

Media Release:



## **Winter School Holidays: A Wonderland of Choices Dangerous Museum for Boys and Girls, Wonderland: The Mystery of the Orchid, Matariki**

For some parents the mere mention of the wet and windy school holidays is enough to induce heart palpitations. But there's no need to panic. Auckland Museum is here to help with this city's most exciting and affordable winter holiday activities. There are programmes for kids of all ages, including a Dangerous Museum Exploration Kit, arts and crafts celebrating Matariki, and a spectacular exhibition exploring the story of the orchid. For more information on Auckland Museum's holiday programme visit [www.aucklandmuseum.com](http://www.aucklandmuseum.com) or phone (09) 306 7048.

### **Wonderland: The Mystery of the Orchid**

From 3 July, 10am-5pm  
Special Exhibitions Hall  
Adults \$8, Concessions/Members \$6, Children FREE

Kids are invited to step into a magical world of sensory experience and storytelling to explore the mysterious orchid. **Wonderland** is an exhibit for the whole family that tells the story of an amazing flower family that has ignited our imaginations throughout the ages. Best of all, it's free for children!

### **Dangerous Museum for Boys and Girls**

4-19 July, 10am-5pm  
Suitable for ages 6 years and older  
\$5 per Dangerous Exploration Kit

Auckland Museum is getting a bit wild these school holidays. Purchase a Dangerous Exploration Kit from the museum to discover heroic tales of adventure and epic New Zealand battles. Uncover terrifying bugs, try your hand at knot tying, paper plane making and identifying ancient fossils. What better way for brave boys and girls (and mums and dads) to spend their winter break!

### **Celebrate Matariki**

4-19 July

Over three fun-filled weekends Auckland Museum celebrates Matariki as leading Maori artists join us for interactive art and music workshops. There's something for everyone, from the young and curious to keen artist.

### **Week One: Manos Nathan**

#### **Artist Talk**

4 July, 11am-12pm  
Museum Workshop Space  
Suitable for ages 10 years and older  
Free with entry donation

Maori creation narratives explore the origins of clay, fire and water; all elements required for the fashioning of ceramic works. Award-winning Maori clayworker Manos Nathan guides visitors through the whakapapa of clay and the way it binds us to the collections of Auckland Museum.

### **Creative Sessions**

4 July, 2-4pm

Museum Workshop Space  
Suitable for ages 5 years and older  
Members \$3, non-members \$5.

Join Manos to create your own artworks, inspired by our Taonga Maori collections.

### **Master Class**

5 July, 11am-4pm  
Museum Workshop Space  
Suitable for ages 16 years and older  
Members \$20, non-members \$25

Spend the day with Manos Nathan to fashion your own Matariki-inspired ceramic masterpiece. Master class limited to just 20 spaces. Phone (09) 306 7048 to book.

### **Week Two: James Webster**

#### **Artist Talk**

11 July, 11am-12pm  
Museum Workshop Space  
Suitable for ages 10 years and older  
Free with entry donation

Join artist and musician James Webster for a journey through the sounds and forms of Taonga Puoro, traditional Maori instruments.

#### **Creative Sessions**

11 July, 2-4pm  
Museum Workshop Space  
Suitable for ages 5 years and older  
Members \$3, non-members \$5.

Inspired by our collections, create your own Taonga Puoro to take home.

### **Master Class**

12 July, 11am-4pm  
Museum Workshop Space  
Suitable for ages 16 years and older  
Members \$20, non-members \$25

James Webster draws on his considerable experience to guide you through the creation of your own Taonga Puoro. Master class limited to just 20 spaces. Phone (09) 306 7048 to book.

### **Week Three: Gabrielle Belz**

#### **Artist Talk**

18 July, 11am-12pm  
Museum Workshop Space  
Suitable for ages 10 years and older  
Free with entry donation

A painter, printmaker and designer, Maori artist Gabrielle Belz talks about her work and how it relates to our taonga collection. Includes a tour of the Maori Court.

#### **Creative Sessions**

18 July, 2-4pm  
Museum Workshop Space  
Suitable for ages 5 years and older  
Members \$3, non-members \$5.

With the guidance of Gabrielle Belz, create your own printed masterpiece to celebrate Matariki.

**Master Class**

19 July

Museum Workshop Space

Suitable for ages 16 years and older

Members \$20, non-members \$25

Spend the day with Gabrielle Belz to develop your own unique printing style. This all day workshop offers the chance to get closer to Auckland Museum's taonga collection and the art it inspires. Phone (09) 306 7048 to book.

**Art Action Station**

4, 5, 11 & 12 July, 12-2pm

Museum Workshop Space

Suitable for ages 3 years and older

Members \$1, non-members \$2

Take a closer look at our amazing Taonga and discover the meaning behind Maori designs. Then, using clay, create one piece of art to take home, and one to leave behind to appear in Art Station's *Pūmahara* exhibition.

**For The Kids: Stevenson Discovery Centre**

Open every day, 10am-5pm

Children Free

Our Stevenson Discovery Centre is an interactive place for kids to explore the sometimes weird, sometimes wacky, but always wonderful world of nature. Best of all it's free for children!

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