

2009 BRANCH AWARDS PRESENTED AT MIDWINTER LUNCH

Frances Bell, Chair, Awards Committee

AWARDS FOR FIRST YEAR TERTIARY STUDY IN 2009 (\$1000 EACH)

We were again pleased with the standard of nominations for these awards and impressed by the achievements of these four young women, not only in their academic work, but also in a range of co-curricular activities.

Dayna McCormick (Orewa College)

Dayna sets herself high standards, and in addition to achieving Merit at level 3 in Chemistry, Geography, Physics and Spanish, she passed Level 3 Calculus in Year 12! Her teachers described her as a hardworking, focused and capable student. Dayna's contribution to the school's value programmes was recognized with a Senior Manaaki letter. Dayna is doing a Bachelor of Food Technology.

Claire Orchard (Glenfield College)

Claire studied Art History, Biology, Chemistry, Classical studies, Computing and Statistics to gain Level 3 NCEA with Merit. She played soccer for the school, took part in the 40 hour Famine and also made a valuable contribution to her tutor group. Claire is an excellent team player with leadership qualities and a willingness to go out of her way to help others. She has begun study for a B Sc in human nutrition and psychology.

Marianne Poh (Takapuna Grammar School)

Marianne's high level of determination, her independence as a learner, and her excellent organisation skills ensured that she gained very good results in Level 3 of NCEA, (doing Biology, Chemistry, French, Geography and Calculus.)

In addition, she played a very full role in the life of the school – as a prefect, Peer Support leader, special education “buddy”, maths tutor, and member of the Senior A tennis team. Marianne made a great contribution to music. She was leader of the School Concert Band, a member of the school piano trio, pianist for the school choir, and organizer of the School Talent Quest! She is doing a Bachelor of Food Technology

Bianca Twine (Orewa College)

Before she began study this year for a BA in psychology and anthropology, Bianca achieved Level 3 NCEA with Merit in Classical Studies, English, History, Home and Life Science, and Social Studies. She took part in a wide range of co-curricular activities – swimming, badminton, 40 Hour Famine, Amnesty International and the Stage Challenge. She was also a prefect and house monitor, a member of the Senior netball and athletics teams.

POST GRADUATE AWARDS

This year, both our awardees are doing doctorates, and we are very pleased to be able to give them some help with the many costs involved.

Mieke Sachsenweger (\$4000). Mieke gained a B Sc with 1st class honours, before beginning a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology in 2008. Her research is in the area of cognitive behaviour therapy and depression, and this will make an important contribution to mental health work in New Zealand. Mieke works hard to achieve the high standards she sets herself, and her supervisors describe her as a very capable graduate student with an excellent ability to apply theory and conceptual ideas to research problems. One of her special strengths is her writing skills. Her thesis work is extremely well-written, and “of publication standard”!

Glenis Mark (\$5000) **NZFGW North Shore Branch Scholar of the year 2009**

Glenis completed an MA with 1st class honours in Psychology last year and is now working towards a Ph D in psychology researching the holistic nature of rongoa Maori or Maori medicine. Travel will be a necessary and important part of her research and this award will assist with those costs.

Glenis is described as determined, highly motivated, organized, extremely hardworking and has a strong willingness to learn. She has remained focused and passionate about her study, even when battling major health problems. She has excellent communication skills, achieves at a very high level, and “overall, is quite inspirational for other women researchers”!