

MEMBERSHIP MONITORING REPORT

December 2018



OTEPOTI - HE PUNA AUAHA

DUNEDIN UNESCO

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United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Designated UNESCO Creative City in 2014

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Dunedin is proud to be a member of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) since 2014 and is a committed and active participant and, alongside its National Commission, a passionate advocate for fostering the role of culture and creativity as enablers of the economic, social, and environmental aspects of sustainable urban development. Dunedin's participation is founded upon its fundamental values of partnership, collaboration, sustainability, innovation, and sharing. You can read more about Dunedin here.

The designation represents collegiality, fairness, and creative opportunity for Dunedin and its writers and arts practitioners, and a way in which to progress the UCCN's Mission Statement and priorities, especially the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). As this report shows, virtually everything on the City of Literature programme reflects these goals.

The city contributes to the Network's global management by enthusiastically attending every Annual Meeting since being awarded the designation, and for three out of the four meetings Mayor Dave Cull also actively attended. Dunedin has also volunteered both financial (USD5,000) and in-kind support to UNESCO and has hosted the Creative Cities Southern Hui (2017). The Director City of Literature is Coordinator of the Communications & Promotions Working Group, chairing regular Skype meetings with individual cities and the group as a whole and reporting back to Sandeep Mahal and the Literature subnetwork

meetings via Skype and in person. Dunedin has also helped to evaluate all City of Literature applications since its designation.

At both the local and international levels a raft of exciting and high-impact initiatives have been successfully implemented, with many more scheduled in the action plan. The report briefly describes a selection of these initiatives in relation to the UCCN's objectives, areas of action, and SDGs but more information is readily available should it be helpful. Dunedinites are justifiably proud of being a UNESCO City of Literature and are widely and energetically engaged in this important and inspiring opportunity.

www.cityofliterature.co.nz www.facebook.com/cityofliteraturenz/ twitter.com/acityofstories www.instagram.com/acityofstories/

2. GENERAL INFORMATION

- 2.1. Name of the city

 Dunedin
- 2.2. Country
 New Zealand
- 2.3. Creative field of designation

 Literature
- **2.4. Date of designation**December 2014
- 2.5. Date of submission of the current report

 December 2018

2.6. Entity responsible for the report

Director City of Literature, Dunedin City Council

- 2.7. Previous reports submitted and dates N/A
- 2.8. Focal point of contact

Nicky Page
Director City of Literature
Dunedin City Council
PO Box 5045, Dunedin 9054
New Zealand
Telephone: +64 21 810 057
nicky.page@dcc.govt.nz

3. CONTRIBUTION TO THE NETWORK'S GLOBAL MANAGEMENT

3.1. Number of UCCN Annual Meetings attended in the last four years

All the UCCN Annual Meetings have been attended in the last four years:

- Kanazawa, Japan: 2015
- Östersund, Sweden: 2016
- Enghien-les-Bains, France: 2017
- Kraków, Poland: 2018
- 3.2. Hosting of a UCCN Annual Meeting and dates

N/A

3.3. Hosting of a working or coordination meeting addressed to one or more specific UCCN creative field representatives

Investigations are underway regarding potentially hosting a future subgroup meeting.

3.4. Hosting of an international conference or meeting on specific issues salient to the Creative Cities with a large participation of members of the Network

The Creative Cities Southern Hui was curated and hosted by Dunedin from Tuesday 28 November till Saturday 2 December 2017 featuring some inspiring guest speakers from other Creative Cities, and attendance from all UNESCO Creative Cities was welcomed. The Hui was generously sponsored by the NZ National Commission for UNESCO and held in partnership with the University of Otago's Centre for the Book. The Hui offered events, talks and workshops around the themes of creativity, connection, and collaboration (see p.33).

- 3.5. Financial and/or in-kind support provided to UNESCO's Secretariat in order to ensure the management, communication and visibility of the UCCN (type of contribution, estimated value, main objectives, and dates)
 - A donation of USD5,000 was made by Mayor Dave Cull to the Secretariat in 2018.
 - Mayor Dave Cull was part of the delegation to three of the past four Annual Meetings as well as visiting other Creative Cities including Shunde UNESCO City of Gastronomy.
 - Dunedin promotes the work of the UCCN widely across its networks, on its website and social media, and in presentations, courses, and workshops.
 - The Director City of Literature is Coordinator of the Communications & Promotions Working Group, chairing regular Skype meetings with

individual cities and the working group as a whole and reporting back to subnetwork meetings via Skype and in person.

3.6. Membership of the Steering Group and period

None

3.7. Participation in the evaluation of applications (number of applications evaluated per year)

Dunedin has participated fully in the evaluation of all applications by other cities to join the Literature subgroup since being awarded the designation, i.e. in both 2015 and 2017 (nearly 30 applications in total).

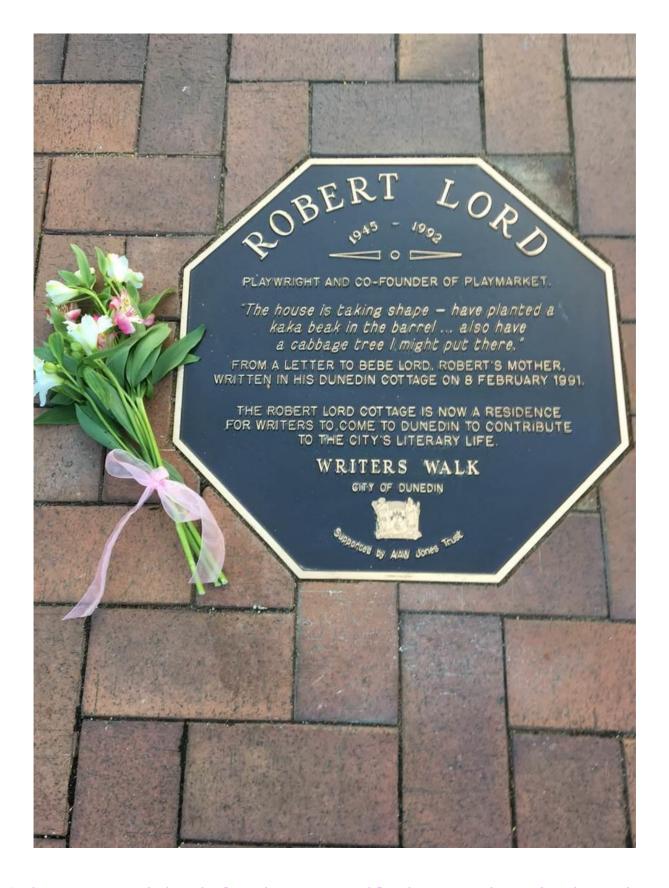
MAJOR INITIATIVES **IMPLEMENTED** AT THE LOCAL LEVEL TO **ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVES OF** THE UCCN

Making creativity an essential component of urban development, notably through partnerships involving the public and private sectors and civil society.

