

# ARTS AND CULTURAL ECOSYSTEM IN THE WAIKATO

Examining the  
role of the arts  
and culture within  
community and  
society.



# THE WAIKATO ARTS NAVIGATOR FRAMEWORK

Drawing from our ongoing research, strategic development, and sector knowledge, we have developed a vision framework for Arts Navigation in our communities.

This brings together the outcomes of Creative Prosperity, Creative Experiences, Creative Wellbeing and Creative Excellence as key overarching components of a thriving Arts and Cultural Sector.

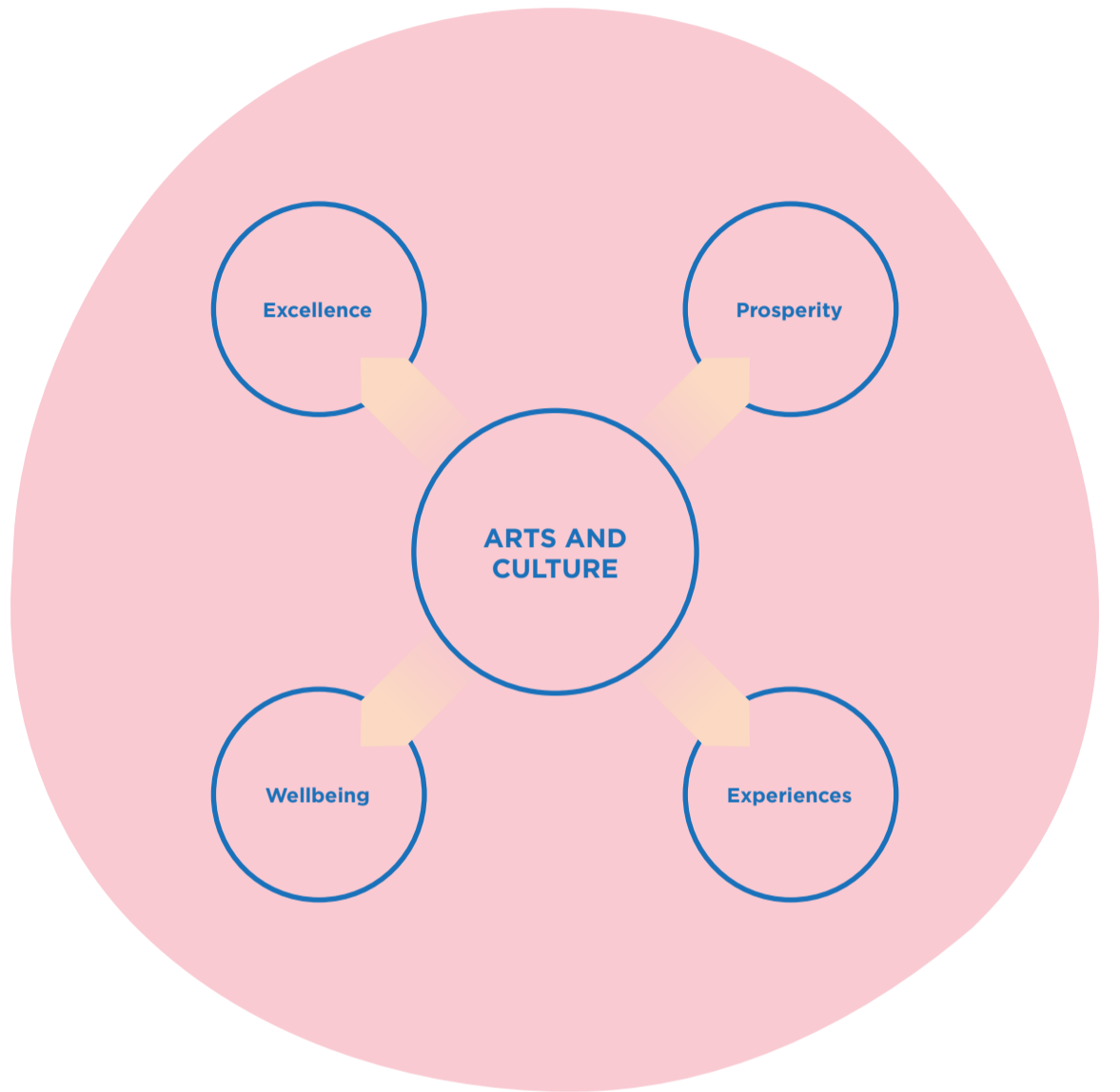
We understand the interconnected nature of the arts community. The ecosystem is vibrant and interconnected. A ripple in the water of development and activity in one area can connect and flow with other parts of the sector in unexpected ways. In Arts and Culture boundaries are fluid, genres and mediums can be re-imagined within other contexts, and while there are clear and established pathways for development and engagement, there are also new and innovative pathways for creative activity emerging all the time.

