WEAVING CONGRESS

AUSTRALASIAN STUDENT ARCHITECTURE CONGRESS 2026

TĀMAKI MAKAURAU | AUCKLAND
30TH NOVEMBER TO 5TH DECEMBER

WEAVING 2026 FESTIVAL (December 3rd - 5th) INFORMATION PACK

Kia ora team!

We have had some questions about the Weaving Congress Festival, so this document is a more detailed information pack about what the festival is, where it is, how we'll get there and everything you need to do and bring to make it work.

The overall programme of events is detailed in the General Attendee Information Pack and is available on our website: https://weaving.nz/programme/ following ***below is Festival Specific Information (for the 3rd - 5th December).***

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to send us an email - hello@weaving.nz

Remember to join our general Whatsapp for attendees here:
https://chat.whatsapp.com/IfsClAoF0NC9jYDuzXjwmQ?s=cl&p=i&mlu=4&ilr=4&iam=2

Why a festival?

The Festival is a two-day, two-night event as part of the Weaving Congress, taking place at the Riverhaven Art and Sculpture Park, to the south-east of Tāmaki Makaurau, in a valley between two forests, along a winding arm of the Wairoa river. These are days 3 - 5 of the event, December 3rd - December 5th. For more specific details about the rest of the week's activities, please read the General Attendee Information Pack.

After *Weaving Place*—exploring the city centre through a rich variety of tours and talks; and *Weaving Knowledge*—attending our big session of talks at the AUT North campus for Tukutuku Day; we wanted to get out of the city and *Weave Connections, Weave Space and Weave Futures*, sharing meals, making things together and learning in a convivial environment we have some part in making ourselves.

Locating part of the student congress here also connects us to its rich history of events in Aotearoa, where students with retro haircuts built and burnt things in far off fields, swam in rivers, danced and sang together, and made their mark on the history of architecture in this

place. It is these kinds of settings in which we imagine other worlds, discover what architecture is for us, and make lifelong friends. It is in these kinds of settings that we change the future.

Retro haircuts are optional, but they're guaranteed in retrospect!

Accommodation and Transport

We have been getting lots of questions about this so please read carefully!
The Riverhaven Art and Sculpture Park is located at 331 North Road, Clevedon 2582. It is about a 45minute drive from the city centre (this can be significantly longer during peak hour traffic).

We will be providing bus transport to and from the city **on the first and last day of the festival**.

Bus transport:
To Riverhaven
Meet at 67 Vincent Street, Auckland CBD on the 3rd of December 7:45AM. The bus will leave at 8AM.

To Auckland CBD
Meet in front of the barn at Riverhaven on the 5th of December at 11:45AM. The bus will leave at 12PM.

There will be parking at Riverhaven for personal vehicles but we ask that you arrange carpooling through the whatsapp chat to limit the number of vehicles on site (you can also share gas $$ - this economy!). **If you do not plan to stay over and do not have personal transport, please coordinate this within the whatsapp group.**

We REALLY encourage you to stay on site for the duration of the festival. This will maximise your experience, and encourage deeper connection to people and place. **We ask that you plan to camp on site first and foremost.** This will give you your own private space to store your belongings, and a quieter setting within which to sleep. You can buy a two person tent (about the right size for one person + gear) for around $20. We also hope to coordinate gear borrowing between attendees. If you have tents to loan for the two nights, please let us know.

Either way you will need to bring a sleeping bag (it will likely be cold overnight), a pillow, and any other bedding. A sheet or blanket between you and your sleeping mat can make a big difference in how warm you stay overnight.

We have a limited number of mattresses that can be laid out in the barn for those who won't be able to provide their own camping gear. Please reach out if you won't be able to organise this or have accessibility needs that make camping difficult.

What do I need to bring?

These will be full days (9AM - Late) and feature activities in the outdoors. Please bring appropriate clothing for all weather and for three days of activity.

Gear list:

- Tent, sleeping mat, bedding (as above)
- A torch for navigating on site in the dark (a head torch will be better than your phone, bring spare batteries!).
- Earplugs for sleeping.
- Long pants, shirt, jumper, a beanie and rain coat.
- Summer clothes, sunhat, sun protection.
- Suitable footwear for walking outdoors and on grass (possibly wet).
- Your own towel and toiletries for showers and/or swimming.
- Notebooks, pens, other craft equipment for your own making and entertainment.
- Swimwear if you would like to.
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner will be provided for. Please ensure you have nominated dietary requirements on your ticket.
- Feel free to bring snacks of your choice. We recommend plastic containers for storing these (to deter bugs and rodents) as there is limited space in the shared storage.
- You are also welcome to bring your own beverages. Some beer, wine and soft drinks will be available in the evenings. A keepcup for serving your own tea and coffee is recommended.
- Please bring a reusable water bottle.

We will provide a phone charging station for your phone chargers but we encourage limited device use. We are at Riverhaven to touch grass.

I’m not getting the bus, what do I need to know about the schedule?

Below is a detailed version of the programme. This is subject to change, but we don’t think by much! **The main thing is to be on site before 9AM each day.**

Day 3 - Thursday 3rd December

Please arrive on site by 9AM.

The Weaving team will be onsite to direct upon arrival. Below is an interim map of key locations on the site:



Day 3 Timetable:

9:00am: Bus arrives on site

Weaving team to direct arrivals, attendees to store their belongings.

