

**HEARD
STANDUP
AND BE
HEARD.**
AOTEAROA YOUTH
VOICES NETWORK

MINISTRY OF
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
TE MANATŪ WHAKAMŪTIO TĀHĀHI
Established by the Ministry of Social Development

E-NEWS
AOTEAROA YOUTH
VOICES NETWORK
ONLINE
MYD.GOV.T.NZ

The low-down of what is happening this July!

In this edition you will find out about:

- Young people taking the Stage
- Awesome stuff you guys are doing in your communities
- Te Wiki o te Reo Maori
- New Zealanders saying "bonjour" this Bastille Day
- The Y20 Youth Conference
- The Wairarapa Youth Conference
- Statistics NZ calling for your opinion on gender identity
- The Duke of Edinburgh Hillary Award
- The Youth Wellbeing Survey

We would love to hear about youth-led initiatives happening in your communities. Contact us at ayv@myd.govt.nz - your contribution to your newsletter matters to us!



Ministry of Youth Development (MYD)

Young people take the Stage

On Friday 4 July, 1022 students from 12 schools participated in Stage Challenge. Students showcased their talents to an audience of over 2000 people at the ASB theatre in Auckland.

The students explored issues that are relevant to today's society, creating outstanding performances incorporating dance, drama and design.

St Cuthbert's College took out first place with their performance *Are You Game?* In the performance four friends find themselves trapped in a mysterious board game. As each of them moves closer to the centre, a new and terrifying curse comes to life, challenging their mental and emotional skills. If they lose the game they will be stuck in limbo forever. Will they survive? Are you game to find out? Let's play.

In second place was Mahurangi College with 'Not My Crime, Still My Sentence'. In a close third place was Mount Maunganui College with 'Deaf Defying Beethoven'.

MYD was represented at the event by Susan de Guzman Nicholson. She presented the Ministry of Youth Development Award of Excellence for Concept, to St Cuthbert's College and Avondale College.

Susan shared the following about her experience: "I remember being a part of Stage Challenge when I was still in high school. Being able to go back and present an Award on behalf of the Ministry of Youth Development was a privilege. It was amazing to see the schools and what ideas they had come up with - it gets better every year and the JRock participants were super cute! Thank you for the opportunity!"

(Photo supplied by Quikpix Ltd)

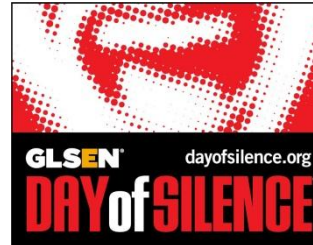
Volunteers are welcomed by Stage Challenge to help out with events in their communities. If you would like to gain experience front of house or back stage, watch out in 2015 for a message on the MYD Facebook page or [click here to contact Stage challenge through their website.](#)



Awesome things you guys are doing in your communities

The Day of Silence Campaign

The Day of Silence is a campaign intended to model and raise awareness about the silence that can be forced upon people as a result of LGBTQTI (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Queer, Transsexual, Intersex) bullying.



Wanganui Youth Council member, Amaan Merchant, wrote about how Wanganui High School joined 24 other schools from across New Zealand in the annual Day of Silence campaign on 27 June. Here you can read a snippet of the full story:

"The Day of Silence campaign works in a very simple, yet effective manner. For the entirety of the school day, those that are participating in the campaign refrain from talking. We publicised the campaign in our school notices nearly a week in advance for all those who wished to join. On the morning of the 27th however, it didn't seem like we had an overwhelming number of people participating in the campaign; just over 50 students in a school of 1600. However it was as the day went on, especially during break times, that the number of people wearing the "Day of Silence" stickers grew and the school grew quieter and quieter. This was a testament to the support the campaign had, both from the students and staff, whom I'm sure didn't mind a nice silent classroom for once."

[To read the full article go here.](#)

[Visit the Day of Silence website for more information,](#)

Ex-Youth MP Bokyoung turns a grey concrete wall into a colourful community project

"In Youth Week 2014, a grey, long and drabby concrete wall was turned into a platform for community collaboration, youth empowerment, representation and fun! Leading up to Youth Week, over 70 youth in nearly 10 different groups came together in designing something that they thought encompassed the theme "Be the Change".



With the help of local artists, ex-Youth MP Bokyoung Mun and Michela Carrington from the Malcam Trust worked together in making this Community Mural happen, with the help of many local and community sponsors and supporters."

[For the full story open this link in a new tab.](#)

Volunteering with the Paraparaumu Fire Brigade

Jordyn Long, a member of the MYD Youth Advisory Group, who also works at Kapiti Youth Service, shares an inspiring story about volunteering for an important cause.

"Almost a year ago now I decided to try for the Volunteer Fire Brigade with the local Paraparaumu Brigade. After applying and successfully completing a medical assessment, I was accepted into the New Recruits Programme along with two other individuals (both males and much older than me). Since entry in August last year, training has been intense - involving two training sessions a week, both a couple of hours long. Most of the training is practical but based around set "modules" that are required to be completed...

Almost a year on I am about to complete my New Recruits Course in Rotorua. This week long course is the final stage in the Recruit Programme - and on successful completion and vote in the Paraparaumu Brigade, I will officially be a qualified Volunteer Fire Fighter..."

[To read more, open this link in a new tab.](#)

Te Wiki o te Reo Maori 2014!

This year you can celebrate Maori Language Week all year 'round thanks to this year's theme, *Te Kupu o te Wiki* which translates to *The Word of the Week*. So for the next **fifty** weeks there is a new te reo word for us to learn. The official date for Maori Language Week is 21 to 27 July this year.



The first Te Kupu o te Wiki is *apopo* which means tomorrow, for example 'Ka hoki mai au apopo' which translates to 'I will return tomorrow.'