**PROSPERITY:** A strong creative economy that is vibrant, attracts people and strengthens the perception of the Waikato.

**EXPERIENCES:** An engaged community who values and participates in artistic and cultural expression.

**WELLBEING:** Create and strengthen communities, enhance mental and physical health, and develop a sense of identity through arts and culture.

**EXCELLENCE:** Celebrate our arts and culture through a culture of achievement with national and international recognition.



## ARTS AND CULTURAL ECOSYSTEM MAP

### Spaces/Venues/Environments

Geographical contexts of interaction between people and arts activity:

Theatres, community halls, rehearsal spaces, galleries, studios, libraries, museums, marae, cultural hubs, empty private and public spaces, streets, gardens, parks, waterways, gullies etc.

### Cultural Practices

Activities that relate people to each other, to the world around them, and allow them to enhance wellbeing:

Performances, shows, rehearsals, classes, workshops, discussions  
Playing, exercising, creating, expressing, producing, caring, gathering and consuming

### Cultural Ecosystem Benefits

There are a range of well-being impacts associated with cultural spaces and practices

**IDENTITY:** Belonging, Sense of Place, Spirituality

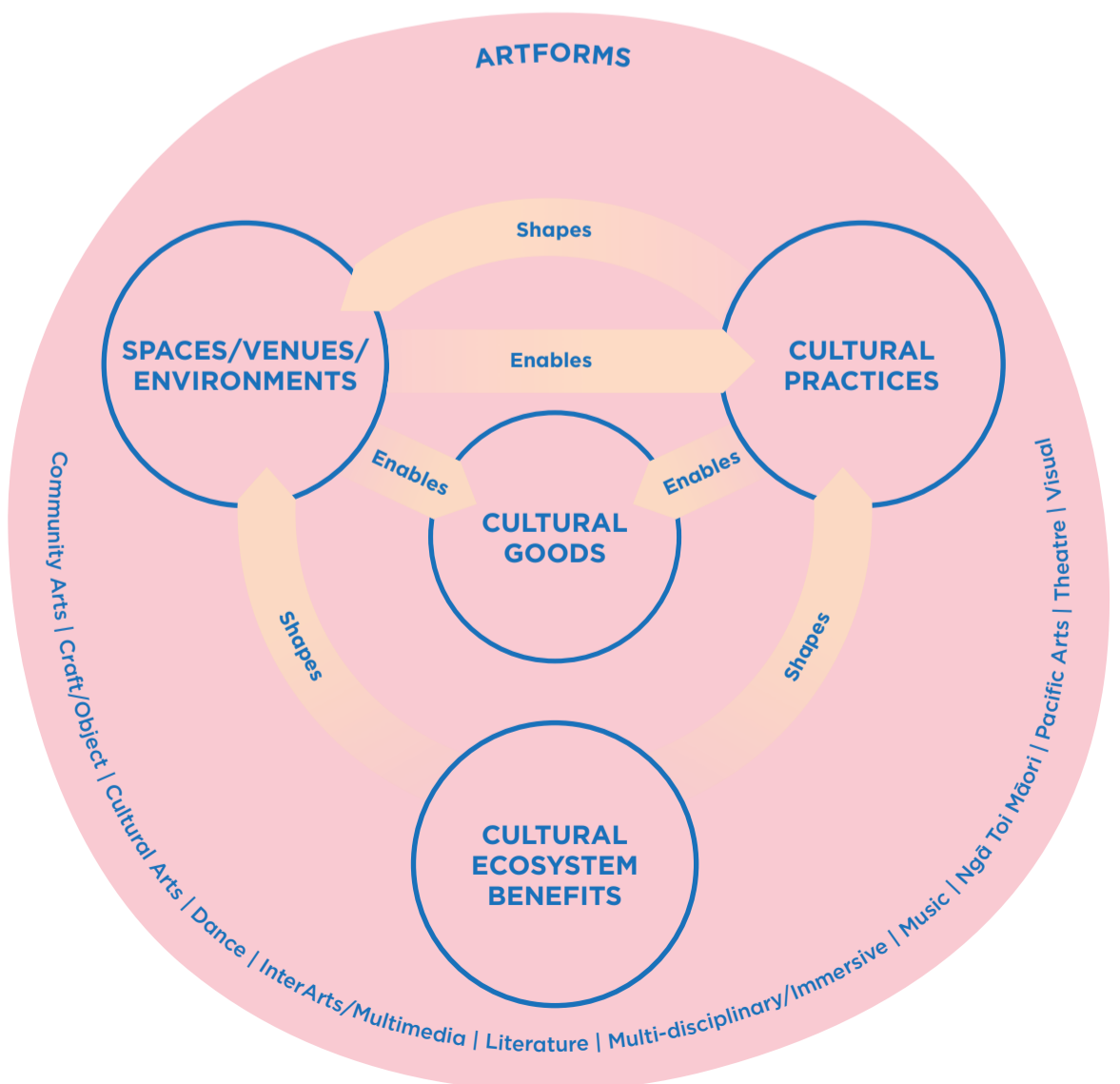
**EXPERIENCES:** Tranquility, Inspiration, Escape, Discovery, Curiosity

**CAPABILITIES:** Knowledge, Health, Dexterity, Judgement

**PROSPERITY:** Development, resilience, livability, sustainability

### Cultural Goods

Service-benefit products: opportunities for recreation and tourism, personal growth, well-being, local performances and festivals



