



ACADEMIA DE LA LENGUA RAPA NUI
'ŪMAŊA HATU RE'O

FAQ

Karanga 2026

*Ki vo'u te Karaŋa
te ŋā poki o te hau Mā'ohi*

Inspired by the Festival of the Art of Oratory
'Ōrero of French Polynesia.





FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - FAQ

KARAJA 2026 INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF THE ART OF ORATORY

1. WHAT IS THE KARAJA INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL?

The Karaja International Festival of the Art of Oratory is a cultural and linguistic gathering created in Rapa Nui to give children a space where they can raise their voices, express themselves in their own languages, and share the stories, knowledge, memories, and messages of their peoples.

The spoken word, language, and the intergenerational transmission of culture are at the heart of this gathering.

2. WHAT DOES “KARAJA” MEAN?

In the Rapa Nui language, Karaja represents the act of calling, gathering, and raising one’s voice to convey a message.

The name expresses the spirit of the gathering: a new generation taking the floor to share what it has received from its elders and carry it into the future.

3. WHEN WILL KARAJA 2026 TAKE PLACE?

The gathering will take place on:

Saturday, November 7, 2026

From 6:00 p.m.



Karaŋa will take place during Tāpati o te Re’o Rapa Nui - Rapa Nui Language Week, which will be held during the first week of November.

4. WHERE WILL IT TAKE PLACE?

The gathering will be held at Haŋa Vare-vare, Rapa Nui, a large natural open-air amphitheater located by the sea.

It is one of our community’s principal gathering places and also one of the venues for Tāpati Rapa Nui.

5. WHO ORGANIZES AND FUNDS KARAŊA?

The Karaŋa International Festival is organized by the Rapa Nui Language Academy - ‘Ūmaŋa Hatu Re’o.

This first edition is funded by the Municipality of Rapa Nui, thanks to the sponsorship and support of our Tāvana of Rapa Nui, Ms. Elizabeth Arévalo Pakarati.

This collaboration creates a new space for language revitalization, cultural transmission, and encounters among new generations.

6. WHY WAS THIS GATHERING CREATED?

Karaŋa arose from the need to create spaces where new generations can actively use their languages and publicly share the cultural knowledge they receive from their families, elders, and communities.

We do not simply want a child to memorize a text. We want them to understand a message, make it their own, and be able to share it with others using their language.

7. WHAT EXPERIENCE INSPIRED KARAŊA?



One of Karaña's main sources of inspiration is the 'Ōrero Festival of French Polynesia, especially the work developed in Tahiti to strengthen the transmission of languages and culture through the art of oratory.

From Rapa Nui, we deeply recognize and value that experience.

Karaña draws on that inspiration and develops it from our own cultural and linguistic reality, with its own identity and name.

8. IS KARAJA A COMPETITION?

No. Karaña is not a competition; it is a gathering.

This is one of its fundamental principles.

The children do not come to Rapa Nui to compete with one another or determine who speaks best. They come to meet, listen to one another, share their languages, discover other cultures, and convey the knowledge and stories of their peoples.

Every child, every language, and every message has its own value.

9. WHO MAY PARTICIPATE?

Karaña is intended for children between 8 and 14 years old.

For this first edition, up to 10 children from Rapa Nui are expected to participate, in addition to international guests.

10. HOW OLD MUST THE PARTICIPANT BE?

The participant must be between 8 and 14 years old when they arrive in Rapa Nui.

This means that they must not have turned 15 by the time they arrive on the island.



Meeting the age requirement is a condition of participation.

11. WHICH INTERNATIONAL DELEGATIONS WILL BE INVITED?

For this first edition, we plan to invite three children, one from each of the following places:

Hawai'i · Tahiti · Aotearoa

Each will be able to share their language, culture, and a message from their territory alongside the children of Rapa Nui.

The participation of each international delegation is subject to final confirmation.

12. HOW MANY PEOPLE MAY BE PART OF EACH INTERNATIONAL DELEGATION?

The invitation allows a maximum of four people per delegation.

This maximum includes the participating child and their parent, guardian, or responsible adult. It may also include an authority, representative, mentor, or other delegation member, without exceeding four people in total.

