

AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND PACIFIC

FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION

GUIDELINES

OVERVIEW

The International Society for the Performing Arts’ (ISPA) Aotearoa New Zealand Pacific Fellowship in partnership with Creative New Zealand’s Pacific Arts Strategy provides three-year access to ISPA’s extensive international network of arts professionals to three (3) mid-career leaders of Pacific Islands heritage from Aotearoa New Zealand’s performing arts community. Participants join the ISPA membership and attend the ISPA Congresses where they engage in the development and exchange of ideas with leaders from some of the world’s most significant presenting organizations, producing companies, artist management agencies, cultural policy groups, foundations, festivals, and related professionals.

Performing arts professionals who are deeply committed to increasing the global connectivity of the performing arts industry, as well as those who take initiative in their own professional development, are most likely to benefit. In considering applying, please be aware that the ISPA Congress is not a traditional arts market and opportunities for self-promotion are limited.

The Fellowship consists of four components:

Membership in ISPA	Fellows gain access to all ISPA member benefits from 2025 to 2027 including year-round digital programming, one-on-one peer consulting, and exclusive content on the ISPA website, newsletter, and social media.
ISPA Congresses	Fellows attend one International Congress (2025 Lugano) and two New York Congresses (2026 New York and 2027 New York)
Professional Development	Fellows attend a one-day seminar prior to the New York Congresses where they meet the Fellowship cohort and learn through a series of peer to peer conversations and workshops. Fellows also attend a one-and-a-half-day Anthony Field Academy program prior to the International Congress where they engage with emerging and mid-career leaders in the region.
Ongoing Networking	Fellows are paired with a current ISPA member at their first New York Congress as part of ISPA’s Community Building Program. Current members welcome Fellows to the Congress and help facilitate their participation.

Program dates:

2025 Program Dates	June 9 – 13, 2025
2026 Program Dates	January 12 – 15, 2026
2027 Program Dates	January 11 – 14, 2027

ISPA would like to thank Creative New Zealand Pacific Arts Strategy for making this program possible.

BENEFITS

Fellows receive:

- 2025 full membership in ISPA and the attendant benefits;
- 2025 Lugano Congress registration including participation in education and mentorship programs and a travel subsidy of up to \$3,575 US;
- 2026 full membership in ISPA and the attendant benefits;
- 2026 New York Congress registration including participation in education and mentorship programs and a travel subsidy of \$3,575 US;
- 2027 full membership in ISPA and the attendant benefits;
- 2027 New York Congress registration including participation in education and mentorship programs and a travel subsidy of \$3,575 US;

Selected candidates are eligible to participate for a total of three years. There will be an annual review process, and participants may be requested to leave the program at the discretion and mutual agreement of ISPA and Creative New Zealand.

ACCESS

For any questions pertaining to access needs and support, please contact Mara Driscoll, Program and Advancement Senior Lead, at mdriscoll@ispa.org.

ELIGIBILITY

The Aotearoa New Zealand Pacific Fellowship seeks to engage leaders of Pacific Islands heritage within the professional performing arts sector in Aotearoa New Zealand. Three (3) participants must be based in Aotearoa New Zealand and be interested in developing their career through an extended engagement with ISPA.

Applicants must:

- Be permanent residents or citizens of Aotearoa New Zealand
- Be of Pacific Islands heritage
- Be currently working in the performing arts
- Have a minimum of five years full-time professional experience in the performing arts
- Have not received an ISPA Fellowship in the past
- Have the ability to attend and fully participate in ISPA for the next three years
- Be able to present and engage professionally and with mana to overseas contacts and representatives

Please note: For the purpose of the Fellowship, working in the performing arts includes individuals working principally in the arts and culture sector either with organizations/institutions or as independent producers/managers. Generally, those working within academia, education, community organizations, and independent artists are not eligible

APPLICATION PROCESS

Those interested in applying for ISPA's Aotearoa New Zealand Pacific Fellowship must submit an application form online.

Aotearoa New Zealand Pacific Fellowship Application Form | <https://bit.ly/aoteanz25-27>

Deadline | **Friday, March 14, 2025 at 17:00 EDT (New York)**

This deadline will not be extended and late submissions will not be reviewed.

Applications are reviewed and selected by a committee including ISPA's CEO or designate, one ISPA board member, and 1-2 representatives from Creative New Zealand. Applicants will be notified of the status of their application by **April 8, 2025**.

Submittable | When you access the application form, you will be prompted to sign in to a Submittable account:

- If you already have a Submittable account, click the *Have an account? Sign in* tab to sign in to your account.
- If you are new to Submittable and don't have an account, create a free account by filling out the *Create your account* form. Click the *Create Account and Continue* button to continue with your fellowship application process.

APPLICATION MATERIALS

Below are the main sections of the application form. Please use this as a guide to prepare your answers.

About You | Applicants are asked to provide general personal information including name, country of residence, gender identity, email, and phone number.

Employer | Applicants are asked to provide general employer information including job title, employer name, address, website, type and start date of employment.

Employment History | Applicants are asked to upload their CV/Resume in PDF format and answer several multiple-choice questions about work history.

Personal Testimony | Applicants are asked to answer 4 questions (Each limited to 250 words or less).

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| Question 1 | Tell us about what you are currently doing in relation to the performing arts and your aspirations/objective for the future both professionally and personally. |
| Question 2 | Why do you feel participating in ISPA at this time would be beneficial for you and/or your organization? |
| Question 3 | What do you feel you will contribute to both ISPA and the congress? |
| Question 4 | How will you use the knowledge and network you gain at ISPA to benefit your community and/or region? |

References | Applicants are asked for the contact information of one professional reference (letters not required). Please be prepared to provide their name, job title, employer, phone number, and email.

Save Draft | Application drafts may be saved and returned to at a later date by [logging in](#) to your Submittable account. Once logged-in, click the *Save Drafts* tab and click *Continue* next to the Fellowship Form draft. You'll be taken back to your saved draft, which you can then continue to fill out.

Questions? Contact Mara Driscoll, Program and Advancement Senior Lead at mdriscoll@ispa.org

If you are already logged into your Submittable account and you return directly to the submission form, you will see your prior form field entries filled in if you previously entered data and clicked *Save Draft*.

Submit | Applicants may do a final review of the application. When satisfied, please complete the application by selecting *Apply*. Once submitted, you will be redirected to the ISPA website where you will receive an on screen message confirming receipt and well as an auto-generated email. If you do not receive the confirmation email, please contact Mara Driscoll at mdriscoll@ispa.org to ensure the application was received.

COST

There is no fee to submit an ISPA Fellowship application.

Thank you!

We look forward to receiving your application.

Thank you again to Creative New Zealand Pacific Arts Strategy for their support of this program.