# ARTS AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES EXIST WITHIN, AND ACROSS, ALL FACETS OF SOCIETY AND COMMUNITY.

Utilising the creative potential within the arts and cultural sector can enable capacity building, transformation, and change in order to create healthier communities over time. Investing in arts activity and development in a sustainable and aspirational manner, can support the ecosystem in a future focussed manner, nurturing strengths and skills, spearheading community visions, investment beyond grant making, and a robust communication of the understanding of value.

The Arts have a vital role to play throughout a thriving society. Arts funding is one of the most important functions and duties of our society. It is through the arts where we grow, where we reach understanding, and where we find common ground in a rapidly changing complex world. Artistic imagination and creativity are an essential part of what makes us human.

**Art thinks about the world in its current state, and it can reimagine the world as it could be.**

## ARTS AND CULTURAL ECOSYSTEM WITHIN THE BROADER SOCIETY AND COMMUNITY

### Health and Wellness

Wellbeing for individuals  
Better care for each other  
Increased quality of life

### Aging

Physical and mental stimulation  
Entertainment  
Social interaction

### Rehabilitation

Purpose  
Self-care  
Social interaction  
Capability Development

### Public Welfare

Community Pride  
Mutual trust  
Safer and healthier communities

### Livability

Arts create vibrant cities  
Environmental impact  
Quality of Life

### Environmental Sustainability

Education and Innovation  
Advocating and driving awareness  
Communication

### Economic Development

Economic Wellbeing  
Support services and impact  
Sustainable Funding  
Workforce Development

