



MEDIA RELEASE: 9 June 2017 - For

Immediate Release

<http://www.storylines.org.nz>

Publicist Lorraine Steele, Lorraine@lighthousepr.co.nz, 021-859-805

NEW STORYLINES SOUTH AUCKLAND FESTIVAL STORY TOUR attracts over 1000 South Auckland school children

Monday 19 June, 10.00am-2.30pm

Vodafone Events Centre, Manukau

For 23 years, the Storylines Children's Literature Charitable Trust of New Zealand has delivered its annual national Festival of New Zealand's Children's Writers and Illustrators through six Festival Family Days including its highly successful Festival Day in South Auckland each year.

This year Storylines is building on its strong and respected role in the New Zealand literary community with the revamped and re-focused Storylines National Festival Story Tour.

The dynamic and exciting interactive tour of presentations, storytelling and performances covers the North and South Islands from May to September. On Monday 19 June it comes to the Vodafone Events Centre in Manukau.

The line-up of top Pacifica and Māori performers, authors and illustrators is already confirmed to attract over 1000 children from a mix of South Auckland schools.

Session 1 for preschoolers/ NE/ Yr1, runs from 10.00-11.45am, and features:

Singers and storytellers **The Pacifica Mamas**, and Te Reo Singalong series author **Sharon Holt**.

Session 2 for Year 4 – Year 6 will run from 12.40-2.30pm, and features:

Illustrators and authors **Zak Waipara, Michel Mulipola, David Riley and Vasanti Unka**.

Note: This session is fully booked; 600+ children will be in attendance.

Note: Attendance for the Storylines South Auckland Festival Story Tour has been organised direct with South Auckland schools and is not open to the public.

Storylines welcomes media attendance at this event

For more information or to attend one or both sessions please contact:
Lorraine Steele (Lighthouse PR, lorraine@lighthousepr.co.nz, 021-859-805),
or Vicki Cunningham, events@storylines.org.nz, 027 774 6301)

LINE UP - STORYLINES SOUTH AUCKLAND FESTIVAL STORY TOUR

Vodafone Events Centre, Manukau, Monday 19 June

PACIFICA MAMAS

The Pacifica Mamas are matriarchs (and patriarchs) hailing from all corners of the Pacific. They represent the cultures of the Cook Islands, Samoa, Tonga, Niue, Fiji, Tokelau, Tuvalu, Tahiti and Hawaii. Each brings their own knowledge of Pacific culture and arts to Aotearoa, and their charm and enthusiasm is infectious. The Pacifica Mamas group comes together to exchange traditional stories and song while effortlessly weaving, sewing, or making lei or tapa.

The Pacifica Mamas recount the many legends of the Pacific, adapting them to suit the preschool – Year 1 age group attending the Storylines' performance. Delivered with dramatic flair, the legend of coconut (Ina and the Eel) is one of the most popular stories – the practical demonstration of opening and scraping a coconut is always popular. The Mamas also share the legend of the drum, the story of Ohi'a & Leihua from Hawaii, Pipirima from Polynesia, and more.

Awards:

- In 2012 the Pacifica Mamas were awarded the Creative New Zealand Pacific Heritage Arts Award, for their contribution to the arts and the community.

Other Resources:

- FaceBook page: www.facebook.com/PacificArtsCentre



SHARON HOLT

Sharon Holt lives in Te Aroha with her husband and a cat called Dora, who isn't much of an explorer. Sharon's exploits have included navigating in car rallies, learning to fly planes before she could drive a car, and travelling in a jeep to a remote Bolivian village while suffering from food poisoning.

She chose her career as a children's book author at the age of seven and finally remembered that dream at the age of 40. Realising she didn't have a moment to lose, Sharon immediately started sending stories to publishers.. Since then she has had many books, stories and articles published by educational and trade publishers. Her passion and full-time job now is writing and publishing her award-winning Te Reo Singalong series of picture books with CDs. Sharon's company is called The Writing Bug,; she visits schools and preschools dressed as a ladybug.

