
**2020 BLUES
AWARD WINNERS**
SERVICE AND
LEADERSHIP

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THE
BLUES
AWARDS

Simon Matāfai

Faculty of Law

Law student Simon was appointed the youngest producer and anchor on the world-leading Radio Samoa's Koko Samoa Youth Show. He and his team have inspired thousands of young people to embrace Samoan language and culture. Simon was also the first Pasifika youth to represent New Zealand, Samoa, and the Commonwealth of Nations at the United Nations and One Young World as a voice for NGOs and civil society.

Afiqah Ramizi

Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences

Medical student Afiqah is the National Vice-President of the New Zealand International Students' Association, which successfully applied for Ministry of Education funding to support the New Zealand government's International Student Wellbeing Strategy. As project lead, Afiqah developed International Students Leadership Training to support student leaders across New Zealand to negotiate the different hierarchies in their respective institutions. She also played a key role in advocating for hardship funds for international students in the Covid-19 pandemic.

Chas Samoa

Faculty of Creative Arts and Industries

Dance student Chas has made significant contributions to the Pacific Island community. She was a performer and part of the organisational and leadership team of the 'Mana Moana' group at the 2020 World Youth Forum in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt. Chas also performed in the 2020 UNESCO conference and 2019 Talk2Me Suicide Prevention Showcase. She stepped up as an advocate for young Pasifika voices.

David Saul

Business School and Faculty of Science

Commerce and Science student David is National Director of Bnei Akiva New Zealand. He's provided pivotal leadership for the Jewish community through his efforts to revive the financial and professional status of Bnei Akiva, strengthening the position of the organisation and improving health and safety. He was subsequently elected to the Auckland Hebrew Congregation to represent the youth voice.

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Moses Tanielu

Business School and Faculty of Science

Science and Business student Moses is a volunteer firefighter based in Auckland Central station. As a firefighter and essential worker, he responded to emergency calls during the Sky City Convention Centre fire and the COVID lockdown. Moses's contribution has been valued and appreciated by the wider community.

Sita Tarini Clark

Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences

Medical student Sita initiated and led a significant fundraising event for the CatWalk Trust, New Zealand's Spinal Cord Injury Research Trust. 'ThirtyEight in 38' saw a team individually climbing Mauao (Mount Maunganui) 38 times – the equivalent height of Mount Everest – in 38 hours. The team raised \$33,674.81 in support of their mission and increased publicity for New Zealanders living with a spinal cord injury through social media, radio, and print campaigns.