The partnership with Mana Whenua is key to everything the City of Literature does whether infrastructure projects or events. The relationship is represented by the Te Reo Māori name **Ōtepoti – He Puna Auaha** generously gifted by Kai Tahu. This literally translates as *Dunedin – A Spring of Creativity*, and 'Auaha' is a word that 'is equivalent in meaning to something like divine inspiration. It is the creative spirit behind the design of humankind so it is a powerful term. It is used as an attempt to capture the idea of a place where the term "words" is applied as a proxy for a cohort of artists whose work reflects the soul of our city. Auaha is beyond creating, it is to breathe life into.'

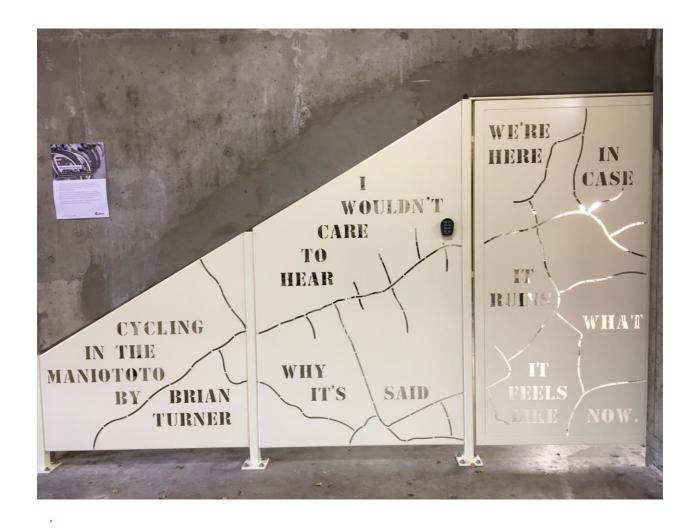
The City of Literature liaises with the Ara Toi Arts and Culture Strategy and this team's Arts and Culture in Infrastructure Committee which encourages a strong cultural narrative for the city. The Director City of Literature also works closely with the Principal Urban Designer, Dunedin City Council with a view to incorporating site-specific quotations from local literature into the urban development plans for specific projects as well as the long-term vision for the city, including private sector partnerships and extensive community consultation.

To focus on infrastructure projects, the Director City of Literature convened a Recognition of Writers Working Group which brought together practitioners and representatives from arts organisations to research and brainstorm tangible ways in which to celebrate writers, past and present.



A plaque was unveiled at the Dunedin Writers and Readers Festival 2017 for playwright the late Robert Lord, in partnership with the Robert Lord Writers' Cottage Trust

In another example, the Director City of Literature is working with the Urban Design team on a sensory garden for the city featuring a line of poetry from several different cultural groups in the neighbouring community which will be cut into a wind chime. A piece of local writing about the garden is planned for the top of the circular seating with the text in Braille alongside. Another recent project saw the City of Literature sourcing permission from renowned local poet Brian Turner for his much-loved poem about cycling to be cut into the metal of a new bike facility, built to encourage cycling around the city.



Bicycle facility, Dunedin City Library

These initiatives address the following UCCN objectives:

- fully integrate culture and creativity into local development strategies and plans;
- stimulate and enhance initiatives led by member cities to make creativity an essential component of urban development, notably through partnerships involving the public and private sectors and civil society;

and the following UCCN areas of action:

- pilot projects, partnerships and initiatives associating the public and private sectors, and civil society;
- policies and measures for sustainable urban development.

These initiatives align with the following SDGs:

Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Strengthening the creation, production, distribution and enjoyment of cultural goods and services and fostering the creative economy.

The City of Literature works closely with the Ara Toi Arts and Culture team in its support of the local creative economy. The City of Literature also works with the Division of Humanities at the University of Otago on a number of partnership projects in support of the creative economy including the Humanities Division Practicum. In semester one 2019 the City of Literature will take its fourth exceptional Humanities intern to work on a special project under supervision, and one had a strong connection with Prague UNESCO City of Literature. The students gain a paper towards their degree as well as significant work experience. Also the Director makes a point of introducing the intern to key literary contacts across the community. As well as ongoing mentoring, opportunities have stemmed from the internships such as freelance editing of an author's memoir prior to publication. Similarly for students from Otago Polytechnic, the City of Literature is eager to support programmes/grant applications that lead to tangible roles in the workplace and encourage social inclusion.



City of Literature intern Kristyna O'Connell (right) with Dunedin writer Ruth Arnison

The Director City of Literature was delighted to engage Melanie Kidd, travelling in New Zealand from Norwich UNESCO City of Literature, on a contract to coordinate the Creative Cities Southern Hui and to present the latest happenings in Norwich at the Hui.



Melanie Kidd, Norwich UNESCO City of Literature

The City of Literature fosters the careers of countless wonderful emerging and established writers by promoting local work through signage and community interventions and by remunerating writers for these contributions. The City of Literature works closely with Dunedin Public Libraries, which has developed a database of writers and books with a strong connection to Dunedin. Each of these books is festooned with a City of Literature label and is included in the Library's City of Literature collection in the Library's online catalogue.

The City of Literature works closely with all the vibrant local book and arts festivals, including the **Dunedin Writers and Readers Festival** and the **NZ Young Writers Festival**, and encourages the inclusion of local

and international writers in their programmes which contributes to visibility and career development. The *City of Literature Beyond Words Award* is selected by a panel of judges and presented by the Director City of Literature at each **Dunedin Fringe Festival** Awards Ceremony to acknowledge and encourage outstanding original writing.

The City of Literature works closely with all the local writing and arts residencies, and partners on a number of writing competitions to encourage local writing and offer support in the form of prize monies. For example in collaboration with Dunedin Public Libraries, the popular annual City of Literature Robert Burns Poetry Competition rewards winning and highly commended writers across a number of categories including a Youth section, and sits alongside the Robbie Rocks music competition.



City of Literature Robert Burns Poetry Competition Prizegiving 2018

These initiatives address the following UCCN objectives:

- strengthen international cooperation between cities that have recognised creativity as a strategic factor of their sustainable development;
- develop hubs of creativity and innovation and broaden opportunities for creators and professionals in the cultural sector;

and the following UCCN areas of action:

- sharing experiences, knowledge and best practices;
- pilot projects, partnerships and initiatives associating the public and private sectors, and civil society.

These initiatives align with the following SDGs:

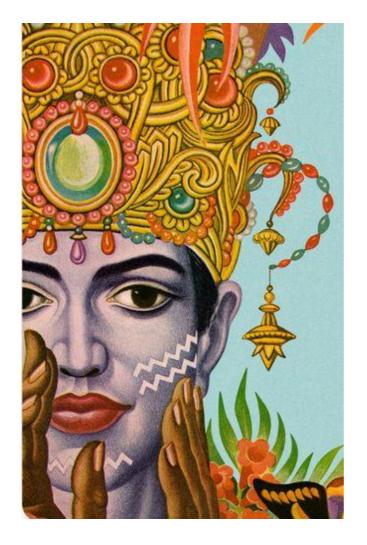
Goal 4: Quality Education

Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities

Improving access to and participation in cultural life as well as the enjoyment of cultural goods and services, notably for marginalized or vulnerable groups and individuals, including women and youth.

