

Pettman DARE Fellowship in Music Education and Community Engagement Project Management

A Pettman DARE Fellowship provides a fully-funded year of applied research in Music Education and Community Engagement in the United Kingdom and Aotearoa New Zealand.

Delivered in partnership between New Zealand Opera, and Opera North and the University of Leeds in the UK.



NEW ZEALAND OPERA FELLOW

A Pettman DARE Fellowship provides a fully-funded year of applied research in the Education departments at Opera North and New Zealand Opera and at the University of Leeds.

One Fellowship for an Aotearoa New Zealand citizen or permanent resident will be awarded for 2024-25.

The programme runs September 2024 – August 2025. You will spend nine months in the UK gaining experience through undertaking hands-on research at Opera North, and studying at the University of Leeds, before returning to Aotearoa New Zealand in June 2025. The remaining three months of the Fellowship will be spent working with the Participation team at New Zealand Opera exploring and supporting the delivery of engagement opportunities with communities in Aotearoa New Zealand.

As leading national cultural organisations, New Zealand Opera (NZO) and Opera North, in the UK, create and tour opera and music of the highest quality. We seek to encourage people of all ages and from all walks of life to explore our work. We are committed to breaking down barriers to enhance the health, wellbeing, and cohesion of communities.

This Fellowship is for emerging arts professionals from New Zealand, who want to gain experience in, and knowledge about, community engagement in music organisations.

One Fellowship will be awarded to an Aotearoa New Zealand citizen or permanent resident.

What is it?

- It is a twelve month, fully-funded programme starting in September 2024, split between Leeds in the UK and Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland, Aotearoa New Zealand.
- The first nine months are spent in the Education department at Opera North and at the University of Leeds UK, before spending the final three months at New Zealand Opera.
- As a Pettman DARE Fellow you are registered as a taught postgraduate student at the University of Leeds, at the School of Performance and Cultural Industries in the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Cultures.
- The majority of practical research takes place with Opera North, where you learn about Music Education in the context of a large UK-based arts organisation, and assist in a broad spectrum of initiatives developed and delivered by the Learning & Engagement team including the Adult Programme; Family Programme; Schools Programme; In Harmony; Young Performers Programme
- At the University of Leeds you will study Masters' level modules on topics relevant to Music Education and the arts in the UK.
- At NZO, the opportunity to realise and implement learnings will be further realised. Insight and experiences acquired in the UK will inform the planning and delivery of activities of engagement that will supplement and support the work of the Participation team at NZO, determined through ongoing discussions during the nine-month UK placement.

Through this combination of practical experience and academic study, the programme is assessed and accredited as a Postgraduate Diploma in Performing Arts Management.

What benefits do Fellows get from the programme?

- A fully-funded professional development opportunity, the only Diploma of its kind in the UK.

- The chance to learn from leading music professionals and academics when immersed in the artistic and operational culture of leading UK and Aotearoa New Zealand opera companies and in the research and educational culture of a leading UK university.
- Practical experience of supporting Learning & Engagement music specialists to plan and deliver Opera North's award-winning programmes.
- Knowledge of the roles, skills and processes needed to ensure engagement projects of the highest quality.
- An understanding of the role of music organisations in Aotearoa New Zealand and the UK.
- Enhanced personal and professional skills to support career development.
- A network of contacts for the future.
- Relevant professional training.

How does the experience in the UK connect with New Zealand Opera?

The partnership between New Zealand Opera, Opera North and the University of Leeds has been growing since 2010. We each create and tour award-winning opera and music, and we share a commitment to diversity - internally with our workforce and artists, and externally with our audiences and the communities around us.



In advance of starting in the UK, Fellows spend time with the team at New Zealand Opera, discussing the Company's ambitions and challenges and identifying a key question to be researched in the UK e.g. How can opera companies use their resources to aid young people affected by social exclusion and/or economic hardship? How can collaboration with other organisations and community groups benefit opera companies? What can opera companies do to assist refugees and immigrants when settling into a new country? How can voices new to this artform be encouraged and developed? What does collaboration in opera look like, and

sound like, in contemporary society? How can digital technologies be used to support educational and outreach activities undertaken by opera companies?

This question informs the research and practical learning for the 60-credit, practice-based project in the UK (see below). Communication with NZO continues throughout, and the learning from the project will inform the development of activity at NZO during the final three months of the Fellowship.



What do Fellows do and learn at Opera North?

