



NEW ZEALAND
youth
AWARDS

Awards Presentation
Ceremony
Programme
The Banquet Hall
Parliament

11 April 2017



MINISTRY OF
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO TAIOHI

Administered by the Ministry of Social Development

Foreword

Minister for Youth, Hon Nikki Kaye



I am very pleased to welcome you to New Zealand Youth Awards 2017.

As Minister for Youth, I am both honoured and proud to celebrate young New Zealanders who have achieved outstanding results, as well as those who have made a significant contribution towards supporting other young people in their communities.

The categories in 2017 celebrate qualities such as leadership, giving back, and being a change maker, as well as young people who have supported youth activities in areas such as the arts, culture, sport or the environment.

There are also awards for youth groups, individual young people or organisations that have supported or championed young people in any type of activity.

This year, we have introduced a new Youth Enterprise Award to recognise a young person or a youth-led enterprise which has demonstrated business acumen, innovation and/or social responsibility.

The Awards are about recognising the talents, passion and success of young New Zealanders, and they provide

an opportunity to place the spotlight on young people and showcase their leadership and contributions to their communities.

I look forward to hearing of the future achievements of all of these young people as they continue to realise their potential and accomplish great things.

For now, I know you'll join me in celebrating the nominees and winners and their many successes this evening.

Hon Nikki Kaye
Minister for Youth

Event Programme

Time	Scheduled
5:30pm	Doors Open
5:30pm to 5:50pm	Canapes and beverage service Entertainment – Wellington College Jazz
6:05pm	MC Welcome – Nick Rado
6:10pm	Minister for Youth – Nikki Kaye
6:15pm	Announcement of the award recipients Change Maker – LGBTI Award Speaker – Daniel Chiou
6:20pm	Announcement of the award recipients Change Maker – Cultural Award Speaker – Leah Bell
6:25pm	Announcement of the award recipients Change Maker – Community Safety Award Speaker – Te Rau Aroha Totoro
6:30pm	Announcement of the award recipients Leadership Award Speaker – Casey Davies-Bell
6:35pm	Announcement of the award recipients Giving Back Award Speaker – Eva McGauley
6:40pm	MC Nick Rado introduces guest speaker Mary Fisher MNZM Mary represented New Zealand at the 2012 Summer Paralympics in London and the 2016 Summer Paralympics in Rio de Janeiro, combined winning two gold medals, two silver medals and a bronze medal.
6:45pm	Announcement of the award recipients Youth with Disability Award Speaker – Jaden Movold
6:50pm	Announcement of the award recipients Working for Youth Award Speaker – Bokyoung Mun
6:55pm	Announcement of the award recipients Youth Group Award Speaker – Fonoifafo McFarland from Handle the Jandal
7:00pm	Announcement of the award recipients Youth Champion Award Speaker – Ella-Ruth Clifford
7:05pm	Announcement of the award recipients Youth Enterprise Award Speaker – Ashutosh Sharma
7:10pm	MC Nick Rado acknowledges award recipients who were unable to attend Group photo of all recipients with Hon. Nikki Kaye
7:15pm to 7:30pm	Mix and mingle • Photo opportunities • Entertainment – Wellington College Jazz Canape and beverage service
7:30pm	Evening concludes

Award Categories



Change Maker Award (LGBTI)

For young people who have created positive change in, or for, the LGBTI community.

Change Maker Award (Cultural)

For young people who have created positive change to foster cultural understanding in their community.

Change Maker Award (Community Safety)

For young people who have created positive change, resulting in a safer environment for young people in their community.

Leadership Award

For young people who have demonstrated their leadership in a project or organisation.

Giving Back Award

For young people whose actions address a current need and have had a significant impact on their community.



Youth with Disability Award

For young people with a disability who have made a significant contribution to the disability sector and/or their community.

Working for Youth Award

For young people whose actions specifically support other young people in areas including but not limited to, the arts, culture, the environment or sport.

Youth Group Award

For a group of young people who have made a significant contribution to their community in areas including but not limited to, the arts, culture, the environment or sport.

