

RED LEAP THEATRE

AOTEAROA
EDUCATION
PROGRAMME
2026





THE RED LEAP DEVISING METHOD

Ensemble-driven, design-led physical storytelling

Collaboration is the engine; movement, object manipulation and imaginative world-building are the tools; all resulting in visually arresting, collectively authored stories.

LIVE
PERFORMANCES

IN-PERSON
WORKSHOPS

PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT FOR
TEACHERS

SUSTAINED
ENGAGEMENT

RED LEAP ALUMNI
GLOBAL NETWORK

ONGOING
MENTORSHIP FOR
TEACHERS

Based on the original book by Philip Ridley
Red Leap Theatre presents



DAKOTA OF THE WHITE FLATS

LIVE PERFORMANCE

AWARD WINNING PRODUCTION RETURNS FOR 2 SHOWS ONLY BEFORE HEADING ON AN AUSTRALIA TOUR

Dakota of the White Flats is an adaptation of the novel by award-winning author Philip Ridley. A high-action pulpy punk noir that snatches the classic coming-of-age adventure story out of the hands of a gang of boys, and passes it to two loud, unapologetic, brave young women.

Dakota Pink is 13-years-old and afraid of nothing. She lives in a bleak housing complex on the edge of a polluted canal. Abandoned supermarket trolleys litter the streets and the oil slick water is filled with monstrous mutant eels. Dakota and her best friend Treacle discover a secret that propels them across the water to the Broken Glass Fortress on Dog Island.

Delivered in electronica inflected neon and grime, Dakota of the White Flats is a finely crafted narrative shot through with comedy, horror, immersive soundscape and live music. Directed by Ella Becroft, with set design by John Verryt, lighting by Rachel Marlow and composition by Eden Mulholland, this fast-paced and electrifying show celebrates the resilience, bravery and hope of young people in a changing world.

Ages 8+

Te Pou Theatre, Henderson, AUCKLAND

10am & 1pm, Wednesday 1st April 2026

Tickets \$20

Book at education@redleaptheatre.co.nz

Tickets extremely limited

Full Education Resource available at

<https://redleaptheatre.co.nz/education/education-resources/>



RED LEAP

KITE KURA

RED LEAP IN

THE CLASSROOM

OUR WORKSHOPS EXPLORE A SERIES OF DEVISING PROVOCATIONS

- 'Make the impossible possible' through the potential of stylising action and engaging the audiences imaginations
- Build ensemble and supportive collaborative practice within the classroom through an emphasis on showing and feedback
- Work mostly without language, allowing students to think creatively around how to use space, sound, light, set and physicality to tell their story
- Employ fast devising time frames to get students out of their heads and onto their feet
- Explore how rules and restriction allow for creative freedom



Working with Red Leap is an excellent introduction to the very best of storytelling and Physical Theatre. Their approach is subtle, inventive and playful, so the learning for the participant comes thick and fast. I would recommend their workshops highly.

Neil Harris, Shatin College, Hong Kong

The work Red Leap makes such a difference to our students. The company's level of detail and attention to value driven approaches to making theatre is out of this world. Our students learn more than just devising strategies but strong moral principles and have great role models to look to in the work they bring. The drama work influenced by Red Leap and consequently created by our diverse range of students in this school has an enormous impact on their global understanding and intercultural playmaking.

Anna Parr, United World College South East Asia, Singapore

IN-PERSON WORKSHOPS WĀNANGA KI NGĀ KURA

Workshops are designed in consultation with each school. Workshops can support the current assessment focus, build tangible skills that can be used throughout their work, offer feedback in the lead up to a production, or to inspire a group and build a powerful ensemble of confident performers. We prefer a maximum of 30 students per workshop to ensure we provide a high quality and meaningful learning experience for all participants. Some tools we can explore include:

PUPPETEERING AND OBJECT MANIPULATION

Explore our approach to handheld puppetry through the foundational skills of object manipulation. Using miniature finger puppets, and basic handmade paper puppets, these skills extend to the manipulation of set and world building.

STYLISING ACTION AND SPACE

Create exciting, inventive theatre by stepping away from naturalism and stylising action through exploring scale, perspective, space, pace and physical qualities.

PHYSICAL APPROACHES TO THEME

Find a theatrical, physical or metaphoric approach to conveying a theme to an audience using gestural movement, archetypal characters, and compositional images. Find the light and dark within a theme, creating nuance and depth to your storytelling.

PHYSICAL APPROACHES TO CHARACTER

Create characters using gesture sequences and elemental movement qualities. Explore characters from a text, looking at how to lift characters off a page and into the world of physical theatre.

HANDHELD LIGHT AND MATERIALS

Using handheld light and basic set materials we explore how Red Leap inventively utilise transformation to create multiple images and landscapes. By bringing the language of light into the devising process, we empower students to explore how to use this vital element to establish image and tone.

