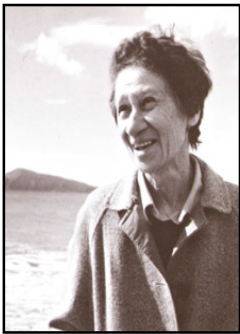


# *Tihei Mauri Ora!*

*Planted, nurtured, trained, pruned, grafted me*

**He toi whakairo, he mana tangata**

*Where there is artistic excellence, there is human dignity*



Parihaka recently hosted the annual hui-á-tau for Te Ora (Māori Medical Practitioners) at which mention was made of Jacqui Papuni Sturm – the first Māori writer to write in English and the first Māori woman to graduate with a Masters Degree. Born and bred in Opunake, Taranaki her initial interest in medicine was evident in her poetry eg, ‘In Loco Parentis’ where she referred to the impact of being cared for, and the tug of her being tangata whenua: ***“Planted, nurtured, trained, pruned, grafted me; only to find a native plant will always a native be”***.

That great quality – manaakitanga, is what makes us who we are. Having a nurturing, fostering, caring attitude is something that should be inherent in all of us, as Māori. It’s about us as people - our feelings, thoughts, actions and our relationships with others. It involves acting when people ask for help, but not doing it for them; paying attention to what’s required of us; and doing the right thing, in the right way, when asked. In so doing, we reinforce and exemplify what Jacqui Sturm wrote about and through those deeds and actions, surely, will always a native be. Kia pai tó wiki!



A Monday Motivational by MANU AO Academy – A National Inter-University Māori Academy for Academic and Professional Advancement.

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***Rāhina, 4 o Whiringa-a-Nuku 2010***