

Tai Poutini Polytechnic Media Release

15 June 2015



Congratulations to music award winners

Tai Poutini Polytechnic is proud to congratulate current and former Music and Audio Institute of NZ (MAINZ) students who were among the finalists at the weekend's Vodafone Pacific Music Awards in Auckland.

MAINZ General Manager Val Gyde says it is always pleasing to see former students excel on a national stage, and the weekend's music event was a great example of that.

Cyril Savea (currently in his second year of the Bachelor of Musical Arts at MAINZ in Auckland) and Mark Tohi (a Diploma CMP student at MAINZ) are part of South Auckland reggae band Three Houses Down, who took out the Vodafone People's Choice Award for Best Pacific Artist.

MAINZ also congratulates:

- Former student Lance Fepuleai (known as Lucky Lance) who, with band Team Dynamite, was a finalist for Best Pacific Urban Artist, Best Pacific Music Album (*Shepards Delight*), APRA Best Pacific Song and NZ on Air Best Pacific Music Video (*Coconut Lime*).
- Isaac Tuia (currently a MAINZ Diploma CMP student) who plays electric guitar for TJ Taotua, winner of NZ Music Commission Best Pacific Artist and Best Pacific Gospel Artist.
- Michael Hansen (currently a MAINZ Diploma CMP student) who played keyboard for Erakah, winner of Virgin Australia Best Pacific Artist.

"I want to offer our congratulation to Cyril, Lance, Isaac, Michael and Mark and to all the artists recognised at the Vodafone Pacific Music Awards. These students have worked hard and are well-regarded by staff and students during their time at MAINZ.

"There are so many opportunities in the music industry and it is incredibly pleasing to see our students succeed in their professional careers. As well as supporting great performers like Cyril and Lance, we also help students prepare for careers behind the scenes, through programmes in live sound and event production, foundation courses and audio engineering," Val says.

For more information on the Vodafone Pacific Music Awards, visit www.pacificmusicawards.org.nz

For more information about MAINZ, visit www.tpp.ac.nz/mainz

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