9:30am: Opening event

Poetic act with Weaving 2026 team and pre:fab platform

10:30am: TALANOA

Albert Refiti and Vā Moana Talanoa and kava ceremony

12:00pm: Site induction and camping set up

All in attendance - health and safety information, all site information, discussion about events of the days and conceptual framing of the congress.

1:00pm: Catered Lunch

Catered lunch for all on site.

2:00pm: Meet the workshop hosts.

Introduction to the workshops and direction to workshop location. The workshops will be randomly allocated.

2:30 - 5:30pm: Workshops Threads 1
Participatory workshops and intimate talks on creative practice, making, design, te ao Māori and Tukutuku day themes with local and international practitioners. These sessions are:

W/shop Thread 1	W/shop Thread 2	W/shop Thread 3	W/shop Thread 4	W/shop Thread 5	W/shop Thread 6	W/shop Thread 7	W/shop Thread 8	W/shop Thread 9	W/shop Thread 10
Design Jam Location: on site Host: Field Studio Capacity TBC pax	**Matakohe** Location: Barn Host: Jade Kake Capacity TBC pax	**Union Workers** Location: on site Host: Tom Marshall Capacity TBC pax	**Dorita Hannah** Location: on site Host: Dorita Hannah Capacity TBC pax	**Xin Cheng** Location: on site Host: Xin Cheng Capacity TBC pax	**Mark and Beatriz** Location: on site Host: Mark and Beatriz Capacity TBC pax	**Mel Dodd** Location: on site Host: Mel Dodd Capacity TBC pax	**Elisapeta** Location: on site Host: Elisapeta Capacity TBC pax	**Carin Wilson** Location: on site Host: Carin Wilson Capacity TBC pax	**Weaving Whariki** Location: on site Host: Emara Capacity TBC pax

6:00pm: Catered Dinner

7:00pm: KEYNOTE TALK
Professor Mel Dodd / Monash
Q&A session facilitated by Tessa Forde with audience involvement

9:00pm: Evening events
Festival Day 1 concludes with live music, and participatory evening activities.

Day 4 - Friday 4th December
Weaving Festival - All day
Riverhaven Art and Sculpture Park, 331 North Road, Clevedon 2582
For those who stay on site at Riverhaven there are morning activities available from 8am.
If you are staying offsite please arrive by 9:00am.

Day 4 Timetable
7:30am: Catered breakfast (available until 9:30am)

8:00am Morning workshop threads
Quiet morning activities, drawing, walking and place based workshops with local practitioners.

Morning Thread 1	Morning Thread 2	MorningThread 3
Morning Drawing Host: Congress Team	**Morning Walk to Te Nikau Pā** Host: Congress Team	**Walking Meditation** Host: Wei-An Chen

9:00am: Continued breakfast (closes 9:30) and free time

9:30pm: Meet the workshop hosts.
This provides time for groups to make their way to workshops and meet their hosts.

10:00am - 1:00pm Workshop threads 2
Participatory workshops and intimate talks on creative practice, making, design, te ao Māori and Tukutuku day themes with local and international practitioners. These sessions are:

W/shop Thread 1	W/shop Thread 2	W/shop Thread 3	W/shop Thread 4	W/shop Thread 5	W/shop Thread 6	W/shop Thread 7
Field Eyes on the city Location: TBC on site Host: Field Studio Capacity TBC pax	**Jade Kake / Matakohe** Location: Barn Host: Jade Kake Capacity TBC pax	**Matt's Lights** Location: TBC on site Host: Matt Liggins Studio Capacity 20-30pax 2x1.5 hrs	**Groupwork** Location: TBC on site Host: Capacity TBC pax	**Weaving Whariki** Location: TBC on site Host: Emara Capacity TBC pax	**Nick Sargent** Location: TBC on site Host: Nick Sargent Capacity TBC pax	**Blaklash** Location: TBC on site Host: Blaklash Capacity TBC pax

1:00pm: Catered Lunch and Union of Architectural Workers work-life triage

2:00pm: KEYNOTE TALK
Simon Robinson / OFFICE Melbourne

2:45pm: KEYNOTE TALK
Tom Marshall / Union of Architectural Workers (Australia)
Combined Q&A session facilitated by Ollie Brockie with audience involvement
3:30pm: Free time
Time for attendees to reset, or work on their pitch

4pm - 5:30pm: Workshops exposition
At various locations around the site, participants discuss and celebrate workshop material.

6pm: Catered dinner - Hangi
6pm - all gather for karakia kai and brief introduction to Hangi

7:30pm: FESTIVAL REVIEW
Facilitated by Matt Liggins

8pm: Bonfire and pitch.
At the end of festival day 2 the Weaving team will host the Pitch. The pitch is where groups of congress attendees pitch themselves and their cities to be the next hosts of congress in 2028.

9pm: Event Reflections
Facilitated event reflections and wind down period.

Day 5 - Saturday 5th December

Closing Day
7:30am: Catered breakfast available until 9:00am

9am: Coordinated Riverhaven site pack up
All participants help clean up site, waste sorting, pack down of tents, MOOP sweep

11am - final collective gathering to close the festival

11:45am - all bus takers packed and at bus
12pm: Bus departs Riverhaven for AUT City Campus

1pm - 5pm: Beach Day! (self directed activities)

From 5pm: Closing Party and Pitch announcement at Pioneer Women's Hall

For more specific details about the Day 5 activities, please read the General Attendee Information Pack.

That's all folks, please reach out with any pressing questions.
Looking forward to seeing you there!

Ngā mihi,
The Weaving team