For at least two days a week, you are based at Opera North in Leeds, within the Learning & Engagement department at the new Howard Opera Centre. This entails:

- Gaining an understanding of the purpose of Learning & Engagement in a music organisation, including who it seeks to engage with, why, and the strategic planning process.
- Learning how partnerships and relationships are developed with diverse communities and schools.
- Supporting activity managers in the project management and delivery of their work: Adult Programme; Family Programme; Schools Programme; In Harmony; Young Performers Programme

What does the Fellow do at the University of Leeds?

“My academic studies at the University of Leeds, where I am taking courses on audience engagement and cultural leadership, have expertly guided my work enabling me to gain

invaluable insight into community arts engagement. These collective experiences within the Fellowship programme have already strengthened, and no doubt will continue to further strengthen, my professional development in this area. Overall, my experience has been hugely rewarding and I am looking forward to the remainder of my time with the programme and all those I am involved with here at Opera North.”

Andrew Gordon, Pettman DARE NZ Fellow, 2022-23

“My studies at the University of Leeds have been a personal highlight of my Pettman DARE Fellowship. Arts Management is a relatively new field of research, and the lecturers at University of Leeds are leading development in this field. Attending these lectures have encouraged me to think critically about how arts organisations are funded and managed, how they engage with their audiences, and how they stay relevant in today’s climate. All theory is related to practice, with case studies taken from arts and cultural industries from around the world.”

Blaire White, Pettman DARE NZ Fellow 2018-19



You spend at least two days a week studying at the University or researching off-campus. As a postgraduate student, you have access to the vast range of learning opportunities offered by the University as well as specific support from your academic mentors – great for research into topics relevant to music education and community engagement.

In addition to the Diploma’s assessed modules, you can audit (sit in on, without assessment) other lectures across the campus.

- In the first term, you study one assessed 30-credit masters-level module of your choice from within the MA in Culture, Creativity and Entrepreneurship in the School of Performance & Cultural Industries (e.g. Arts Management and Cultural Leadership).

- In the second term you study a second assessed 30-credit masters-level module from the MA above (e.g. [Audience Engagement and Impact](#)).
- Towards the end of the first term, together with Opera North and University supervisors, you agree the focus for a 60-credit Personal Research Project (PRP), supervised by Opera North and the [School of Music](#). Examples of former Fellows' PRPs include designing and launching the first Opera North [Orchestra Camp](#) and [Creative Explorers](#) programme, supporting project managers for Opera North's participation in [Northern Heartlands](#), and [leading on community and creative placemaking work during Opera North's Richmond Hill Residency culminating in a week-long festival](#).
- You may also choose to audit lectures across all faculties and disciplines. Those audited by former Fellows include Critical Concepts in Applied Theatre, Live Music Management and Promotion, Critical Debates in Culture and Place, Psychology of Music, and Music and Health.

What do Fellows do and learn at New Zealand Opera?

From June – September, you are at New Zealand Opera, within the Participation department at The Opera Centre in Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland, supporting the Participation Manager with project planning and delivery. The details of this engagement and delivery will be determined through the preceding nine months in the UK, and can be tailored to supplement areas of interest and learning, building on experiences in the UK, which align with NZO's strategic objectives.

When in the UK, do Fellows connect with organisations and activity outside Opera North and University of Leeds?

Fellows are actively encouraged to find out about and visit relevant organisations and activities across the UK. Former Fellows have, for example, visited Education and Engagement practitioners at Welsh National Opera; Scottish Opera; Glyndebourne; and Liverpool Philharmonic. Fellows are also encouraged to attend relevant conferences and symposia, subject to budget.

How are Fellows supported and monitored?

You need to be self-driven. We provide you with a broad range of opportunities and aim to respond positively to any suggestions you have. It is up to you to make the most of them.

- When accepting the offer, you sign a Fellowship Agreement, which outlines your commitments as well as those of New Zealand Opera, Opera North, and the University of Leeds.
- These are reflected in a Learning Journal, which you complete monthly. In the document you summarise what you have done, what you have learned, and you consider what future activity you will be/are interested in undertaking, in two key areas: learning and experience at Opera North, and study and assessment at the University.
- During your time in the UK, you meet monthly with supervisors from Opera North and the University of Leeds to review your Learning Journal, to discuss any challenges and opportunities, and to agree any action.
- You also meet informally and regularly with your supervisors.

“Whilst on the Pettman DARE Fellowship I have regularly met with key staff from Opera North and the University of Leeds who have mentored me throughout the fellowship. This personal development has helped me to discover what I am passionate about and shape my future career aspirations. The learning journal has been a great way for me to track my experiences, and plan so that I can make the most of my time in the UK” Blaire White,
Pettman Dare Fellow 2018/19

How is the Fellowship Funded?