Youth Champion Award

For an individual, or organisation, who has made a significant contribution to young people in areas such as (but not limited to) the arts, culture, education, the environment, health, research or sport.

Youth Enterprise Award

For an individual or a youth-led enterprise which has demonstrated business acumen, innovation and/or social responsibility.

Change Maker Award (LGBTI)

Daniel Chiou (23)

Daniel has led a group of medical students to form an advocacy group called 'Diversity in Practice'. Daniel's aim is to increase teaching and awareness regarding LGBTI health issues in the medical curriculum. In leading this group, running workshops and gathering meaningful data, Daniel has brought about a positive change, not only for medical students but also the wider community by ensuring that there is awareness around these issues.



Ben Bridle (19)

An active and dependable volunteer for RainbowYouth, Ben started a new peer group called Outside The Box (OTB) for LGBTI young people. The group focuses on providing physical and outdoor activities in a safe, affirming environment. Ben also volunteers his time as a drop-in centre intern and his willingness to turn his hand to any task, as well as his leadership and perseverance in starting up OTB, has had a huge impact on RainbowYouth and its members.



Quinn Fryers (20)

Quinn is a volunteer and a passionate member of the community he belongs to. Quinn works closely with all RainbowYouth staff, has facilitated training sessions for volunteers and runs the West Auckland peer support group.



Darcy Spraggs (16)

Darcy is a passionate advocate and ambassador for the LGBTI community. Darcy is a regular contributor to the 'I Am Youth' page of the Gisborne Herald, and assisted in the production of the book 'The Story of Us', which chronicles the 'coming out' stories of six young people from Gisborne.



Change Maker Award (Cultural)

Leah Bell (17)

What started as a school visit to the Maori Battle sites at Orakau and Rangiaowhia at the age of 14, has led Leah Bell, a former Otorohanga College student, on a journey resulting in a petition with over 12,000 signatures being presented to the Māori Affairs Select Committee and being tabled in Parliament. For the past three years Leah has been instrumental in getting New Zealanders across the country to reflect on our nation's history, with the aim of creating a National Day of Commemoration for the New Zealand Land Wars.



Jo Mohan (19) and Kelly Young (20)

Jo Mohan and Kelly Young are co-founders of the Otago University club 'Students without Borders.' This club helps refugees settling in Dunedin to integrate into the community. Since its inception in July 2016, the club has grown to 97 members due to the efforts of both Jo and Kelly, who have both run a number of events to raise awareness. They have also created a recipe book, which is written in English and Arabic, of 'Kiwi classic dishes' for refugees.



Jianan (Jenna) Wu (23)

Jianan is actively working to bridge the gap between the Chinese community and mainstream New Zealand through Social Media. Jenna's WeChat blog "Share Times" has over 8,000 followers with 80% of the followers being local New Zealand Chinese and Chinese international students. Whilst Jianan is fearless in speaking for her community she is mindful of the need for balance and uses her platform to motivate participation in New Zealand society, which includes encouraging people to vote and undertake volunteering. Jianan herself is an active fundraiser and volunteer for Cure Kids.



Justice Hetaraka (18)

Justice is driven by a desire to normalise Māori culture for all, and demonstrate the beauty of social unity through her leadership roles and contributions. In 2016, Justice took it upon herself to tutor and lead her high school Kapa Haka team and initiate a new school Karakia (Te Timatanga) with no religious base. Justice is also a regular participant in speech competitions and events such as Tuku Korero, Baha'i Race Relations, Lions Club and local slam poetry events. Justice has been an active member and chairperson of Whangarei District Council's Youth Advisory Group and a representative at Youth Parliament 2016.



Shanara Wallace (18)

Shanara is making her mark globally as an advocate for Māori and indigenous peoples development. At the age of 15, Shanara travelled to Hawaii to discuss the framework for revitalising Te Reo Māori. For the past five years, Shanara has been a member of Te Ora Hou, is a current member of the Evolve Youth Service's Board of Trustees, volunteers for the Kaibosh Food Rescue distribution and raises awareness of youth suicide across the country through 2Face DRAMA.