### Arts in the workforce

Well-rounded workers who drive innovation  
Creative thinkers  
Solid communicators

### Infrastructure

Advocacy, communication, design, breaking down barriers  
Agriculture, Food, Transport, Housing,  
Planning and Community Development

### Technology and Innovation

Symbiotic relationship for creation and development  
Technology can be used to create and disseminate art

### Education

Arts are part of a well-rounded education  
Curiosity and exploration  
Important at all levels of education

### Political Engagement

Can encourage political engagement, voting, and activation

### Social Justice

Civic dialogue to discuss issues and policies  
Arts facilitate dialogue

### Community Cohesion and Identity

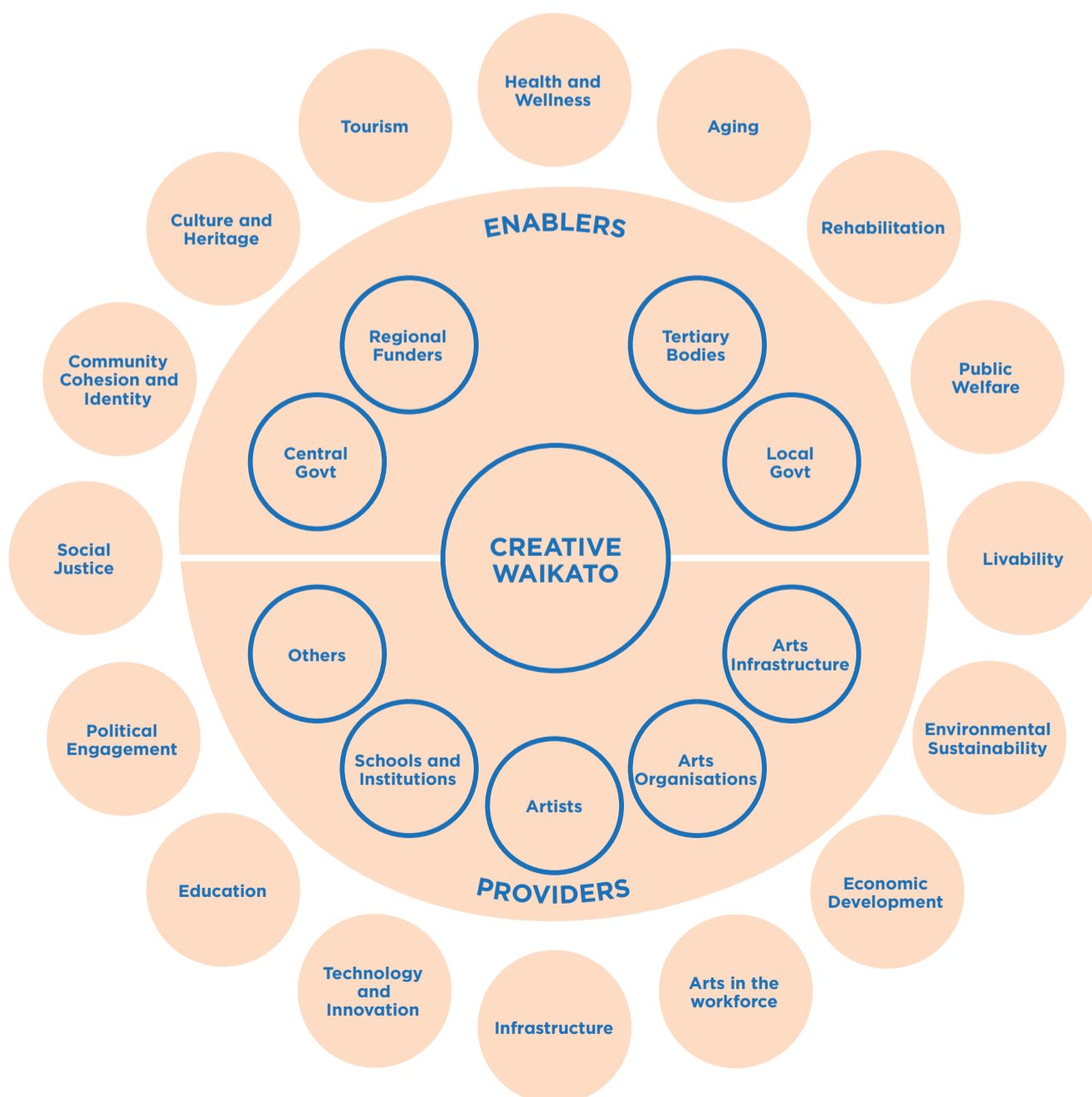
Binds people together through shared experience  
Creates common vision for the future  
Arts bring people together

