

Manawatu at the forefront of student leadership

Manawatu schools are encouraging students to develop leadership skills, attracting three National Young Leaders Days to be run in the region this year. This is the sixth year that the event has taken place in Palmerston North. This year, the secondary school event has been moved from Wellington to Palmerston North, and will be held at the Regent Theatre on 16 March. The move has been welcomed by schools in the region.

“We have been attending NYLD for a number of years both in Wellington and more recently in Palmerston North. Having a regional hub for the event will mean many more Manawatu, Hawke’s Bay, Wanganui, Taranaki and Central North Island schools can attend this excellent event,” says Palmerston North Boys’ High School leadership director, Paul King.

“NYLD frequently lights a fire for many of our young men. It allows our senior students to gain different perspectives from a wide range of knowledgeable, experienced and inspirational speakers. There is always a key message for all attendees,” says Mr King.

Students will be motivated by a line-up of inspirational New Zealand leaders, including crowd favourite speaker Cam Calkoen – founder of the Carabiner Mentoring Programme and gold medal winning athlete, scientist and entrepreneur Emily Mabin Sutton, Academy Award winning re-recording mixer Michael Hedges, and singer-songwriter Jamie McDell.

High demand has already seen the 16 June event for primary and intermediate students sell out. Over 1,100 students are registered to attend – prompting organisers for the first time to hold a second primary and intermediate event on 17 June.

“We really didn’t want to turn away any students or schools. Holding two events allows schools and parents from Manawatu and surrounding regions to bring more students,” says event coordinator, Cecilia Tuala.

“Every child has the potential to be a leader, which is why we believe it’s important to begin leadership education from an early age. National Young Leaders Days aim to encourage, and give students the skills to lead themselves and others well – now and in the future,” Tuala says.

Schools select students who demonstrate leadership potential to attend. Typically they send top student leaders such as councillors, captains, and prefects – but are encouraged to send students who have potential to be a leader, but may need extra encouragement. Parents are also encouraged take their own children to the events.

NYLD events will also be held in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin and Rotorua. For information and to register, visit nyldnz.org.

-ends-

Palmerston North event details

Secondary school event Regent Theatre, 16 March 2015, 9.30am to 2.30pm

Primary and intermediate event Regent Theatre, 16 June 2015, 9.30am to 2.30pm

Primary and intermediate event 2 Regent Theatre, 17 June 2015, 9.30am to 2.30pm

About National Young Leaders Days

National Young Leaders Days are the largest and longest running leadership event held annually across New Zealand for primary, intermediate and secondary school students. The days aim to develop student leadership and empower young people with the skills to lead themselves and others well. Since 2001 over 110,000 students have been empowered to fulfil their dreams and become great leaders at a National Young Leaders Day. NYLD is part of the youth division of The Parenting Place – a not-for-profit organisation with a mission to positively impact New Zealand families and young people.

For further information, contact:

Jayson Kingsbeer

NYLD media coordinator

jayson.kingsbeer@theparentingplace.com

Phone: 027 331 9723

To download high resolution, press ready photographs visit nyldnz.org/media/manawatu/