Change Maker Award (Community Safety)

Te Rau Aroha Totoro (18)

Te Rau Aroha is the mastermind and leader behind the planning, implementation and evaluation of "Drive It", a community project that was designed to raise driver safety and awareness for youth within her local community and Tikipunga High School. Created with an intention to make an impact on the fatality rate for youth in Tai Tokerau, her event targeted students from Years 12 and 13 using innovative and engaging strengths-based approaches to address issues of alcohol consumption, cell phone use, and underage driving.



Atia Irfan (17)

For over a year, Atia has led the Shakti group at Epsom Girls Grammar School, helping to facilitate, organise and mobilise other students to join and participate. This group is focused on combating family violence in migrant and refugee communities, while also focusing on challenging gender inequality and racism. Atia has been able to help create a safe space at school for young women from migrant or refugee backgrounds to speak up about gender inequality in their families. In addition to this, Atia has spoken out at public events against Islamophobia and racism.



Nina Griffiths (18)

Nina is on a mission to improve the wellbeing of the young people of Northland. She has taken a lead role in bringing the Kaitaia community together, organising community meetings to generate support and awareness for mental health, in particular suicide prevention. Through her leadership and determination, the township of Kaitaia is more connected than it has been in the last decade.



Abigail Chaytor (17) and Alexandra Groos (17)

Abigail and Alexandra are Youth Search and Rescue Leaders who have taken action to address an identified need in their community by developing the ESRI ArcGIS Pre Planning Mapping Project, which Abigail and Alexandra will present at the Australian and New Zealand Disaster and Emergency Management Conference in Brisbane, and to NZ Police Search and Rescue. This is a prototype project designed to improve decision making in Search and Rescue and Emergency Management situations in New Zealand. These two young people are quite possibly changing the way Search and Rescue operates in the future.



Chevron Hassett (22)

Chevron is an inspirational young man who is committed to contributing to his community. He's a key tutor, mentor and head coach for Te Mangopare o Taita, a mentoring programme for boys from single-parent families and disadvantaged backgrounds. Chevron uses his jiu-jitsu skills and knowledge to inspire and guide boys to take a strong, positive and disciplined approach to life. His guidance and mentoring has helped many young males to take a positive path in life, and believes the sport has the power to transform people, give them self-worth and enhance their mana.



Leadership Award

Casey Davies-Bell (23)

Casey is the CEO of Geia (Global Energy Impact Assessment) Ltd, a NZ based startup. Geia Ltd is a social enterprise dedicated to accelerating New Zealand's transition towards a sustainable future, by making sustainability competitive. It does this by making sustainability lucrative for organisations, empowering consumers, and giving back to the community. Casey has also been involved with Startup Dunedin since 2015, and has contributed substantially to the local startup community. Casey has been recently appointed the Startup Dunedin Community Manager.



Kristy McGregor (24)

Kristy co-founded the Horowhenua Taste Trail. This is an event, which in its inaugural year 2016, saw thousands of people connecting with the 'paddock to plate story' of their local producers. Showcasing producers and growers, the event put a previously undiscovered food district on the map, enabled an overwhelming sense of community pride, and fostered a greater connection between farmers and the community, which Kristy has identified as lacking in a district with so much to offer.



Latham Martin (22)

Latham is Deputy Mayor - Westland District Council; Chair of the Westland High School Board of Trustees; School Teacher and part of the Senior Leadership Team at Hokitika Primary School; Treasurer of the Hokitika Lions Club; and initiator of the Westland Youth Connections and Mentoring Programme. Latham is a well-respected community member, he always has the best interests of the community at heart. He is not afraid to vote against what most District Councillors might agree with, and was the only candidate in the Westland District that was returned to office after the October local body elections last year.



Manraj Rahi (17)

Feeling a need for young people to be seen to be addressing the issues of youth themselves, Manraj took it upon himself to organise a TEDx Youth Forum in Wellington. He contacted TED HQ to arrange for permission and a licence to do so. 100 people attended the sellout event. The speakers were all under 25 years and addressed a range of issues from challenging stereotypes to causing a revolution. He managed to raise \$10,000 of sponsorship for the event by approaching Wellington City Council, Wellington Buses and Weta Workshop. The success of this venture can be attributed, in the main, to Manraj's vision, planning and leadership.



