

AUGUST 2024



Centre for Pacific Languages

Warm Pacific Greetings

Talofa lava, Malo e lelei, Kia orana, Fakaalofa lahi atu, Mālo ni, Ni sa bula vinaka, Noa'ia, Fakatalofa, Kam na mauri, Kia ora.

Message from the Chief Executive

Reflecting on my time as Chief Executive Officer, I'm proud of the progress we've made at the Centre for Pacific Languages. Over the past months, we've strengthened our organisation to better fulfill our mission of preserving and promoting Pacific languages.

Our commitment to safeguarding the language heritage of our Pacific communities is unwavering. We've marked significant milestones this month, reinforcing the vital role language plays in connecting us to our identity and culture.

As we look ahead, our focus remains on creating pathways that preserve our languages and empower our communities to thrive. We're excited about the new initiatives and partnerships we're launching to further our mission.

I want to express my gratitude to our dedicated tutors, staff, and community members who have made these achievements possible. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Malo 'aupito,
Fesaitu Solomone
Chief Executive Officer
Centre for Pacific Languages

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Global Impact: Primanavia's Golden Voice

Hosting Primanavia was a timely reminder of the deep significance of our languages. The video of their golden voices captured hearts globally, racking up over 1 million views in just 3 weeks. This powerful moment showcased how music transcends boundaries, connecting us all.

Our language is more than words—it's a vital link to our past and a pillar of our cultural identity.



By preserving it through music, we breathe life into our traditions. At CPL, we remain dedicated to our mission of safeguarding these languages for future generations. A heartfelt thank you to Primanavia for their incredible contribution to preserving our language. We look forward to continuing this important work together.

“Whichever island you are from, be proud of who you are! Primanavia is using music to preserve our language”

SUNIA LOGA





Kiribati Language Week

With 3,225 Kiribati people calling New Zealand home, the preservation of the Tungaru language is vital. Yet, only 50% of the community speaks it, and among those born in New Zealand, just 20% can communicate in their native tongue. Even more concerning, only 24% of i-Kiribati youth under 15 years old speak the language. These numbers highlight the urgent need to nurture and protect our linguistic heritage.

Kiribati Language Week at the Centre for Pacific Languages was a vibrant celebration of this cultural treasure. Our tutors led a Kiribati Spelling Bee, engaging learners of all ages and deepening their connection to their heritage. The energy and enthusiasm were contagious, making it a truly memorable event.

We also hosted a Music Workshop with a talented Kiribati music producer, blending traditional songs with modern techniques. This workshop underscored the powerful link between language and music, showcasing how the arts can play a role in preserving our languages.

We're proud of the community's participation and remain committed to supporting the growth and preservation of Pacific languages.



“Eutakirakean ma kabwaekekean ara taetae ni Kiribati ma kateira ao rabakaura, bon maurin ao tokabetin te I-Kiribati”

“Thriving and flourishing our Kiribati language, culture, and knowledge build I-Kiribati resilience and prosperity”

MINISTRY OF PACIFIC PEOPLES



The Future of Language! Rosehill College Careers Day

"E puapinga tō tātou reo" — Our language is valuable.

For the first time, the Centre for Pacific Languages had the privilege of participating in Rosehill College's Careers Day, where we shared a powerful message: language is not just a gift—it's a gateway to countless opportunities.



Our presence sparked curiosity among students, revealing the diverse career paths that language skills can unlock. Language is more than just a means of communication; it's a gateway to our heritage, connecting generations through shared words and stories. Speaking more than one language not only strengthens cultural ties but also enhances intellectual abilities, helping to develop a more adaptable and versatile mind.

With a growing Pacific population of 381,642 in New Zealand, the demand for skilled professionals who can bridge cultural and linguistic gaps is rising. Students were surprised to learn about the wide range of job opportunities available where their own language can be a powerful asset, setting them apart in a competitive job market.

