



MATAURA LICENSING TRUST

HOKONUI

FASHION DESIGN AWARDS

2026

ENTRY INFORMATION

# SECTIONS AND PRIZES 2026

All sections cover mens and womens fashion

## OPEN ENTRY SECTIONS

Awards:

### 1. GALA - OPEN

A carefully designed statement piece worthy of a red carpet event

Winner \$1,200

Runner-up \$400

### 2. WINTER SOLSTICE - OPEN

A design that explores fashion during Earth's coldest season

Winner \$1,200

Runner-up \$400

### 3. AVANT GARDE - OPEN

A radical design that is experimental and unconventional in its core features and identity

Winner \$1,200

Runner-up \$400

### 4. ANDROGYNOUS - OPEN

A design that erases the line between mens and womenswear, exploring genderless fashion

Winner \$1,200

Runner-up \$400

### 5. COLLECTION - OPEN

A trio of complete designs that follow a cohesive theme

Winner \$1,200

Runner-up \$400

### 6. AOTEAROA - OPEN

A design inspired by the cultural, historical, environmental, and/or social identity of Aotearoa New Zealand

Winner \$1,200

Runner-up \$400

## SCHOOL ENTRY SECTIONS (PRIMARY/INTERMEDIATE/SECONDARY)

Awards:

### A. FROM THE EARTH - SCHOOL

A design created using natural materials and techniques

Winner \$700

Runner-up \$300

### B. GALA - SCHOOL

A carefully designed statement piece worthy of a red carpet event

Winner \$700

Runner-up \$300

### C. PREPPY - SCHOOL

A design that explores preparatory fashion in the 21st century

Winner \$700

Runner-up \$300

### D. ANDROGYNOUS

A design that erases the line between mens and womenswear, exploring genderless fashion

Winner \$700

Runner-up \$300

## SPECIAL PRIZES (ALL SECTION ELIGIBLE UNLESS SPECIFIED OTHERWISE)

- OPEN SECTION Award of Excellence ..... \$16,500 prize package
- SCHOOL SECTION Award of Excellence ..... \$1,200 + sewing machine
- Young Designer Award..... \$5,000 package
- Heather Paterson QSM Memorial Best Southland Designer Award ..... \$700 and trophy
- Narrative Award (Best 400 word narrative, describing the creative and visual themes of the designer's garment) ..... \$700
- Auaha Award (Garment that is creatively and visually intertwined with the designer's own culture)..... \$700
- Garment with the Most Commercial Potential Award ..... \$700
- Sustainable Excellence Award (School Sections) ..... \$700
- Sustainable Excellence Award (Open Sections) ..... \$700
- Best Use of Fabric Award ..... \$700
- Best Use of Wool Award ..... \$700

Please note: All cash prizes are gross and are subject to tax if applicable. Winners are responsible for meeting their own tax obligations.

## JUDGING 2026

All entries will be considered at a preliminary judging (4-5 July) when garments will be selected for the finals. All Entrants who's designs have **NOT BEEN ACCEPTED will be notified by 6 July**. If successful entrants wish to attend the Awards, tickets go on sale 8 July. Be quick as shows sellout fast. Presale available for entrants.

### GARMENTS WILL BE JUDGED ON:

- How well they meet the brief of the section entered into
- Cut and finish
- Innovation and originality
- Sustainability features

The Judges decision will be final and **no correspondence** will be entered into. Organisers reserve the right to reject any entry due to poor workmanship, poor quality, impracticality of the garment, or failure to comply with conditions of entry.