The City of Literature works closely with Dunedin Public Libraries on partnership events and workshops with free access to the full programme of events for everyone including regular events for children and young people. (Please see Appendix 2 for attendance statistics.) One such event is the popular annual Around the World in Eighty Tales, an all-day multicultural programme of stories, featuring storytellers from various communities including Papua New Guinea, South Africa, Norway, Hong Kong, India, Russia, Croatia, Syria, Tokelau, the deaf community, and many more, along with the Cook Islands dance troupe Kia Orana, as well as the puppets of Rare Byrds, and the sounds of the Dunedin Youth Orchestra. The event dovetails with Race Relations Week in 2019.



Poster for Around the World in Eighty Tales 2019

Dunedin UNESCO City of Literature is excited to partner with the Pulse Energy Highlanders rugby team in a new programme, *Little Landers Literature*, designed to encourage primary school pupils in less wealthy areas to read more. A significant body of research shows that reading for pleasure at a young age leads to a range of improved life outcomes, including health and wellbeing, and this project comprises an exciting opportunity to improve life outcomes for some young people.

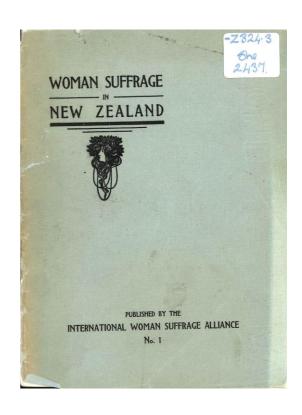
The programme sees Highlanders making repeat visits to the schools during term two for informal sessions, with plenty of opportunity for the children to interact with the players. Local writer-illustrators Robyn Belton and Kathryn van Beek, whose latest books have been read to the children by the players, are also visiting each school for a lively session on writing and illustrating.

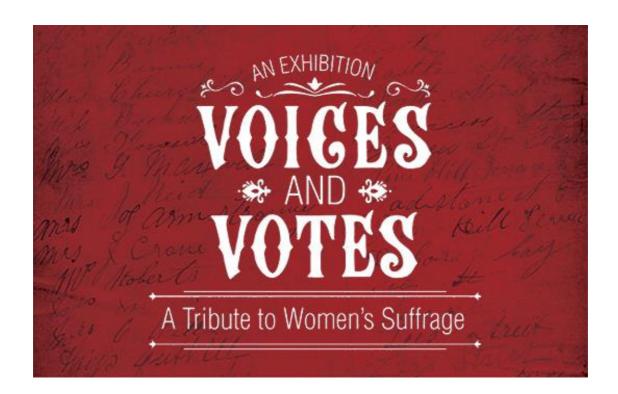
All the pupils receive a certificate at the end of the term and books are donated by the City of Literature office to the school libraries. The school principals all reported positive outcomes and asked to be involved in the programme next time. The principal of Carisbrook School reported a marked increase not only in reading but in the all-round confidence of the young students. Excitingly in 2019 a Te Reo stream will be added to the programme, with all components being delivered in Te Reo Māori.



Pine Hill School pupils with the Highlanders (Photograph by Sharron Bennett)

Dunedin UNESCO City of Literature actively advocates for gender equality. The 125th anniversary of women's suffrage in New Zealand was marked in 2018, because on 19 September 1893 New Zealand became the first self-governing country in the world in which all women had the right to vote in parliamentary elections. The City of Literature proudly promoted many of the wonderful initiatives in the local community to celebrate Suffrage 125, such as the exhibition at Dunedin Public Libraries Voices and Votes: A Tribute to Women's Suffrage, which showcased women writers of the time.





Poster from the Voices and Votes Suffrage 125 exhibition

Developing hubs of creativity and innovation and broadening opportunities for creators and professionals in the cultural sector.

The City of Literature office provides a central hub for promoting opportunities and forming creative partnerships, and these are regularly showcased by the National Commission. The University of Otago offers a new annual City of Literature Doctoral Scholarship as an exciting creative pathway. The international scholarship supports one PhD candidate from any discipline whose doctoral research is focused on the study of literature.

The City of Literature Collaboration Group is convened by the Director City of Literature bi-monthly and up to 50 attendees comprise members of the writing and creative communities including authors, publishers, broadcasters, librarians, gallery and museum directors, presidents of organisations such as the Society of Authors, university students, academics, booksellers, and festival directors. An Ambassador from each secondary school is offered membership to bring a welcome youth voice to the meeting and to promote the objectives of the Network within their schools. The Ambassadors can also develop projects within their schools and feed these back to the Collaboration Group.

The Poems in the Waiting Room project, based in Dunedin, is endorsed by the City of Literature office and is the brainchild of Ruth Arnison, who received a Queen's Honour in 2018 for Services to Literature. The project distributes 8000 free poetry cards every season to medical waiting rooms, rest homes, hospices, and prisons throughout New Zealand. The three-fold brightly coloured cards usually contain eight poems, including one for children and a haiku. Poets and publishers the world over have generously contributed.

In 2015, Poems in the Waiting Room initiated the Lilliput Libraries project. Adopting a 'take a book, leave a book' philosophy, the miniature libraries have been embraced by Dunedin residents and there are now 200 handcrafted and individually painted Lilliput Libraries scattered

around the city. The affiliated Step Sisters also continue to take poetry to the streets with their Poems on Steps project, which involves painting relevant poems and words on many of Dunedin's steps.

New writers are nurtured and encouraged by the City of Literature office and, as one writer said, 'the designation makes everything seem possible'. A range of **residencies** are offered for writers, and the **Otago Writers' Network** helps writers find writing groups and gives practical publishing advice. The City of Literature office helps facilitate workshops and mentoring, and advertises opportunities and vacancies across the arts.



The Poems on Steps project brings poetry to the people

These initiatives address the following UCCN objectives:

- strengthen the creation, production, distribution and dissemination of cultural activities, goods and services;
- develop hubs of creativity and innovation and broaden opportunities for creators and professionals in the cultural sector;
- improve access to and participation in cultural life as well as the enjoyment of cultural goods and services, notably for marginalised or vulnerable groups and individuals;

and the following UCCN areas of action:

- sharing experiences, knowledge and best practices;
- pilot projects, partnerships and initiatives associating the public and private sectors, and civil society;
- professional and artistic exchange programmes and networks.

These initiatives align with the following SDGs:

Goal 4: Quality Education

Goal 5: Gender Equality

Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities

Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

Integrating culture and creativity into local development strategies and plans.

Dunedin City Council approved the Ara Toi Arts and Culture Strategy, Ara Toi Otepoti – Our Creative Future, in 2015 and the two visions and teams work closely together. Engagement has been undertaken in the Dunedin City Council Annual Residents' Opinion Survey, and in the survey in 2018 satisfaction ratings for the arts community were high:

- Libraries 89%, with approximately one million visits per year (for a population of 130,000 people)
- Toitū Otago Settlers Museum 94%
- Dunedin Public Art Gallery 89%, with its internal user satisfaction rating being 94%.

The City of Literature also connects with the newly formed Arts in Infrastructure Committee and sits on a range of Dunedin City Council committees and working groups to offer a creative voice from the outset for a number of other policies and projects, with the latest being a group continuing work on Climate Change policy in 2019.



'Word Balm' panel at the Dunedin Writers and Readers Festival 2017, held at the Dunedin Public Art Gallery, a Festival sponsor

Improving awareness-raising on the UCCN and the role of culture and creativity in sustainable urban development and supporting research and analysis.

