

6. FESTIVALS AND EVENTS SUBCOMMITTEE - ACTIVITIES

Officer responsible Leisure Manager	Author Alan Bywater, Team Leader, Leisure Planning on behalf of Festivals and Events Subcommittee, DDI 941-6430
---	---

The purpose of this report is to:

- Seek approval for festivals and events funding recommendations to Toru 2003 and for new elements of the World Buskers Festival, and
- Report other activities of the Festivals and Events Subcommittee.

1. Introduction

In the funding recommendations approved by the Arts, Culture and Heritage Committee in February 2002, a sum of \$60,000 was identified for new core funded festivals within the Contracted Events Output. In July 2002 the Arts, Culture and Heritage Committee approved funding of \$10,000 for Young Inventionz from this fund. Currently there remains \$50,000 unallocated from the new core funded festivals fund.

In addition there is currently an unallocated amount of \$91,281 within this output. Funding for the proposed combined Montana Winter Carnival/Adventure Festival has yet to be made from this unallocated sum.

2. Toru 2003

The Toru 2003 festival is a Pacific Island and Maori contemporary arts festival that has previously appeared under the names UA 2001 and Tasi 2002. The festival programme consists of a family day (performing arts, stalls demonstrations etc), a Pacific arts exhibition, workshops in Pacific arts, Maori/Pacific films, a Pacific fashion exhibition and performances by the Naked Samoans and other prominent Pacific performers.

The festival is organised by Pacific Underground and takes place at the Arts Centre. The festival is of nine days duration and has a mix of paid and free events. The Family Day has worked well in previous years in exposing the general Christchurch population and visitors to contemporary Pacific Island and Maori culture. The organisers have followed the Subcommittee's advice and moved this event to the beginning of the festival where it can be used to generate interest in others parts of the Festival.

It is proposed that Toru 2003 takes place between 24 January 2003 and 1 February 2003. This is a very busy period in the festivals and events calendar and the Subcommittee would like to see the festival take place at another time when there are fewer festivals taking place. Negotiations need to take place with the event organisers over the timing.

A summary of the Subcommittee's assessment of Toru 2003 is attached as Appendix 1.

3. World Buskers Festival 2003

A number of proposals have been received by the Festivals and Events Subcommittee from the Director of the World Buskers Festivals for new elements to this popular festival. Currently the Council has approved funding of \$89,090 for the World Buskers Festival 2003. In the assessment of the Festival reported in February 2002 it was noted that the Festival has potential for further development but requires additional funding to achieve this.

Of the proposals put forward the Festivals and Events Subcommittee is keen to support the following:

- Midnight Madness - utilizing an indoor venue to produce two late evening stand up comedy shows that are offered to the public at a reasonable ticket price. These shows will begin at 11pm and run until 1am capturing some of the late night audience. Cost to operate \$4,600.
- Open Pitch for Local Performers - taking place in the City Mall Amphitheatre (weekdays). The open pitch will provide opportunities for local performers in general and more specifically featuring young, local break dancers. The open pitch will be scheduled via a sign up board on site. Cost to operate \$3,450.

The expectation of the Festivals and Events Subcommittee is that these events will need be funded within the 'normal' funding allocation to the World Buskers Festival in subsequent years.

4. Other Activities of the Festivals and Events Subcommittee

(a) Adventure Festival and Winter Carnival Request for Funding for Rebranding

The Subcommittee considered a request from the combined Adventure Festival and Winter Carnival Trusts for \$10,000 to rebrand the festival to be held in 2003. This request recognised the branding investment made by Montana into the Winter Carnival in the recent past. Although it was noted that the Subcommittee had requested that the festivals look at a merger and it was appreciated that there would be some cost in rebranding the new festival, the Subcommittee decided that no additional funding could be allocated for this purpose at this stage, until a full concept and proposal was presented to the Subcommittee for consideration for funding.

(b) Core Funded Festivals Innovation Fund

A core funded festivals innovation fund of \$20,000 was created for 2002/3. In recommending the creation of the fund it was noted that *'this fund is to be contestable each year and open to any of the current core-funded festivals. For innovations to qualify the festival concerned must have clear plans to sustain the innovation, if successful, without recourse to regular increased Council funding'*. The Festivals and Events Subcommittee has created a process to seek suitable innovations and has extended an invitation for all core funded festivals to put forward suitable projects.

(c) Proposed New Zealand Garden Festival

Discussions have been had by the Subcommittee as to how to proceed with the proposed festival and establish its framework. The major current issue that needs to be resolved to progress the festival is around the incorporation of Gardenz into the new festival. The Subcommittee chairperson had met with Rob Dunkley to discuss the issue and further meetings are planned over the coming weeks.

Staff

Recommendation: That funding of \$25,000 be allocated to Toru 2003 from the New Core Festivals Fund subject to successful negotiation by the Festivals and Events Subcommittee on the timing of the festival.

That additional one-off funding of \$8,000 be allocated to the World Buskers Festival for the development of the Midnight Madness and Open Pitch for Local Performers events in 2003.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the Subcommittee's recommendation be supported.