting with the 'North Arts Partners' online too and discussing a range of issues such as funding, health and safety, and well-being with his peers from other arts facilities. All this communication was invaluable to combating the sense of isolation.

## 2. Progress

While we were closed for Lockdown our previous Administrator Yvonne Abercrombie left Kumeu Arts to start a new position as manager of Helensville Art Centre. We look forward to working closely with Yvonne in her role there and building closer ties with our neighboring facility. Yvonne's departure gave us time to restructure our staffing and seek new employees before fully reopening in the new year.

We appointed Emma Springford-Gough (pictured) as Arts Administrator in January and Kyra Toomey-Shaw as Retail and Marketing Assistant in February. Both are highly skilled, respectively in areas of stock taking, events management, social media and online content, publicity and website design.



Their input has been largely felt throughout our organisation and they've already made a big impact since joining us.

The chance to review the roles has also brought more clarity and defined certain responsibilities. We also appointed (or reappointed) Sarah Ellis-Kirifi in a new position of part- time 'accounts manager' in December 2021.has a wealth of experience in 'bookkeeping' and she used to be the Co-coordinator of Kumeu Arts, meaning she understands our organisation perfectly. This appointment was made last year to offer greater financial transparency and management rigor due to the relative increased size of our budget. We aim to continually improve our processes, and provide accurate and transparent reporting to our funders.

While Covid has hindered us in some regards we have still managed to make good progress in certain others. In some instances, Covid has actually presented us with opportunities to develop. It is helpful to measure progress against our 2021-2026 Strategic plan which identifies five priority areas to help support us in our decision making, as follows:

### 3. Core Business

One of our annual aspirations was to gain some more information about our members so that we can be more targeted and identify demographics of people to engage with more. So, in May 2022, we created a survey aimed at generating data insights. In the survey, we also asked for some feedback regarding areas our community would like to see developed.

This was partly a response to advice the manager received during a programme he took part in called 'Building Great Strategy' run by Te Taumata Toi-A-lwi. In the sessions, the importance of community consultation was discussed, as well as more diverse ways to report back and how to develop and measure impact.

Just over 100 people responded to our survey. The statistical data confirmed much of what we already know about our visitors and participants. That they are largely NZ or other European women over 50 years old.

#### In summary:

- · 86% were female
- · 67% were between 41 and 80 years old
- · 86% were NZ European or other European
- · 2% were Maori
- · 2% were Chinese
- · Most people come here every few months
- · 74% come to view exhibitions
- 51% come to classes (regular or one-off)

#### In relation to Kumeu Arts communication:

- On the whole people thought that we are doing a good job at communicating. On a scale of 1-5 (with 1 being poor and 5 being very well) 78% gave us a 4 or 5.
- $\cdot$  87% said they stay informed through the newsletter, 38% through Facebook & 20% through Instagram

#### In relation to participation:

Asked what people come here for -51% said learning, 60% inspiration, 43% said fun, 37% well-being, and 36% companionship or socializing

Written feedback told us that many areas of our existing Strategic Plan aligned well with what our community wants, including:

- · More range of workshops and classes
- · More opportunities for our members
- · More notice of upcoming events and exhibitions
- · More connection with the Hub and better outdoor facilities
- More artist's talks
- · Heat pumps

Many items on that list are things we are actively pursuing, such as grants for heat pumps, plans to coincide with events at the Huapai Hub, and more artist's talks already booked in. But the responses provided more certainty that we are directing our efforts in areas our community wants.

We also learnt that we need to continue to implement strategies to attract more young people, men, Māori and a more ethnically diverse audience.

It is clear from our recent survey results that these areas are still lacking, as only 2% of those who participated identify as Māori, (The 2018 New Zealand Census lists the Maori population in Rodney District at 11%) and 13% of participants were men.

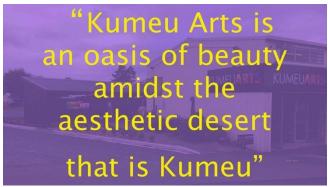
We have had very successful events for Matariki, working with artist Ashlee Tawhiti again in 2021 (as discussed in Exhibitions), however we do struggle to engage enough locally with Māori.