The Director City of Literature is regularly invited to present to groups in the community across all interest areas, and always leverages the opportunity to talk about the UCCN and the role of culture and creativity in sustainable urban development. Meetings and projects also regularly take place with the Scottish, Chinese, and Polish communities to celebrate the connection between Creative Cities Edinburgh, Shanghai and Kraków. The Director City of Literature enjoys working with the NZ National Commission for UNESCO and Auckland UNESCO City of Music, New Zealand's other newly designated Creative City, and always looks to strengthen awareness of the two designations and the UCCN.

The City of Literature works closely with schools and tertiary institutions, including Otago Polytechnic and the University of Otago's Departments of English and Linguistics, Theatre Studies, and Tourism (for which the Director runs a regular seminar on Dunedin as a City of Literature and a part of the UCCN). The University students regularly undertake research on aspects of the designation and its positive outcomes for the city, and Dunedin participates in requests for research by other Creative Cities.

The designation is also widely celebrated across all sections of the community with poems in an unexpected location – on the back of tickets from some pay and display parking meters. The idea grew from a concept created by design students. Poems by eight well-known local poets are printed on the back of the tickets. We plan to add more and more poems by local poets into the mix, including poems by emerging poets and young poetry competition winners, and the poems have been widely enjoyed and received considerable media attention.

The City of Literature has partnered with *theArtDept* in its **Painted Poems** initiative, which takes local poetry to primary schools. Each child is given one word to paint and then the words are exhibited together as a whole poem and shared online. The children have engaged with this

concept enthusiastically and it is great way to introduced the UCCN to them and their families. The painting of the individual words which are brought together as a group of unique individuals with collective power comprises an excellent metaphor for the importance of community.

A key partner for the City of Literature is Creative New Zealand, and the Director City of Literature is in regular contact with the Arts Practice Director, Literature. As well as potential literature and arts funding opportunities, the conversations also involve strategic vision and advocacy and the organisation collects data and research on the local creative environment (ref The evidence to support your advocacy). Similarly Enterprise Dunedin, the economic development arm of the Dunedin City Council, promotes Dunedin as a cultural hub and therefore a positive place in which to live and work. The City of Literature has been consulted about and showcased in the city's overall Destination Plan. Enterprise Dunedin is working with the Ara Toi Arts and Culture Group and the City of Literature to interrogate and routinely collect creative tourism statistics, and an additional new resource, DunedinNZ Insights, is in the prototype stage prior to being made available online. Once the tool is launched on the website it will be made available to the UCCN along with other data collected by the City of Literature which will gladly be shared at regular intervals. Other nationwide tourism organisations are also aligned and Tourism Industry Aotearoa launched the New Zealand Tourism Sustainability Commitment in 2017, which aims to see every New Zealand tourism business committed to sustainability by 2025.



Beverly Martens, Literary Walking Tours

These initiatives address the following UCCN objectives:

- strengthen the creation, production, distribution and dissemination of cultural activities, goods and services;
- improve access to and participation in cultural life as well as the enjoyment of cultural goods and services, notably for marginalised or vulnerable groups and individuals;
- fully integrate culture and creativity into local development strategies and plans.

These initiatives align with the following SDGs

Goal 4: Quality Education

Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities

Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities



Janet Frame mural by Winona Baines

MAJOR 5. INITIATIVES **IMPLEMENTED** THROUGH INTER-CITY COOPERATION TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVES OF THE UCCN

A special project for Dunedin in 2017 was a collaboration with Bologna UNESCO City of Music. The result was attendance by Dunedin at the iconic Bologna Children's Book Fair, for which all Creative Cities were invited to compete for one free stand and Dunedin's proposal was selected – yielding a meeting and display space at the iconic Trade Fair to showcase books and sell rights for local authors.

The partnership was a wholly positive and exciting experience for Dunedin. We were able to send eighty local books along with beautiful signage representing our City of Literature. We collaborated with a well-established New Zealand literary agent who managed the stand and reported significant interest in the books but also in the designation, and crowds were drawn to the stand for both reasons. This provided an opportunity for our children's authors to be represented at Bologna which is unusual given the challenges of distance so a genuine opportunity opened up for our local children's writers as a direct result of the designation. After the Fair all the books were donated to the International Youth Library in Munich, where they became part of the New Zealand collection. As a result they were eligible for a White Raven, and one of the Dunedin books, *Snark* by David Elliot, received this prestigious award.



Visitors enjoy the Dunedin UNESCO City of Literature stand at Bologna Children's Book Fair

The Creative Cities Southern Hui was a multiple day collaborative event, generously sponsored by the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO and held in partnership with the University of Otago's Centre for the Book. The Hui offered events, talks and workshops around the themes of creativity, connection, and collaboration. Each event was open to all creative minds; an opportunity to foster creative connections across all designations and disciplines. Every event was free and open to all.

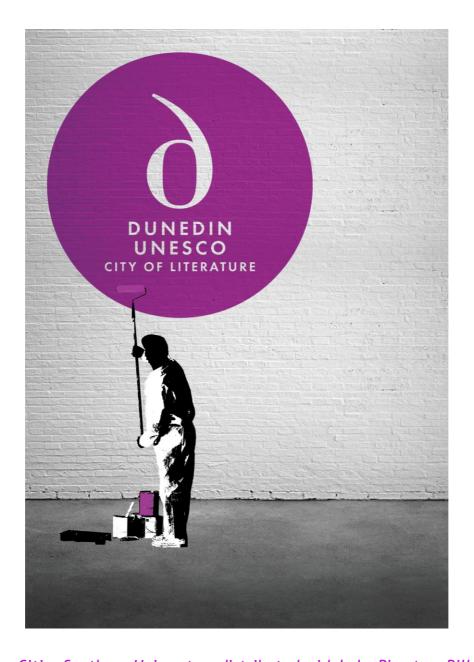
Participants were invited to become inspired by creative enterprise; to converse and get connected; to collaborate and develop partnerships; to feel uplifted; and to help shape sustainable creative communities.

The **Hui programme** included:

- Centre for the Book: Books and Users, a day of presentations and discussions, exploring the many ways we interact with books, and probing the meaning of 'user'.
- Creative Connections which explored creativity as the touchstone of healthy and sustainable communities, and celebrated the power of collaboration to inspire. The wealth of exciting keynote speakers included Steven Edmund Winduo (Papua New Guinea), Anna Maria Lorusso (Bologna UNESCO City of Music), and Noel Waite (Melbourne UNESCO City of Literature).
- Transitions and Transformations was a participatory workshop, facilitated by Noel Waite, inviting creative minds to identify ways in which to collaborate and develop sustainable creative partnerships to progress after the Hui.
- The Ara Toi Community Hui invited everyone to join the Creative Dunedin Partnership to present, enjoy and discuss progress on Ara Toi Ōtepoti Our Creative Future, Dunedin's arts and culture strategy.

