

**TRANSCRIPT**  
**So Many Stories, 05/05/23**

**Nameeta:**

Kia ora koutou. Afio mai. Welcome to So Many Stories, brought to you by Ngā Kete Wānanga o Ōtautahi | Christchurch City Libraries. I'm Nameeta ...

**Sionainn:**

... and I'm Sionainn ...

**Nameeta:**

... and there are so many things to celebrate this May.

**Sionainn:**

It is of course Te Marama Puoro o Aotearoa | New Zealand Music Month, so in this episode, we chat to a couple of people who use library services to make and share music. New Zealand Sign Language Week also starts on Monday May the 8<sup>th</sup>, so we learn a little about how we can support our deaf and hard of hearing hapori or community. May is also the month in which we celebrate Youth Week, which starts on Monday the 15<sup>th</sup>, so we hear from a community trust that works closely with one of our own community libraries. Beyond all of that, we have the latest on exhibitions and events at Christchurch City Libraries ...

**Nameeta:**

... but first, let's go back to New Zealand Music Month. Daniel Matakī Jnr also known as DJ Danny-ill is an Ōtautahi | Christchurch based musician and youth worker. We sat down with Daniel to learn more about the hip hop events and workshops he runs in collaboration with Christchurch City Libraries. Following Daniel, you will hear from Jai Bartlett, another local musician who makes excellent use of the media studio at Tūranga Central Library. Ngā mihi Daniel and Jai.

**Daniel:**

Ah, kia ora. Talofa lava. Malo e lelei. My name is Daniel Matakī Jnr, and I am a Youth Worker from a place called YCD, which stands for Youth and Cultural Development. Ah, YCD started back in 1993, so this year we celebrate, ah, thirty years of operation. We are a youth

organisation, ah, that deal with young people from all walks of life, from different backgrounds, ah, through various, ah, different services that we provide. Outside of my youth work that I do, I am a DJ. I run my own, ah, DJ business. I go by the name of DJ Danny-ill, and, um, I've been doing that since I was fifteen. Over the years, I've, ah, managed to work in with the Christchurch City Libraries in different capacities. As a Youth Worker, I use the resources for our young people, make sure that they're aware of all the different, ah, events and, um, things that they can access through the different libraries all around the city. Ah, outside of, ah, the, that, that mahi, we have done many events with the library. Ah, one of the more, in particular the events would be the Hip Hop Summit, which we started back in 2021, and we will be holding this year in October, ah, the 2023 edition of the Hip Hop Summit, and basically that's been a really good opportunity for people, ah, out there to come to the libraries, ah, learn about, a little bit about the local history of the, ah, hip hop community, to celebrate all our, ah, past, ah, artists, success stories, ah, contributors to, ah, the local hip hop scene, and outside of, um, that mahi that I've done through YCD, ah, through my DJ business, I've managed to, ah, do workshops through the library, which I've mainly focussed around, ah, DJing, entrepreneurship, and following your, ah, your passions, your goals, and, um, my own journey as a DJ, which I've basically held at, at the different, um, locations around Christchurch. In, in closing, I'd just like to acknowledge the library and all the support they've given to YCD and myself, and just to let everyone know to follow us on our social media, ah, YCD and DJ Danny-ill to keep up to date with all our, ah, upcoming events and our different activities. Kia ora.

### **Jai:**

Hi everyone. I'm Jai, and I'm a student and an artist from Christchurch, New Zealand, and I'm really interested in telling stories through music and other forms, and I think that the library and the resources there have really enabled me to do this and make it accessible to other students and other people like me who may not have the necessary resources to, like, rent out their own studio or something like that to be able to do this and spread their message to other people. As an artist, I really like working on fusion hip hop, because I think that it's taking two elements that people can, like, really relate to. The first is, like, you know, hip hop's like a huge part of, like, popular culture at the moment, like, it's still seen as, like, cool, but at the same time, we're, like, merging with elements of our own culture, and, yeah, I'm really inspired by people like Stromae and his album Multitude, where he did a very similar thing, just in the pop kind of genre, and I really want to bring this to, like, cause he did it for his, like, own culture, cause he's, his roots are in the African continent, um, whereas mine are rooted in, like, India, and so that's the kind of difference there, so he really inspires me. The library was always really, like, a cool place to, like, study, like, especially when Tūranga was first made, like, even before I started studying, like, I'd just come in there every, like, weekend with my family, and it was, like, a really cool, comfortable place, um, but then,