Pleasingly, we have recently connected with established local artists Mei Hill and Riki Waugh. Riki Waugh, alongside other artists, will be exhibiting work here this June for Matariki 2022. We are very hopeful that their continued involvement in the coming year can help us engage more with local iwi.

Strategies to attract more men include more 'Stein workshops' in collaboration with our local brewery the Hallertau. These fun workshops continue to attract men and younger professionals who can not

necessarily attend courses but prefer 'one off' workshops with specific outcomes. We are also currently planning a whisky tumbler making clay workshop which we believe will appeal to men.

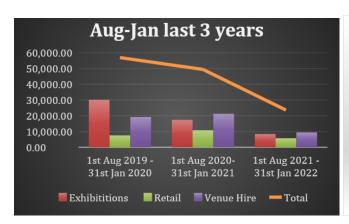
Our favorite survey response was:



Along with this Annual Report this year we have produced a video of 'Highlights' from our year. You can view it here – Video (kumeuartscentre.co.nz)

#### 4. Sales & Increased Profit

We had an exceptionally but understandably poor start to our financial year with a loss of an estimated \$30K of our income in the first six months due to our closure. in comparison to the same period in the previous two years.



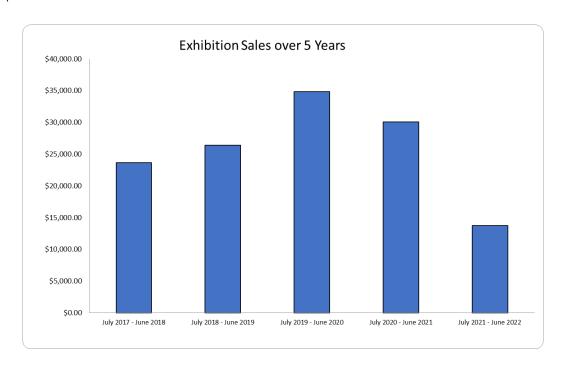


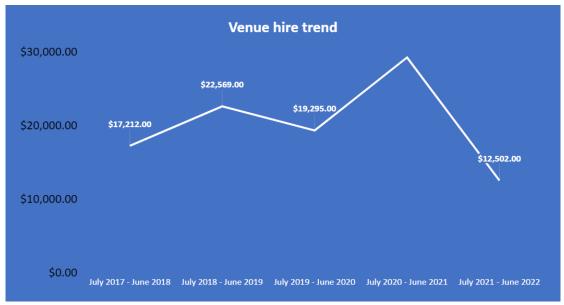
However, it has been quickly turned around since reopening in January and sales have been excellent, particularly in the retail area.

Our goal to increase visitors to our shop and galleries appears to be succeeding over time. Increased marketing with social media has caused more local awareness of the gifts and art available in our gallery shop. Much of this work is being done by Kyra Toomey-Shaw who is utilizing social media very effectively. The impact of our new Arts Administrator Emma in her curation and management of the retail store is also evident.

We've also bounced back in terms of our self-generated courses with many of them fully booked including our two ceramics courses, the Kumeu Children's Art Club, as well as one-off workshops.

The graphs below show our exhibition, retail and venue hire income decrease due to covid limitations





# 5. The Physical Space

Our local audience continues to grow. The Lockdown served us well in the sense that more people found us through walking around their area. Despite us being closed, our murals, outdoor features, window displays and outdoor benches attracted families and people to come and use the exterior space here.

With a huge recent population growth and many more nearby housing developments already underway we can expect even more visitors in future. We've continued to add interest to the exterior with painted 'spots' on the path linking our two galleries. As our location is somewhat hard to find many more people now know where we are.

Currently we are working alongside Creative Matters to create another mural called 'A Mural for the People'. The faces of twenty-four people from our community will be used in a vibrant, bold mural that aims to brighten up Kumeu with infectious smiles. We see the mural as a way to engage local people and create happiness. This project (funded through Creative Communities) will add further value to our environment. A sculpture trail included in the strategic vision is yet to be realized but offers an exciting future project linking us to the wider area.