Moreover the pleasure of working with the lovely Bologna City of Music team on the stand at the Fair created a special bond between our two cities. We have remained in close contact and will continue to do so. At the end of 2017 we invited Anna Maria Lorusso to come to Dunedin to participate in the Creative Cities Southern Hui as a guest speaker and she joined in all the Hui sessions and workshops. This was a wonderful way in

which to reciprocate and to introduce the brilliant Anna Maria to Dunedin UNESCO City of Literature and she commented, 'Thank you for this special chance you gave me. To know your country, your city, your culture, has been for me a real unforgettable experience.' The Hui connected arts practitioners and managers from around New Zealand and across the Network in vigorous discussions about the importance of connection and sustainability in the arts and tangible collaborative projects were taken home from the workshops and continue to come to fruition to this day. (Please see Appendix One for Hui feedback.)



Creative Cities Southern Hui poster, distributed widely by Phantom Billstickers



Creative Cities Southern Hui Guest Speakers including Mayor Dave Cull (centre), with Vicki Soanes, Director-General, New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO (left) and Nicky Page, Director City of Literature (Photograph by Anna McLachlan)



Anna Maria Lorusso presents at the Creative Cities Southern Hui (Photograph by Anna McLachlan)

The Hui addressed the following UCCN objectives:

- strengthen international cooperation between cities that have recognised creativity as a strategic factor of their sustainable development;
- develop hubs of creativity and innovation and broaden opportunities for creators and professionals in the cultural sector;
- improve access to and participation in cultural life as well as the enjoyment of cultural goods and services, notably for marginalised or vulnerable groups and individuals;
- fully integrate culture and creativity into local development strategies and plans;

and the following UCCN areas of action:

- sharing experiences, knowledge and best practices;
- pilot projects, partnerships and initiatives associating the public and private sectors, and civil society;
- communication and awareness raising activities.

The Hui aligned with the following SDGs:

Goal 4: Quality Education

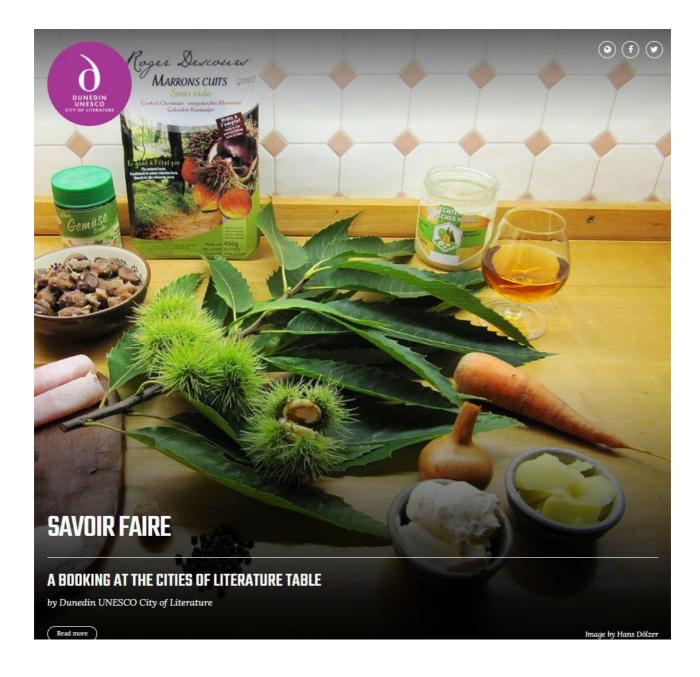
Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities

Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals

Savoir Faire is a literary cookbook spearheaded by Dunedin UNESCO City of Literature, with recipes and words from the Cities of Literature around the world. The idea for the online book was conceived by Mayor of Dunedin Dave Cull after the 2016 UNESCO Creative Cities Forum in Östersund UNESCO City of Gastronomy. It was a great way for the Cities of Literature to pay respects to gastronomic traditions, especially those of our home regions. It comprised a celebration of both food and literature, and the frequent relationship between the two.

All Cities of Literature at the time were invited to provide a recipe with a literary flavour. It was up to each City as to how they interpreted the brief and every entry is special and original with amazing images. Some are straightforward with their signature dish tied into literature; others have chosen a literary angle and created a recipe to match. For the Dunedin entry, the City of Literature partnered with Otago Polytechnic's School of Food Design which created an original recipe inspired by the lyrics of iconic Dunedin band The Verlaines. Östersund UNESCO City of Gastronomy provided a detailed and vibrant introduction with an important focus on sustainability. The project in this way connected with Gastronomy and Music as well as being a direct collaboration with all the Cities of Literature and also with the Gastronomy subgroup. Savoir Faire is available free, online, and can be enjoyed by all Creative Cities with translations welcome:

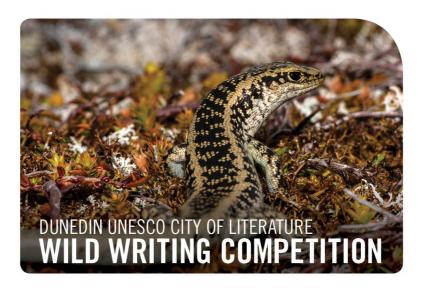
https://hail.to/dunedin-unesco-city-of-literature/publication/Bvhzt3x



Cover of Savoir Faire: A Booking at the Cities of Literature Table, a collaborative project by Dunedin UNESCO City of Literature

As well as the partnership with Dunedin Public Libraries for the annual Dunedin UNESCO City of Literature Robert Burns Poetry Competition, another annual international competition has just been launched: the **Dunedin UNESCO City of Literature Wild Writing Competition**. Entrants are invited to write a single great sentence that observes or describes something in nature that has moved them to put pen to paper. Entries are welcomed from writers all over the world aged 18+ with an

interest in wildlife. The best sentence will be turned into a beautifully-designed postcard for our Wild Cards series, and the writer will win a cash prize of NZ\$1,000 sponsored by the Wild Dunedin New Zealand Festival of Nature. This competition celebrates the importance of the natural world to health and well-being and uses literature to draw attention to sustainability in a truly global setting.









Dunedin Public Libraries, Wild Dunedin Festival of Nature, and Dunedin UNESCO City of Literature invite you to be inspired by the wildness of nature.

Write a single great sentence that observes or describes something in nature that has moved you to put pen to paper. Your sentence should be no longer than 250 words, and entries are welcome from writers all over the world aged 18+ with an interest in wildlife.

The best sentence will be turned into a beautifully-designed postcard for our Wild Cards series, and the writer will win a cash prize of NZ\$1,000 sponsored by the Wild Dunedin New Zealand Festival of Nature.

ENTER ONLINE

www.dunedinlibraries.govt.nz/whats-on/competitions

CLOSING DATE: Thursday 14 February 2019

CITY MOSGIEL BLUESKIN BAY WAIKOUAITI PORT CHALMERS SOUTH BOOKBUS

The inaugural Dunedin UNESCO City of Literature Wild Writing Competition promotional poster

These initiatives address the following UCCN objectives:

- strengthen international cooperation between cities that have recognised creativity as a strategic factor of their sustainable development;
- strengthen the creation, production, distribution and dissemination of cultural activities, goods and services;
- develop hubs of creativity and innovation and broaden opportunities for creators and professionals in the cultural sector;
- improve access to and participation in cultural life as well as the enjoyment of cultural goods and services, notably for marginalised or vulnerable groups and individuals;

and the following UCCN areas of action:

- sharing experiences, knowledge and best practices;
- pilot projects, partnerships and initiatives associating the public and private sectors, and civil society;
- communication and awareness raising activities.

