

STATEMENTS BY FORMER SECONDARY ART STUDENT TEACHERS  
AND COLLEAGUES - 2002

*“Visual arts education in the region has gone from strength to strength as Jill’s passion for the arts, her vision and forward-looking stance, and her thoroughness of methodology and exemplary modelling of professionalism have filtered through to the teaching population by way of her students... Over the 16 years I have known her Jill has sustained her inspirational teaching style and consummate professionalism and more importantly, she continues to advance her role as a leader in the field”.*

*“Jill’s life is one of cultural inclusiveness. Personally and professionally, she celebrates the biculturalism of New Zealand and its arts. She sees no mystery in the teacher’s role in honouring the Treaty, revelling in all things Maori, and encouraging her students to feel comfortable doing the same. Jill has the ability to identify and nurture special strengths and qualities in her students and was instrumental in encouraging my own interest and focus (as a Maori student) on Maori art and bicultural art education while I was training. The topic is contentious with perspectives constantly shifting but it is Jill’s first hand experience of the issues, her close connections with most of the major players, and her personal commitment to the topic that has earned my respect”.*

*“Jill’s curriculum knowledge and implementation is impeccable, yet she continually strives for improvement through constant review. This pattern of self-evaluation is seen as essential and non-threatening and is adopted as a methodology by her past and current trainees”.*

*“Jill’s strength as a mentor and role model is extremely powerful. Her teaching style is inclusive and encouraging, whilst challenging us to think laterally about programme planning and delivery strategies. She continues to be at the forefront of art education, both in the contemporary and progressive course that she delivers, and in her leadership in the wider community”.*