### Culture and Heritage

Art activity  
Diversity/Access/ Identity  
History and Tradition

### Tourism

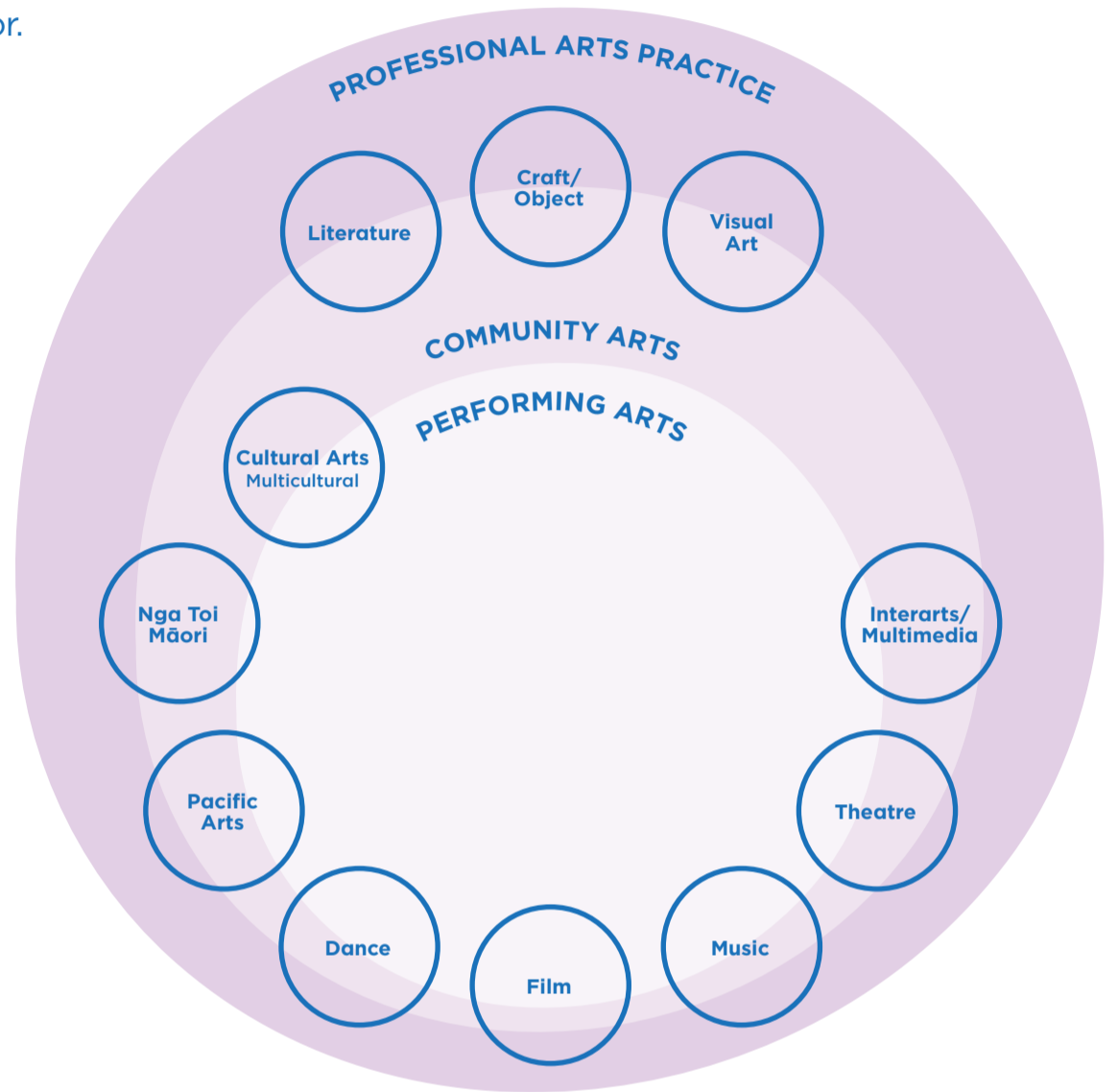
Economic impact  
Empathy between communities  
Arts for travel



