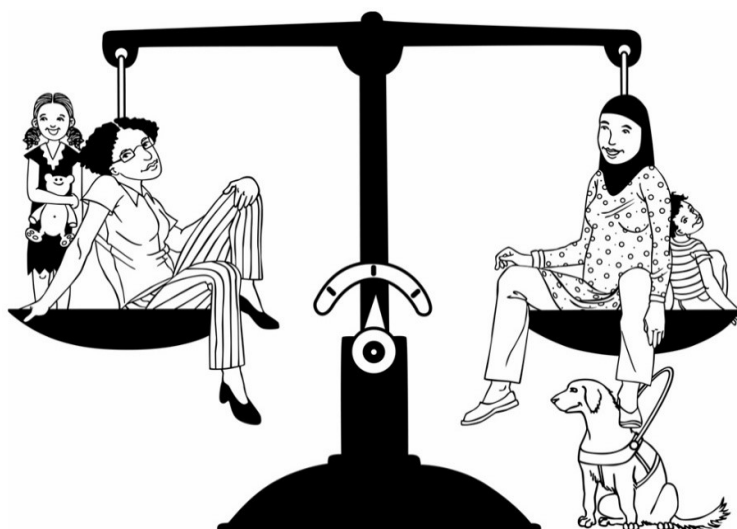


# Arts Access Aotearoa: Equity statement

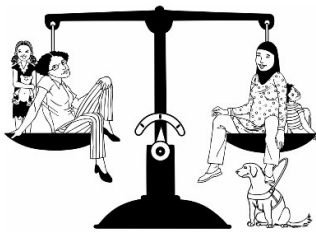


**Published: May 2024**

# What is this document about?



This document is an **equity statement** from **Arts Access Aotearoa – Putanga Toi ki Aotearoa**.

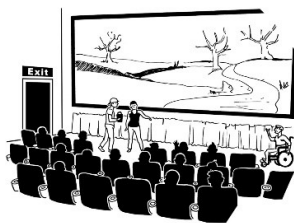


**Equity** means everyone gets what they need to live a good life.

An **equity statement** is a document that says what an organisation will do to make sure everyone:

- is included
- gets what they need to take part.





**Arts Access Aotearoa – Putanga Toi ki Aotearoa** is an organisation that supports people so they can be part of the **arts** including:

- disabled people
- Deaf communities
- mental health communities.

In this document **Arts Access Aotearoa – Putanga Toi ki Aotearoa** will be called **Arts Access Aotearoa**.

In this document **we/our** refers to **Arts Access Aotearoa**.



The **arts** includes things like:

- painting
- writing
- dance
- music
- weaving
- wood carving
- making plays
- making TV shows
- making films.

# Equity Statement



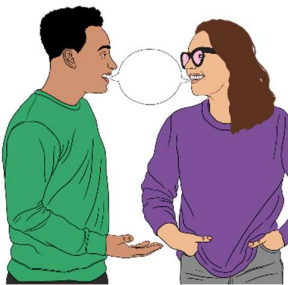
We are Arts Access Aotearoa.



At Arts Access Aotearoa we **value** people.

In this sentence **value** means to:

- have **respect** for someone / something
- treat someone / something as being important.



To **respect** someone means to take care of their:

- feelings
- rights.





We value the time people give.



We value the **lived experience** of people.



**Lived experience** means what a person knows about their life from:

- the choices they have made
- the things they have done
- what they have seen happen in the world.



We understand lived experience as **expertise**.



**Expertise** means the things people:

- are good at doing
- know about.



We know that people do not all start from the same place.



Sometimes there can be an **imbalance**.

**Imbalance** means things are not fair for everyone.



Some people have more:

- power
- **privilege**.



To have **privilege** means that parts of your life can give you a better chance at doing things.

A privilege can be something like:

- your **gender**
- not having a disability
- having more money.

**Gender** is if you are:

- a man
- a woman
- another gender like nonbinary.





We understand that it can take more effort for people to:

- get places
- be involved.



At Arts Access Aotearoa we come from a place of aroha / care.



We work together to:

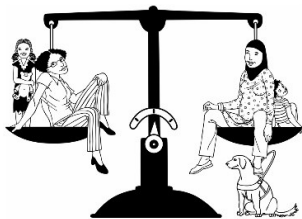
- understand
- connect
- share what we do.





We want to make a world that is more:

- fair
- **just.**



**Just** means doing things that are right for everyone.



We want to make a world where everyone is valued for all parts of who they are.



We would love to kōrero / talk with you.



This information has been written by Arts Access Aotearoa – Putanga Toi ki Aotearoa.



It has been translated into Easy Read by the Make it Easy Kia Māmā Mai service of People First New Zealand Ngā Tāngata Tuatahi.



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