



EMPOWERING THROUGH EDUCATION



OUR PURPOSE

'For the promotion, advancement and encouragement amongst women of education, whether it be for research and professional activities, or for artistic and creative activities.'

Many thanks to all our supporters and sponsors for helping us achieve our purpose. I am proud to announce that over the last 12 months, The Kate Edger Educational Charitable Trust (KEECT) has provided financial assistance of over \$600,000 to 120 women, from \$2,000 grants assisting awardees to retrain, to \$16,000 post graduate research projects.

The KEECT is named after Kate Edger, who in 1877 became the first woman in New Zealand to gain a university degree. She was a great supporter of the Suffrage Movement and advocated strongly throughout her life for women to use the vote to bring about change and improvement in society.

In this issue of *Empowering through Education* we introduce some of our recent awardees; we celebrate the 125-year anniversary of all New Zealand women gaining the vote with a launch of a Secondary Schools' Suffrage Competition; and we acknowledge Emeritus Professor Dame Charmian O'Connor.

It is a good time to reflect on the meaning of citizenship and political engagement, and to honour the contributions that women make to their families, their communities and to New Zealand society in general.

Nina Tomaszuk
General Manager

COURAGE & COMMUNITY | 125 Years On

CALL FOR ENTRIES: SECONDARY SCHOOLS' SUFFRAGE COMPETITION

The opportunities and choices that young women have available to them today are a direct result of the efforts of the suffrage campaigners 125 years ago.

We are very excited to announce that The Kate Edger Educational Charitable Trust (KEECT) will be running a competition this year to celebrate the 125-year anniversary of New Zealand women gaining the vote in 1893.

This competition will be open to young women in year 13 at any secondary school in the Auckland and Northland region. There will be prizes for the top entries.

Simply tell us:

*What does the Suffrage Movement mean to you;
your family; your whānau; your identity?*

Entries may be in the form of writing, poetry, artwork, photography or video and must be submitted by 7 September 2018.

We are looking for talented young women who exemplify the courage, determination and community spirit shown by the two Kates – Kate Sheppard and Kate Edger – that will support the 'Kates of our future'.

Our 'new Kates' will hopefully improve things even more, however because of Kate Sheppard and Kate Edger's courage, and the determination of those involved in the suffrage campaign, women of today can take their place in education, politics or any other sphere of society they wish to be involved in and for which we can all be enormously thankful.

We are proud to be a part of the Suffrage 125 national event programme.

www.kateedgertrust-suffrage125.nz

*"Education is the most powerful
weapon which you can use to
change the world"*

–Nelson Mandela



QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

Our Very Own Dame

The KEECT is delighted to announce that Charmian O'Connor, the first female recipient of a Doctor of Science; first female Professor of Chemistry and the only one for many years; the driving force behind the foundation of The KEECT in 2005; a past Chair of The KEECT and the Chair of The KEECT Awards Committee was recently made a "Dame Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to Education and Chemistry".

At a time in her life when most people would be content to rest and enjoy the fruits of a successful career, Emeritus Professor Dame Charmian is still closely involved in the running of the Awards and is a precious taonga for The KEECT.

We congratulate her and her family on this well-deserved recognition of her contributions to New Zealand.

Stephanie Harris
KEECT Chair



Emeritus Professor
Dame Charmian O'Connor

Photo: Gottfried Boehnke

DEAR DONOR,

Having grown up in a low socio-economic area of South Auckland, the Kate Edger Educational Charitable Trust Vinka Marinovich Award in Music holds immense value for me personally and represents a clear path forward. To have financial security for the academic year to come is not something that I take for granted and I am incredibly humbled to be chosen for this award.

More than just the financial security however, this award has assured me that I will be in strong position to pursue my artistic and academic endeavors with full freedom. That is, freedom from the struggle of daily living costs, and freedom to research the current technological landscape for its potential to impact my art.

I study a field of music called Sonic Arts, a small enough area of research that has only begun to flourish in the last 50 years. I find myself as one of the only postgraduate female sonic artists in the University of Auckland, and amongst only a handful of female composers-researchers who have come before me. I am immensely grateful for the generosity of your award for it comes at a crucial time when female artists are ready and able to be recognised for their equal contribution to the Arts in New Zealand.

Finally, what this scholarship represents for me is an opportunity to pursue a path less trodden, not only because I am the first of my family to hold a university degree, but because I am able to explore the arts in a time where this field is continually experiencing a lack of financial support. I thank you for your generous support and hope to continue forging a path forward in both my academic and artistic career.

Yours sincerely,
Garling Wu

KEECT SUMMER STUDENTSHIP RECIPIENT RECEIVES WALLATH PRIZE AND THE KEECT POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA

The University of Auckland Medical School's Wallath Prize is awarded to the students from the Summer Studentship Research programme who submit the top reports for their project. This year, The KEECT was pleased to learn that one of our Summer Studentship Awardees, Jialin Sae-Jiw, received the prize for the biomedical report.

Jialin's research topic was "Can anti-inflammatory medications reduce brain injury after severe foetal asphyxia."

Jialin has also been awarded a KEECT 2018 Post Graduate Diploma to study Bioscience Enterprise at the University of Auckland – we have no doubt we will be hearing more about this talented and ambitious young woman.

In addition, one of our past Tressa Thomas Awardees, Rachel Basevi, was a runner-up in one of the other categories. We are extremely proud of the high calibre of our awardees!



