

MEDIA RELEASE June 2019

## Embargoed until 11 June 2019

## TEDxWELLINGTON 2019 ANNOUNCES SPEAKERS AND TICKET REGISTRATION OPEN

TEDxWellington 2019, which takes place Sunday August 11 at Te Auaha, has announced speakers and is now open for ticket registrations. Wellington's premier TEDx event is BACK for their 6th year in a new, creative location right in the heart of the capital.

Organisers announced speakers, theme, and ticketing structure at their TEDxWellingtonSalon #11 event at The National Library of New Zealand. Ticket registrations are now open for those interested in a unique opportunity to meet some of the best creative talent in the Wellington region!

TEDxWellington has hosted 53 speakers with over 1,900 delegates and 13,200 livestream viewers from the previous 5 events and has over half a million video views of its talks. This year's speakers include:

- 1. Anne-marie Brook, co-founder | <u>Human Rights Measurement Initiative</u>
- 2. Ged Finch, PhD Candidate | X-Frame
- 3. Hīria Te Rangi, Kaiwhakahaere | <u>Whare Hauora</u>
- 4. Jase Te Patu, Creator | <u>M3 Mindfulness For Children</u>
- 5. Kim Murray & Rebecca Morahan, co-founders | WELLfed
- 6. Mandi Lynn | <u>Every Body is a Treasure</u>
- 7. Dr Monica Saini | <u>MonicaSainiMD</u>
- 8. Olie Body, Founder | Wā Collective
- 9. Dr Serena Cox & Rob Wilson | Ghost Fishing NZ
- 10. Tania Sawicki Mead, Director | JustSpeak

The mid-August event at Te Auaha will be home to 200 audience members and 10 talks, for an intimate, creative experience unlike any other TEDx in the country, plus it will also be live-streamed to a projected 5000 other viewers, as it was during the last TEDxWellington. Delegates will enjoy a world-class experience in their own backyard, with talks from local innovators and creators from a variety of fields and backgrounds.

"Speakers are a big part of who TEDxWellington is, along with the creative and unique experience of each event. The talks this year are very topical and we're proud of the diverse speakers and performers this year which illustrates the talent we have in the capital," says DK, TEDxWellington license holder.

All previous TEDxWellington events have sold-out quickly and 2019 will be no different, as the experience scales down this year while the St. James Theatre is being re-strengthened. With 200 delegates, 2019's event will be an intimate affair with more opportunities to connect with fellow attendees and speakers within Te Auaha's creative space.

This year's ticketing structure gives everyone an equal chance to attend. Instead of traditional ticket sales, delegates will register via an online form and go into a random draw, making it a game of chance, in keeping with the theme. Each person is encouraged to register online and indicate what ticket type they are interested in.

"We're proud events have sold out quickly but this year we wanted to provide everyone with an equal shot at attending, not just the ones who are quick to buy a ticket," says Director of Communications Catarina Gutierrez. "It adds to the experience that you may meet someone new at the August event and build out new connections which will last beyond TEDxWellington." she adds.

Registrations are open and full details can be found via <u>tedxwellington.com/register</u> from Tuesday 11th June - registrations for tickets will close July 11, 2019.

TEDxWellington is a non-profit event run by a dedicated group of volunteers. It is also supported by partners: <u>Creative Leadership NZ</u>, <u>Xequals</u>, <u>Fairground Accounting</u>, <u>The Lab & Streamliner Productions</u>.

For future announcements about events, fans are encouraged to register for the email newsletter via the TEDxWellington website plus also follow along with their social media channels <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u>.

## ENDS

Media contacts: Through the main website at <u>tedxwellington.com/#contact</u>

About TEDx, x = independently organized event In the spirit of ideas worth spreading, TEDx is a program of local, self-organized events that bring people together to share a TED-like experience. At a TEDx event, TEDTalks video and live speakers combine to spark deep discussion and connection in a small group. These local, self-organized events are branded TEDx, where x = independently organized TED event. The TED Conference provides general guidance for the TEDx program, but individual TEDx events are self-organized. (Subject to certain rules and regulations.) About TED TED is a nonprofit organization devoted to Ideas Worth Spreading, usually in the form of short, powerful talks (18 minutes or fewer) delivered by today's leading thinkers and doers. Many of these talks are given at TED's annual conference in Vancouver, British Columbia, and made available, free, on TED.com. TED speakers have included Bill Gates, Jane Goodall, Elizabeth Gilbert, Sir Richard Branson, Monica Lewinsky, Philippe Starck, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Sal Khan and Daniel Kahneman.

TED's open and free initiatives for spreading ideas include TED.com, where new TED Talk videos are posted daily; the Open Translation Project, which provides subtitles and interactive transcripts as well as translations from thousands of volunteers worldwide; the educational initiative TED-Ed; the annual million-dollar TED Prize, which funds exceptional individuals with a "wish," or idea, to create change in the world; TEDx, which provides licenses to thousands of individuals and groups who host local, self-organized TED-style events around the world; and the TED Fellows program, which selects innovators from around the globe to amplify the impact of their remarkable projects and activities.