The Centre for Pacific Languages is committed to empowering our youth to see the value in their heritage and to use their language skills to get ahead. Our involvement at Rosehill College was just the beginning of a larger mission to inspire future leaders who understand the importance of preserving and utilising their native languages.

Language is our purpose, our connection, and our future.



"E puapinga tō
tātou reo"

"Our language is
valuable."





Term 3 Begins! Expanding Access to Pacific Languages

Term 3 is now underway, and we're excited by the surge of international interest in our programs. Although we're not yet enrolling international students, we're actively working on a plan to share the gift of language globally.

Right now, we offer nine Pacific languages to New Zealand citizens residing in the country. At the Centre for Pacific Languages, we're dedicated to preserving and strengthening our languages for future generations. As the only NZQA-registered private training establishment offering free Pacific language classes in New Zealand, we embrace this vital mission.

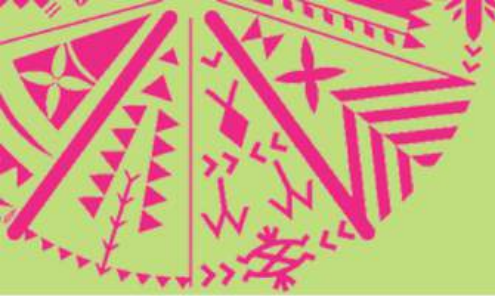
Start your learning journey with us today and help preserve our rich cultural heritage!

Click here to enrol

<https://centreforpacificlanguages.co.nz/>

"We are tautai or wayfinders, helping people recover their past, strengthen their present, and envision their future through the restoration of their languages, cultures and identities."





New Partnership Launches Intergenerational Language Program for Tamariki

We are pleased to announce a new partnership that will significantly impact our community's future. The Centre for Pacific Languages has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Falelalaga Cultural and Education Centre to launch a 10-week intergenerational language workshop designed specifically for our tamariki.

This program will focus on speaking, learning, and writing, equipping our young learners with the tools they need to connect with their cultural roots. As the Centre for Pacific Languages, we recognise the vital importance of supporting our children in maintaining and growing their language skills. This partnership with Falelalaga is a key step in fulfilling that commitment.

We are fortunate to have Penina Ifopo, the founder of Falelalaga, playing a pivotal role in this initiative. Her expertise and dedication to language preservation will be essential as we work together to create solutions that ensure a brighter future for our tamariki.

This partnership represents more than just a program—it's a shared vision for nurturing the next generation and safeguarding our cultural heritage. We look forward to the positive outcomes of this collaboration and invite our community to join us on this important journey.

Stay tuned for more details on how you can get involved and support our tamariki in this exciting new venture. Together, we are building a stronger, more connected future for our Pacific languages.



"Penina to send through a quote"





Alofa Awards 2024

Poporazzi Productions

The Centre for Pacific Languages was honoured to sponsor the Best Language Award at the Alofa Awards Night, an event dedicated to recognising the incredible talents of our youth in short filmmaking. Schools from across the motu participated, with students creating impactful films supported by New Zealand's top film creatives.

Storytelling plays a crucial role in keeping our cultural narratives alive, and it's encouraging to see so many talented Pasifika young filmmakers showcasing their skills through their native languages. The Best Language Award highlights their creativity and their dedication to preserving and promoting our cultural heritage.

We are proud to see the next generation of storytellers using their voices to keep our stories and languages vibrant.

Congratulations to all the participants and winners for their outstanding work!



Winner for
Best Language Award
Jojo Petelo-Titi

Mt Maunganui College





Important Dates

Intergenerational Learning Programme
Falelalaga Cultural and Education & CPL
5-18years
9th September - 29th November

Term 3 Dates
16th September - 22nd November

Language Weeks
Te gana Tuvalu : 29th September 29th - 5th October
Vosa VakaViti : 6th October - 12th October

"Te kau i mate, te kau
i ola."
- Tongan Proverb

"One man cannot do
everything; we need
others."

