

# **Award Winners & The Supreme Award**

award for the best overall project

A huge turnout for the awards and tough competition for each category, thank everyone involved.

## **Collaborationista Award for Partnership Work**

Best Example of collaboration between youth councils, agencies or departments working together and leading to action on an issue or problem within the local government sector

Highly Commended – New Plymouth District Council – Youth Strategy

Winner – South Taranaki District Council - Get Connected

The Get Connected Project, which is jointly funded by the Ministry of Youth Development and the South Taranaki District Council, has been developed from a community need to engage and support our young people to implement projects which meet their own needs. During the process they develop social, communication and leadership skills that equip them to succeed in the community and employment.

The facilitator of this project works and liaises across the South Taranaki District with existing training providers, agencies, youth supporters and a youth representative group motivating them to achieve their desired outcomes and work together for the best result.

## **The Aspiration Kid's Active Citizens Award**

Award for best example of how youth councils, staff or young people have engaged young people in local government issue and influenced change in their community.

Highly Commended – Auckland City Council - Converse Youth Summit

Winner - New Plymouth District Council - Youth Strategy

The New Plymouth District Youth Strategy is an excellent example of how council staff, official Youth Subcommittee and Youth reference groups have worked together to produce a body of work that is *'relevant' and 'responsive'* to the needs of those working with young people and youth themselves. This is not a document that is gathering dust on a shelf nor is it a token gesture to keep up with larger authorities... it really is a document that has *meaning* and has proved to be an effective tool to enable the council to be a youth friendly organisation, as well as encouraging youth participation in our community.

## **LGA Dude's Employment Award**

Award for the most innovative Youth Employment project

Highly Commended - South Waikato District Council - Trade Centre

Winner – Rotorua - Hospitality Project

Created in 2006 in response to on going skill shortages in the Tourism / Hospitality Industry. Local Chef's Association, Hospitality Standards Institute (HSI) and Rotorua District Council, came up with the idea to take industry professionals into schools and work alongside year 10 – 13 students. The aim was to provide these young people with an opportunity to gain an understanding of some of the career paths that are available as well as talk directly to industry professionals in non threatening environment. The young people were also provided with the opportunity to visit a variety of workplaces and meet the professionals on their 'home turf'.

## **Captain Chaos Clanger Award**

Award for those projects or initiatives that you thought were a good idea but just bombed!

Highly Commended – Alexandra Youth Forum - House Building

Winner - South Waikato District Council - Pimp My Alley

For many years the South Waikato District Council has for held an event called ArtsFest every two years. The event is well known in the community and as a two week festival it aims to increase community participation in the arts.

The South Waikato Youth Council was set up only a few months prior in 2007 and as a result the new Youth Councillors felt that the Artsfest event was their chance to make their mark and be seen by the community.

After much discussion Youth Councillors decided to run a competition called “Pimp My Alley” as part of ArtsFest.

The intent behind the event was to get youth to design graffiti art murals for the alleyways situated around the South Waikato district and the top 5 designs selected by the Youth Council would be provided with supplies to go and bomb the designated spots. Once completed the murals would be judged and the winning piece of artwork would be awarded \$500 worth of vouchers.

Council was very excited by the vision of the Youth Council participating and that youth in the district would finally have their chance to be seen as productive and visionary.

Much advertising went out – on the radio, in the newspaper, around the schools and youth within the district appeared to voice their enthusiasm for the concept. However on the day of close-off for the competition not one entry was received. The date to see designs was extended and Youth Councillors went on the prowl to gather entries.

Once the second closing date came around, no designs had been received from Tokoroa youth. A few were received from Putaruru, but only one appeared suitable in the eyes of the Youth Council.

It was decided that that entrant would be given supplies to bomb and that an appropriate site/ wall would be decided on with the help of Council staff as Putaruru had no alleyways that could be painted.

So the competition moved from “Pimp my Alley” to “Pimp my Public Toilet” as an alternative.

On the first day of bombing a Community development staff member and a couple of Youth Councillors went and met with the youth at the location. The boys were stoked, were handed their supplies with instructions and started their bombing. However by mid afternoon it started to rain and much of the artwork was washed away.

The youth returned the following day and worked on the mural under Youth Council supervision.

The bombers continued to work hard over the week and on the night before they were due to finish the unexpected happened...

Although Council staff had notified the groundskeeper of the site where the toilets were situated and the local CBD organization and the District “Tagging–Buster”, a concerned citizen decided to take a paint brush in hand and paint out what he thought was tagging.

The boys work was all gone and the toilet wall was completely white when they returned the following day.

It was one of those things that all that could be done was to laugh – how on earth could a elderly resident of Putaruru not be able to read the town’s name bombed across the centre of the mural. As the Mayor stated “obviously he had no taste in art”.

The bombers were later given more spray paint and set to complete the mural on the toilet wall which was very highly publicized in the local paper.

The youth involved took the goings-on well and were happier with their second attempt in the end anyway.

So all in all “Pimp my Alley” became “Pimp my Public Toilet” became “Pimp my Public Toilet Again” -Captain Chaos certainly let loose in Putaruru that October.

### **LTCCP Girl's Small Project Award**

Best cool small project (under \$2,500) designed and implemented by local council, young people or youth council.  
(This is not just for the girls...)

Highly Commended - South Taranaki District Council - EKLIIPZ

Winner - North Shore City Council - Youth Art Exhibition

Shore Youth Council Art Exhibition was identified as a key art project by youth council members for 2008, at their annual Camp in Paremoremo, at the start of the year. A small subcommittee to develop the concept was created and they were introduced to Kim Boyd, manager of Lake House Arts Centre, who agreed to secure the time for the students in the Arts Centre's programme. The theme and then the artwork for the show's publicity was also developed completely by the students. The standard of this artwork was very high, and has received many comments expressing admiration from the local community.

## **Bylaw Bloke's Best Big Project Award**

Best big project (over \$2,500) designed and implemented by local government, young people or youth council. (This is not just for the boys...)

Highly Commended – Tasman District Council - Jam Magazine

Winner – Gisbourne District Council – Kokiri Taiohi – Supporting Maori Youth to Move Forward

For young people growing up in low income communities the challenges of adolescence are exacerbated by a range of factors. These include a lack of economic opportunity for their parents, family instability, inadequate schools and the prevalence of drugs, violence and social isolation. Demographics prove that Taiohi Maori in the Gisborne region are severely impacted by these issues.

To increase the likelihood of “positive” youth development and improved life outcomes the Kokiri Taiohi project was developed to engage Turanganui A Kiwa Maori youth 15-24 years. For various reasons the identified taiohi have not engaged with traditional training and education providers and are not recognising their leadership potential.

Youth leadership, both internal and external, was a crucial component of the project. Twenty recognised taiohi youth leaders and role models, who possessed networking skills and good knowledge of community issues, were recruited to act as Kokiri Taiohi Ambassadors. These Ambassadors proved invaluable in delivering the project through their ability to guide and direct others on a course of action, influence opinions and behaviours, and show the way by leading from the front.

Practically the Kokiri Taiohi programme has provided the 515 Taiohi engaged in the project with multiple opportunities to observe, practice, and develops leadership skills; experience progressive roles of leadership ranging from leading a small group to planning an event; receive information on training and education opportunities; learning to assess their own strengths and set goals for personal development.

## **The Supreme Award**

The Supreme Award is for the best overall project.

Highly Commended - South Taranaki District Council - Get Connected

Winner – New Plymouth District Council - Youth Strategy