you know, when I got introduced to NCEA, I started coming in there to make sure I didn't fail, um, and I didn't know that the, the studio existed until a friend of mine who was studying with me one time, he told me about it, and I thought it was really cool, but I didn't really do anything about it for a couple months. When I did find it, it's like a really welcoming space that I was able to create and share my creativity with others. It was empty one time, and I saw there was this guy who I didn't know in there, and I walked in, and it turned out he was Fetu. He's one of the, like, audio specialists in there, and so we had a chat, and we talked about music, and I showed him some of my beats, and, yeah, that's how things started. He showed me more about how to mix and how to feel comfortable showing, like, my music to others, cause at that time, like, I was only really making music just solely for myself, which wasn't really fulfilling what I wanted to do, which is sharing, like, my message with others, and so he kind of made it more comfortable for me to do that. So it was initially just Fetu that I got to know, but then I, um, started meeting, like, Matt and Bill and all of the other great people on that floor. So when I first came in to the library, in the studio, um, music was more like a hobby to me, but now I think it's, it's become more of a way to, like, express myself and feel more comfortable with, like, who I am. I really want to create, like, a cohesive story through, like, different cultures and how they're all merged together. So it initially started, like, middle of last year. I had no idea what I was doing, didn't know I wanted to make an album, but I made this piece, cause a friend dared me to. They were like yo make this, like, Spanish, like, kind of thing, and so I did, and it started off as, like, drill, which is currently, like, very popular in, like, the UK, but I didn't really like it, and so I ended up, in November, after I started coming to the studio, I ended up changing that around, and so I ended up putting more traditional instruments over that, a lot of, like, shakers, and a lot of, like, I recorded them, which is really great, cause I couldn't do this at home. I used the microphones there to record, and, like, hand claps and everything, and so I ended up with this really cool ethnic, like, fusion piece, and from there, I still didn't know I wanted to make an album, but I just kept coming back to this concept of, like, fusing cultures, and then now, we're sitting on, like, eight nearly finished, like, instrumentals, so yeah. If you're learning stuff at the library, it's either, like, free or, like, relatively cheap, and so it allows you to kind of, like, pursue that hobby and see if it's, like, what you're meant to do. So the studio really helped me kind of go from just being that, like, kid who makes beats on his laptop to, like, starting to look at it from a slightly more, like, professional angle, and I think this would be, like, really helpful to people. Don't be shy to express who you are and surround yourself with people who are going to really uplift you.

## **Sionainn**

Kia ora Daniel and Jai. If you'd like to find out more about the upcoming DJ Showcase and Workshop or the media studio at Tūranga Central Library, do head to our website [christchurchcitylibraries.com](http://christchurchcitylibraries.com) or call our Fingertip Library team on 03 9417923.

**Nameeta:**

Moving on now to New Zealand Sign Language Week. Julie Fraser is an NZSL tutor, Director of her own business Sign Equity, and for the past seven years, Julie has been teaching New Zealand Sign Language to Christchurch City Library staff. Here's Julie with some great chat about what it means to be deaf friendly in Aotearoa | New Zealand.

