



Media information, date TBC

Scholarships awarded to local art students

Two former local college students have each been awarded the Golden C'Art Scholarship by Masterton Trust Lands Trust (MTLT) to assist them in furthering their arts education.

The scholarships were awarded to former Wairarapa College student Ambhar Graham and former St Matthew's Collegiate student Sophie-Marie Thirsk. Ms Graham is studying towards a Diploma of Creative Technologies at Weltec while Ms Thirsk is studying towards a Bachelor of Design and Innovation at Victoria University.

The scholarship, worth \$1000, is awarded to a top performing Wairarapa student in a fine arts subject who is going on to study an arts-related course at a New Zealand tertiary institution. MTLT awarded two scholarships this year, with the recipients selected through agreement by Wairarapa secondary school principals.

Ms Graham said it was a "big surprise" to get the scholarship, which she used to purchase a new laptop to use with her digital design course.

"Without the scholarship, I wouldn't have been able to buy the laptop which has made a big difference to me in doing my course and assignments."

Ms Graham said she was grateful to MTLT for the scholarship.

"It's not just the money. It was really good to get recognition for my artwork and the effort that I've put into it."

Ms Graham said she has been enjoying the course, which she hopes will lead to further art-related study.

"The skills I'm gaining from this course will also help with possible career options in the future."

Originally established by the Golden C'Art Trust, MTLT has continued to provide the scholarship following the dissolution of the Golden C'Art Trust last year.

"It's great that the Trust has continued on with this scholarship, not just for me but for other students in the future," said Ms Graham.

"It's important to have a local organisation providing this sort of support, particularly for art students who often need special equipment or art supplies for their course."

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Photo caption 1: Masterton Trust Lands Trust Education Committee Chair Christine Brewster with 2019 Golden C'Art Scholarship winner Ambhar Graham.

Photo caption 2: Masterton Trust Lands Trust Education Committee Chair Christine Brewster with 2019 Golden C'Art Scholarship winner Sophie-Marie Thirsk.

For more information please contact:

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