Merenia Hudson (19)

Merenia has created a nationwide community of young adults that have come together called Manawa Ahi. She has lead, encouraged and fostered over 100 young people, who have supported World Vision's child safe spaces in refugee camps, and the rehabilitation of child soldiers in Uganda. Over 100 young New Zealanders have engaged in their community, volunteering and running workshops all over the country, focusing on practical things New Zealanders can do to make New Zealand, and the world, a place with less injustice.



Giving Back Award

Eva McGauley (17)

Eva is passionate about making a difference in the world and is working towards addressing sexual violence that sees one in three girls abused by their 16th birthday. Eva has been volunteering for Wellington Rape Crisis since she was 14 and over the past nine months has raised over \$50,000 for young sexual abuse survivors, helped to raise awareness about young people's need for 24/7 online counselling, and has been instrumental about getting young people to come forward to share their stories and get their voices heard by people in power.

Marie Scott (17)

Marie is a champion for the revitalisation of Te Reo Māori and is passionate about giving back to her community. The loss of a friend to suicide was the motivation for Marie to take positive action joining 2Face Drama which uses performing arts to raise awareness about youth suicide. For the past two years Marie has not only performed for the group but has also composed a haka dedicated to the friend that she lost, that will become the anthem of 2Face Drama to be performed across New Zealand and also in both Australia and Hawaii.

Fawzan Dinnunhan (24)

Fawzan has made a significant contribution to research and improving a number of key IT platforms for The Spinal Cord Society NZ (SCSNZ), a non-profit organisation that studies the use of stem cells as a cure for Type-1 Diabetes. The work that he has carried out has saved the society thousands of dollars and has been delivered to a very high standard. Fawzan has many interests outside working for the SCSNZ, and his leadership skills have come to the fore as Treasurer for Otago Muslim Association. He has set up youth camps for University students to encourage engagement in outdoor activity and collaboration between students, and has organised a talent show to share skills and community spirit.

Nikki Wheeler (19)

Nikki was one of the founding members of Sticks 'n Stones in 2013 and has been actively involved in all elements of its growth and development since then. Intensely hard working, Nikki is the Secretary on the Sticks 'n Stones Board and mentors and supports younger students. Nikki's positive contribution is her willingness to get stuck in and make things happen. Her position as a role model is one she takes very seriously and she has inspired many younger students to volunteer their time, to continue the work she started.

John Chen (15)

John is a high-achieving Year 11 student at Manurewa High School, and has a long list of contributions to his community. He was the student representative of the Board of Trustees in 2016, and outside of school, has served on the Manurewa Youth Council (MYC) since 2016. While on MYC, he has initiated a community consultation project to brainstorm issues facing youth and possible solutions. This year, John has also helped to organise a Young Leaders breakfast, and has been part of projects like mural painting at the Manurewa Marae and building shelters for the homeless.

Leo Munro-Heward (16)

Passionate about inclusion, acceptance and diversity, Leo is a champion for the freedom of all young people to be able to be themselves without fear, harassment, prejudice or bullying. He is driven by his own story of the bullying he has endured and his challenges with dyslexia and dysgraphia. His focus for 2017 is setting up a Queer Straight Alliance and other support as his goal is to encourage a positive, welcoming and supportive environment for Wanaka youth that celebrates diversity.



Youth with Disability Award

Jaden Movold (12)

Jaden, born with Spina Bifida, is an extraordinary role model with an unparalleled drive to change attitudes towards disability. He holds the title of Youth Ambassador for three organisations (Disability Resource Centre, Achilles International NZ, and Jonesy's Youth Foundation), actively representing them through public speaking, fundraising, and community events. Jaden is a para-sports role model who has, amongst other sporting achievements, completed 20 Weet-Bix Tryathlon, and is one of the latest faces on Weet-Bix cereal boxes.

