

LEGENDS OF OUR LANDS

OUR PEOPLE, OUR PLACES, OUR STORIES

Māori and Pasifika peoples have always passed on stories to children to ensure the intergenerational transmission of knowledge, understandings, traditions and wisdom from their ancestors. The Mīharo annual Art Exhibition and Awards night is an opportunity to showcase art from Early Childhood Education, Primary, Secondary schools, and 18-25 year olds, based on the theme:

Legends of our Lands - Our People, Our Places, Our Stories.

The exhibition is free to enter and is displayed in our Mīharo Gallery and the Invercargill Public Library. For more information and access to valuable resources, visit our Mīharo website.

 www.miharo.co.nz

KEY DATES:

- Entries due: Thursday 2 July, 5.00pm
Dropped off at Mīharo Gallery - 28 Don Street, Invercargill
- Opening/Awards Evening: Thursday 23 July, 6.00pm
SIT Centrestage - 33 Don Street, Invercargill
- Art Pick up - Monday 7 September between 9am - 5pm

DETAILS TO KEEP IN MIND:

- The dimensions of our doors are below. Keep this in mind when you plan to transport your artwork.
FRONT DOOR: 65cm wide x 1.9m high
BACK DOOR: 75 cm wide x 1.9m high
- Please **do not** label the front of your work.
- Ensure you hand in a completed form when you drop off your art, with an attached photo of your art work.
- Artworks **must** be collected on the pick up date, no later.

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Award Categories

1. Māori Culture and Heritage Award

Celebrates works that draw from traditional and/or contemporary Māori practices, materials, and stories. This includes design elements that honour te reo Māori, tikanga, pūrākau, and kaupapa Māori values.

2. Pacific Culture and Heritage Award

Recognises designs that reflect the richness of Pasifika cultures, from traditional motifs to contemporary expressions of heritage, language, identity, and storytelling.

3. Kaitiaki Award

Acknowledges entries that demonstrate an understanding of guardianship, sustainability, and environmental stewardship. Designs should highlight the importance of protecting our taiao and preserving taonga for future generations.

4. Innovation Award

This category celebrates originality and creative thinking. Entries may incorporate new ideas, perspectives, materials, or techniques that push artistic boundaries and explore fresh ways of telling our stories.

5. Whanaungatanga Award

Awarded to creations that have engaged whānau, hapori (community), and wider networks. This category highlights collaborative efforts and reflects strong relationships and collective contribution in the artistic process.

6. Digital Excellence Award

Celebrates the creative use of digital tools and platforms. Entries in this category may include digital illustration, animation, or multimedia design that showcases innovation and tech-savviness.

7. Aspiring Artist Award

This is an individual award recognising an artist who shows outstanding promise and talent. The winning piece will reflect both technical skill and deep storytelling ability.

8. Johnny Peninsula Supreme Art Award

This prestigious award honours the legacy of Johnny Peninsula. It is presented to a piece that stands out for its conceptual strength, emotional resonance, and ability to spark reflection, kōrero, and inquiry.

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2026 Registration Form

This art work is a: Classroom entry Individual entry

How many taura/students are involved in creating the art work? _____

Please select your category/age group:

ECE Primary Secondary 18-25 years

TEACHERS CONTACT:

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

School: _____

ABOUT THE ART:

Name of your art piece:

Name of artist/s or Classroom: