



UNIVERSITY of CANTERBURY
**STUDENTS'
ASSOCIATION**

Tohu Kahurangi | University of Canterbury Blues' Awards

Background

Since 1913 the University of Canterbury Students' Association (UCSA) has recognised students who excel in chosen activities outside the classroom.

Traditionally, Blues were awarded for achieving a high level of sporting and academic standards, and as such are named after the traditional sporting competitions between two original 'Blues', Oxford and Cambridge.

In 2017, the UCSA in association with Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha University of Canterbury (UC) developed the traditional sports focused event into an all-round awards night celebrating a broader scope of student success. The event now consists of the Sport, Community Engagement and Arts & Culture categories.

In 2022, With support from Te Waka Pākākano, the University of Canterbury Blues awards were renamed, Tohu Kahurangi. In addition to being known as 'blue' in reo Māori, this name also recognises the value and importance of one of the most precious forms of pounamu – kahurangi. The UCSA commissioned Morgan Mathews-Hale (Kaitiaki Studios) to design a new logo. Crafted in the shape of a wahaika pounamu, it symbolises the rarity and value of the taonga (award) as well as the importance of each award winners journey to success. The form of the manaia represents kaitiakitanga, guardianship, and acknowledges both the whakapapa of award winners and their responsibility to continue creating positive change for themselves and in their communities.

We look forward to receiving nominations for the 2025 awards, which will be celebrated on Saturday the 4th of October.

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1. The award of Blues

These standards provide a guide to the Tohu Kahurangi | Blues Committee, club committees and individuals as to the level of achievement required for recognition.

Nomination period:

Monday 28th July 2025 – Monday 17th August 2026

Section A: Eligibility

To be eligible for a University of Canterbury Tohu Kahurangi | Blues Award, students must;

- Be enrolled at, or have your degree conferred from, the University of Canterbury during the nomination period.
- Be enrolled at the University of Canterbury at the time of your achievements.
- Have reached the required level of achievement during the nomination period
- Have paid required University fees.

In addition, Students must have a GPA of no less than 1.0 to be eligible for a Tohu Kahurangi Blues Award.

For research thesis/dissertation students, confirmation from the Senior Supervisor is required to verify sufficient progress towards timely completion of the qualification.

Section B: Composition of the Blues Panels

There shall be three panels of the University of Canterbury Students' Association. Their names are as follows:

1. The University of Canterbury Students' Association Sports Blues Panel
2. The University of Canterbury Students' Association Arts Blues Panel
3. The University of Canterbury Students' Association Community Blues Panel

Each panel is to follow the associated rules and regulations outlined in their Panel Position Description.

The functions of the Blues Panel shall be:

1. To provide feedback on and review the Blues' Criteria
2. Contact nominated organisations and encouraged nominations
3. To consider and vote upon each nominee submitted to it.

4. To call upon representatives of Clubs to supply any information that the Panel may desire to reach its decision; such representatives to be possessed of the fullest possible facts concerning their sport and its particular nominee(s).
5. To consult the standards set down when reaching their decisions.
6. To consider any other persons, to consult any other information or anything else considered necessary in the award of Blues.

The Panels shall meet once annually within 14 days of the date of close of nominations.

Section C: Nominations to the Blues Panel

1. Nominations must be made in writing on the prescribed form with all sections completed.
2. Anyone may nominate a person for a Blue. Individuals are able to nominate themselves.
3. Nominations must be made before or on the close of nominations date. Nominations made after such date will not be considered by the Blues committee.
4. All nominations must include an action or profile picture of the nominee sent via email.
5. Should the Blues Panel consider that insufficient information is available; the nomination shall be referred back to the nominator. In the event of the lack of further information, the nomination shall lapse.

Section D: Appeals

1. Any person may appeal in writing to the Blues Panel against a person or persons not being recommended for a Blue. Such an appeal shall be in the form of a nomination accompanied by any new supporting evidence as to the qualifications of the individual(s) and shall be signed by the members of the Panel concerned.

Section E: General

1. Records shall be kept by the University of Canterbury Students' Association. A record of the name of the recipient and the category in which the award is made shall be entered.
2. In the case of any contingencies arising that are not provided for in these regulations the Blues Panel shall have full power to decide until such time as the regulations may be amended to cover such contingencies.
Should any person who has been awarded a Blue commit an act, which may bring discredit to the University, or the University of Canterbury Students' Association, or

belittle the honour of the Award, the Blues Panel or Steering Committee may revoke the award.

2. Sports Blues

To achieve a Blue, students must have demonstrated a level or standard of achievement that the Blues Panel identify as being appropriate.

The Panel will take into consideration:

- Sportsmanship and general character and conduct of the nominee alongside the enthusiasm, interest and involvement for the sport in a University context.
- The general standard of each sport at the University that year and the number of Blues awarded for that particular sport in the past.
- Neither representation of the University at a New Zealand Universities Tournament nor the award of Blues in previous years shall in itself mean the automatic award of a University of Canterbury Blue.
- The Committee will consider adequate reasons (injury, illness, absence from Christchurch etc.) when considering requirements.
- Representation of a University of Canterbury club within the chosen discipline

Section A: Guidelines for individual sports

The following is a list of *guidelines* to be used by the University of Canterbury Blues panel as a guide for awarding University of Canterbury Blues awards.

- These standards should also be used to guide club committees, and individuals in nominating members for Blues.
- Reaching these standards does not automatically ensure the recommendation of a Blue and the committee reserves its right to judge each application on its merits.
- For sports that do not immediately fit the standards of achievement, (i.e. the sport is not currently included in this list of guidelines) the current Blues panel can determine the equivalent standard.
- Achievements of students that fall outside the individual sports criteria may be considered by the panel.
- The Blues committee's decision is final.

Indigenous Sports

In the interest of ensuring equity and diversity of nominees across categories, The Tohu Kahurangi Awards committee invites nominations for indigenous sports of Aotearoa, including but not limited to Waka ama and Kī o Rahi.

AFL

Athletes must have been:

- a. Selected as a member of a Senior Provincial Representative team.
- b. Selected in a New Zealand representative team (senior).

Athletics

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Top 3 placing in the senior men's or senior women's category at any Athletics NZ Track and Field or Out of Stadia National Championship events.
- b. Nominees who place 4-5 to be reviewed by panel, taking into consideration the standard of the field.
- c. Attain selection to an Athletics NZ team to compete internationally for New Zealand.

Badminton

Athletes must have been:

- a. Selected as a member of a Senior Provincial Representative team.
- b. Selected in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Basketball (5on5, 3x3)

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A member of a National League Team;
- b. Selection in a New Zealand Senior Team;
- c. Selection in a NZ Junior Team
- d. Selection in a NZ University Representative Team

BMX

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following

- a. Ranked top 3 at National Championships in U19 (Junior Elite), U23 or Elite open class (Elite open should be given higher precedence).
- b. Selection to a New Zealand representative team in U19 (Junior Elite, U23 or Elite open class.
- c. A top 16 placing at a UCI World Cup event in U23 or Elite open class.

Bowls

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A member of a provincial representative team; or
- b. Selection to represent New Zealand (age group or senior);
- c. Top 3 at the national championships.

Boxing

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Gold or silver at NZ Champs in their weight class; or

- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (senior)

Canoe Polo

Athletes must have achieved the following:

- a. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Canoe/ Kayaking

Athletes must have achieved the following:

- a. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Chess

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A top 3 placing in the National Championships; or
- b. NZ Junior Champs (under 20)
- c. North Island Champs
- d. South Island Champs or
- e. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (senior).

Competitive Aerobics

Athletes must be competing at Junior or Senior international level (as defined by World Gymnastics for each gymnastics code) and have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Selected for a New Zealand Team
- b. Win a National Title (individual events only)

Cricket

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A member of the provincial senior representative team;
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Climbing

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A podium place in a New Zealand Open Championship event in one of the 3 disciplines (Lead, Bouldering or Speed)
- b. Has been youth (under 20) champion in one of the three disciplines.
- c. Has been selected to represent New Zealand at an Open or Junior level and competed internationally at that level.

Croquet

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. CNZ International representation (includes WCF or other NSO selections for International competition)
- b. "To have had significant results (won) any of the following events" in the applicable period:

NZ Open Singles
GC Nationals Singles
Women's AC/GC Invitation
Top Invitation AC/GC

Cycling

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A top 3 placing in Elite, U23 or U19 categories at on of the following events:
 - a) Elite Road National Championships
 - b) Track National Championships
 - c) Mountain Bike national (Endureo, DHL or SCO categories)
 - d) BMX (Racing) national Championships
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Equestrian

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Selected as a New Zealand representative to compete in an international event (event involving at least one other country) Team or Individual, age group or senior.
- b. A top 3 placing in a recognised international event: Dressage – CDIY3* and above
 - Endurance – CEIY2* and above
 - Eventing – CCI3* and above
 - Jumping – CSI1* and above
- c. A top 3 placing in an Equestrian Sport NZ National Championships or title class at Horse of the Year at Young Rider or above level.
- d. Member of High-Performance Squad Talent Development level and above
- e. Non-Equestrian Sport NZ disciplines – Refer to point 1 and sport specific National Championship titles

E-Sports

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Top 3 in a national competition
- b. Podium finish in National Competition or top 100 on the NZ rank ladder

Fencing

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following;

- a. Top 3 at the New Zealand Championships and have had international exposure;
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team to compete in an international event.

Football

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A member of a National League team; or
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Futsal

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- 1) Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Golf

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A member of the regional senior representative team at a national event (men's or women's); or
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Gymnastics

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Selected for a New Zealand Team
- b. Win a National Title
- c. Artistic Gymnastics Women's STEP 8 or higher
- d. Artistic Gymnastics Men's Level 8 or higher
- e. Trampoline or Tumbling 15+ age group or Junior International or higher.

Hockey

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following.

- a. National hockey Championship (NHC) Tier One team
- b. Premier Hockey League (PHL) Team
- c. Junior Hockey league (JHL) Team
- d. New Zealand Representative Team (Age group or senior)

Ice Hockey

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A member of the regional senior representative team (men's or women's); or
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Judo, Karate & Kickboxing

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Selected to represent New Zealand at an international event; or
- b. Finalist at National Champs.

Kī o Rahi

Athletes must have achieved all of the following:

- a. Has placed top 3 in a provincial level kaupapa/tournament and selected for National kaupapa/ tournament (national taking precedence).
- b. High use of Te Reo and tikanga Māori within the sport
- c. High engagement of values in tatū (negotiation), manaakitanga, whanaungatanga and rangatiratanga within the community

Nominators must provide detail for all of the above

Mountain Biking

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Top 5 in National Championships (XC or Downhill Elite Men & Women, U23 Men & Women); or
- b. Top 20 at an Enduro World Series (EWS) event; or
- c. Selection in the New Zealand team to represent at World Champs

Multisport

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A top 5 placing in a recognised elite Multi Sport event;
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group, development or senior)

Netball

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A member of an ANZ Premiership team;
- b. Selection in the NZ A Team+, Silver Ferns or NZ U21 team

Orienteering

Athletes must have gained:

- a. Selection in a New Zealand representative team to compete at an international event;
- b. Top 3 NZ Open Championships (long and short course);
- c. Top 30 senior at World Championships;
- d. Top 25 junior at World Championships.

Rowing

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- 2) A top 3 placing in the Premier & U22 National Championships.
- 3) Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group, development, NZ University teams or senior).

Rugby League

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A member of the provincial senior representative team;
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Rugby Union XV's

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A member of the provincial senior representative team
- b. A member of a Super rugby franchise team (senior); or
- c. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Rugby Union Sevens

Athletes must have achieved one of the following:

- a. Selection in a senior NZ team
- b. Selection in a NZ development team

Shooting

Athletes must have achieved the following:

- a. A top 3 placing in the National Championships; or
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Skating

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A top 3 placing in the National Championships; or
- b. Selection in a New Zealand team to compete in an International event.

Snow Sports

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A top 3 placing in the National Championships;
- b. Competed for New Zealand in an International event.
- c. A top 3 placing in either;
 - i. Freeride qualifier at the Remarkables (As part of the winter games); or
 - ii. Alpine: Australia/New Zealand Cup

Softball

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A member of the regional senior representative team (men's or women's); or
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (senior).

Squash

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A1 or high A2 ranking;
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Surf Lifesaving

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Top Three at New Zealand Surf Life Saving Championships;
- b. Top two at the SLSNZ Swim Championships;
- c. Member of the Surf Life Saving New Zealand High Performance Squad; or
- d. Recognised Overseas Performance.

Surfing

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Top Three at New Zealand Surf Championships;
- b. Recognised Overseas Performance.

Swimming

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Medal at a pinnacle event (Olympic Games, World Champs, and Commonwealth Games);
- b. Finalist at a pinnacle event;
- c. Team selection at a pinnacle event;
- d. Medal at a major international event (World Short-course Champs, World Uni Games, Pan-Pacific Champs;
- e. Finalist at a major international event;
- f. Team selection at a major international event;
- g. Medal at NZ Championships (was Opens) and
- h. Medal at NZ Short Course Championships.
- i. Medal at NZ Open Water Championships

Table Tennis

Athletes must have achieved the following:

- a. A top 3 placing in the National Championships; or
- b. Selection for a New Zealand representative team (senior).

Taekwon-do

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Selection for a NZ team to either a World or International Taekwondo Federation (WTF) (ITF) competition;
- b. Achieve a top four placing at a WTF/ITF competition; or
- c. WTF/ITF Athlete Ranking.

Tennis

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A ranking in the top 10 seniors for New Zealand
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team.

Touch Rugby

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A member of either the NZ Touch Blacks, NZ U20's or NZ U18's representative team
- b. A member of the provincial senior representative team;

Trampoline

Athletes must have at least one:

- a. Competed in international stream for either senior or junior levels
- b. Top 3 at the national championships
- c. Reach level 3 of selection criteria for NZ teams

Triathlon & Duathlon

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A top 12 placing in an Elite World Cup Event
- b. A win in a Continental Cup
- b. Attain selection in a NZ Senior or U23 at World Championships
- c. Qualify for 70.3 or IRONMAN world champs or win a UTI 70.3 or IRONMAN event

Ultimate Frisbee

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Selection in NZ Representative team (age group or senior)

Underwater Hockey

Athletes must have achieved the following:

- a. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Volleyball / Beach Volleyball

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (senior); or
- b. Top 3 New Zealand ranking.

Waka ama

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the follow

- a. Selection to an Aotearoa New Zealand National Team
- b. Selection as the top-seeded Aotearoa representative in the VI (individual) division
- c. Top 3 placing at the National Championships in J19 or Open (Premier) divisions — including team or individual results, across sprint and distance events

Waterpolo

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group, development or senior)

Yachting (inc. Board Sailing)

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A top 3 placing in a National Championship event;
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group, development or senior); or
- c. A top 5 New Zealand ranking in their class

Section B: University of Canterbury Sport recognition award

The University of Canterbury Sport Recognition award recognises those who have performed exceptionally, however are not eligible for a University Blue as an individual athlete.

Eligible applicants may include coaches, officials and teams who in the opinion of the panel have achieved exceptional merit or honour in the particular sport concerned, at regional, national or international level during the qualifying period.

This award will be presented to the nominees for the Team of the Year, Coach of the year, Official of the year and Outstanding Contribution Awards. These awards allow recognition across a broader range of categories, while retaining the prestige and level of performance that characterises University Blues.

Section C: Major sports awards

For all of the Major Sports Awards, if an individual or Team wins the same award category for two years in a row, they are not eligible to enter that category the following year.

Sportsperson of the year

The most prestigious sports award presented is the Sportsperson of the Year. It is awarded to the student or students who in the opinion of the panel have performed outstandingly at their sport during the year in question.

Also taken into consideration is the following:

- Shown willingness to assist in University Club activities during the season, and have contributed toward the development of the club (e.g.) coaching, administration, leadership or other ways; and
- Have shown enthusiasm and diligence at all times, both in competition and training.

Outstanding contribution to University sport

The Criteria will be based on:

- Length of service to University/Tertiary sports development (although not essential).
- Positions he or she has held within the UCSA Club and during which years (executive, administrator, coach, official, event manager etc.).
- How the nominee has influenced;
 - Club Growth – membership and volunteer numbers, financial situation and capital acquisitions.
 - Club Development – competitive successes, activities at the university and within the Christchurch community, business relationships and sponsorships, and organisational improvements.
- Qualifications achieved on both Coaching and Administration.
- Other circumstances, such as personal contribution to student sport above and beyond duty.

The award recipient need not be a student, but has contributed to student sport.

Team of the year

Celebrating an outstanding performance by a team in the year passed. Criteria will be based on the following;

- Any University of Canterbury, UCSA affiliated sports club can be nominated
- Team must consist of 2 or more members
- Achievements and level of competition will be assessed

Coach of the year

Coach of the year is awarded to the coach who has inspired athletes to achieve outstanding results in the year passed.

The award is open to:

- a) Non UC students in charge of University of Canterbury, UCSA affiliated sports clubs and /or individuals
- b) UC students in charge of any team and /or individuals at a local, regional, national or international level. This need not be a University of Canterbury, UCSA affiliated sports club.

Coaching qualifications, achievements and level of competition will be taken into consideration, as will the team and /or individual they coach.

Being nominated for this award still qualifies the candidate for Outstanding Contribution to University Sport.

Official of the year

The Official of the year is awarded to the referee/umpire/judge who has had the greatest contribution to their chosen sport in the year passed.

This person must be a current University of Canterbury student. Level of officiating, and qualifications will be taken into account.

Being nominated for this award still qualifies the candidate for Outstanding Contribution to University Sport.

Section D: Sports

Note: *if your sport is not listed here, you may still be eligible for a Blues Awards*

Ariki	Motorsport
AFL	Mountain Biking
Athletics	Netball
Badminton	Orienteering
Basketball	Rowing
BMX	Rugby League
Bowls	Rugby Union
Boxing	Rugby Sevens
Canoe Polo	Shooting
Chess	Skating
Competitive Aerobics	Snow Sports
Cricket	Softball
Croquet	Squash
Cycling	Surf Lifesaving
Equestrian	Surfing
E-Sports	Swimming
Fencing	Table Tennis
Football	Taekwon-do
Futsal	Tennis
Golf	Te Whare Tū Taua
Gymnastics	Touch Rugby
Hockey	Trampoline
Ice Hockey	Triathlon & Duathlon
Judo	Ultimate Frisbee
Karate	Volleyball
Kickboxing	Waterpolo
Kī o Rahi,	Waka Ama
	Yachting

3. Community engagement Blues

Section A: Approval of community engagement Blues

1. To achieve a Blue students must have demonstrated a level or standard of service that the Blues Panel identify as being appropriate.
2. All nominees will be considered on their individual merits.
3. Applications are not eligible if they have been submitted and awarded a Blue in a previous for the same work
 - a. Community contribution will be considered if the scale and/or scope has significantly changed.
4. The Blues committee's decision is final.

The following will be taken into consideration;

- How the student has demonstrated a significant contribution to their community- either at a local, regional, national or international level.
- The value and benefit of their contributions at these levels
- Demonstrate leadership and initiative in setting direction, supporting others and bringing about positive change.
- Their efforts to support, mentor, train or encourage others.
- Reaching these standards does not automatically ensure the recommendation of a Blue by the Blues Panel.
- Club and Student Association executives are not normally expected to receive a Blue for their contribution in such roles. Blues will only be awarded to club and student association executives in exceptional circumstances and will require clear and strong evidence that they have achieved at a very high level and well beyond the normal requirements of the role.

Section B: Major community engagement awards

Outstanding achievement in community engagement

The most prestigious Community award presented is the Outstanding Achievement in Community Engagement Award. It is awarded to the student or students who in the opinion of the panel have attained an outstanding level of achievement during the year in question.

The Criteria will be based on:

- How the student has demonstrated a significant contribution to their community, either at a local, regional, national or international level.
- The value and benefit of their contributions at these levels.