Holly Robinson (22)

Holly is a lower arm amputee, a high performing athlete, and last year represented New Zealand as the flag bearer in the opening ceremony for the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games. Later in the Games she broke a world record for the F46 javelin, while placing second overall. Holly is a role model as a liaison athlete with Athletics Otago, a leader for Athletics Taieri, mentoring and coaching the children's section of the club, as well as acting as a role model to the younger athletes in the senior section. She takes an active role in Parafed Otago as a coach and role model. Holly has recently been working with Walk and Wheel week.

James Hollis (20)

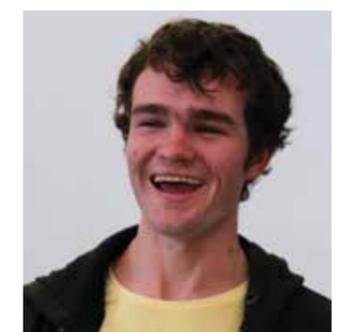
James is an important member of the Fragile X New Zealand and has made a significant contribution over many years. As a young child, he was the poster child for Fragile X and part of a campaign to raise awareness about Fragile X syndrome, the most common genetic inherited cause of intellectual disability and autism. As a young adult, James is a role model for young people affected by Fragile X. In 2014, James held his first pottery exhibition at the annual Fragile X National Gathering and donated the sales of his pots to Fragile X New Zealand (FXNZ). In February 2017 James was part of a group invited to the Ministry of Education to speak about Fragile X syndrome and education.

Andrew Scott (16)

Andrew has been associated with Haemophilia Foundation of NZ (HFNZ) since he was first diagnosed with Haemophilia at birth. He works alongside children, peers, and parents with bleeding disorders to encourage them in all aspects of living with a bleeding disorder. Andrew has also embarked on a journey to improve his overall fitness and strength with a personal trainer and wrote an article about the impact this had on his health, inspiring others to do the same. Andrew is an active member of the local youth board and youth group to educate, raise awareness and advocate for those with chronic illnesses and disabilities.

Shane McInroe (23)

Shane has made a great connection between disabled youth and non-disabled youth. In 2016, Shane decided to approach the Christchurch Youth Council to become a member, and was the first person with a learning disability to join the CYC. Since Shane joined, they have started to become more aware of the problems that young people with disability face when they engage with their community. Shane is also a Board member of Catapult Employment Agency, a member of the Christchurch City Council Disability Advisory Group, IHV Friendship Programme, and Youth Housing Hub (Christchurch).



Working for Youth Award

Bokyong Mun (20)

Bokyong works tirelessly to support and develop the United Nations (UN) Youth Council. Her involvement in the organisation began as a high school student, where she was a high school ambassador. Bokyong was elected in 2014 to the Otago Region UN Youth Council, where she worked to develop the flagship Otago Model UN event in Dunedin. Following success in this role, she was elected as President of the Otago Region - UN Youth the following year. This year, Bokyong is the National Educational Officer of UN Youth New Zealand and sits on the National Executive.



Emily Fan (16)

Emily is a passionate advocate for youth participation and social justice. As the leader of her school's environmental group, she has organised various local beach and school clean-ups, native tree-plantings, and is in the process of implementing a new school wide waste system to reduce litter and encourage recycling. Emily is the founder of Girls in STEM, co-founder of the New Zealand Musical Volunteering Student Association and is President of her school Amnesty group. Emily is also a volunteer math, science and geography tutor, assisting both junior and senior students to maximise their academic performance.



Damon Lillis (21)

Damon is on the board of the Playhouse children's theatre and has directed several plays. Damon's work as a director has supported the young people involved in the show's to increase their confidence and self-esteem. As a UniCrew Volunteer, Damon has coordinated the Aspire programme to support young people from low decile schools to find out more information on University and University life.



Bevan Xiao (17)

At school, Bevan is the leader for the Senior Student Council and has founded a UNICEF and Amnesty International Human Rights' Groups. Outside of school, Bevan has taken part in the UNICEF Youth Congress and works as a part-time Social Media Intern for UNICEF. Bevan is also a United Nations Youth High School Ambassador and has led projects such as being a Group Leader for the Whittakers Easter Egg Hunt for Starship Hospital, as well being the Site Coordinator for the Heart Foundation's Annual Appeal.



