

24 October 2025

MAC CELEBRATES COMMITMENT AND ACHIEVEMENT IN THE ARTS, SERVICE AND TE AO MĀORI

Te Kura o Tititea Mount Aspiring College last night <Thursday 23 October> celebrated the commitment and achievement of its students in the arts, service and te ao Māori.

Principal Nicola Jacobsen said the awards reflected the breadth of opportunities available to students at the college.

“We encourage our students to make the most of all aspects of college life so they can develop themselves in a supportive culture of personal growth.

“The arts allow our students to develop the skills they need to tell their own stories and explore different perceptions of the world and their place in it, through music, drama, dance and visual art.

“Developing a deeper understanding of te ao Māori within our learning community is one of our strategic priorities so it’s important we recognise those students who help grow te ao Māori at our school.

“Our school values are all linked to the idea of service so we are proud to recognise those students who exemplify those values through giving their time, knowledge and skills in the service of others.”

Arts Blues awards celebrate students’ work within the arts in co-curricular and extra-curricular contexts and/or in the community, recognising contribution, leadership and achievement in visual arts, performing arts, and entertainment technologies.

Te Ao Māori Blues awards celebrate students’ commitment towards growing te ao Māori at MAC, including contribution, leadership and achievement in te ao Māori.

Students awarded Service Blues are recognised for their high standard of achievement and commitment to voluntary service at the school and/or in the local community.

All MAC Year 13 students participate in our Students in the Community programme, giving thousands of hours of their time as volunteers in the community. Students who give 50 - 99 hours of service receive a merit award, and students who give one hundred hours or more receive a distinction award.

MAC is immensely grateful to the school staff, community members and organisations who generously dedicate their time to support our students and provide opportunities for them to pursue their passions.

More information: Please contact Principal Nicola Jacobsen on 03 443 0498 or principal@mtaspiring.school.nz

<ENDS>

LIST OF AWARDS

ARTS COMMENDATION CERTIFICATE

Alice Chaly
Toni Guy
Emma Head
Jade Lunny
Paige Lunny
Anika West

ARTS SERVICE BLUE

Mikayla Botting
Kasey Brooks
Minka Brooks
Cholula Brown
Archie Bruce
Tommy Cotter
Harrison Eastwood
Denali Emmitt
Juno Gerlach
Hannah Gillespie
Maja Griffith-Jones
Zoe Gumpatzes
Tessa Jones
Alex Kettle
Dani Maguire
Robbie McRae
Mia Reardon
Olivia Shore
Ania-Kanu Saklani
Olive Sinclair
Ruby Smith
Ryan Stembridge
Grace Thomas
Mia Waite
Zara Weatherly
Susannah West

ARTS ACHIEVEMENT BLUE

Bruno Blampied
Mikayla Botting
Cholula Brown
Archie Bruce
Tommy Cotter
Charlotte Crosbie
Tyla Scherger
Mila Culpitt
Mikayla Duncan
Harrison Eastwood
Hannah Gillespie
Emma Head
Alex Kettle
Casey Knights Johnston
Dani Maguire

Charlotte Martin
Zac Perkins
Charlotte Sheppard
Olive Sinclair
Grace Thomas
Hannah Thomas
Mia Waite
Lucy Wellington
Tanyn Wood
Edie Yandall

SERVICE BLUE

Dorothy Anderson
Sophia Menlove
Noah Moody
Tasmin Murphy
Chloe Murray
Ruby Norman
Mia Reardon
Ania-Kanu Saklani
Caroline Smith
Grace Thomas

STUDENTS IN THE COMMUNITY PROGRAMME - MERIT

Lucas Parry
Mikayla Duncan
Jacob Fielding
Ruby Keene
Ethan Prince
Charlie Blampied
Lia Hunter
Chloe Field
Charlie Roy
Tyler Gawn
Kate Wilkes
Tessa Unwin
Lucy Liddell
Keira Follows
Hugh Ragg
Jessie McNeil

STUDENTS IN THE COMMUNITY PROGRAMME - DISTINCTION

Zoe Giles
Claudia Paterson
Lucy Radford
Hannah Gillespie
Kiana Babbington
Dorothy Anderson
Janie Colebrook
Mila Culpitt
Phoebe Gillespie
Aria Winter

TE AO MĀORI COMMENDATION CERTIFICATE

Toby Brown
Alice Chaly
Alianna Hay
Mhaya Pereira
Alara Reeve
Arlo Waddington
Zoe Waddington
Lianna Waitoa
Maia Wheeler

TE AO MĀORI SERVICE BLUE

Rāhana Brett
Ryan Enoka
Yohana Merengngnagne

MAC VALUES AWARDS

Manaakitanga Awards

Arts: Zara Weatherly
Te Ao Māori: Ryan Enoka
Service: Tyler Gawn

Whanaungatanga Awards

Arts: Abbey Strang
Te Ao Māori: Kianna Babbington
Service: Jessie McNeil

Aroha Awards

Arts: Ryan Stembridge
Te Ao Māori: Rāhana Brett
Service: Aria Winter

Ihi Awards

Arts: Mikayla Duncan
Te Ao Māori: Māia Wheeler
Service: Dorothy Anderson

SPECIAL AWARDS

Junior Music Award 7&8: William Johnston Brown

Junior Music Award 9&10: Will Dulin-Shattky

Senior Music Award - Technology:
Sam Wilson

Senior Music Award - Performance:
Harrison Eastwood

Thomson Award for Dance: Mia Waite
and Grace Thomas

**Thomson Wright Award for Direction
and Backstage:** Minka Brooks

SPECIAL AWARDS CONT.

King Family Performing Arts Award: Kasey Brooks

Haskell Award for Excellence in Drama: Ania-Kanu Saklani & Ryan Stembridge

Kurano Music Event Grant: Toby Mills

Kurano Composition Award: Juno Gerlach

Kurano Musical Performance Award: Cholula Brown

The Upper Clutha Community Arts Council Art Award: Josie O'Brien

Senior Language Award: Ben Bankshaw

Tecorians Award for Senior Speech: Tany Wood

Aspiring Writers Award: Lola Rodger

Laws Cup for Debating: Mikayla Botting