Selected bibliography:

- *It's True! You Can Make Your Own Jokes* illustrated by [Ross Kinnaird](#) (Allen & Unwin 2006).
- *Sabotage! The Diary of Rowan Webb, Auckland, 1985* [My Story] (Scholastic 2008).
- *Your Mother Didn't Do That!* illustrated by [Brian Lovelock](#) (Walker Books 2009).
- *No Survivors: The Diary of Jackie Simms, Hamilton, 1979* [My Story] (Scholastic 2009).
- *Maranga Mai!* illustrated by Deborah Hinde (The Writing Bug 2012).
- *Kei te Peke Ahau* illustrated by Deborah Hinde (The Writing Bug 2012).
- *Anei Ke!* illustrated by Deborah Hinde (Writing Bug 2012).
- *Me Haere!* illustrated by Deborah Hinde (The Writing Bug 2013).
- *E Hia Nga Moe?* illustrated by Deborah Hinde (The Writing Bug 2013).
- *Matariki* illustrated by Deborah Hinde (The Writing Bug 2014).
- *He aha tēnei?* illustrated by Deborah Hinde (The Writing Bug 2014).
- *Whai Mai* illustrated by Deborah Hinde (The Writing Bug 2014).
- *Mahi Tahī* illustrated by Deborah Hinde (The Writing Bug 2015).
- *Kōrero Mai* illustrated by Deborah Hinde (The Writing Bug 2015).
- *Te Wairua o Waitangi* illustrated with photographs by Sophie Holt and others (The Writing Bug 2016).
- *Kia Ora* illustrated by Deborah Hinde (The Writing Bug 2016).
- *Taku Mōkai* illustrated with photographs by Sophie Holt (The Writing Bug 2016).



Awards:

- New Zealand Post Children's Book Awards 2007 Non-fiction Shortlist for *It's True! You Can Make Your Own Jokes*
- Storylines Notable Book Awards 2007 Non-fiction List for *It's True! You Can Make Your Own Jokes*
- Storylines Notable Book Awards 2010 Picture Books List for *Your Mother Didn't Do That!*
- Māori Language Awards 2012 Finalist for the Te Reo Singalong series.
- Māori Language Awards 2013 Winner for Te Reo Singalong series
- Māori Language Awards 2014 Finalist for Te Reo Singalong series
- CLNZ Educational Publishing Awards 2015 Winner for Best Te Reo Resource
- CLNZ Educational Publishing Awards 2015 Winner for Teachers' Choice Award.

DAVID RILEY

David grew up in Mangere, South Auckland. He has a Master of Arts in Social Anthropology from Auckland University where he focused on Pacific culture and history. David has worked as a researcher for the MacMillan Brown Centre for Pacific Studies (Canterbury University) and as a freelance writer. He has 19 years' experience as a high school English and Drama teacher in South Auckland. In 2009, David's rap club for disengaged students featured on Television New Zealand. In 2011, his play, *Rock Bottom*, was shortlisted in Playmarket's Plays for the Young competition. In 2012, Little Island Press published David's first book for teenagers: *We Are the Rock*, a collection of profiles of achievers who have Niuean ancestry. In 2016, two of David's books – *Samoan Heroes* and *Jammin' with Steven Adams* – won Storylines Notable Book awards. *Tongan Heroes* is his tenth book to date.

Selected bibliography:

- *We Are Rock* (Little Island Press, 2012).
- *Steppin' with Benji Marshall* (Reading Warrior, 2013).
- *Off Loading with Sonny Bill Williams* (Reading Warrior, 2014).
- *Jammin with Steven Adams* (Reading Warrior, 2015)
- *Samoan Heroes* (Reading Warrior, 2015).
- *Rugby: The History* (Reading Warrior, 2015).
- *Rugby: The Players, the Skills and the Style* (Reading Warrior, 2015).
- *Golden Kiwis* (Reading Warrior 2016)
- *Tongan Heroes* (Reading Warrior 2016)
- *Gold!* (Reading Warrior 2016)

Awards

- Storylines Notable Book Award 2015 (Non-fiction) for *Jammin' with Steven Adams*
- Storylines Notable Book Award 2015 (Non-fiction) for *Samoan Heroes*



ZAK WAIPARA

A former New Zealand Herald graphic artist and AUT Digital Media Lecturer, Zak Waipara (Rongowhakaata, Ngati Porou, Ngati Ruapani, Ngati Kahungunu) is now HOD of Animation at Animation College. He has worked as a designer for Māori Television's children's show *Miharo*, illustrated comics and a range of books, and created animated music videos. Zak also created the design and artwork for New Zealand's International Children's Book Day 2007 poster.