Princeton Jackson (19)

Princeton has selflessly volunteered his time through the Salvation Army with a wide range of projects. Over the past five years, he has been involved in volunteering in the food bank in South Auckland and has been a volunteer at the Northern Division Kids' Camps and the northern division youth council. Princeton has actively been involved in the Aspire youth development programme and the Counties Manukau White Ribbon campaign.



Youth Group Award

Handle the Jandal

Handle the Jandal is a 'by youth, for youth' movement designed to unleash the potential of Polynesian youth leadership in South Auckland. In the last year Handle the Jandal has convened three community events attended by over 230 young people to identify the education challenges important to them; supported 28 young people across four student leadership teams; and launched an online Speak Up Challenge to raise the voice of 1,000 Polynesian young people on the education they experience and the education they want.



Kawerau Youth Council

Kawerau Youth Council (KYC) is designed to encourage youth participation in civic affairs and provide a voice and direction on youth issues to the Kawerau community. KYC comprises of young people aged between 12 and 24 years. KYC is an active and effective youth group engaging with young people, local schools, youth groups, local youth support agencies and the wider community. KYC are the ears on the ground and knows what is happening and is constantly willing to volunteer it's time to help. It provides a voice for young people as well as inspiring others to use their voice as well.



Raise Up - YMCA Auckland

YMCA Auckland's youth development programme, Raise Up, continues to encourage young people aged 13 to 18 years to use their voice and passionate attitudes towards positive community outcomes. The programme, now in its 14th year, has grown to over 200 crew members from across NZ. In the last year, they have celebrated the launch of five Raise Up crews, four of which are in South Auckland. Raise Up crews have hosted 39 youth events, bringing in a recorded 16,944 visits to local recreation spaces, as well as giving 18,380 hours of voluntary community service.



Tuakau Youth Centre Youth Leaders

This group of seven young people is the Youth Leader Committee for Tuakau Youth Centre. Mentees are all volunteers who give their time and skills to support and engage other young people. Tuakau Youth Centre is a drop in centre and caters for around 40 young people per day. The leaders work tirelessly to set up activities and organise events, including athletics; carwash; taekwon-do; hip hop; eeling; running free swimming lessons; helping run the Rugby League playgroup; supporting the local anti-graffiti team paint out graffiti; and helping with a buddy reading session every day.



CanTeen for Listen Up

Listen Up is CanTeen's National Advocacy Group made up of 12 Listen Up Reps from all over New Zealand. These 12 reps are all young people (15-24) who have had cancer as an adolescent or young adult. They represent the voice of young people (13-24 years) across New Zealand in matters relating to the way young people are impacted by cancer either as a patient, sibling or offspring. In 2016, the Listen Up Group shared their experiences and received advocacy training. The Reps then returned back to their regions and ran focus groups with young people in their home towns. The information was then fed to the Ministry of Health to help shape the New Zealand Adolescent and Young Adult Standards of Care for Cancer which is due to launch in May 2017.



Youth Champion Award

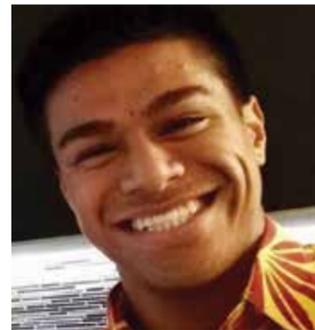
Ella-Ruth Clifford (10)

Ella recognised a need in her school, where many children had no lunch, so she took it upon herself to start providing lunches from her own pocket money. When her mother discovered this they decided to form "Kai for Kids", a not-for-profit charity feeding up to 1200 children in the Porirua area each week. This year, Ella is at a new school with a new kitchen and she has spent all summer baking and selling food for either a donation or else people could trade baking for tinned food or cooking supplies. The profit has been used to purchase lots of food to stock the new kitchen. The impact of feeding these young people resulted in attendance rates increasing and more positive classroom contributions.



Wesley Mauafu (21)

Wesley has undertaken a significant number of roles to assist the young people of Christchurch. In particular, Wesley is a strong advocate for wellbeing and suicide prevention, leading the first Pasifika United to Lead Suicide Prevention Education (PULSE) aimed at increasing suicide prevention information with young Pasifika people. Wesley is a champion for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) tutoring 30 students in Science and Maths, and working with the University of Canterbury to develop innovative ways to promote STEM.