Other developments during this year have seen us purchase four fantastic outdoor umbrellas (seen below) which have provided shade this summer and brightened up the rear of the Centre. This was especially useful for groups such as our knitting group who choose to utilize the outdoor area and minimize the risks of catching Covid.



We used the timeframe of closure over December/January to arrange for some fantastic new shelving and storage improvements in our kiln room. Also, a huge excitement for our community, we've purchased and installed a new kiln. This project was made possible with a Lotteries Community Grant and has already been making a difference for our ceramics participants and tutors. We also continue to invest back into our ceramics courses with a class set of banding wheels.

Additional purchases for Kumeu Arts include a new laptop, camera and other upgrades. We have also installed new ceiling lights throughout the Centre and Gallery Shop, replacing tired fluorescent strip lights for LEDs.

# 6. The Online Space

Our goal to get some of our products online and create an online shop has also been achieved. Covid Lockdowns kept returning us to the topic until the shop was finally added to our website. Although it is still only offering a limited number of products and an area with much work still to do – it's great to have the foundation up and running and we even made our first online sale in early 2022.

Plans to build an entirely new website, incorporating more video content, profiling local artists more and helping us to better achieve our mandate are also in the pipeline. With more trained and enthusiastic staff we now have the capacity and knowledge to do so.

Our reach on social media also continues to build steadily and this year we've seen a larger following both on Instagram and Facebook. We now have over approx. 1840 people followers on Facebook (500 more than last year) and approx. 1,100. Instagram followers (400 more than last year).

# 7. Increased and Diversified Programmes

We lost some of our regular venue hire users over the Lockdown including long-standing users such as ABC language school (switching to online courses). Some of our own courses fell away too, such as life drawing and clay club. Since reopening however, we've picked up some new user groups. More capacity in terms of staffing and Emma Springford-Gough's support has also helped us to initiate other new programmes since reopening.

We invited local children, from Huapai District School, to come to see exhibitions and take part in some short art-making activities.



"The Kumeu Arts Centre is one of the learning environments our students get most excited about visiting. We have been able to visit and create artworks free of charge, an experience which has been incredibly important for our families in the current climate."

Maree Lloyd, Deputy Principal, Huapai District School

The goal to get a second painting course running has also been achieved with committee member and artist Michelle Reid starting 'The Painter's Studio'. A course for contemporary artists. It is excellent to be able to offer a contrasting course to Amber Emm's teaching which is more rooted in 'realism'.

A coinciding workshop for the 'Multiples' exhibition, 'Abstract Collage' was fully attended and taught by new tutor Coral Noel Yang.

Another way of attracting a wider demographic and increasing participation identified in our plan was to encourage tutors from more diverse backgrounds. Coral, who is of Chinese/Japanese descent, attracted more Asian participants. We are hopeful she will take more classes here, Coral is a great tutor and partly so that we can engage with more of our Asian community.

We also had two fantastic Shri-Lankan batik artists Monisha and Nilanga (as pictured) come into our

Children's Art Club as guest tutors and are planning to work more with them in future.



# 8. User Groups/Classes at Kumeu Arts Centre



Kumeu Arts is the home for many artistic and community groups. These include both unstructured groups and tutored classes. From July 2020 to June 2021 these groups included:

#### **Ongoing Classes:**

Clay Classes: Weekly Classes (two sessions per week)
Kumeu Children's Art Club: Weekly Classes (one session per week)

Amber Emm Painting: Weekly Classes (five sessions per week)

Botanical Art: Weekly Classes
Meditation Evenings: Weekly Classes

The Painter's Studio with Michelle Reid: Weekly Classes (Started May 2022)
Songbird Singing tuition: Weekly Classes (3-5 sessions per week)

#### School Holiday Classes:

Creative Matters: Art workshops each school holiday period.

Brain Play: Stem, technology and robotics each school holiday period.