**Julie:**

Oh hi, um, my name is Julie Fraser, and I'm from Sign Equity here in Christchurch. Well I set up this, ah, business about six years ago, and the main reason was, ah, so I could bridge the gap of communication between deaf and hearing people. I am profoundly deaf myself, and I understand all about communication barriers, and I wanted to make it easier for the community on both sides to be able to just be more inclusive of each other, be more aware, and to help each other through communication and stop those frustrations, the barriers, and, you know, just make life a lot easier for people. So a lot of deaf people do lip read as well as use sign language. A common thing would be for someone to turn away, naturally just turn their face away from the person that they're supposed to be looking at, and of course immediately the communication is broken, so we have no idea what's actually being said, so it's really important when you do meet a deaf person to understand that not all deaf people are the same, okay, their hearing and their deafness is varied, so that means that if you can just make sure that you look at someone when you're speaking to them, you've got a higher chance of, of having that communication sort of flow a lot more freely, being understood, and making that person feel like they're just, just like you. I set up my business, ah, seven years ago now, and during that time, I thought how best can I get through to the community, and my first thought went to the libraries, because of their sort of accessibility that they have there, and I didn't find it easy, but I, I got the courage to approach a wonderful lady, and her name was, ah, Lucy Yousef, and she sat down, and she gave me her time, and I explained everything about what I was trying to do, my initiative, and, um, she thought she'd just give it a go, and so, so pleased that she did that, and here I am still teaching libraries, still repeatedly going back to different libraries as the staff changes, and they're loving it. I get great reviews, and I know that it's helping people. I'm getting people coming to me from the deaf community saying you've got to try this, you've got to go to that library, you know, they've got sign language there, it's so much easier. We have a person that came in with their mother, the child was deaf, and the child's face just lit up, because they saw their language, and it means a lot knowing that I'm not only helping that, but I'm also helping the librarians, the people who are doing that, and also helping the deaf community, so that's why I do this. Knowing that one in ten people have a hearing difficulty of some sort, it's unfathomable to sort of think that people don't even know the basics, and

I think that's why I wanted to set it up, just so that you could give that to them, and they could use it and feel confident, rather than scared, because they've met this deaf person, and they don't know how to do, you know, anything or what, what am I supposed to do, how am I supposed to say things, what can I do to make things better for them? So I have a basic course. I call it basic, because it really is quite basic. It is six hours long in total, and I break it down into, for the libraries particularly, they have twelve thirty minute sessions, and what I normally do is, um, I would come to the library, and I would take one staff member off the floor at a time, take them away to a quiet room, teach them thirty minutes, and then get them to swap with another staff member, and by the time those twelve sessions are finished, all of them know the same information. They can practice with each other, and they're able to converse, literally create sentences out of all of that. They have quite a substantial amount of vocabulary to use, and I also give them a customised module of library words, so that they can actually use words that they need inside their industry. I think everybody across the country are actually doing quite a lot when it comes to sign language. It's really starting to get out there now, and it's so pleasing to see, because it just means that the, you know, the access is there. That's the most important thing, access to communication. It's not particularly specifically about learning a language, but just knowing the culture, and knowing, knowing the words in that language, knowing how to be inclusive of people, and I think that, you know, to be deaf friendly, the majority of the staff inside one building, not just one staff member, needs to have some sort of basis of that information. The, the biggest thing I can recommend is to learn New Zealand Sign Language. That's really important. When you learn, always try and make sure that you have a deaf tutor who is teaching. They've actually trained to learn how to teach that language. It's their culture. It's their language, and it's really important to be authentic about what you're learning. Um, we have, like, several courses, like, across New Zealand from so many wonderful tutors out there that are deaf, and that's their job. That's what they do. That's what they love. That's their passion, so it's really important to contact them. I'm also one of them. Yeah, I think, I think just learning sign language is a, is a top priority for any customer, any staff member, because when you learn it, you will learn the culture as part of it. You will learn tips and, and things. What to do. What not to do. You will learn how to be respectful. You will learn how to include people, and of course the fun of learning the actual language and speaking with your voice off. It's really fun.

**Sionainn:**

Thanks so much Julie. Again, if you'd like to learn more about what Julie does, head to her website [signequity.services](http://signequity.services). We can all learn New Zealand Sign Language all year, but what better motivation than New Zealand Sign Language Week.

**Nameeta:**

Absolutely, and speaking of access, inclusion, and support, it's time now to talk about a relatively new partnership between Te Kete Wānanga o Ihutai | Linwood Library and Kāwai Rangatahi Trust.

**Sionainn:**

Here's former Library Assistant now Community Librarian Wendy Blair (congratulations Wendy) with Trust Manager Brooke Agnew and Community Worker Alice Moore.

