Taitea Masters Award in Creative Research

Code: 1093  
Faculty: Arts  
Creative Arts and Industries  
Applicable study: Research masters programme with substantial creative component (see Note I)  
Closing date: 28 March 2024  
Tenure: One year  
For: Assistance with study  
Number on offer: One  
Offer rate: Annually  
Value: Up to $10,000  

Description

The Award was established in 2020 and is funded by the John Weeks Memorial Trust in collaboration with the Auckland University Students’ Association.

The intention of the Award is to encourage and support students from diverse backgrounds who are enrolled in a research masters degree with a substantial creative component in either the Faculty of Creative Arts and Industries or the Faculty of Arts.

Selection process

- Application is made to the Scholarships Office  
- A Selection Committee assesses the applications  
- The Scholarship is awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of the Selection Committee

Regulations

1. The Award will be known as the Taitea Masters Award in Creative Research.  
2. One Award will be made annually for a period of up to one year and will be of the value of up to $10,000 (see Note II). Payments and tenure will be pro-rated for part-time students.  
3. To be eligible for Award consideration, an applicant must be i) a New Zealand Citizen or Permanent Resident, ii) from a diverse background (see Notes IV to VIII), iii) enrolled full-time or part-time in a 90 or 120 point research course in a masters degree which includes a substantial creative component in the Faculty of Creative Arts and Industries or the Faculty of Arts at Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland (see Note III). Students who are enrolled in a masters programme of more than 120 points must be enrolled in the thesis or research portfolio component at the time of take-up of the Scholarship to be eligible for consideration. A grade point average (GPA) or grade point equivalent (GPE) of at least 6.00 (5.50 for Māori candidates or Pacific candidates) in their most recent qualifying programme is required for Award consideration (see Note IX).  
4. The basis of selection will be academic achievement as assessed by the GPA/GPE calculated over the most recent
qualifying programme (see Note IX), the quality and nature of the proposed research, and the quality of a personal statement outlining the applicant's study and career plans.

5. The Award will be made by the University of Auckland Council upon the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising the Associate Dean (Equity and Diversity) of the Faculty of Creative Arts and Industries (or nominee), the Associate Dean (Postgraduate Research) of the Faculty of Arts (or nominee), and the Associate Dean (Postgraduate Research) of the Faculty of Creative Arts and Industries (or nominee).

6. Payment will be made in two equal instalments (see Note II) in Semester One and Two, as soon as is practical after confirmation of the awardee’s enrolment (that is, after the final date on which a student may add or delete courses without incurring a late enrolment fee).

7. To be paid the Award, awardees must be enrolled in the 90 or 120 point research component of a masters degree which includes a substantial creative component in the Faculty of Creative Arts and Industries or the Faculty of Arts at Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland.

8. The Award may be held with any other scholarship, award or grant as long as the regulations for that scholarship, award or grant permit and the University of Auckland Council is informed and approves. It is the responsibility of the awardee to declare to the Scholarships Office all other scholarships, awards or grant funding received while also in payment for this Award.

9. The University of Auckland Council, in consultation with the Auckland University Students’ Association, has the power to terminate or suspend an Award if it receives a report of unsatisfactory progress by a Scholar from the Associate Dean (Postgraduate Research) of the Faculty in which the Scholar is enrolled.

10. The University of Auckland Council is not obliged to make an award if it is determined there is no candidate that meets the criteria and/or no candidate of sufficient merit.

11. Payments under the terms of this Award remain tax-free as long as they are used directly for the payment of costs associated with an awardee’s programme of study and/or to assist the awardee with living costs while studying (see Note I). Failure to comply with this regulation will result in the termination of the Award.

12. The University of Auckland Council, in consultation with the Auckland University Students’ Association, can amend or vary these Regulations provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Award.

13. Applications close with the Scholarships Office on 28 March in the year of the award.


Notes

I. The tax-free status of this Scholarship is under current legislation. The University of Auckland cannot guarantee this tax-free outcome.

II. Students enrolled in the final semester of a masters degree may be considered for an Award with a maximum value of $5,000, which will be paid in one instalment.

III. Research masters programmes with a substantial creative component include: Master of Architecture (Professional); Master of Architecture (Professional) and Urban Design; Master of Architecture (Professional) and Urban Planning (Professional); Master of Community Dance; Master of Creative Writing; Master of Dance Studies; Master of Design; Master of Fine Arts; Master of Music; Master of Urban Design; and the Master of Urban Design and Urban Planning (Professional); or a Master of Arts in Drama, Māori Studies, Media and Screen Studies, Museums and Cultural Heritage, Pacific Studies or Screen Production.

IV. For the purposes of this Award, diverse backgrounds include: Māori students; Pacific students; students with disabilities; Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer, Takatapui + (LGBTIQ+Takatapui+) students; students from refugee backgrounds; students from low-socio-economic backgrounds; men, women and gender diverse people where there are barriers to access and success; students who are first in their family to attend university (see Notes IV to VII).

V. Pacific students are defined as citizens or permanent residents of New Zealand who are of indigenous Pacific descent from any of the following islands: Samoa, American Samoa, Tonga, Cook Islands, Niue, Tokelau, Fiji (iTaukei), Rotuma, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Palau, Marshall Islands.
Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Wallis and Futuna, Hawaii, French Polynesia, Rapanui (Easter Island), Pitcairn Islands, Nauru, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands.

VI. Waipapa Taumata Rau defines disability as any physical, psychological, cognitive or sensory impairment which, in interaction with social and systemic barriers, restricts a person's full and effective participation in university life on an equal basis with others.

VII. Refugee background refers to students who have themselves or whose parents/primary guardian(s) have been granted refuge in New Zealand.

VIII. For the purposes of this Award, 'first in family' means that no member of the applicant's family, including parents and siblings, has completed a university qualification prior to the applicant's first year of undergraduate university study. Adoptive and step parents and siblings are considered part of the family where they have lived with the applicant for the previous five years or more immediately prior to the applicant's first year of undergraduate study.

IX. The most recent qualifying programme is defined as the most recently completed programme of study that qualifies the applicant for entry to the postgraduate programme for which they are applying. Where the most recently completed qualifying programme is a conjoint programme the GPA/GPE will be calculated over the relevant component of the conjoint programme. The maximum approved exchange or transfer credit that can be excluded from the GPA/GPE calculation is 60 points. Where a bridging programme, including a Transitional Certificate, Graduate Diploma or Certificate of Proficiency, is required to qualify the applicant for entry to the postgraduate programme for which they are applying or are currently enrolled, the qualifying programme is the bridging programme and the most recently completed prior programme.

X. Awardees will be required to comply with the regulations for the Award and must notify the Scholarships Office of any change in their enrolment or funding status. Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland may, in the event that it can be established that an awardee is not complying with these regulations, terminate the Award and require repayment of the funds received from the date of the breach.