Think about your networks, be it friends, family, youth groups, schools and all the rest about how we can all incorporate these fifty new words into our daily lives.

To download resources for Maori Language Week for your school or even your student flat - visit the website for fun posters and more to stick around the place that will remind you of the Te Kupu o te Wiki, every week!

[Download resources here](#)

Te Reo translation

I tēnei tau ka taea e koe te whakanui i Te Wiki o te Reo Māori mō te tau kātoa, 'mauri ora ko te kaupapa mō Te Wiki o te Reo Māori ko *Te Kupu o te Wiki*. Mō ngā wiki rima tekau he kupu hou mā tātou kia ako.

E timata Te Wiki o te Reo Māori mō te tau nei, i te rua tekau mā tahi ki te rua tekau mā whitu o Hongongoi.

Ko te kupu tuatahi mō te wiki ko *apōpō*, ā ko te kupu pākeha ko **tomorrow**. Hei tauira 'Ka hoki mai au apōpō', ā, i te reo pākeha 'I will return tomorrow'.

Whakaarohia mō ōu hononga pērā ki ō hoa, tō whanau ngā roopu rangatahi, kura. Me pēhea tātou te hāngai ēnei kupu rima tekau i a rā i a rā.

Ina ka pirangi koe i ētahi rauemi mō Te Wiki o te Reo Māori mō tō kura, tō whare rānei.

Peka atu ki te wharangi ipurangi mō ngā pikitia, ā, me ētahi atu rauemi hei whakarakei i tō nohonga hei whakamaumahara i a koe i ngā kupu i a wiki, i a wiki!

New Zealanders say "bonjour" this Bastille Day

In April 2014 the President of the French Republic invited New Zealand to send four youth from New Zealand to march on the Champs-Élysées as part of the traditional Bastille Day Parade. And we did just that!

Aria Newfield and Milan Djurich from Auckland, Isabel Kerr from Wellington and Alexander Summerlee from Christchurch were selected to take part in the Parade. Other activities on the agenda included a cultural and educational programme to discover French cultural heritage, and discussions on peace, reconciliation and international rapprochement.



The Parade was themed to honour the centenary of the First World War and was attended by representatives from more than 70 countries that were involved in World War One.

Bastille Day is the French National Day; it commemorates the beginning of the French Revolution and the Storming of the Bastille on 14 July 1798.

[To follow the New Zealand representatives, open this link in a new tab.](#)

Y20 conference 2014

Between 12-15 July 2014, two AYV members, Toby Jordan and Henrietta McNeill represented New Zealand at the Y20 Youth Summit in Sydney, Australia.

New Zealand was invited by the Australian Government to come and share our ideas for what we wanted the G20 to do for youth.

The duo travelled the country to meet young people and hear their views and opinions. This is a once in a generation opportunity for New Zealand to be involved in influencing the 20 largest economies in the world.

MYD was proud to be able to support Toby and Henrietta. They were great ambassadors for New Zealand.

It was through AYV that both Toby and Henrietta were given the chance to be involved in Y20, so keep your eyes open for other opportunities just like this.

If you want to know more about what Toby and Henrietta got up to while in Australia visit the social media channels below -

[Click here for the official website.](#)

[Click here for their Twitter feed.](#)

[Click here for their Facebook.](#)



Wairarapa Youth Conference

On 14-15 July, four MYD Staff attended the Lower North Island Youth Conference in Masterton.

The conference brought together young people from around New Zealand to share ideas, learn about what each other are doing and do some training to help them in their roles as Youth Councillors.

The aim was to empower young people to go out and influence their communities. Presentations were held on leadership, communication and engaging through social media, as well as youth involvement in local and central government. Keynote speakers Billy Graham and Jason Pemberton (Christchurch Student Volunteer Army) also gave some inspiring messages.

MYD was involved in leadership training and talked about Youth Parliament and how to get involved the next time it is held in 2016.

There were many innovative ideas discussed and we are looking forward to seeing what comes of them.

[Statistics NZ call for your thoughts on gender identity](#)

Did you know that right now, there is no agreed definition of gender identity nationally or internationally?

Statistics New Zealand have developed a proposed definition of gender

identity with the help of central government and the Human Rights Commission.

The best news is that they want your say, because your opinion matters.

[Let Statistics New Zealand know what you think here](#)

If you have a general comment on the project, email gender.id@stats.govt.nz

Duke of Edinburgh Hillary Award

If you're up for a personal and individual challenge that'll take some hard work but will be exciting and rewardable, The Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Awards Programme might be for you!

There are three levels of the Programme; Bronze, Silver and Gold. Each which you can tailor to fit your hobbies and interests while at the same time building on your strengths.

The sections of the award are:

- Service - giving help in the local community
- Skills - covering almost any non-physical hobby, skill or interest
- Adventurous journey - training for, practising, planning and completing a journey on foot, horseback or by boat or cycle
- Physical - sport, dance and fitness
- Residential project - for the Gold level only, spending 5 or more days on a purposeful project with new companions.



You must be between 14 and 24 to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Hilary Award Programme.

[Read the FAQs here](#)

The 2014 Gold Award recipients will be acknowledged by the Governor General in Wellington on 16 August, in Auckland on 18 October and in Christchurch on 1 November. Well done to all recipients for their hardwork and dedication!

Youth Wellbeing Survey done and dusted

At the end of 2013 the Youth Wellbeing Survey was undertaken to measure the wellbeing of young Cantabrians. A whopping 3341 young people completed questionnaires, a big well done if you were one of the respondents!

It's important that as a country, we are aware of the positive and negative impacts of the earthquakes on young people. We also need to know what young Cantabs have planned for the future and what is important for young people in the recovery of Christchurch.

[You can view the Survey online here](#)