13. WHAT DOES THE INVITATION COVER FOR INTERNATIONAL DELEGATIONS?

For the invited delegations, from November 1 to 8, 2026, the organization will provide accommodation, lodging, and all meals, as well as participation in the program of cultural and linguistic activities prepared for Rapa Nui Language Week.

Coverage is limited to a maximum of four members per delegation.



14. WHERE WILL THE TAHITI DELEGATION STAY?

A cabin has been specially designated for the Tahiti delegation. It is located on the premises of the president of the Rapa Nui Language Academy, Ms. Jackeline Rapu Tuki.

Accommodation will be available for the invitation period, from November 1 to 8, 2026, for a maximum of four members.

15. DOES THE INVITATION INCLUDE AIRFARE?

No. Airfare is not included.

Each delegation, institution, or organization representing it must cover the cost of round-trip airfare to Rapa Nui.

The organization in Rapa Nui covers only the services expressly included for the stay from November 1 to 8.

16. ARE PARTICIPANTS COMING ONLY FOR THE NOVEMBER 7 GATHERING?

No. We want their presence in Rapa Nui to be a cultural and linguistic experience throughout the entire week.

The delegations will be invited from November 1 to 8, coinciding with Rapa Nui Language Week.

During those days, various cultural, educational, and linguistic activities and gatherings will be held with cultural and educational institutions on the island, allowing the children and their companions to get to know Rapa Nui and engage with our community.

17. IN WHAT LANGUAGE SHOULD THE PRESENTATION BE GIVEN?



Each child is invited to express themselves in the language of their own territory or community.

Indeed, one of Karaña's purposes is to allow different languages to meet on the same stage without participants having to abandon their own language in order to be understood.

18. HOW WILL THE AUDIENCE UNDERSTAND PRESENTATIONS GIVEN IN OTHER LANGUAGES?

The stories must be accompanied by a translation so that the audience can understand their content.

The organization plans to use resources such as translations projected on a screen, enabling the audience to follow the meaning of the story while listening to each child express themselves in their own language.

In this way, the original language remains the central focus.

19. WHAT MUST EACH CHILD PREPARE?

Each participant must prepare in advance a story or oral presentation connected with the theme of the gathering.

The organization will request a complete written transcription in the original language, accompanied by a translation, so that the presentation and the necessary supporting resources can be properly prepared.

20. WHAT WILL BE THE THEME OF KARAÑA 2026?

This first edition will focus on the cultural roots of the Pacific and the care of water.



The theme will allow participants to explore knowledge related to the ocean, water, nature, territory, ancestors, memory, stories, and each culture's relationship with its environment.

Each delegation may approach these concepts from its own cultural perspective.

21. MUST THE CHILD WEAR CULTURAL ATTIRE?

Yes. Each child is required to bring and wear their cultural attire.

Each delegation must prepare and bring from its territory the clothing the participant will wear during the presentation.

The attire is understood as part of the cultural representation accompanying the child's words and message.

22. WILL THE ORGANIZATION PROVIDE THE ATTIRE?

No. Each participant and their delegation are responsible for bringing their own cultural attire.

For participants from Rapa Nui, the Kahu Tupuna and the cultural elements accompanying the presentation may be specified.

23. MAY THE PRESENTATION INCLUDE ARTISTIC ACCOMPANIMENT?

Yes.

The presentation may incorporate resources such as live music, a musical group, voice-over, scenery, audiovisual resources, or other artistic or cultural elements.

However, these elements must support the story. The child's voice, presence, and message are always at the center of Karāña.



24. MUST EACH CHILD BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT?

For international delegations, the child must have a responsible adult with them during the journey and throughout their stay in Rapa Nui.

The final composition of each delegation must be reported through the corresponding official form.

25. WHEN WILL THE PARTICIPATION FORM BE SENT?

Once the invited delegation or institution formally confirms its participation, the Rapa Nui Language Academy will send the official participation form.

The form will collect information about the participant, companions, story, translation, attire, presentation requirements, authorizations, and any other details needed to prepare for their arrival in Rapa Nui.