These initiatives align with the following SDGs:

Goal 4: Quality Education

Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities

Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals

6. PROPOSED ACTION PLAN FOR THE FORTHCOMING MID-TERM PERIOD OF FOUR YEARS

6.1. Presentation of a maximum of three initiatives, programmes or projects aimed at achieving the objectives of the Network locally

As well as continuing to grow and expand existing initiatives, such as the Little Landers Literature partnership with the rugby team designed to encourage a love of reading in young children, and showcasing UNESCO's international dates such as Media Information Literacy Week,

the City of Literature office plans to launch several new initiatives including the three following examples.

In 2019 the City of Literature Director has been invited by the Dunedin City Council's Corporate Policy Manager to join a working group focusing on Climate Change Policy for Dunedin. This work will involve partnerships across the other creative fields such as Gastronomy and Design. Research undertaken by this group will involve collaborations with other Council Departments and tertiary and commercial organisations, as well as wide community consultation and it is intended that it will ultimately inform important new policy that will safeguard and educate Dunedin citizens.

A publication project that enhances adult literacy and improves tools for adults to learn to read is another exciting City of Literature collaboration. The project has the benefit of advice from Literacy Aotearoa Dunedin whose mission it is to help learners to take charge of their life by improving reading, writing and mathematics skills with no charge and life-changing outcomes. A series of fictional readers is planned by a local writer and illustrator/cartoonist that offer simple content relevant to adults in an often humorous way. The vision of the project is to engage with readers and help them improve their skills and enjoyment through the appealing and sophisticated nature of the content of each title and its straightforward presentation. The City of Literature office will support the grant applications for the project as well as participating in the project steering group and ultimately promoting the books and facilitating related events in partnership with Dunedin Public Libraries.

A new app will help locals and visitors to explore Dunedin's rich literary heritage and geography. Dunedin UNESCO City of Literature has teamed up with the University of Otago's Department of English and Linguistics to create a new City of Literature app, dtour. The app links remarkable local writers and their stories to memorable sites in Dunedin and Otago and is intended to increase engagement with both.

The literary locations not only reflect the region's colourful cultural history but also showcase its signature built and natural environment. The app is packed with local colour and flavour, featuring original scripts for each entry, composed by creative writers and voiced by iconic New Zealand personalities. The app features literary content but also talks to the environment and sustainability. Production of the app has required a happy partnership between the fields of Literature and Design.

The app was created in collaboration with Hocken Collections, Otago University's Department of Music, Theatre, and Performing Arts, Otago Museum and AppLab Ltd. The project received grants from the University of Otago, the Otago Community Trust and the Athenaeum Library. When the app launches shortly, it will feature information on 50 authors and sites, with plans to add another 50 authors in 2019. The app can be used on iPhone, android and Windows devices and will be free to download. Additionally the statistics generated from app downloads will provide a useful indicator of engagement of locals and visitors, and a display will showcase the app to visitors and locals at Otago Museum.



The dtour brand is becoming familiar around the city already as interest builds in the run-up to the launch

6.2. Presentation of a maximum of three initiatives, programmes or projects aimed at achieving the objectives of the Network on an international level, particularly those involving other member cities in the Network

The City of Literature office will be looking to increase its collaboration with Shanghai UNESCO City of Design (also a Sister City for Dunedin). Already the Lan Yuan Chinese Garden Essay Competition was held in 2018, open to leading young Shanghai tertiary students who were coming to Dunedin to take part in a two-week educational scholarship programme organised by the Mayor's Office. Following on from that an equivalent Essay Competition for local secondary schools will take place in 2019, encouraging secondary students to research and write about the Chinese Garden and to learn about the significance of strong connections with Shanghai. It is intended to grow the relationship between these two cities of Literature and Design, and this is exemplified by the Director City of Literature's membership of the Dunedin Shanghai Association Committee and the inclusion of the importance of the Creative City relationship in an MOU signed between Dunedin and Shanghai in 2018.

The Director City of Literature is chairing the Cities of Literature Communications and Promotions Working Group with other representation from the Cities of Literature Offices in Kraków, Óbidos, Seattle, and Ulyanovsk. This represents a real opportunity to grow the visibility of the Network and to collaborate with other Cities of Literature and Creative Cities from other fields. We will look to increase visibility for all those shared projects which happen regularly across the Network (and Dunedin enjoys participating in these collaborative projects too). We will run analytics on social media campaigns to ascertain the impact and effectiveness. As well we will showcase and share work from individual cities for the benefit of those cities and of the UCCN as a whole in terms of information-gathering and examples of best-practice.

Dunedin UNESCO City of Literature is also looking forward to Dunedin hosting the UNESCO Cities of Literature Short Play Festival in September 2019, which is also New Zealand Theatre Month. The Festival

was inspired by the 2016 Festival in Heidelberg City of Literature which was attended by Dunedin. Playwrights are invited to contribute to the Festival, which will be hosted by the University of Otago in Dunedin between 12 and 20 September 2019.

Playwrights, theatre companies and tertiary Theatre or Drama programmes in other UNESCO Cities of Literature are invited to send scripts or playwrights and actors, and to participate in this exciting international event. The Festival will allow contributors and participants to share their work with a wider international audience, to explore new artistic connections, and to receive considered feedback on their work from both professional specialists and audiences.

Playwrights are invited to submit 20-minute plays, or 20-minute segments of longer plays, covering a wide range of themes for inclusion; selected works will be staged by Otago Theatre Studies students during the Festival. Funding has been secured thanks to the generosity of the University of Otago and the Dunedin City Council, and planning with a range of other partners, including Festivals, international theatre troupes, guest speakers, other theatres, and playwriting organisations, is well underway to ensure audiences experience a rich programme.

The Festival will celebrate the opportunities that the UNESCO Creative Cities Network provides for shared learning and exciting creative collaborations as well as careers in the creative sector. In addition to a full schedule of performances over eight days, the Festival programme will feature workshops, rehearsed readings and "pitch" style presentations of scripts, and a series of sessions on aspects of 21st century dramaturgy and playwriting – all of which the public are welcome to attend.

An international guest and a prominent New Zealand playwright will contribute to public events as speakers and forum respondents. The Festival, which is part of the University's 150th anniversary celebrations, will underscore Dunedin's status as a cultural hub. Theatre Studies also offers a biennial teaching fellowship which has allowed professional playwrights from around the world to teach scriptwriting and dramaturgy

at Otago. The Festival will provide students with invaluable learning opportunities and encourage new voices to emerge, as well as contributing to theatrical practice nationally and globally and sharing learnings with other local and international students and writers and the Network as a whole.



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The University of Otago in Dunedin, New Zealand is excited to be hosting the UNESCO Cities of Literature Short Play Festival 12-20 September 2019 with Dunedin UNESCO City of Literature.

Playwrights, theatre companies, and universities in UNESCO Cities of Literature may send scripts or bring productions of 20-minute plays (or 20-minute segments of longer plays) to Dunedin.