#### Ongoing User Groups:

Kumeu Photography Group: Monthly sessions
KumeuKnitty: Weekly sessions

Life Drawing Group: Monthly Sessions (ended during Lockdown 2021)
Clay Club: Weekly sessions (ended during Lockdown 2021)

Goodwood Park Health Care Group: Weekly sessions

AA Defensive Driving School: Weekly sessions (ended in Feb 2022)

ABC Language School: 3 Weekly Sessions (ended during Lockdown 2021)

SH16 Quilters: Monthly Sessions (ended in Feb 2022)

Dalliance Française (language grp) Weekly from June 2022

#### Periodic and one off classes/workshops/User Groups:

Amber Emm Painting Workshops Periodically through 2021 - 2022 Periodically through 2021 - 2022 Amber Emm Pastel Workshop Periodically through 2021 - 2022 Creative Matters Tutors workshops Kumeu Live Periodically through 2021 - 2022 Play Centre Visits Periodically through 2021 – 2022 School Visits Periodically through 2021 - 2022 Cold Wax workshops with Janet Mazenier Periodically through 2021 - 2022 Expressive Drawing Workshops with Janet Mazenier Periodically through 2021 - 2022 Periodically through 2021 - 2022 Stein Workshops Goodwood Park Staff Day Periodically through 2021 - 2022 Kokedama Workshops Periodically through 2021 - 2022 Macrame Workshops Periodically through 2021 – 2022 Periodically through 2021 - 2022 Thermomix Workshops Corrections Facilities NZ Staff day Periodically through 2021 - 2022

Girls Empowerment Workshop July 2021
Community Garden Group Meeting April 2022
60's Up Movement Group Visit May 2022

Public Meetings – Kumeu Community Action Periodically in 2022

Supporting Growth Meetings Ongoing from June 2022

# 9. Synopsis and Graphs

# Stats for year

From 1st July 2021 to 30th June 2022 Kumeu Arts had:

- 296 Programmes on offer
- 15 Programmes that meet Māori outcomes
- 4224 Participants in programmes
- 6565 Total visitors to Kumeu Arts

See the graphs below for five year comparisons.

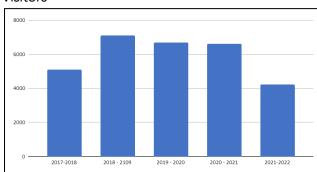
NB Kumeu Arts was closed for the duration of 15 weeks, from August 14th, due to Covid lockdowns.

#### As of June 30<sup>th</sup> 2022 Kumeu Arts has:

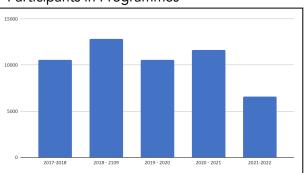
- 188 paid (active) members
- 1174 people in our database receiving direct information regarding our events and activities via email
- 1849 page followers on Facebook
- 1097 Instagram followers
- 81 Kumeu Arts members with work on display in the Gallery Shop

#### Five Year Comparisons

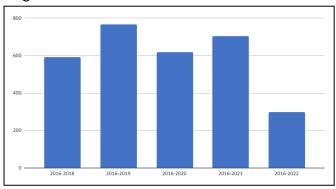
#### Visitors



#### Participants in Programmes



#### Programmes on offer



#### 10. Thanks to....

Kumeu Arts is hugely grateful to our dedicated volunteer base who have supported the Centre in many ways. This includes regular gallery minders as well as more permanent volunteers.

Throughout the year we've been supported as always by our committee. Heartfelt thanks to the KA committee and members, who volunteer their time, energy and skills.

Our thanks also to the following funders and their financial support of our organisation -

July 2021	National Poetry Day	\$250.00	Event
August 2021	Rodney Local Board	\$40,000	Operational Costs
October 2021	NZ Lotteries Board	\$80,000	Operational & Capex
May 2022	Foundation North	\$20,000	Operational costs
May 2022	Auckland Council	\$10,578	Creative Communities x 2

These funds are gratefully received. They are a continual support and recognition of our services to the community and are much appreciated. Without this funding, we would no longer manage to sustain our services and continue them in the future. We rely on these grants to provide our services and to cover the significant ongoing costs of administration, maintenance and coordination, they also enable us to provide continuous improvement and investments in assets to further enhance the experience of our members.

# Thank you to our Sponsors...