Taupiri Youth Group

Taupiri Youth Group was first established in 2014 by a group of ten young people who designed a project to restore the Taupiri Mountain Walkway. No maintenance had been done on this track in over 20 years and as the group started restoring the walkway, the community noticed vandalism, graffiti and truancy all decreased significantly. The group started with ten members and now has now over 40 members, spending thousands of hours volunteering their time to give back to the people that use the track each year. Taupiri Youth Group has also brought the community together through coordination, cooperation, participation and inspiring one another to be strong leaders.



Toby Carr (18)

In 2016, Toby led and executed two major projects. DreamTalks was run in partnership with a local community church and was aimed at inspiring local young people to find their purpose, meaning and direction. 120 people attended and listened to a range of speakers including Jamie Curry (Jamie's World), Gary Grut (PGA Professional), Simon Curran (Shine) to share their stories. The second project was part of DeXTech, a high-impact project, mobilising communication in third world communities, particularly in the Pacific Islands. He led the partnership with local cellular providers offshore and local distribution organisations, to be able to effectively use over 300 gifted mobile phones.



Luka Wolfgram (13)

Luka has created an award winning film called 'Our Super Heroes', capturing with honesty and love, an experience that no child, parent or sibling should have to go through following the passing of his brother. He also engages with other families facing the same challenges, and with teachers and doctors, while encouraging people to support the search for and the treatment of cancer.



Youth Enterprise Award

Ashutosh Sharma (19)

Ashutosh built a Maths Q&A App called Extreme Math, which has had 46,000 android and 750,000 iOS downloads. From selling his iOS store Ashton re-invested funds into a new startup, ARCOM, co-founded with Ruofei Rao. ARCOM is currently focusing on making new technology accessible to people as well as developing holographic software for business. In addition, ARCOM has also been developing a social good app for people who are deaf and mute. This translation app is the first of its kind as it uses phone camera technology to recognise sign language gestures and expressions.



Andrew Tang (17)

Andrew is motivated to help others achieve their goals and make the community a better place. Over the past four years, Andrew has run an extensive and successful tutoring programme. In order to expand his contribution and to help more students, he created 'Doctor Tang', running a YouTube channel which has gained 53,000+ views to date and has been adopted by Education Perfect for use on their platform. Although given the opportunity to commercialise his videos and gain profit, Andrew selflessly chooses not to, so that access to his resources is available to everyone.



Sharndre Kushor (22)

Sharndre's belief in youth-led empowerment is synonymous with how she conducts herself in the role of COO with Crimson Education, a company she co-founded at age 18. Crimson is a transformative education company that provides pathways for students in New Zealand and Australia who dream of attending the world's best universities in the US and UK, yet lack the essential information and mentoring to do so. In 2013, Sharndre developed a Youth Leadership Programme, which connected students with an individual leadership mentor to foster their own initiative and grow their potential. This process has allowed over 450 individual students to build their own leadership initiatives, which have collectively involved over 9000 students across New Zealand.



Rees Vinsen (20)

Rees is founder and CEO of Adduco. From winning the Lion Foundation Young Enterprise Scheme's "Dragons Den" with his social media business NEXT SMC, Rees has given back to the community as a mentor with the Youth Enterprise Trust, mentoring over 20 young business students over three years. He is a passionate supporter of 'Big Brothers Big Sisters' and for the past three years has been actively involved in coaching rugby at junior and representative levels.



Rachel Ji (17)

Rachel Ji's business clothing business, 'youthxco', aims to empower young people, through promoting positivity and donating a portion of profits to support young people. Rachel has been featured in The Huffington Post, Success Magazine and other national press, as well as speaking in front of hundreds of entrepreneurs at the New Zealand's Entrepreneurs Festival. Rachel also contributes to large publications such as Influencive, business.com, stuff.co.nz and has accomplished a scholar badge for exceptional academic performance. Rachel has built a social media following of 150k and is currently working on her first book.



