

UPDATE TO DONORS: Law Student Support

July 2022



THANK YOU

Thank you for transforming the lives of Law students with your gifts to the Faculty of Law Student Support Fund. Particularly during Covid-19 lockdowns and restrictions, your support has been a lifeline to students in need.

Your gift supports the Law Student Support Awards, an award to support international and domestic undergraduate and postgraduate students who are experiencing financial hardship. These students have enormous potential to make a meaningful contribution to our community, New Zealand and the world. Without your support, they may have been forced to abandon their studies.

With funding in place to make up to ten \$2,500 Awards this year and in 2023, it is hoped the number of Awards will increase, year-on-year, as additional support is received. We are also working towards a long-term goal of creating an endowment for student support purposes.

For the Semester One 2022 round, we received 55 applications and have awarded five awards. This high demand for support demonstrates the importance of each and every gift we receive. Enclosed are thank you letters from students whose lives were changed.

Thank you most sincerely for supporting our rangatahi/students to become our future leaders.

With kindest regards,

Anastasia Papadakis
Donor Development Manager

Stacey Ogg
Development Manager, Law

In Gratitude

Dear Faculty of Law Student Support Award Donor,

I am writing to express my gratitude for your generous financial support for my education. I am currently in the fourth year of my BMus/LLB(Hons) degree, specialising in Classical Voice Performance (Opera).

I will graduate from The University of Auckland at the end of 2024 after completing my dissertation. Following graduation, I aspire to work as a criminal defence lawyer, advocating for those who have found themselves in difficult situations. My values align with rehabilitation, reciprocity and growth, and I particularly look forward to helping people avoid arduous prison sentencing to begin their path of change.

Your generous donation ensures that I can continue my undergraduate study at a high level. Following Covid-19, I found myself in a difficult financial position. My parents live overseas, and most of my other family reside in Wellington, where I come from originally. Therefore, I have been living off the minimum wage, working long hours at part-time jobs to afford my living expenses. This is tough enough without a pandemic but staying afloat during Covid-19 proved near-impossible. This was due to significantly reduced hours as businesses battled the pandemic themselves.

I had to re-prioritise, and it got to the point where I could no longer afford to travel to attend my classes and tutorials. Luckily, while we were conducting online learning, this worked quite well. But upon returning to campus, I was in a trickier position. It got trickier when I was lucky enough to be invited to the Law Honours programme, which I duly accepted. However, to participate, the seminars required attendance. I

quickly became concerned about how I would balance this extra commitment.

However, your donation has allowed me to attend my classes regularly with financial confidence. I am no longer in this challenging situation I once found myself in. I can focus entirely on my study with every opportunity to excel.

Thank you again for your support; I am deeply appreciative. You have assisted in my journey to becoming a lawyer and have inspired me to give back and support students achieve their academic goals as you have helped me.

Dear Donors,

Thank you so much for granting me the Law Faculty Student Support Award! This means a lot to me and I am very excited to put it towards my passions and my studies. Over the years with both my parents developing harsh cancer and the loss of my father due to this we have had financial concerns. This scholarship will allow me to elevate some of the stress and I will be using it to better the world by helping some causes I strongly believe in.

One passion I will be putting the scholarship towards will be my marketing consultancy business I started. This is where I provide digital marketing advice to businesses with good causes, pro bono. My current client is Borneo Bags who help women in Penan earn living wages and support their families. I will be using some of the award to buy more equipment for filming and advertising businesses.

Another passion I will be putting this towards would be my coding hobby. In my spare time I am creating an app which teaches children sustainable practices in their daily lives. In the past three friends and I have coded an award-

winning app which prevented human trafficking. Due to budget constraints we were never able to make this app go further than the National Technovation competition where we came second. I will be putting the scholarship towards buying my own website and further coding courses I have been looking at for a while. This will hopefully make it possible for me to release the app on the app store – this has lots of fees.

Furthermore, I will also be using this scholarship to support my studies by buying a printer and monitor so it is easier to watch lectures, do assignments, and generally study.

Dear Donors,

I am writing to express my gratitude and thank you for your generosity for the 'Faculty of Law Student Support Award'.

As you will know, this award was established for students enduring unexpected financial hardship. In 2020, shortly after the commencement of the first COVID-19 Level 4 Lockdown I suddenly lost my mother to an unprecedented illness.

This has brought great emotional and ultimately financial strain onto myself and my family. I have had to adapt to supplementing the cost of household bills by taking on more work and sacrificing time that would have otherwise gone towards my studies. Due to this award, it will alleviate the financial burden that has

unfortunately been left in the wake of the passing of my mother.

At the University of Auckland, I am currently in my fourth year studying a conjoint degree of a Bachelor of Law and a Bachelor of Arts; the latter of which I major in Spanish and Politics. One of the prominent reasons I have chosen to study law is so that I can help people for a living. Thanks to your generous contribution, I am now one step closer to my goals and my financial hardship has been significantly lightened. This is a huge weight off my shoulders.

In the beginning of this year, I accepted a place in the Honours programme for Law. To be transparent, I was a little hesitant to accept because of the extra research and time this would add to my degree. Especially because I was not sure how I was going to balance this added study with my work and extracurricular commitments. However, I believe being selected for this award is confirmation I made the right decision, and with your support I can prioritise my studies. This award will enrich my studies even further as I will now be able to have an increased and devoted focus on my coursework and continue to both achieve and aim high.

I can assure you I will work very hard and get all I can out of my tertiary education. Your generosity will be an asset in achieving my goals, and it has inspired me to continue to help others around me. I hope I can give back and support students like me one day, just as you have done for me.

If you would like to know more about supporting Law students, contact:

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