# CONDITIONS OF ENTRY 2026

1. Entrants are required to design and enter a garment of their own choice in the fabric/fibre suitable to the section. Garments must be made within the last 12 months.
2. Garments shown at graduation shows/showcases are allowed as are garments entered in school sections that have been previously entered in their school make & model shows provided that no photos or videos of such garments are available to be viewed on public, open social media accounts and/or other digital platforms. The only exception to this is when the garments are shown in promotional materials created, shared and/or distributed by design schools/schools which contain digital images/video of the garment(s) entered. Garments that have been entered in any other competitions are not permitted to enter.
3. There are no design restrictions however at least 80% of the garment entered must be of original construction. Designers may engage a suitably qualified person to make all or some of the garment. Designers may provide accessories for their entry however accessories must make up no more than 20% of the entire entry. It is at the discretion of the Hokonui Fashion Design Awards committee to assess whether an entry has complied with this 80/20 condition. Garments deemed unsafe or impractical to be on the catwalk will still be judged but may be displayed in some other way during the show.
4. Entrants who design and create garments (of any type or form) for commercial trade are not eligible to enter the Hokonui Fashion Design Awards. Organisers reserve the right to accept or reject any entry under this clause.
5. Entry is open to all ages. You do not have to be a design student to enter the Awards. To be eligible to enter the school sections, entrants must be enrolled as a primary, intermediate, or secondary school student at date of entry.
6. To be eligible for the 'The Young Designer Award', you must be under 21 years of age on 30 June 2026, and you must state your date of birth on your entry form when entering.
7. **To enter:** Entrants must complete one **Entry Form** per garment entered. *Each garment may only be entered in one section.* The completed online entry form and entry fee must be received no later than Friday 22 May 2026. See next page for more entry details.
8. **A) Garment Details Forms:** Download copy of Garment Detail Form from the entries page of [www.hokonui.fashion.co.nz](http://www.hokonui.fashion.co.nz). Print and complete two copies to accompany garment. **Garments are to have arrived by 5pm Wednesday 24 June 2026. Any garments received after this time will no longer be eligible for entry.** Please refer to the important **checklist** of items that must accompany each garment to successfully complete your entry process.  
**B) Garment Delivery Requirements:** Proper packaging and dispatch of garments and the costs are the responsibility of the entrant. All garments must be packaged for posting/delivery. Such packages must be named. The organisers take no responsibility for garments lost in transit. Please use Mainfreight, our accredited courier. Please make sure the return address is correct and you have a return tracked ticket enclosed. Failure to comply with this will mean your garment may not be accepted. Any contact with Mainfreight Gore regarding the delivery status of your garment may mean your garment is withdrawn – please use your tracking number for this purpose.  
Personal deliveries will be accepted between 1-3pm on Wednesday 24 June 2026 at Gore Town & Country Club, Bury St. Please note: Garments still need to be in an appropriate package with correct paperwork. Personal collection of garments, after the show, is Monday 27 July 2026 from the Gore Town and Country Club between 9am & 10am only.  
**Address to send garments:** Hokonui Fashion Design Awards, c/o Mainfreight Transport Gore, 2 Oldham St, Gore, 9710.
9. Garment preferred sizes: 10 – 12.  
Male size: 102-108cm chest. Waist 81-86cm.
10. Garments will be modelled by models selected by the organisers. Designers are unable to specify their own models.
11. At no time shall a designer make contact with a model, member of the HFDA Wardrobe team or member of the judging panel, either in person or via message communication regarding garments in the 2026 HFDA Show. Any contact will result in immediate disqualification of the designers garment(s).
12. Once garments are in the hands of the organisers they cannot be uplifted until Monday 27 July 2026 between the hours of 9am - 10am, from the Mackay Room at the Gore Town and Country Club. No garments can be collected on the Saturday night after the show.
13. It is the responsibility of entrants to insure their property from the time of initial dispatch to the Hokonui Fashion Design Awards, through to its return to the entrant.
14. Garments will be on and off models many times during fittings, judging and shows. Organisers will take care to prevent makeup and other markings during this time but are not responsible for marks or damage to garment due to being worn.
15. If you wish to withdraw your garment, you must notify the entries co-ordinator by 12pm on the 30th May 2026 to be eligible for a refund of your entry fee. If entries are withdrawn after this date, the HFDA committee still need to be notified so we can withdraw your entry and ensure our information is updated and correct.
16. Organisers may keep prize-winning garments for up to 12 months after the Awards for promotion and display purposes. The Award of Excellence garment becomes part of the permanent HFDA Display Collection and will be retained by the HFDA Committee for at least two years after the show it was entered in with the right to retain longer if needed.
17. Organisers have the right to use any photography and video footage taken over the course of the event for publicity and promotional purposes. HFDA has no obligation to commission and/or supply images and/or videography of any/all garments entered.
18. All contact from designers relating to any part of the 2026 MLT Hokonui Fashion Design Awards must be directed to the Entries Co-ordinator. Failure to do so may result in the designers garment being withdrawn.
19. In the event that the MLT Hokonui Fashion Design Awards 2026 is cancelled, the following refunds will be given to entrants:
  - event cancelled before 21 June - full refund of entry fee and garment returned (if already posted)
  - event cancelled on or after 21 June and on or before 19 July - full refund and garment returned
  - event cancelled after 19 July and on or before 25 July - no refund and garment returned
20. By entering the 2026 MLT Hokonui Fashion Design Awards, the entrant accepts all conditions of entry and declares that all details are true and correct.
21. Privacy
  - 21.1 For the purpose of facilitating the efficient running and administration of the HFDA show, entrants authorise HFDA;
    - 21.1.1 To collect and retain personal information about them including (but not limited to) the entrants name, address, contact details, date of birth, bank account numbers, and education provider; and
    - 21.1.2 To use certain information (such as name, town, education provider) & disclose as necessary either publicly and/or to contractors engaged by the HFDA committee, for the purpose of producing the HFDA show and materials associated with same (such as the HFDA website, digital platforms, programmes and on-screen displays). Personal details may be used by the HFDA committee for future and/or on-going contact with entrants in connection with HFDA matters.
  - 21.2 Information will be collected, held and used on the condition that;
    - 21.2.1 It will be held securely within the HFDA digital workspace
    - 21.2.3 It will not be released to a third party (other than set out above) without the entrants written authorisation.
  - 21.3 To the extent required under the Privacy Act 1993, entrants are entitled to have access to and request correction of the information which has been collected by HFDA.
22. All judges decisions are final and no correspondence will be entered into.