26. WHAT INFORMATION WILL THE FORM REQUEST?

Among other details, the form will request: the participating child's information; age; information about companions; the institution or territory represented; contact details; presentation characteristics; cultural attire; artistic accompaniment; the complete story in its original language; its translation; and the corresponding authorizations for participation, audiovisual recording, and dissemination.

27. WILL THERE BE WINNERS?

There will be no winners or losers because Karaña was not conceived as a competition.

The aim is to recognize every child who accepts the challenge of raising their voice, representing their language, and sharing a message with others.

28. WILL THE CHILDREN RECEIVE ANY RECOGNITION?

Yes. Every participating child will receive an award in recognition of their participation in this first gathering.

The organization also plans to give surprise prizes to participants.

We want every child to take home from Rapa Nui a token of recognition and, above all, the experience of having shared their voice, language, and culture with other children.

29. WHY ARE CHILDREN THE MAIN PARTICIPANTS?

Because the continuity of a language depends profoundly on its transmission to new generations.

Karāña seeks to give them a stage, but also a symbolic responsibility: to receive the words of those who came before, make them their own, and carry them forward to those who will come after.

Children are not merely spectators of their culture; they are also its new transmitters.

30. WHAT IS EXPECTED OF FAMILIES AND COMPANIONS?

Families and companions play a fundamental role.

We expect them to support the child during preparation, travel, and presentation, and to experience Karāña as an exchange by joining the child in the cultural and linguistic gatherings scheduled during the week.

31. WHAT ACTIVITIES WILL TAKE PLACE DURING RAPA NUI LANGUAGE WEEK?

Various cultural, linguistic, and educational activities will take place during the first week of November.



Delegations will be able to participate in meetings and exchanges with different cultural and educational institutions in Rapa Nui, creating spaces to share experiences related to language, heritage, education, cultural transmission, and traditional knowledge.

The detailed program will be provided to the participating delegations.

32. HOW IS KARAŊA CONNECTED TO RAPA NUI LANGUAGE WEEK?

Karaŋa will take place during Tāpati o te Re'o Rapa Nui - Rapa Nui Language Week.

The gathering aims to become a space where the Rapa Nui language can meet and enter into dialogue with other Pacific languages, especially through the new generations.

33. MAY THE PUBLIC ATTEND?

Yes.

Karaŋa is conceived as a cultural gathering open to the community, where families, children, young people, elders, educators, speakers, and visitors can come together at Haŋa Vare-vare and listen to the voices of the new generations.

34. WILL THE PRESENTATIONS BE PHOTOGRAPHED AND RECORDED?

The gathering will include photographic and audiovisual recording for documentation, remembrance, education, and cultural outreach.

For this reason, the participation form will include the relevant authorizations from the participants' parents or legal guardians.

35. WHY IS THE KARAŊA POSTER CONNECTED TO TAHITI'S 'ŌRERO FESTIVAL?



The graphic concept of the official Karaŋa poster was inspired by the official poster for the 2023 'Ōrero Festival of the Ministry of Education of French Polynesia.

It is a deliberate acknowledgment of an experience that has inspired us in Rapa Nui, particularly through its work with oratory, new generations, and language transmission.

Building on that inspiration, Karaŋa is beginning to develop its own identity from Rapa Nui.

36. WHERE CAN I FIND THE OFFICIAL KARAŊA ANNOUNCEMENT?

The gathering has already been publicly announced and can be found in our post:

View the official Karaŋa Festival post on Instagram @uhatureo:

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/DcvPEQsx6z1/?igsi=NncxNWgybmRpYmxj>

37. WHAT IS KARAŊA'S VISION FOR THE FUTURE?

This is the first edition of the gathering in Rapa Nui.

Our aspiration is for Karaŋa to grow and become established as a space for linguistic and cultural exchange from Rapa Nui, where new generations can meet, listen to one another, and learn from one another.

We want November 7 to mark not simply the end of an event, but the beginning of a lasting bond among children, families, educators, institutions, and languages.

38. WHAT IS KARAŊA'S CENTRAL MESSAGE?

Karaŋa is a call to raise our voices in the languages of the Pacific.