- How responsive the nominee's contribution is to existing community needs.
- How sustainable is the nominee's project or projects and can it meet the needs of the community long into the future
- Other circumstances, such as what has the nominee been prepared to give up in order to contribute to Community Engagement

Waewae Kai Pakiaka: Outstanding contribution to the Māori community

Waewae Kai Pakiaka is a metaphor for an experienced person and can be used also as a mihi (acknowledgement) to someone who is a leader in their field, including here at UC and in the Māori community. The Waewae Kai Pakiaka award recognises a student's contribution to improving outcomes of any area or aspect that is important to the local Māori community. The Waewae Kai Pakiaka award is awarded to the student or students who have in the opinion of the panel:

1. Demonstrated exceptional bicultural competence and confidence and;
2. Demonstrated exceptional commitment to and engagement with the Māori community and/or community organisation, and/or;
3. Illustrated leadership and commitment to Māori development at a local, regional or national level.

Outstanding contribution to equity and diversity

The Outstanding Contribution to Equity and Diversity Award is awarded to the student or students who have in the opinion of the panel have:

- a. Demonstrated exceptional commitment to and engagement with, a particular issue of social justice, community and/or community organisation, and/or
- b. Illustrated leadership and commitment to the inclusion of persons who are members of traditionally under-represented groups.

Outstanding contribution to sustainability

The Outstanding Contribution to Sustainability Award is awarded to the student or students who in the opinion of the panel has gone above and beyond to bring about sustainability change, either at a local, regional, national or international level.

4. Arts Blues

Section A: Approval of arts Blues

1. Unlike sports where there can be finite quantifiers for achievement at Blues level, Arts Blues require criteria with a qualitative focus. As age categories rarely exist in arts' fields, consideration of what would be achievable by students studying at UC in each art form needs to be given. Discretion on the part of the judges is encouraged.
2. All Nominees will be considered on their individual merits.
3. The Blues committee's decision is final.

The following will be taken into consideration;

- General character and conduct of the nominee alongside the enthusiasm, interest and involvement in their selected field in a University context.
- The general standard of the Arts at the University that year and the number of Blues awarded in the past.
- Reaching these standards does not automatically ensure the recommendation of a Blue by the Blues Panel.

Section B: Guidelines for individual disciplines

Dance

Students will have demonstrated excellence in at least one of the following:

- a. Placing in national or international competition
- b. Acceptance into competitive development opportunity at national or international level e.g. workshops, creative internships, summer schools
- c. Significant role in professional production at local or national level (on or off stage)
- d. Award at a national or international festival: dance, arts or fringe
- e. Devising, producing or creating new work for performance which is performed at national level or as part of major NZ festival.

Debating or Oration

A debater must achieve, in the same year, at least two of the following:

- a. Finalist Officers Cup, Bledisloe Medal or Beattie Cup;
- b. Finalist Joint Scroll, NZU Prepared Debating Tournament;
- c. Finalist at NZ BP Championships;
- d. Finalist at Australian Women's and/or making top 10 individuals speakers at Australs;
- e. Breaking team at Worlds and/or place in the top 10% of individual speakers at Worlds;
- f. Member of NZU Impromptu Team (not reserves);
- g. Member of NZU Prepared Team (not reserves);
- h. Member of NZ Debating Team;
- i. Finalist NZ Prepared Debating Tournament;
- j. Finalist NZ Impromptu Debating Tournament

Digital Arts

The Digital Arts includes: software / game / animation design and development. Digital Fine Arts is covered under Fine Arts.

Students will have demonstrated excellence in at least one of the following:

- a. Finalist or award winner in significant national or international game or software design awards (eg Pavs Award) – individual or teams
- b. Recipient of a major national or international software / gaming design and development award or grant Demonstration of a significant contribution to a community through the creation of software / apps / games that support community enhancement, health, or education goals
- c. Having examples of a game, application or software commercially produced by a significant or reputable international distributor

Electronic Music

Nominations for electronic music producers are encouraged, the arts panel is in the process of creating a criteria for this.

