



# Absolutely Positively Wellington Student Awards 2022

Celebrating secondary school students' contributions to their communities



**Rama Awad**  
Year 12 - Wellington Girls' College

Organised a social media campaign, raising awareness of islamophobia in New Zealand. Rama's petition received more than 90,000 signatures calling for schools and the Ministry of Education to take action against Islamophobic bullying.



**Marianna Boless**  
Year 11 - St Mary's College

An active member of the Social Action Committee - helping to organise special character events for the school ranging from Mass services to community outreach programmes that involve collecting second hand clothing for people in Ukraine and Tonga, and canned food for St Vincent De Paul.



**Jamie Scott**  
Year 13 - Wellington College

A keen trumper who has shown leadership through the school's tramping club. Heavily involved with local Scouts - both as a youth leader at the Kea Club and assistant leader at Venturer's. Jamie is an excellent team player and a valuable part of the school's social football team, ultimate frisbee and pickleball.



**Baxter Neill**  
Year 11 - Tawa College

Won Bronze at the Nestlé Golden Chef Hat competition and a Silver at the National Secondary Schools Culinary regional event. Baxter is responsible for setting up the Food Club, which plans and creates lunches, with the proceeds going to charity. In 2021, he was responsible for preparing the desserts for the School Leavers Dinner.



**Harry Lancaster**  
Year 13 - Wellington College

A talented sportsperson, Harry is vice-captain of the 2nd XI cricket team as well as participating in football, Surf Lifesaving Inflatable Rescue Boat racing and Eastern Suburbs Cricket premier reserve cricket. He also coaches junior cricket and has shown great leadership skills through the tramping club.



**Maddalena Dal Sasso**  
Year 12 - Wellington Girls' College

Has volunteered more than 500 hours on her local urban farm's Kaicycle composting scheme. Maddalena is involved in tree plantings and the extermination of exotic, invasive and noxious weeds. She is organising a food waste audit at her school, and helping to install recycling and food waste bins, native tree planting and regular clean-ups.



**Kaita Hummel-Jibiki**  
Year 12 - Tawa College

Involved with debating, choral and barbershop groups at college. Kaita is also on the yearbook committee, the philosophy club, badminton team, Amnesty International, and Tawa College News. He has represented the school at this year's NIWA Science Fair and is also involved in environmental work.



**Nathan Quito**  
Year 13 - St Patrick's College (Town)

As co-head of the school's Environmental Group, Nathan organised a beach clean-up in Petone with Year 11 students from his own school alongside those from St Mary's and St Pat's Silverstream. The event was such a success they arranged another clean-up at Lyall Bay beach.



**Niamh Hanna**  
Year 13 - Scots College

The first female in her Lifesavers club to reach the Inflatable Rescue Boat Driver Licence and is now heavily involved in training other lifeguards. In January, she received an Award of Excellence for her involvement in a rescue at Riversdale Beach during a patrol.



**Charlotte Horner**  
Year 12 - Queen Margaret College

Successfully raised more than \$5,000 for Wellington Children's Hospital. She also raised a further \$5000 for in honour of a student who was killed at a Dunedin student party. Charlotte is an active member of the basketball team and has taken up leadership roles throughout the school, to promote wellbeing.



**Divya Srinivasa**  
Year 11 - Queen Margaret College

Created a 'How To' guide to help improve digital literacy among the older generation, which she funded and distributed. She has also volunteered at the Save the Children Fair as well the school's after-school care programme for junior students.



**Vidthia Beaglehole, Kauri Sekido and Joshua Toumu'a**  
Year 12 - Wellington High School

The trio worked together to plan and raise money for Unicef and their mahi for the victims of the war in Ukraine. They raised almost \$2000 in a day by arranging for the sale of donated goods.



**Nescy Dela Cruz**  
Year 12 - St Catherine's College

Responsible for jointly setting up a Filipino Group and organising a religious service and celebration for Filipino Language Week. Nescy is active in her wider Filipino community, through a choir in Newtown and her church in Wainuiomata. She is also involved in volunteering at the Wellington City Mission's Social Supermarket.

“Congratulations to this year's student APW Awards winners. These young people are future leaders of our city. The range of organisations and causes they are involved in is awesome.”

Mayor Tory Whanau

“The inspiration and creativity the winners have shown augers well for the future direction of Pōneke as a sustainable city of the future. Well done to all the winners.”

Deputy Mayor Laurie Foon

Absolutely Positively  
Wellington City Council  
Me Heke Ki Pōneke