**Wendy:**

Um, I'm Wendy. I have worked at Linwood Library for about six and a half years now, and I have just transitioned into a role at Outreach, so I get to do lots more stuff. Ah, I think it went all the way back to when Te Aratai was down at the temporary site at Avon, the old Avonside Girls site, and the distance from there to the library was so large that we weren't seeing them after school anymore, cause they just didn't have the time to get here, so I started Manga Club in the library at lunchtime, taking the books to the school, rather than expecting them to come here, so that built some good relationships with the kids, but also with Tessa the school librarian, and often, I would look out the window at the end of term and see these giant bouncy castles and things outside and be like what is this amazing stuff, um, and that was obviously Kāwai Rangatahi putting on some fun.

**Brooke:**

Um, my name is Brooke Agnew, and I am the Manager of Kāwai Rangatahi. Ah, we, ah, have been called Strengthening Linwood Youth Trust for the last fifteen years, but we have just gone through a name change recently, so Kāwai Rangatahi is our, the new name of the trust. We, ah, have got youth workers across Opawa School and Te Aratai, and we also have Alice who works in the community. We do a lot of youth support in the schools and in the community. Ah, we run groups. We do mentoring. We run lunch programmes, after school sport programmes, breakfast club, just, yeah, wherever the school needs us to help support young people, and wherever the community needs us to help support young people, that's where we are. Yeah, so I am the ...

**Wendy:**

... you're the money lady ...

**Brooke:**

... I'm the money lady ...

**Alice:**

... you get the money.

**Brooke:**

Yeah, so, so a big part of my role is being able to finance all the stuff that we do, is being able to make sure that the youth workers are looked after, that they can, um, have really good PD, that they can have really good self care, that all our programmes are really well resourced, um, so that they can be the best that they can be in the community and in the schools, um, working with my board of trustees, liaising between the work that is done and the governance, um, and connections with people in the community also, like, um, I hold a lot of relationships with community policing team, Eastgate Mall management, schools, Grace Vineyard Church, who are one of our supporters, yeah, and, and all the funders also, so lots of relationship building and money making.

**Alice:**

I'm Alice, and I am the Community Youth Worker at Kāwai Rangatahi. Ah, so I'm in the community, and my role has kind of started off a bit at Te Aratai, um, also just to kind of meet the youth and network with them. I run the after school sports programme, ah, which happens twice a week, and, ah, we run, oh, on Wednesdays after school, we have been working alongside the security at the mall, just kind of finding the young people that are hanging out at the mall and creating relationships with them. Um, on Wednesdays this term, every second Wednesday, we're going to be working with the Linwood Library, ah, running Kāwai Club, which will be just an after school space, where kids can come hang out, make food, eat food, do fun things, play games, and use a lot of the library's cool equipment, like VR and label makers and tee shirt designing, all the fun stuff, um, so that will be really cool, cool to have, um, a space in the mall, where we can bring the youth in to and do some really fun stuff. Um, in the community, I've also been working alongside Youthtown and YCD, and, like, planning some awesome youth events. We've got one coming up on May the 18<sup>th</sup> for Youth Week, so we're going to be doing a, ah, like, youth week in the park with barbers, braiding, ah, donuts, basketball, giant games, pedalmania, crazy bikes, lots of cool stuff, and then there will be a pool party afterwards, so that will be really fun, um, but yeah, that's kind of all that's on the horizon at the moment for the community side of things, but as the year goes on, it's going to take off quite a bit.

**Brooke:**

For me, the best thing about this is being able to see young people connecting and building relationships with the youth workers and having positive outcomes from those relationships, and them seeing the youth workers as someone that they can really rely on and can trust and can confide in, and just seeing those relationships develop.

**Alice:**

My favourite thing is probably, I love when, like, you've got a young person, and you just see them light up over something, whether they find, like, their passion or just something that brings them joy, and just seeing how that can change them, as well as just hanging out with them and having lots of fun.

**Nameeta:**

Kia ora Wendy, Brooke, and Alice. Kāwai Club takes place on Wednesday afternoons from 2.30-4.30pm at Linwood Library, so if you are a young person or you have a young person in your life and you're local to Eastgate Mall, head on down. Okay, so we're heading toward the end of this episode, but we have one more special guest to introduce.

