

Ngā Mahara The Memories

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National Committee of New Zealand
Te Komiti o Aotearoa mō Ngā Mahara o te Ao
Memory of the World

Call for submissions 2017

Nominations to this year's UNESCO Memory of the World New Zealand documentary heritage register close on 31 August.

The Memory of the World New Zealand Trust Chair Dianne Macaskill says, "the Trust is looking forward to seeing what documentary heritage treasures will be nominated this year.

"Last year's successful nominations included the Scottish Migration Collection from Waipu Museum. This was the first nomination from an institution outside the main centres. We also received the first joint submission, the Sir John Logan Campbell Papers from the Sir John Logan Campbell Residuary Estate and Auckland War Memorial Museum."

An Expressions of Interest form was introduced to the nomination process last year. Three of the four successful nominators completed the form and attended a training workshop prior to completing their submissions.

"While it's not compulsory to complete an EOI form before making a nomination, it will help you do an initial assessment of your documentary heritage against the Memory of the World criteria."

The Trust uses the form as background for discussion with a potential nominator. Institutions that completed an EOI this year and decide to continue with the nomination will be offered support to complete the full nomination form. Support may include one to one contact with an expert or attendance at a workshop to complete a draft of the nomination form.

The Memory of the World New Zealand register was established in 2010 and currently lists 20 inscriptions of significant documentary heritage. All greatly contribute to the story of our nation's history and heritage and are significant to the identity of New Zealanders today.

UNESCO recognition draws attention to the significance of documentary heritage and the institutions that are its custodians. Inscription on the register raises awareness of the custodian's institutions and promotes the importance of caring for our documentary heritage.

The organisation's promotion and publicity contribute to ensuring our nation's history and stories are not forgotten.

Check out the current inscriptions on the register and the nomination criteria and forms on the website www.unescomow.org.nz.



New home at He Tohu

Three of New Zealand's iconic documentary heritage items inscribed on UNESCO Memory of the World registers, will soon have a new home in He Tohu, the new exhibition space at the National Library in Wellington.

The 1835 He Whakaputanga o te Rangatiratanga o Nu Tirenī – Declaration of Independence of the United Tribes of New Zealand, 1840 Te Tiriti o Waitangi – Treaty of Waitangi and the 1893 Women's Suffrage Petition – Te Petihana Whakamana Pōti Wahine, are currently housed at Archives New Zealand in Wellington.

He Tohu, sheds fresh light on the three iconic constitutional documents that shape Aotearoa New Zealand and preserves these powerful tāonga for future generations.

He Tohu opens at the National Library of New Zealand, 70 Molesworth Street, Wellington on 20 May. Entry is free. He Tohu is presented by Archives New Zealand and the National Library of New Zealand. Pictured above: an artist's impression of He Tohu.

MOWCAP submissions close 31 August

Submissions for inscriptions to the Memory of the World Regional Committee for Asia/Pacific (MOWCAP) register close on 31 August 2017 with successful nominations to be announced in 2018.

An inscription on the MOWCAP Register demonstrates the significance and regional impact of the documentary heritage in question, provides it with more visibility and places it on the same level with the most valuable documents of human history. Such inscription also supports promotion of the documentary heritage and access to it, and may encourage investment in its conservation and security.

The MOWCAP Register currently has 46 inscriptions including two from New Zealand: Records of the Tokyo War Crimes Trials 1946-1948 held in the Macmillian Brown Library, University of Canterbury Christchurch; and the Western Pacific Archives held at the University of Auckland.

See <http://www.mowcapunesco.org/> for more information.