

Media Release

Judith Binney Fellowships and Writing Awards

2019 Recipients Announced

The Judith Binney Trust is proud to announce the recipients of the inaugural Judith Binney Fellowships and Writing Awards. The awards were established by the Judith Binney Trust to support research and writing on New Zealand history.

The **Judith Binney Fellow** for 2019 is **Dr. Nēpia Mahuika** (Ngāti Porou), Senior Lecturer in History at the University of Waikato. Dr. Mahuika specialises in Māori and Indigenous history with a particular focus on Māori spirituality and beliefs.

The 2019 Judith Binney Fellowship will support Dr Mahuika's research on new perspectives on the history of makutu in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Nēpia Mahuika said he was honoured to be offered the Fellowship.

"This is exciting news for me, my whanau and iwi. Judith Binney left a legacy of research that encouraged new voices and Māori voices in particular to speak their truth and I appreciate the magnitude of this award which will be essential in supporting the completion of my research and writing for publication"

Three **Judith Binney Writing Awards** have also been announced. The recipients are: freelance writer **Ryan Bodman**; journalist and commentator **Morgan Godfrey** (Ngāti Awa, Samoa); and independent historian **Dr. Melissa Matutina Williams** (Te Rarawa, Ngāti Maru).

Ryan Bodman is writing a book on the social and cultural history of rugby league in New Zealand; Morgan Godfrey is exploring the history of dissent in New Zealand society; and Dr. Melissa Matutina Williams is engaged in a collective project on the history of wāhine Māori.

Chair of the Judith Binney Trust, Adam Ross QC, says that the trustees are delighted by wide range of strong applications for the inaugural Judith Binney Fellowships and Writing Awards:

"The trustees were impressed with the quality and quantity of applications for funding in our inaugural year. The selected applicants reflect well on the Trust, the legacy of the late Dame Judith Binney, her mother Marjorie Musgrove, and the settlor of the Trust, Sebastian Black. We are looking forward to seeing the contribution that the outstanding recipients, through the Trust's funding, will make to scholarly historical research and writing in this country."

Editorial notes

Biographical information on applicants accompanies this release.

The 2019 Judith Binney Fellow Dr. Nēpia Mahuika and Writing Award recipients, Ryan Bodman, Morgan Godfrey and Dr. Melissa Matutina Williams are available for interview.

For more information about the Judith Binney Fellowships or the Judith Binney Trust, please contact:

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Further Information

The Judith Binney Fellowships and Writing Awards were established by the Judith Binney Trust to support research and writing on New Zealand history. The Fellowships honour the contribution made by the late Dame Judith Binney/Te Tōmairangi o Te Aroha to our understanding of New Zealand's rich history.

Full information about the Judith Binney Fellowships and Writing Awards is available on www.judithbinneytrust.org.nz.

The Judith Binney Fellowships and Writing Awards are managed by the Judith Binney Trust, in association with the National Library of New Zealand Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa.