**Sionainn:**

Libraries Learning Specialist Hayley Young has been working on some programmes to support the upcoming Kiri and Lou at the Library exhibition, which is due to open on Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup> of June in Te Pito Huarewa | Southbase Gallery on level 2 of Tūranga Central Library. Kiri and Lou is an extremely popular stop motion animation for children, and it's produced right here in Ōtautahi | Christchurch. We know that the Kiri and Lou at the Library exhibition is going to be a hit, so we thought we'd get the scoop early so that people can mark it in their diaries. Here's Hayley with more.

**Hayley:**

Um, my name is Hayley Young, and I'm a Library Learning Specialist, and I'm based here at South Libraries, but I'm also, um, in charge of working with the exhibitions team and helping them with delivering programming for any exhibitions that come through Tūranga. So Kiri and Lou is, um, and animation show aimed at, um, younger children, but it's got some themes that are applicable to older children as well. Um, it is a claymation cartoon from New Zealand, and the main characters are two little prehistoric creatures, Kiri and Lou, that are very popular with children, and so because I work with exhibitions, I've been



working to develop some programmes that can happen during the school holidays based around Kiri and Lou to support the exhibition that's happening. So the exhibition, as I understand it, has been through Tūranga before, a couple of years ago, and it was very popular at the time, so we decided that it would be good for it to come again through Tūranga. Um, it's also coming through to other libraries in the network as well in lots of different capacities as you will find out from the events that come through. So from June through to October, there will be lots of programmes happening throughout the network and throughout lots of the different libraries, not just in Tūranga. There will be an exhibition in Southbase Gallery over in Tūranga, where you can go and look at some of the artefacts from the Kiri and Lou claymation. You can also take part in some of the programming activities. There will be a stop motion workshop. That's going to happen in Spring holidays. Um, there will be also be lots of themed craft activities around Kiri and Lou, um, in the Spring and Winter school holidays, where you can come in to your local library and take part in those as well. Um, I'm looking forward to the animation competition actually, which ties in with the stop motion workshops that we're doing. That's looking to take place in the Spring school holidays, so that's probably the really fun thing that we're looking forward to as part of this Kiri and Lou exhibition as well. So you can find out about all these different activities from the website, that's the best place to look.

### **Nameeta:**

Thanks Hayley, and that's about it for this episode, but as ever, before we go, we just have a few things to mention. So Youth Week starts on Monday the 15<sup>th</sup> of May, and we have a host of events happening around the city, some really cool ones for you to check out are, is the Teen Clothes Swap happening at South Library. We also have a very cool interactive virtual reality graffiti session, where you will be able to create some graffiti and then print that artwork on to your very own tee shirt to take away. Um, DJ Danny-ill or Daniel also mentioned his DJ showcase, which will be happening at Te Hāpua | Halswell Library on May the 19<sup>th</sup>. Um, Te Hāpua | Halswell Library is also going to be hosting a bunch of live performances and sessions, where you can get hands on with some of our great music equipment. Um, outside of Youth Week and New Zealand Music Month, Te Hāpua also runs a Thursday Takeover from 3.30 to 4.30, specifically designed for tamariki and rangatahi to come on in and just try out some of our really cool music equipment. Um, Jai also mentioned how he discovered Auahatanga, our studio on the fourth floor at Tūranga Central Library. You are welcome to pop in any time and have a chat to the media specialists that are based there, but they also have open studio time on Sunday mornings and Friday evenings. Check out our website for more information.

### **Sionainn:**

Finally, we are looking forward to Vaiaso o le Gagana Samoa | Samoan Language Week, which starts on Sunday the 28<sup>th</sup> of May and runs through Saturday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June. Vaiaso o le Gagana Samoa | Samoan Language Week celebrates the third most spoken language in New Zealand, and if you'd like to learn more about and maybe learn some of the language, we have a special page on our website that you can visit. Just search for Samoan Language Week on [christchurchcitylibraries.com](http://christchurchcitylibraries.com). We will be back on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June, with lots of support from the Christchurch City Libraries Māori and Multicultural Services team as we delve in to Matariki.

**Nameeta:**

Until then, ka kite anō.