GENERATING TEXT

We use a range of games and tools to quickly generate excerpts of text that can be used within a devising context. Using restrictions and rules, and a physical approach, these tools take the stress out of quickly generating interesting vocal offers.

PRICING

2-HOUR WORKSHOPS

Under 18 students attending the workshop = \$250

Over 18 (max 30) students attending the workshop = \$450

HALF DAY (3-4 HOURS)

Under 18 students attending = \$400

Over 18 (max 30) students attending = \$600

FULL DAY

Under 18 students attending = \$550

Over 18 (max 30) students attending = \$795

SUSTAINED ENGAGEMENT WITH STUDENTS

Following on from our in-person workshops we offer opportunities for students to stay connected with Red Leap, allowing us to continue to support their learning journey as they take our tools into their assessment tasks.

FEEDBACK SESSIONS

Red Leap tutors will watch recorded videos of the students work as they head towards completing assessments. We will offer filmed feedback, research tasks, and practical provocations to extend the students work.

IN-CONVERSATION WITH RED LEAP

A 1-hour online Q&A with Artistic Director Ella Becroft. Students are invited to discuss their experiences with devising and problem solve, discuss career pathways, focus in on a particular production, or discuss Red Leap as a company and our unique approach to a collaborative devising practice.

SUMMER SCHOOL

An incredible opportunity for young people interested in the performing arts, Red Leap's Summer School, held annually in January, is a two-week devising programme for young performing artists, aged 15-20. Working with two Red Leap directors, participants will create a 45-minute physical theatre piece, resulting in a public showing. Participants will leave with the tools to create their own original work, confidently share their creative ideas and vision, and develop a stronger stage presence. Summer School is a fantastic opportunity for people wishing to audition for tertiary education in the performing arts, offering a unique foundation of cross-disciplinary skills. Based in Auckland, New Zealand. We welcome video submissions from international performers.

<https://redleaptheatre.co.nz/education/summer-school/>

PRICING

Feedback session - For Students and Classes

Following on from an in-person workshop, Red Leap tutors review footage of students work in the lead up to assessments and offer filmed feedback and inspiring provocations/tasks for next steps

1 session = NZD\$250

In-conversation with Red Leap

A 1-hour online Q&A with Artistic Director Ella Becroft.

1 session = NZD\$120

Red Leap Summer School

A two-week devising programme for young performing artists, aged 15-20.

NZD\$600 per participant

Visit here for more information:

<https://redleaptheatre.co.nz/education/summer-school/>

RED LEAP ALUMNI A GLOBAL NETWORK

ALL STUDENTS WHO PARTICIPATE IN A RED LEAP WORKSHOP WILL BE INVITED TO JOIN THE FREE RED LEAP ALUMNI GLOBAL NETWORK.

- A quarterly newsletter exclusive to the Red Leap Alumni, including devising prompts and creative activities, bite-sized rehearsal-room videos, and interviews with performing artists. The newsletter supports student-led initiatives as alumni keep exploring their creativity and imagination.
- An “Artist Spotlight” video series featuring leading directors, designers and performers answering questions gathered from alumni, opening doors into real-world career pathways.
- An annual, two-hour online masterclass, complete with live Q&A and small-group break-outs, reconnects the global cohort and encourages students to collaborate across borders.
- No joining fee, exclusive to Red Leap workshop participants



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR TEACHERS

WĀNANGA MA NGA KAIKO

IN-PERSON WORKSHOPS

Part One: Presentation - Insight into Red Leap's Process

Day 1, 3 hours

Educators will gain valuable insight into our devising process through an in-depth discussion unpacking our practice, featuring examples from our repertoire. Our key principles will be shared as we explore how to write impactful provocations and scaffold classes. Ultimately ensuring young performers succeed in their work and have a joyful and creatively empowering experience.

Space for questions and sharing will be encouraged to address your specific lines of inquiry and pressure points.

Part Two: Practical Devising Masterclass

Day 2, 6.5 hours

A highly practical workshop exploring Red Leap's physical devising exercises. Using a variety of approaches to a source material, we will show how to get students out of their heads and quickly into building dynamic, visually arresting work. This introductory workshop will utilise Red Leap's commitment to ensemble, collaboration, and the power of the collective imagination.

You will be inspired to lead your students into this world of imaginative, visual storytelling with courage. Activities and follow-up resources mean you will take away practical exercises that you can directly apply to your own classrooms.

Understanding the practical process will also deepen your understanding of how to help your students unpack and analyse devised performance.

ONGOING MENTORSHIP

TEACHERS PROGRESS LAB

A FREE 60-90-minute online gathering of teachers who have engaged with Red Leap. Scheduled after in-person intensive workshops, these sessions connect the global community of teachers to answer any follow-up questions around the workshops, discuss ongoing planning in line with the curriculum, and to build relationships between schools across continents.

MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME

An optional Mentoring Bundle for quarterly one-on-one calls with Red Leap's Artistic Director. Perfect for advice around devising theatre, feedback on recorded footage in the lead up to assessments, provocations and tasks in response to your material, or production planning.

I learned new techniques and ideas, but I have also found my energy has been reawakened as well. I have been inspired to try new things. It was the best PD I've ever been on!

Rebecca Taylor, Marist College Ashgrove, Australia

PRICING

IN-PERSON PD WORKSHOPS

Part One: Presentation - Insight into Red Leap's Process

Day 1, 3 hours: NZD\$200

Part Two: Practical Devising Masterclass

Day 2, 6.5 hours: NZD\$350

Both Sessions: NZD\$500

*Host schools are offered 3x complimentary workshop placements
- please get in touch if you're interested in hosting a PD workshop.*

MENTORSHIP

One off mentorship session

1x 2 hour online mentorship session with Red Leap Artistic Director
Ella Becroft
NZD\$200

Mentorship Bundle 1

Monthly mentorship for 6 months with Red Leap Artistic Director
1.5 hour online meeting, monthly
NZD\$1,000

Mentorship Bundle 2

Monthly mentorship for 12 months with Red Leap Artistic Director
1.5 hour online meeting, monthly
NZ\$1,800



DEVISE A SCHOOL PRODUCTION WITH RED LEAP

THE MAD FLIGHT



Looking up at the night sky, young people see something plummeting to earth. A horrifying force begins to terrorise the planet. Humanity comes together in the face of the invasion and we start to understand more about ourselves and our relationship with our environment, history, and future.

Welcome to The Mad Flight, Red Leap's devising template for creating a dynamic production with students aged 13-18.

Using H.G Wells' dystopian classic War of the Worlds as a jumping-off point, the story is rich with the potential to create dynamic and visually arresting devised sequences around action, journey, and character.

Following a teacher-led and Red Leap artist-supported process, students are encouraged to make The Mad Flight their own while exploring themes of invasion, colonisation, environmentalism, hope, and humanity.

The process invites students to:

- Bring their research to the process,
- Locate the story within their area/region
- Include themes and events that are pertinent to them
- Use a variety of spoken languages to reflect the diversity of the cast

Teachers are supported by a comprehensive production package, accessible through an online portal, including:

- A full script consisting of large devising sections and scripted scenes
- Professionally filmed video examples of each devising exercise
- A staging guide
- Research provocations
- A throughline of all theatrical languages
- A set list of materials for devising
- Examples of how to structure the rehearsal process.



Please contact us for more information, pricing, and to discuss your requirements.

education@redleaptheatre.co.nz

The final piece was outstanding and each student was able to see themselves in the piece. Their work, their words, and their ideas were realised on stage. Because they created the piece, they were so invested in the performance and their level of commitment was noticeable to the audience.

Amanda Burnett, Macleans College

The production package includes Red Leap artist support:

- In-person workshops with Red Leap to launch the project and start generating material
- Two online Q&A sessions with the teacher/director to support your process
- Two online Q&A sessions with the students/cast
- In-person workshops with Red Leap to support the construction of the final performance

Designed with flexible timelines to suit your classroom, the process can be spread over a term, or delivered as an intensive module.

The project culminates in a 50-minute devised production of *The Mad Flight* suitable for internal assessment, an end-of-term showcase, or full-scale school production.

This project was awesome for their confidence in their devising and creation abilities, but more importantly it was invaluable for the sense of whanaungatanga that it fostered within the group. The friendships, the connection, and the appreciation for each other's strengths and weaknesses brought the whole group together. As an educator, this was magical to watch and something that you cannot put a price on. The whole process was one that they will remember for the rest of their lives.

Amanda Burnett, Macleans College

EDUCATION RESOURCES



Production Education Resources

Red Leap offers a comprehensive education resource with each production to engage students in the creation of our work. These resources demystify the devising process, and provide a detailed insight into our process with notes on design, process, and theatrical techniques.

- Wrest
- Dakota of the White Flats
- Owls Do Cry
- Kororareka: The Ballad of Maggie Flynn

- Dust Pilgrim
- Paper Sky
- The Arrival

redleaptheatre.co.nz/education/education-resources/

Devising Toolkit

The Red Leap Toolkit is an extremely comprehensive guide to the Red Leap devising process, with detailed notes on practical exercises you can use in the classroom to make dynamic work. Written by Red Leap founder and former Artistic Director Julie Nolan, this accessible and practical 190-page book is filled with beautiful imagery of Red Leap's work. It includes interviews and advice from some of New Zealand's leading theatre and dance artists.

redleaptheatre.co.nz/education/the-red-leap-toolkit/



RED LEAP THEATRE

GET IN TOUCH

EDUCATION@REDLEAPTHEATRE.CO.NZ

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