Jialin Sae-Jiw (left) with KEECT General
Manager Nina Tomaszzyk.

Photo supplied by The University of Auckland Medical and Health Sciences



Photo provided by Shanti Brown

SHANTI BROWN

1877 Commemorative Award

Shanti Brown is the recipient of our KEECT 1877 Commemorative Award, celebrating the 140th anniversary of Kate Edger's BA graduation.

Currently doing her MA in Arts Therapy at Whitecliffe College of Arts and Design, Shanti completed an undergraduate degree in Fine Arts and was looking for an avenue to combine her love of art, her interest in counselling and psychology and her desire to pursue a career 'that was about more than just myself.'

Arts Therapy is a relatively new professional field in New Zealand and Shanti appreciates the Award not only for the financial breathing space it has provided her, but also because it validates her decision to pursue this area of study. She notes that Kate Edger provides a wonderful role model:

"Kate's life, with her balance between study, teaching, social work and family, shows that women don't have to just choose one path, but can have rich and diverse lives."

Shanti is about to commence her clinical practice as part of her degree.

VERONICA ZOEST

Bachelor with Honours Award

Veronica Zoest was a recipient of a KEECT Bachelor with Honours Award. She was enrolled at the University of Auckland in a Bachelor of Science (Hons) degree, specialising in Microbiology and Immunology. Veronica was part of a research team investigating the use of compounds to inhibit the growth of Mycobacterium tuberculosis, the causative organism in tuberculosis. This is part of the process of developing new drug treatments for a disease that continues to be a major threat to public health globally.

In the future, Veronica hopes to embark upon a PhD in the area of vaccine development. She noted the importance of the Award to her work: "This award helped to ensure that my education and research could be my main focus without the stress of the financing of post-graduate study."

She also referred to the importance of the work The KEECT does in supporting women studying STEM subjects, where women remain underrepresented.

MARAN GREENWOOD

Tressa Thomas Retraining Award

This award helped support Maran and her whānau during her Midwifery Studies at AUT. Maran was pursuing her long term ambition of becoming a midwife, because of her belief in the importance of supporting women and their families at such a crucial time in their lives:

"I am passionate about the strength and mana women possess and the vital role women play to grow healthy thriving tamariki and whānau."

When her studies are completed, Maran will fulfill her dream by working as a Lead Maternity Carer in her Northland community. She is very grateful to The KEECT, not only for the financial support, but for the confidence the Award gave her to achieve outstanding grades in her final year of study. We wish Maran and her whānau all the best in her career.

KEECT AWARDS

UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS

Expenses/Class Materials Awards \$300 to \$1,000 each
Tressa Thomas Retraining Awards \$2,000
New Start Awards \$18,000
Foundation Awards \$2,000 each
Named Foundation Awards \$18,000
Practicum Awards \$7,500
Bachelor with Honours Degree Awards \$8,000

POSTGRADUATE AWARDS

Expenses/Class Materials Awards \$300 to \$1,000 each
Practicum Awards \$7,500
Bachelor with Honours Degree Awards \$8,000
Postgraduate Diploma Awards \$8,000
Master's Degree Awards \$8,000 each

DOCTORAL AND POST-DOCTORAL AWARDS

First Year Doctoral Awards \$11,000
Final Year Doctoral Awards \$16,000
Doctoral Completion Award \$16,000
Post-Doctoral Research Awards \$16,000

DISCIPLINE-SPECIFIC AWARDS

Awards in Music \$8,000
Awards in Engineering \$2,000
Award in Performing Arts \$5,000
Awards in Design/Fashion \$2,500

OTHER AWARDS AND GRANTS

School Leavers' Awards / Competition TBA
Summer Medical Research Scholarships \$6,000
Hardship Grants TBA
Discretionary Funding TBA
One year awards - for any purpose as requested by a sponsor or donor.

We wish all of our awardees well in their studies, in their careers and in their future endeavours.

EMPOWERING THROUGH EDUCATION

ACADEMIC DRESS HIRE

Thank You for Supporting Women in Education

Hire or buy your academic regalia from Academic Dress Hire and you will be supporting women in education. All proceeds are channelled into the community through The KEECT.

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LEGAL REGALIA

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KOROWAI

The Korowai (Māori cloak) continues to be worn as a mantle of prestige and honour, and makes a fantastic Heirloom. We are pleased to make available to you Korowai made in a variety of colours and designs.

For more information on the Korowai available, please visit the Academic Dress Hire website.

Photographic and floral packages are also available.



Photographs – if not named, have been provided by Timeless Images

CONTRIBUTE TO THE LEGACY

Many thanks to those of you who already contribute to The KEECT, through donations, through funding an award or by leaving a Gift in your Will.

If you would like more information on ways you can support The KEECT, please contact Nina Tomaszuk, General Manager for a confidential conversation on 09 358 1044 or email nina.tomaszyk@kateedgertrust.org.nz.

CONTACT US

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Many thanks to Leawell Apparell; Lasso Media Ltd; Starchi & Starchi Dry-Cleaners; Timeless Images; Scarecrow Florists; Gottfried Boehnke; ANZ; Vinka Marinovich (estate); Macandrew (estate); KEECT Award Committee & Selection Panellists; Tertiary Institutes; Schools; and other anonymous donors.