It is an invitation for children to receive the words of their elders and bring them to life in the present.



We do not seek to determine which child speaks best or which culture has greater value. We gather to listen to one another.

Each child will arrive with a language, a story, and a message. In Rapa Nui, those voices will meet by the sea to share what their communities wish to pass on to new generations.

38. WHERE CAN I SEE EXAMPLES FROM TAHITI'S 'ŌRERO FESTIVAL AND ORATORIES PRESENTED BY CHILDREN?

To learn more about the experience that inspired Karaña, we recommend viewing the 2023 edition of Tahiti's 'Ōrero Festival, where the complete recording of the children's presentations is available.

This material may serve as a reference to help participants, families, and mentors better understand the spirit of oratory, its staging, and the way children convey their stories to an audience.

View 'Ōrero Tahiti 2023 - full program on france.tv

39. HOW MUCH TIME WILL EACH CHILD HAVE FOR THEIR ORATORY?

Each participating child will have a maximum of 5 minutes for their oratory, with a maximum tolerance of 1 additional minute.

The presentation must be prepared with this time limit in mind, ensuring that the story can be delivered completely, clearly, and appropriately within the established limit.

40. WILL THERE BE AN OFFICIAL REGISTRATION FORM?



Yes. The official registration form is currently being prepared and will soon be published by the Rapa Nui Language Academy.

It will request all information necessary for participation, such as the child's first and last names, age, gender, information about the mentor, details about the story, theme, cultural attire, a Spanish or English translation depending on the delegation's origin, and other supporting information such as artistic accompaniment, authorizations, and any additional details required by the organization.

The form must be completed by the mentor responsible for preparing the child and guiding the creation and preparation of the oratory.

41. WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE MENTOR?

The mentor will play a fundamental role in preparing the participant. They will guide the child through the creation, writing, and preparation of the story in accordance with the theme established for Karāŋa 2026; in other words, the mentor is the author of the oratory.

They must also be available to participate in cultural and linguistic gatherings organized by the Rapa Nui Language Academy, especially during the week when the delegations from Hawai'i, Tahiti, and Aotearoa are in Rapa Nui.

At preliminary gatherings determined by the organization, the mentor must be able to introduce their young speaker in the Rapa Nui language, briefly presenting the child, the origin and theme of the story, and the reasons that inspired its creation, before giving the floor to the participant.

In this way, Karāŋa recognizes that behind every child there is also a process of transmission, guidance, and shared creation.

42. MUST THE CHILDREN PRESENT THEIR ORATORY ONLY ON THE DAY OF THE KARĀŊA FESTIVAL?



Not necessarily. During Rapa Nui Language Week, various cultural and linguistic gatherings will be held with the invited delegations and institutions from Rapa Nui.

For this reason, each child must be available, when requested by the organization, to give a brief presentation of approximately 1 minute from their work as a sample or introduction to the complete oratory they will present during Karaŋa.

These presentations will create opportunities for exchange between the children of Rapa Nui and the delegations from Hawai'i, Tahiti, and Aotearoa.

43. MAY THE SAME MENTOR PREPARE MORE THAN ONE CHILD?

No. Each mentor may guide and prepare only one child.

The same person may not be listed as the mentor of two, three, or more participants. There will be one mentor for each participating child.

This decision seeks to diversify the voices, stories, family experiences, and creative processes within the community, allowing different members of the Rapa Nui people to participate actively in literary, narrative, and cultural creation alongside new generations.

In this way, each mentor-child pair can develop its own proposal, enriching Karaŋa with a greater diversity of stories, perspectives, and ways of transmitting Rapa Nui memory and knowledge.

Karaŋa 2026 - raise our voices, transmit memory, and keep our languages alive.



CONTACT AND SOCIAL MEDIA

For more information about our activities, programs, and resources, visit our official website and follow us on social media:

- Official Website: www.academialenguarapanui.cl
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/uhatureo>
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/uhatureo/>
- Twitter: <https://x.com/academiarapanui>
- YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPrJg8JuGUccYfubZMZZxVg>

We invite you to follow us on these platforms to stay up to date with our initiatives and help promote and preserve the Rapa Nui language.



17