Accepted plays will be staged, and technical support will be offered to visiting productions.



Call for scripts for the UNESCO Cities of Literature Short Play Festival 2019

These initiatives address the following UCCN objectives:

- strengthen international cooperation between cities that have recognised creativity as a strategic factor of their sustainable development;
- stimulate and enhance initiatives led by member cities to make creativity an essential component of urban development, notably through partnerships involving the public and private sectors and civil society;
- strengthen the creation, production, distribution and dissemination of cultural activities, goods and services;
- develop hubs of creativity and innovation and broaden opportunities for creators and professionals in the cultural sector;
- improve access to and participation in cultural life as well as the enjoyment of cultural goods and services, notably for marginalised or vulnerable groups and individuals;
- fully integrate culture and creativity into local development strategies and plans;

and the following UCCN areas of action:

- sharing experiences, knowledge and best practices;
- pilot projects, partnerships and initiatives associating the public and private sectors, and civil society;
- professional and artistic exchange programmes and networks;
- policies and measures for sustainable urban development;
- communication and awareness raising activities.

These initiatives align with the following SDGs:

Goal 4: Quality Education

Goal 5: Gender Equality

Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities

Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

Goal 13: Climate Action

Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals

6.3. Estimated annual budget for implementing the proposed action plan

Included in the recently approved Dunedin City Council long-term (tenyear) plan is the intention to allocate NZD149,000 per annum to the City of Literature for operations, projects, and personnel. In addition, funding applications for specific projects have been successful in the past to the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO (a key and valued partner at all times), Creative New Zealand, and the Otago Community Trust. In-kind support will come from Dunedin City Council Departments including Dunedin Public Libraries, Ara Toi, and Marketing and Design, and institutions such as Dunedin Public Art Gallery and the University of Otago. In-kind community support (tailored to each project) is offered, similar to the following model from the Creative Cities Southern Hui:

- Gratis venue for Day 1, University of Otago Centre for the Book
- All programming for Day 1, University of Otago Centre for the Book
- All administration for Day 1, University of Otago Centre for the Book
- Morning/afternoon tea Day 1, University of Otago Centre for the Book
- Promotions for all days, University of Otago Centre for the Book
- Gratis venue Day 2, Dunedin Public Art Gallery
- Promotions Day 2, Dunedin Public Art Gallery
- Gratis use of office as green room Day 2, Friends of DPAG President
- Gratis venue for Day 3, Lawrie Forbes, Zeal Steel as sponsorship
- Gratis heating of venue for Day 3, Zeal Steel sponsorship
- Airfares and accommodation for Welby Ings paid for in full by OUP
- MC Victor Billot's time in preparation and on Day 2 donated by OUP
- A copy of Snark donated by Otago University Press as sponsorship
- Promotions all days, Otago University Press
- 25% discount on all Hui accommodation, Heriot Row Apartments
- Gratis airport rides for all visiting speakers, DWRF volunteers
- Gratis curated pop-up bookshop for all of Day 2, University Book Shop
- URBN Vino Writer's Block Pinot supplied at cost as function sponsorship
- Gratis tours for guest speakers, Dunedin Literary Walking Tours
- Discounted recording and podcasting of Day 2 speakers, OAR
- Gratis promotions on air, interviews on air, and social media, OAR
- Gratis photographs for whole of Day 2 by DPAG volunteer photographer
- Gratis video clip made by Prof Al Gillespie, Waikato University
- 18 x volunteers for Days 2 and 3
- Volunteers on call all week to provide support for visiting speakers
- Gratis live Facebook/Twitter posts by volunteer writer for all Day 2

6.4. Plan for communication and awareness

Dunedin UNESCO City of Literature energetically promotes the objectives of the Network to increase understanding of and engagement with these objectives via a range of initiatives:

- Mayor Dave Cull regularly mentions the designation and the objectives of the Network in high-level speeches.
- The City of Literature Collaboration Group is convened by the Director City of Literature bi-monthly.
- The City of Literature regularly partners with Dunedin Public Libraries on literary events at which the designation is promoted with banners and signage and in speeches.

- The City of Literature regularly collaborates with the Library on writing competitions, including the City of Literature Robert Burns Poetry Competition, and the Lan Yuan Chinese Garden Essay Competition, which disseminate the objectives of the Network to a large audience. The competition collateral is widely distributed and the prize-giving ceremonies are well-attended and reported on in the media, and contribute to constantly growing visibility for the City of Literature and the Network.
- Dunedin UNESCO City of Literature is closely associated with all book and arts Festivals, and advertises in their programmes.
- The Director City of Literature sits on the board of the Dunedin Writers and Readers Festival. City of Literature banners and logos are displayed at the Festival and the logo is projected throughout the events. The printed and online programmes acknowledge the City of Literature and the media and reviewers acknowledge the significance of this relationship and of the designation.
- The Director City of Literature sits on the nationwide Industry
 Discussion Group, and the New Zealand Book Council's Sector Steering
 Group, a nationwide industry steering group which works to build
 sustainable communities and promotes equity of access.
- The Director City of Literature sits on the Dunedin Shanghai Association Committee and updates the Committee on literary and arts projects that align with Shanghai UNESCO City of Design.
- The Director City of Literature attends the Ara Toi Leadership Team and Creative Dunedin Partnership meetings and updates the meetings on City of Literature activities.
- The Director City of Literature reports to Dunedin City Council governance meetings, and is regularly invited to give a variety of public talks and presentations to community groups, businesses, and university students promoting the objectives of the Network.
- The City of Literature regularly donates prizes for school competitions and gift bags for university conferences which increase awareness of the designation and the Network.
- The City of Literature logo is circulated and mounted around the city as a large vinyl sign in cafes, institutions, schools, businesses, and Dunedin Airport, as well as free bookmarks being available which can be collected as gifts and which also inform locals and visitors about the designation and the Network.

- The City of Literature facilitated a new addition to the Octagon Writers'
 Walk, with an unveiling in the Dunedin Writers and Readers Festival
 2017 in which the Councillor acknowledged the role of the City of
 Literature in the project and its importance.
- The City of Literature offers in-kind support for a range of community projects and events and the organisers warmly acknowledge the participation of the City of Literature in the speeches, posters, and programmes.
- The City of Literature regularly writes letters of support for grant applications for community projects that exemplify the objectives of the Network, and offers free venues and promotions.
- Multiple partnerships in the community promote the objectives of the Network, such as Beverly Martens' Literary Walking Tours, which promote Dunedin as a UNESCO City of Literature, and OAR FM, which offers the Director City of Literature a fortnightly radio slot in its popular community station with an aligned ethos of inclusivity and community sustainability. The City of Literature proudly hosts a range of OAR FM shows on its website.
- Continuing Education at the University runs papers aligned with the City
 of Literature and featuring its logo on the posters and brochures,
 including a paper presented by a highly regarded local poet entitled,
 Through a Poet's Eyes: Dunedin, City of Literature.
- The City of Literature regularly partners with the local newspaper in series of fictional short stories under the City of Literature umbrella, which have reintroduced fiction into the newspaper and raised the profile of Dunedin as a UNESCO City of Literature.
- The Director City of Literature supplies editorial for various publications including the National Commission's newsletter and Annual report, FYI (delivered free to all Dunedin households), the Library's quarterly publication NB, and the New Zealand Book Council and Booksellers NZ's digital newsletters.
- Dunedin UNESCO City of Literature advertises in a number of publications with a wide reach including the Motel Compendium, annual Cruise Ship publication, and iconic literary journal Landfall.
- The i-SITE tourism office carries City of Literature signage and collateral and its staff are fully briefed on the designation.
- A high level of community engagement means increasingly Dunedin citizens are aware of the prestigious designation and understand its

context, and speak about it to their friends and (in the case of school children) to their families with pride.