# ARTS AND CULTURAL ECOSYSTEM GENERAL DETAILS BY ARTFORM

Infrastructure elements for the Arts and Cultural Sector.  
General outline for the entire Waikato Region.

<b>Literature</b> Prose Fiction Non-fiction Poetry Classes/ Formal education Commissions Workshops Events Spoken Word Lyrics	<b>Cultural Arts</b> <b>Multicultural</b> Dance Music Theatre Venues Rehearsal space Technical support Classes <b>Nga Toi Māori</b> Kapahaka Taonga puoro Ta moko Whakairo Raranga Marae Rehearsal space Studio space Classes/ Formal education Commissions <b>Pacific Arts</b> Dance Music Theatre Venues Rehearsal space Technical support Classes/ Formal education <b>Dance</b> Shows Classes/ Formal education Fitness Venues Rehearsal spaces Costuming Technical support	<b>Film</b> Art projects Commercial productions Storytelling Education Classes Formal education <b>Music</b> Bands Orchestras Choirs Venues Rehearsal spaces Recording studios Technical support Classes/ Formal education Commissions <b>Theatre</b> Musical Theatre Theatre Improv Venues Rehearsal Spaces Costuming Technical support Classes/ Formal education <b>Interarts/                  Multimedia</b> Immersive exhibitions Interactive work Light Festivals Projection mapping Corporate elements Tourism opportunities
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## ARTS AND CULTURAL ECOSYSTEM INTERCONNECTIVITY FRAMEWORK

Indicative grid for collaboration and interconnection between artforms for the Arts and Cultural Sector.

	Craft/ Object	Cultural Arts	Dance	Film	Inter-Arts	Literature	Music	Nga Toi Māori	Pacific Arts	Theatre	Visual Art
Craft/Object	■	●		●	●	●		●●	●		●●●
Cultural Arts	●	■	●●●	●		●	●●●			●●	●
Dance		●●●	■	●	●	●	●●●	●●	●●	●●●	
Film	●	●	●●	■	●●●	●●	●●●	●	●	●●	●●
Inter-Arts	●		●	●●●	■	●	●●●	●		●	●●●
Literature	●	●	●	●●	●	■	●●	●●	●	●●	●
Music		●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●	●●	■	●●●	●●	●●●	●
Nga Toi Maori	●●	●	●●	●	●	●●	●●●	■	●●	●●	●●●
Pacific Arts	●	●	●●	●		●	●●	●●	■	●●	●●●
Theatre	●	●●	●●●	●●	●	●●	●●●	●●	●●	■	●
Visual Art	●●●	●		●●	●●●	●	●	●●●	●●●	●	■
Community Arts	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Performing Arts		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
Professional Arts	■		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Festivals/ Large Events	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

Information on this table based on knowledge of interconnected events and collaborations within the wider Waikato Arts and Cultural Sector. Weighting indicated more of a prevalence within a specific artform.  
\*number of dots indicates the prevalence of collaboration between artforms.  
\*\*intensity of colour indicates the prevalence of artform within the specified context