Thanks to the generosity of philanthropist Mrs Maureen Pettman and her late husband Barrie, the Fellowship is fully funded, including:

- A monthly bursary of £1,550
- University of Leeds Diploma fee
- Visa application costs
- One return economy-class flight Aotearoa New Zealand-UK and other rail/bus travel associated with arrival and departure.
- Expenses directly related to the Fellowship, and agreed in advance.

Application process

To apply, you are required to have:

- Aotearoa New Zealand citizenship or permanent residence
- a demonstrable interest in project management and arts engagement
- a Bachelors Degree, minimum B+ average (2:1 at honours degree level UK)

- evidence of musical understanding and experience; a background in classical music is preferred
- an active interest in the arts, music education, and their place in society
- be eligible to apply for a UK Student Visa or have an existing right to study in the UK

The application deadline is midnight BST (UK), Sunday 16th June, 2024.

Interviews will take place online in early July 2024.

Download the application form [here](#).

Accessibility, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

As a signatory of Sound and Music's Fair Access Principles, Opera North, together with New Zealand Opera and the University of Leeds, is keen to attract the widest possible range of applicants for the Pettman DARE Fellowship regardless of ethnic origin, disability, sexual orientation, age, or religious belief.

To support this commitment and to help us develop our policies and procedures, we ask all job applicants to complete our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion survey. Any information you provide will be treated as strictly confidential, be held separately from the application form and will only be used for anonymous monitoring purposes. It will not be used at any stage of the selection process. Please note all questions are optional and we respect your right not to provide all or some of the information requested, but the more information that is supplied, the more effective our monitoring will be.

To discuss any additional access needs or how to overcome further barriers to applying, please contact darcy.thorpe@operanorth.co.uk

Covid safety

Please note that the Fellowship will be delivered in line with Government guidance and laws regarding Covid-19, plus any additional measures put in place by Opera North, New Zealand Opera, and the University of Leeds.

We endeavour to have, when feasible, face to face contact with staff at Opera North and New Zealand Opera, with our partner schools and communities, with other organisations in the cultural sector, and with fellow students and staff at the University of Leeds. There may,

however, be times when opportunities have to be curtailed or cancelled, sometimes at short notice, and when home working and virtual contact is essential. As for all staff and students, a flexible approach is required.

About DARE

DARE is a unique collaboration between **Opera North** and the **University of Leeds**, the first partnership of its kind in the UK, established in 2007. DARE is a world leader in building collaborations between the arts and higher education.

As two of the UK's leading institutions of culture and education Opera North and the University of Leeds fuse the artistic with the academic, combining the very best of both organisations to inspire and stimulate new ways of thinking and working.

Initiatives including the creation of new work, research, conferences, work-based learning programmes, fellowships, scholarships and the sharing of ideas and aspirations are having a positive impact on students, audiences and the wider sector – and making a positive contribution to the business development of our organisations.

About Opera North

Opera North is a national opera company based in Leeds, and is a leading UK arts organisation. Rooted in the North of England, international in outlook, we create extraordinary experiences, every day.

Our award-winning work tours to theatre stages and concert halls throughout the North and beyond, including to London and major international festivals, and we curate an eclectic artistic programme of gigs, concerts, spoken word and film in the Howard Assembly Room. Our aim is to make bold, innovative, ambitious work and share it in new ways.

Opera North believes opera and music is for everyone, and champions diversity in artists, repertoire and audiences. Through its Learning & Engagement department, Opera North seeks to encourage people to explore the work of Opera North; to connect with communities and inspire each generation through opera and the artistic resources of the company.

Opera North is grateful for the generous support of Arts Council England and Leeds City Council, sponsorship from the private sector, trusts and individuals, the Friends of Opera North, the Opera North Future Fund and the box office income from its audiences, which allows us to continue to mount our award-winning work.

About the University of Leeds

The University of Leeds is one of the largest higher education institutions in the UK, with more than 39,000 students from more than 150 different countries. It is renowned globally for the quality of its teaching and research.

The University of Leeds is a values-driven university harnessing its expertise in research and education to help shape a better future for humanity, working through collaboration to tackle inequalities, achieve societal impact and drive change.

The University is a member of the Russell Group of research-intensive universities, and plays a significant role in the Turing, Rosalind Franklin and Royce Institutes.

About New Zealand Opera

New Zealand Opera is New Zealand's national opera company based in Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland. The Company has presented more than 500 stage, touring, festival and concert performances to a combined audience of more than 800,000.

The Company has pioneered extensive participation programmes for school children, young people and adults that have resulted in over 100,000 people engaging with opera in educational and meaningful ways.