Selected bibliography:

- *Children of a Dying Nation: A Graphic Novel in 12 Parts* (published with the support of Creative New Zealand 1996)
- *Te Kapo the Taniwha* text by Queenie Rikihana (Reed 1997)
- *Kopuwai the Monster* text by Queenie Rikihana Hyland (Reed 1998)
- *The Creation* text by Queenie Rikihana Hyland (Reed 1998)
- *Morgan's Cool Cat* text by Stephen Clover and Hine Rapana Clover (Reed 1998).
- *Super-Morgan* text by Stephen Clover and Hine Rapana Clover (Reed 1998)
- *Turongo and Mahinarangi* text by Queenie Rikihana Hyland (Reed 1999)
- *Q's Course in Maori* text by Quinton Hita (HarperCollins 2001)
- *Horeta and the Waka* text by Gordon Campbell (Scholastic 2007)
- *Otea: Rock of Ages 1* (Tuakore Press 2015)

Other Resources

- [Zak's website](#)
- [Zak's blog](#), [Tales of Motea blog](#)



VASANTI UNKA

Trained as a graphic designer, Vasanti has worked in the book and magazine industry in New Zealand for many years. She has worked as a magazine art director and an art editor for children's books. Magazines she has illustrated for include *Herald on Sunday*, *Cuisine*, *Canvas* and *Little Treasures*. She has illustrated numerous picture books including the *Love to Sing* books, and written and illustrated two books of stitch-craft for children. In 2009 she acquired a Masters in Design.

Vasanti is the illustrator of *The Bean's Story*, which was a 2008 Storylines Notable Book, and *Hill & Hole* by [Kyle Mewburn](#).

Selected bibliography:

- *Ice Cream Snow* text by Janet Slater Bottin (Scholastic 2001).
- *The Bean's Story* text by [Tatiana Aslund](#) (Scholastic 2007).
- *Hill & Hole* text by [Kyle Mewburn](#) (Penguin 2010).
- *Star Boy and Friends: How to Make Cool Stuff from Socks and Gloves* (Penguin 2010).
- *Weird Wabbit and Friends: How to Make Cool Stuff from Felt* (Penguin 2010).
- *The Boring Book* (Penguin 2013) (written, illustrated and designed by Vasanti)
- *Stripes! No, Spots!* (Penguin 2015)

Awards:

- 2008 Storylines Notable Book Awards Picture Books List for *The Bean's Story*.
- 2011 Storylines Notable Book Awards Picture Books List for *Hill & Hole*.
- 2011 Storylines Notable Book Awards Non-fiction List for *Star Boy and Friends* and *Weird Wabbit and Friends* (series)
- 2011 New Zealand Post Book Awards Finalist for *Hill & Hole*
- 2011 Russell Clark Award 2011 for *Hill & Hole*.
- 2011 Elsie Locke Award Finalist for *Star Boy and Friends* and *Weird Wabbit and Friends*.
- 2011 PANZ Book Design Awards Best Book for *Hill & Hole*
- 2014 Storylines Notable Book Award for *The Boring Book*
- 2014 New Zealand Post Margaret Mahy Book of the Year for *The Boring Book*
- 2014 New Zealand Post Best Picture Book for *The Boring Book*
- 2014 New Zealand Post Margaret Mahy Book of the Year for *The Boring Book*
- 2014 White Raven for *The Boring Book*
- Storylines Notable Book Award 2016 (Picture Book) for *Stripes! No, Spots!*
- 2016 IBBY Honour Book for *The Boring Book*
- 2016 Storylines Notable Book Award for *Stripes! No, Spots!*

Other resources:

- [Vasanti's blog](#).
-



MICHEL MULIPOLA

Illustrator Michel Mulipola is an Auckland-based self-taught comic book artist and illustrator. He has been immersed in the world of comic books from the tender age of five and wanted to draw comic books from that moment on. He has done work for various anthologies and is currently working on the US comic book, *Headlocked: The Last Territory*.

When he is not drawing comic books, Michel can be found peddling comic books at Arkham City Comics – a comic book store he helped a friend establish.

During the weekends, he spends his time dropping people on their heads as a professional wrestler for [Impact Pro Wrestling](#).

Selected bibliography:

- 'Frogs', *School Journal Comic* written by Paul Mason illustrated by Michel Mulipola (Learning Media 2013)
- *Samoan Heroes* written by David Riley illustrated by Michel Mulipola (Reading Warrior 2015)
- *The Rules* written by Maria Samuela illustrated by Michel Mulipola (Lift Education 2015)
- 'Breathless' *School Journal Story Library* written by Bernard Beckett illustrated by Michel Mulipola (Lift Education 2016)

Awards:

- Storylines Notable Book Award 2016 for *Samoan Heroes*
- 2006 Gibson Award for Best New Zealand Comic Book Artist

