The Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship Programme educates future leaders at the University of Waikato within the values of New Zealand’s greatest adventurer, Sir Edmund Hillary. We are all inspired by the view that “together, we believe the impossible is a summit to be conquered”.

Sir Edmund Hillary scholars are recognised for exceptional talent and leadership. They also excel in academia, and sports or creative and performing arts.

MATTHIAS BALZAT
Degree: Bachelor of Music (BMus)
Discipline: Music Performance – Cello
From: Wentworth College, Auckland

Matthias has been playing the cello since he was three years old. The former Wentworth College student is only 16 and is in his third year of a Bachelor of Music. He was first equal in the National Concerto Competition at the beginning of 2014 as well as receiving University Blues Awards in 2014 and 2015. He won first prize with his chamber group in the Waikato Chamber Competition last year, was a finalist with the same group in the ROSL (Royal Overseas League) Scholarship Competition, and was the winner of PACANZ (Performing Arts Competition Association of New Zealand).

“The Hillary Scholarship Programme has provided many opportunities for me to grow as a leader amongst many people, and to aspire to the many qualities that Sir Edmund Hillary had.”

“Step higher piki ake
“My achievements have resulted from a goodly share of imagination and plenty of energy. As a Hillary Scholar you are given every opportunity to challenge yourself. Seize this chance.”

Ed Hillary
1919 – 2008
Benefits for Hillary Scholars

Academic support
• The Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship is worth up to $10,000 subject to meeting the programme conditions.
• Personal support from the Hillary Programme Manager who is a dedicated advocate for Hillary scholars, and co-ordinates all the services available to scholars. The Hillary Programme Manager liaises with partner organisations and University lecturers, and can provide you with advice or support on academic, sport/art or leadership pursuits.

Leadership Pathway and personal development
• The Leadership Pathway aims to develop exceptional all-rounders. The main focus being the Hillary Challenge – Personal Purpose, Sir Edmund Hillary’s personal challenge to scholars. A schedule of events through the year includes team building activities enabling scholars to share experiences and build networks with the cohort of scholars.
• Scholars are expected to participate in volunteering, fundraising, community engagement, University ambassadorial work, and/or mentoring.
• The development of an annual plan encourages scholars to be aspirational and balance their pursuits. The annual plan defines scholars’ commitments to the University, their sport or creative and performing arts and leadership.
• Leadership Excellence is awarded to senior Hillary scholars with the selection of the Sir Edmund Hillary Medallists and Step Higher Awards.

Coaching and tutor support

Sport
• Support from the relevant partner organisation via the Hillary scholar’s sport manager.
• Leading coaches recommended by partner organisations.
• Participation in regional, national and elite development squads where applicable.
• Overseas travel insurance may be available.

Performing and creative arts
• Leading tutors in arts excellence, provided by the University of Waikato.
• Participation in interdisciplinary performance, regional and national competitions where applicable.
• Overseas travel insurance may be available.

For a list of creative and performing arts and sporting codes currently supported, please refer to waikato.ac.nz/about/hillary/partners.shtml
Who can apply?

The Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship Programme is focused on three pillars: excellence in your sport or creative and performing art, leadership, and academic achievement. Applications need to show evidence of excellence in these three pillars.

- School leavers who have/or will have achieved an NCEA Level 3 Certificate with Merit or Excellence and University Entrance.
- School leavers who have/or will have achieved the equivalent to the above in the Cambridge International examinations or the International Baccalaureate examinations.
- Students intending to study at the University of Waikato at either the Hamilton or Tauranga campus.

Expectations of scholars

To remain in the Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship Programme, scholars must:

- Maintain a B+ grade average or better each year
- Sustain a level of performance in their sporting code or creative and performing art
- Participate in volunteering, fundraising, community engagement, University ambassadorial work, and/or mentoring.
- Participate in the Leadership Pathway and personal development programme provided by the University.

Hillary Scholar Nina Wollaston is inspired by some of our best women cyclists and wants to return the favour for future generations. She has a host of age group and elite national titles to her name, a bronze medal from the Junior World Track Champs and sees riders such as Sarah Ulmer and Alison Shanks as inspiration. She is aiming for the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo to make her mark and also wants to be an influence on younger riders.

“So far this scholarship has given me the resources and time to be able to combine full-time study and training to the best of my abilities. It means I don’t have to sacrifice either of the two, which has been greatly beneficial to my achievements and success to date! I am very grateful for the support I’ve received through busy schedule times, which as helped me keep organised and on track.”
Partnership with the community

The range of partnerships established by the University to deliver the Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship is unique. Some partnerships are at a national level and others reflect a regional focus. The links create a strong support network and pathway for talented individuals to develop and consolidate their standing as achievers and leaders. Visit [waikato.ac.nz/hillary](http://waikato.ac.nz/hillary) for details on the partnerships.

**APERAHAMA HURIHANGANUI**

Degree: Law (LLB(Hons)) and Māori Cultural Studies (BA), conjoint
Discipline: White Water Rafting and Waka Ama
From: Rotorua Boys’ High School

“The Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship Programme has given me the incentive to work hard and smart in training and study in order to perform to the best of my ability in University assessments and sporting competitions at a national and international level.”

**In Hillary’s footsteps**

Hillary Scholars who are leading by example and giving back to the community can apply for the Step Higher Award. The award entitles students to travel to the Khumbu Valley, Nepal, and 'walk in the footsteps of Sir Edmund Hillary'.

Hillary scholars Shelby Wilson, Dolan Cox, Ashton Ledger and Tamsin Moala were recipients of the Step Higher Award 2015, sponsored by the Compass Group, and travelled to Nepal in February 2016.
LAURA LANGMAN
Degree: Bachelor of Business Analysis (BBA(Fin)), Graduate Diploma in Accounting (GradDip(Acc))
Discipline: Netball
From: Hillcrest High School, Hamilton

“The Sir Edmund Hillary Programme is a great initiative to give athletes like myself a head start not only in their professional sporting career but also for a career for life after sport. I have always been in awe of athletes who have the ability to not only perform their sport to the highest level but also sustain a career alongside it. To me, these kinds of people are the complete package and this is something I am continuing to strive for.”

How to apply

To apply for the scholarship visit waikato.ac.nz/scholarships. Applications close on 31 August. For more information about the programme contact the Hillary Programme Manager on gregoc@waikato.ac.nz or visit waikato.ac.nz/hillary or for advice on the scholarship application form please contact Scholarships Office on 0800 WAIKATO or email scholarships@waikato.ac.nz

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