

TE TŪKOHU NGĀWHĀ

MĀORI SCIENCE & DESIGN FAIR

EVENT TIMETABLE



WEDNESDAY 26 – FRIDAY 28 AUGUST 2026



ROTORUA ENERGY EVENTS CENTRE

WEDNESDAY
26
AUGUST

8:30 am

PŌWHIRI – OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE TE TŪKOHU NGĀWHĀ SCIENCE FAIR

Join us for the formal opening of the Science Fair before the student projects and displays get underway.

12:30 pm –
5:00 pm

PUBLIC WALK THROUGH

Come along and explore the students' science and design projects, discover their research and ideas, and see the amazing work created for Te Tūkohu Ngāwhā.

ROTOMOANA TALKS – PRESENTATION EVENING

5:20 pm

OPENING KARAKIA & MIHI

The evening programme begins with a welcome and opening karakia.

5:30 pm

KAITIAKI WAITĪ SHORT FILM: CATFISH v KŌURA – THE BATTLE FOR THE LAKE

A special screening exploring the battle between invasive catfish and native kōura in the Te Arawa lakes, and the mātauranga and community action helping protect them.

6:00 pm

COMMUNITY-LED AWA MONITORING

Hear how communities are working together to monitor and care for their waterways.

6:30 pm

KAI BREAK

6:40 pm

STONE PILE REFUGES FOR KŌURA: RESTORATION INSIGHTS FROM LAKE ROTOITI

Olivier Raven shares results from 18 months of monitoring stone pile refuges for kōura and what they mean for restoration in the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes.

7:10 pm

IMPORTANCE OF STREAM-WETLAND REFUGES FOR KŌARO POPULATIONS IN LAKE ŌKĀREKA

Discover the importance of stream and wetland habitats for supporting kōaro populations in Lake Ōkāreka.

7:30 pm

WHĀNAU LEAD WAY TO STRENGTHEN MARAE RESILIENCE

Explore how Māori engineering researchers are working to strengthen marae resilience to natural hazards and support communities in times of need.

8:10 pm

CLOSING MIHI & KARAKIA

THURSDAY
27
AUGUST

8:30 am –
5:00 pm

PUBLIC WALK THROUGH

Come along and explore the students' science and design projects, discover their research and ideas, and see the amazing work created for Te Tūkohu Ngāwhā.

6:00 pm

PRIZEGIVING

Join us as we celebrate the students and announce the winning science projects from the 2026 Te Tūkohu Ngāwhā Māori Science & Design Fair.

FRIDAY
28
AUGUST

8:00 am –
1:30 pm

PUBLIC WALK THROUGH

Come along and explore the students' science and design projects before the Fair closes.

Nau mai, haere mai – Everyone welcome!