The young audience in the Regent Theatre goes wild at a Dunedin Writers and Readers Festival event with a popular visiting writer-illustrator duo

These initiatives address the following UCCN objective:

 strengthen the creation, production, distribution and dissemination of cultural activities, goods and services;

and the following UCCN areas of action:

- sharing experiences, knowledge and best practices;
- communication and awareness raising activities.

These initiatives align with the following SDGs:

Goal 4: Quality Education

Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities

Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

Nicky Page, Director City of Literature
December 2018

7. Appendices

Appendix One: Creative Cities Southern Hui delegate feedback, written by Melanie Kidd, January 2018

The Hui received abundant positive feedback, highlighting the continual need for, and impact of, gatherings for creative minds, and the inclusivity of the creative community in Dunedin.

'The organisation of the Hui was exceptional.'

- Delegate, Creative Cities Southern Hui.

The free events and 'open to all' programme of the Hui inspired a diverse community of creative minds to attend and participate. Delegates appreciated the informality and structure of the Hui, enabling them to fit attendance around their schedules and other creative commitments. The Hui's creative weight lay in the social and accessible atmosphere; a gathering and assemblage, rather than a more formal conference structure. Lengthy and frequent breaks, additional social events and the close proximity of the venues allowed plenty of time for conversation and connection.

Delegates valued the networking opportunities; the chance to be in a room full of like-minded individuals, share ideas, value the importance of collaboration and build local and global connections.

'The best thing about the Hui was the opportunity to meet with and listen to like-minded creative types. To make plans for partnership projects and become inspired and energised.'
- Delegate, Creative Cities Southern Hui

The attendance and involvement of many of the delegates surpassed expectations of staff and volunteers. It was noted that delegates would make great effort to attend each event, engage fully, contribute valuable ideas and show significant support for the organisation of the Hui.

'The vibrancy and commitment of the delegates was incredible. They were fully engaged, collaborated, held interesting conversations and showed enthusiasm for the collaborative approach of the Hui.'

- Melanie Kidd, Creative Cities Southern Hui Coordinator

'[The best thing about the Hui was] Feeling part of a creative city.'

- Delegate, Creative Cities Southern Hui.

Delegates commented on the momentum from everyone involved in the Hui, their appreciation of their fellow creatives, and interest in building their own knowledge of the current creative landscape of Dunedin.

'[The best thing about the Hui was] the people, the organisation, the energy.'

- Delegate, Creative Cities Southern Hui.

'Discovering the huge range of talented people...plus the wonderful events and enterprises happening in Dunedin.'

- Delegate, Creative Cities Southern Hui

Delegates recognised and celebrated the creative forces, individuals and collectives already present in Dunedin, and, during the Hui, praised 'the sheer enormity of the creativity in the room.' (Delegate, Creative Cities Southern Hui.)

'It was an outstanding opportunity to get a sense of the depth of creative forces in our city.'

- Delegate, Creative Cities Southern Hui.

There was an acute awareness of the importance of considering creative sustainability both locally and globally, and the significance of coming together to discuss the creative future of Dunedin with 'all of those who care about creativity.' (Delegate, Creative Cities Southern Hui).

'[The best thing about the Hui was] The mix of people thinking about how Dunedin can be an even better place to live in and to visit.'

- Delegate, Creative Cities Southern Hui

Delegates were able to consider, discuss and develop ideas together, and find inspiration from creative initiatives and enterprise from across New Zealand and around the world.

'Giving time to think about how the city could be more creative and sustainable.'

- Delegate, Creative Cities Southern Hui.

'The cross-pollination of ideas that resulted from a variety of creative sectors mingling.'

- Delegate, Creative Cities Southern Hui.

Delegates of all creative sectors valued the opportunity to broaden their knowledge on the opportunities through the Creative Cities Network, and recognise the contributions and wealth Dunedin offers as part of that network.

'[The best thing about the Hui was] The affirmation of what riches we offer as a UNESCO City of Literature.'

- Delegate, Creative Cities Southern Hui.

The more intimate structure and environment of the Hui, and the sense of collectiveness and togetherness that emerged through the events, offered all creative individuals the opportunity to share their own practices and ambitions, and express their own views on the future of creativity.

'[The best thing about the Hui was] Learning about what other Creative people are up to - in their own words'.

- Delegate, Creative Cities Southern Hui.

'David from Melbourne has just been in touch about flying me over next year for an indigenous writer's festival and Vanessa Manhire is looking at what dates I can come down next year and use the Robert Lord Cottage. Both of these opportunities came off my presentation at the hui, so thank you again for the opportunity to forge Creative Connections!'

- Victor Rodger, Wellington

'Your Hui was the best arts event I have attended for a very long time. And I have been to many, all over the globe. You created something very special! I am still buzzing and inspired.'

- Brent Harpur



Victor Rodger presents at the Creative Cities Southern Hui (Photograph by Anna McLachlan)

Appendix Two: Sample Dunedin Public Libraries Events Statistics, July — November 2018

	July	July	July	Aug	Aug	Aug	Sept	Sept	Sept	Oct	Oct	Oct	Nov	Nov	Nov
Library, Talks, Tours and Visits	13	56	108	14	54	335	24	128	490	11	40	91	14	68	196
Outreach Talks, Visits and Events	18	114	348	30	232	1,012	37	971	585	27	178	542	33	257	1,753
Events organised by Events Co-ordinator	21	39	193	7	161	24	4	66	26	16	496	159	5	256	38
Storytimes	18	97	219	16	179	362	27	141	322	14	70	197	25	182	286
Wriggle and Rhyme	7	202	197	9	287	277	8	233	229	5	117	123	9	209	210
Book Groups	5	25	31	7	45	66	6	33	48	5	30	17	6	35	14
Other	60	287	485	45	299	365	39	240	269	51	236	341	59	339	308
Collaborative Events	62	613	514	8	390	346	14	343	0	11	272	10	4	535	715
Exhibitions	1	0	0	1	36	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Displays	52	0	0	42	0	0	46	0	0	43	0	0	47	0	0
Book a Librarian	9	9	0	10	10	0	5	1	1	7	6	0	9	8	0
Stepping Up	3	9	0	4	16	0	4	9	0	5	11	0	5	9	0
Summer Reading Registrations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reading Challenges	0	0	0	1	192	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	6	4,000	0
TOTAL	269	1,451	2,095	194	1,901	2,787	215	2,165	1,970	197	1,456	1,480	223	5,898	3,520

NB Each month shows statistics for the number of participants aged o-14 years; the number of programmes; and the number of participants over 15 years



Photographer: Sharron Bennett