

September 30 - October 5, 2025

TATOU FESTIVAL

Company: Te Ao Mana
Venue: LA MAMA Experimental Theater Club
Location: New York, NY

► [Share](#) | [Print](#) | [Download](#)



Chad Go

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 - LA MAMA Downstairs Theater: 66 East 4th Street New York, NY 10003

2:00 PM - OPENING CEREMONY

Ceremonial offerings from various Moana Nui (Pacific Island) nations with local native cousins.

*Traditional Attire/Native Dress encouraged

3:00 PM - CROSS CULTURAL CONNECTIONS

Discussion with Tahitian/Marquesan master carver, Eriki Marchand and Tecumseh Caesar (Matinecock, Unkechaug, Montaukett), Shane Weeks (Shinecock)

4:00 PM - CHILDREN'S ART & POETRY WORKSHOP

Discover fundamentals of Polynesian art and design with Samoan writer/poet, painter Dan Taulapapa McMullin. Participants are invited to showcase their work at the festival.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 01 - A/P/A Institute at NYU: 20 Cooper Square, 3rd Floor New York, NY 10003

6:30 PM (Doors Open 6:00 PM) - ACTION, CLIMATE AWARENESS, ACTIVISM

Enjoy a special screening of several poignant short films by native artists, followed by wala'au with the collaborators.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 02 - Judson Memorial Church: 55 Washington Square South New York, NY 10012

7:00 PM (Doors Open 6:00 PM) - AN EVENING OF MUSIC, DANCE, & POETRY

Connect with our histories, ancestry, and Moanan virtuosity. Poetry reading, special performances by Te Ao Mana, TJ Keanu Tario (Hawaiian Piano virtuoso), Premiere Dance Suite from Lili'u (Collaboration between Grammy and Pulitzer nominated composer Leilehua Lanzilotti and choreographer Anthony Aiu).

*Doors Open at 6:00 PM for attendees to engage with artists and collaborators on site, including traditional Hawaiian kakau (tattoo) artist Kawika Au, and Tahitian/Marquesan carver Eriki Marchand.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 03 - LA MAMA Underground Theater: 66 East 4th Street New York, NY 10003

10:30 AM - 5:00 PM: ORI TAHITI (Tahitian Dance) MASTER CLASSES

Learn from skilled practitioners, teachers, and leaders in Ori Tahiti. Bring your pareu (sarong), water, and a towel. Knowledge of Ori Tahiti is essential for optimal learning.

*To maintain focus with minimal disruptions, please refrain from taking photos or video during class. Instructors may provide time at the end for video/photos.

10:30 AM Ori Tahiti Technique (Kehaulani Changuy)

11:45 AM Ote'a Choreography (Aruho'ia Biret)

1:30 PM Aparima Choreography (Poerani Germain)

3:15 PM Duet Ote'a Choreography (Francky Tehiva)

*Register at tatoufestival.org

7:00 PM - TRANS PACIFIC GLAM

Let our talented queens and queers transport you. Let loose and be mesmerized as they showcase their amazing innate abilities. Special appearances by TJ Keanu Tario, Makoa Kalai, Odessa Mann, Kauila Kanaka'ole, and others.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 04 - Judson Memorial Church: 55 Washington Square South New York, NY 10012

12:00 - 5:00 PM: ORI TAHITI (Tahitian Dance) COMPETITION

Be ready for an exciting day of energetic dancing, pulsating Tahitian drums, and lively cheers. The Ori Tahiti competition features an international lineup of soloists, duets, and groups competing for top placement and coveted prizes.

*The awards ceremony will follow the competition. Give yourself time to mingle, visit with our artists, engage in live demonstrations, and to purchase event merchandise and special items from various Polynesian artisans.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 05 - LA MAMA Underground Theater: 66 East 4th Street New York, NY 10003

10:30 AM - 5:00 PM MOANA NUI WORKSHOPS

1 - Ori Tahiti Tamari'i (Children's Tahitian Dance) - Aruho'ia Biret

An introduction to Ori Tahiti. Participants will learn basic steps that build technical foundation to this dance form from Tahiti. Prepare to move your hips in every way possible.

2 - Ukulele and Singing - Kahanuola Solatorio

Kumu 'Olelo Hawai'i (Hawaiian Language Teacher), Kahanuola will engage participants in a workshop combining language and musicality. Learners will be introduced to several basic chords—the building blocks for melodies and songs, and will create music and sing together.

3 - Hula - Hāwane Rios

Hula is rooted in traditional Hawaiian spiritual practice. Ceremony, worship, ancestral connection are the basis of this ancient form of embodiment and expression. Learners may be asked to use their voices in connection to correlating gestures and footwork in intricate and meaningful phrases.

4 - Siva Samoa - Alona Afalava

From the islands of Samoa come many siva (dances). Alona, a professional dancer and choreographer of Siva Samoa (Samoan dance) will lead participants through several phrases, hand gestures, and rhythmic steps that are commonly used in this dance form.

5 - Tahitian Drumming - Tilafaiga Case

Rarely seen in New York City, this is Tatou Festival's first Tahitian drumming workshop. A successful ensemble will be able to synchronize and gel to produce complex and entrancing polyrhythms. Bring your drumsticks to learn some of the basic pehe (rhythms) often used in Tahitian drumming orchestras.

6:30 PM - CLOSING PA'INA

A final community gathering to close our special time together. Enjoy drinks, interactive activities, special performances, door prizes, silent auctions, good music and dancing.

Activities/Demonstrations, Raffles, Silent Auction, Traditional Tattoo Demo, Performances, Dancing

Te Ao Mana
66 East 4th Street
New York, NY, 10003
<http://lamama.org>

Schedule
September 30, 2025: 2:00pm
October 1, 2025: 6:00pm
October 2, 2025: 6:00pm
October 3, 2025: 10:30am
October 4, 2025: 12:00pm
October 5, 2025: 10:30am

[< back](#)

[previous listing](#) • [next listing](#)