

Lynn Middleton's Education Fund

1 Background

Lynn Middleton was a vibrant, talented artist and loved member of the Mangawhai Artists community. Lynn graduated in painting from the Art Academy London in 2011. Moving back from England in 2015, Lynn settled in Mangawhai, becoming a MAI member as a painter and print maker working in her home studio. Lynn exhibited work including:

- Mangawhai Artists gallery members' exhibitions, *Seeds, Large Works*, and the annual Printmakers exhibition
- Open Studio, Nunhead Art Trail: London 2015
- Solar etchings in the Awagami International Miniature Print Exhibition: Japan 2015
- *Retro vase* solar etching Society of Women Artists Annual Exhibition: UK 2014
- Solo Exhibition *Summer Paintings* at St George's Art Gallery: UK 2013
- *Pacific foliage* collagraph print selected for Royal Society of Artists exhibition: UK 2013

In 2019, Lynn won the print media award at the Kaipara Art Awards.

Lynn's friends describe her as "a passionate artist, and a compassionate, energized and positive force within the arts and wider community. Lynn is inclusive and a 'can do' person with a big heart." [Mangawhai Focus, November 2019] She was a driving force behind the development of the MAI workspace, leading a significant fund-raising PledgeMe campaign.

Lynn passed away in November 2019 and is honoured and remembered in a plaque on the wall outside of the workspace. Lynn's estate gifted a body of work to MAI which was exhibited at the gallery in August 2021 - a wonderful reminder of her creativity, and reflecting multiple aspects of her life, the love she had for our Mangawhai community, and the joy she experienced being home again in Aotearoa.

Lynn's friends proposed the funds raised from the sale of her work - over \$5,000 - be used to support people - particularly women who may not have the personal resources to do so - to participate in art activities.

2 Education fund

The proceeds of the sale of Lynn's art are held in a separate account in the MAI balance sheet - *Lynn Middleton's Education Fund*. The funds will be carried forward each year until they have been fully distributed. [Note: the distribution will not be shown in the MAI profit and loss.] The following sets out eligibility, how the fund will be notified, and the process for distribution of the funds.

2.1 Eligibility

Anyone in the community¹ can be a recipient of the fund provided they intend to use the funds to explore and/or develop their artistic creativity.

The funds could be used for example, to:

- meet the cost of attending an art workshop or class;
- purchase art materials or publicity;
- meet fees for an exhibition or competition entry, or market stall costs;
- travel to attend an exhibition;
- support the engagement of a tutor for a group.

2.2 Notifying the fund

A media release will be distributed in January 2022 [when the MAI learning opportunities calendar is confirmed] advising the fund and seeking applications/expressions of interest.

An in-house brochure will be prepared for distribution within the community, and there will be a section on the website and a Facebook post focusing on the fund.

Community groups such as Te Whai Trust and secondary schools will be contacted and advised of the opportunity to nominate people for the fund and/or to encourage people to apply.

2.3 Process

There will be no set time for the receipt of nominations or applications - they will be welcome throughout the year.

People may apply to the fund or be nominated by an organisation, and each person will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

There will as a general principle, be a \$200 cap on the amount any one person can receive from the fund at any one time.

The funds may be used for MAI learning opportunities or events but will not be restricted to MAI run or sponsored activities.

The process will be straightforward, with sufficient information supplied to enable a decision to be made balanced with the need to respect peoples' situations and ensure the process is not intrusive.

The MAI chair, secretary and treasurer will comprise the fund panel - receiving the applications or nominations, and determining whether to award the funds.

¹ The 'community' for this purpose includes Mangawhai, Kaiwaka, Waipu and Bream Bay.

Required information from applicants or nominees will be:

- name and contact details;
- use of the funds: if a class or example, the name/focus of the class, timeframe, and amount required;
- a brief description of why using the funds for this purpose is important to the person;

and if nominated:

- the nominating organisation's contact person and details;
- a brief summary of why the person has been put forward for consideration.

All personal information will remain confidential to the MAI panel.

The recipient will be asked for a brief report to confirm the purpose for which the funds were sought, has been undertaken.

The MAI panel will provide a quarterly report to the MAI committee for the record, noting the number of people supported by the fund, whether they applied or were nominated, the use of funds and supporting information, and the amount awarded.

While the intent is to support individuals to participate in creative endeavours, there may be occasion where the MAI panel decide its appropriate for the funds to be used for a related purpose such as sponsoring an art award for example. In these cases, the panel would make a recommendation to the MAI committee.

This policy and procedure will be reviewed in February 2023.