## IMPORTANT CHECKLIST MUST send with garment to complete entry

- ☐ 2 copies of the completed **Garment Details Form** - download form from the entries page of the website
- ☐ 2 colour photographs of garment
- ☐ 2 copies of clear description of how garment and accessories are to be worn
- ☐ A clearly marked return address label, courier ticket and packaging
- ☐ A completed **Return Address Shipping Information Form (Page 2 of the Garment Details Form)**

# IMPORTANT DATES AND FEES 2026

**22 May**

## **Entry deadline**

Entry and entry fee due on or before 22 May 2026.

**Enter online at:** [www.hokonuifashion.co.nz/entries](http://www.hokonuifashion.co.nz/entries)

### **ENTRY FEES:**

#### **Open Section:**

\$50.00 for each entry

\$65.00 for each 'Collections' entry

#### **School Section (Primary/Intermediate/Secondary):**

\$20.00 for each entry

### **PAYMENT DETAILS:**

- Payment required at time of online entry via credit card.
- School or Design School entrants can elect to pay by invoice to their school. Please choose 'School' or 'Design School' entry form to select this payment option when entering online.

**24 June**

## **Garment deadline**

**Garments must be received no later than 5pm on 24 June 2026.**

**Each garment MUST be sent with the following items to complete your entry:**

- 2 copies of the completed Garment Details Form (*download PDF from Entries page of website*)
- 2 colour photographs of garment,
- 2 copies of clear description of how garment and accessories are to be worn
- A clearly marked return address label, courier ticket and packaging
- A completed Return Shipping Information Form (*Page 2 of the Garment Details Form*)

Use the **Conditions of Entry** inside this Entry Information booklet to carefully check you have included all items to successfully complete your entry.

### **ADDRESS TO SEND GARMENTS:**

Hokonui Fashion Design Awards, C/- Mainfreight Transport Gore, 2 Oldham Street, Gore 9710

NB: Please use your tracking number to check if your garment has arrived. Please **DO NOT** phone Mainfreight Depot - this may result in your garment being withdrawn.

Mainfreight offer special pricing for HFDA entrants for sending and return of garments. Please enquire with Mainfreight for special rates.

N.B. There are to be no physical drop offs to the Mainfreight depot, garments will not be accepted. If you live locally and wish to personally deliver your garment please refer to our conditions of entry for details.

**30 June**

**Auaha & Narrative Award Written Entries & Sustainable Features information** to be submitted on or before 30 June 2026.

**8 July**

**Tickets on sale** Wednesday 8 July 2026 from [www.iticket.co.nz](http://www.iticket.co.nz)

**24 July**

**Hokonui Strictly Design Evening** - Full Show + School Section winners announced!

**25 July**

**Hokonui Gala Awards Evening** - Full Show + Open Section winners announced!

## **FOR ALL CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Entries Coordinator:** Tori Tremaine

**Mobile:** 027 632 6447

**Email:** [entries@hokonuifashion.co.nz](mailto:entries@hokonuifashion.co.nz)

For further information visit:

**[www.hokonuifashion.co.nz](http://www.hokonuifashion.co.nz)**