Film and TV

Students will have demonstrated excellence in at least one of the following:

- a. Regional top placer or national finalist for the 48Hour Film Competition Festival, or regional or national award winner
- b. Featured role in professional web, TV, short film or film (on or off screen) – if work was not professionally commissioned or produced, then air play on network or selection for national or international festival can also constitute achievement of this criteria
- c. Significant role (e.g. as producer, director, or writer) in a new work awarded competitive development funding (e.g. Loading Docs, NZ Film Commission, Make My Movie etc)
- d. Acceptance of short or feature in a national or international film festival or competition where acceptance is by selection not an open call
- e. Award at a national or international film festival (e.g. NZIFF award re: short film; Short Cuts festival; etc)

Fine Arts, Architecture and Design

Students will have demonstrated excellence in at least one of the following:

- a. Demonstration of a significant contribution to a community through leading of or participation in projects which support or facilitate new or existing initiatives in the creative arts (*this would allow for example someone volunteering as a carver to assist with creating new carvings for their local marae etc*)
- b. Having work selected as part of a national group or solo show at reputable gallery; by a major brand
- c. Finalist or award winner in significant art / architecture / design awards (https://www.arttrails.nz/art_services_and_groups/artawards_competitions.htm)
- d. Recipient of a major creative arts award or grant (<https://wallaceartstrust.org.nz/wallace-foundation/>, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Art_awards)
- e. Having examples of their work in art / architectural design / other design included in a significant publication
- f. Solo or group contribution to curation or production of a significant exhibition

Kapa Haka

Students will have demonstrated excellence in at least one of the following:

- a. Being a participant in a kapa haka group that represents their region at the national kapa haka competition Te Matatini (or equivalent)
- b. Representing Aotearoa New Zealand at a significant cultural event in Aotearoa, or overseas (e.g. opening of Commonwealth Games / political conference or event / diplomatic or promotional tour of another country)
- c. Being a participant in a kapa that tours nationally or internationally as part of a cultural exchange.
- d. Leadership in te ao kapa haka, e.g tutoring, composing waiata, kaitātaki or making a significant contributing to the development of kapa haka in primary or secondary schools, or at a senior level - at a national level

Literature, Writing and Media

Students will have demonstrated excellence in at least one of the following:

- a. Published on a significant national or international news / media / creative platform
- b. Publishing deal signed with a significant or reputable publisher
- c. Book published or work included in published book with a significant or reputable publisher
- d. Editor on national or international news / media / creative platform
- e. Play commissioned by or selected for development by professional theatre company, or for a festival (e.g. Young and Hungry)
- f. Play performed professional theatre company / regional or national tour
- g. Work a finalist in a national (or international) literary prize – e.g. Ockhams, Sir Julius Vogel Award, Adam Award, Playwrights b4 25
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_New_Zealand_literary_awards

Music

Students will have demonstrated excellence in at least one of the following:

- a. Member of New Zealand musical ensemble at youth or professional level (or international equivalent) such as:
 - i. NZ Youth Choir
 - ii. NZ Youth Jazz Big Band
 - iii. NZ Youth Symphony Orchestra
- b. Commissioned composition/arrangement for any of the above (or similar) i.e. contribution of waiata for group competing at Te Matatini

- c. Demonstration of a significant contribution to a community through leading of or participation in projects which support or facilitate new or existing initiatives in the music
- d. Significant contribution to Music at community level
- e. Associate / Assistant Musical Director / Conductor for any of the above (or similar)
- f. Finalist in NZ Battle of the Bands
- g. Significant national or international radio / TV play for any music released in awards year
- h. Support act for national or international tour
 - a. At least two legs on international tour
 - b. At least 50% of national tour; to constitute “nationwide” must be outside of one region, prefer North & South Islands
 - c. Support act for major international artist at venue of 800 +
- i. Headline act for national or international tour or large scale festival
 - a. National tour must be at least three shows, should constitute “nationwide” so must be outside of one region, prefer North & South Islands
- j. Music selected or commissioned for use in film / TV
- k. Recipient of award/funding from SOUNZ, NZ on Air or similar

Performing arts – Cultural Performance

Students will have demonstrated excellence in Cultural Performance in one of the following ways, or in similar comparable situations:

- a. Being a participant in a cultural ensemble/collective/group/ that represents their region at the national competition (or equivalent)
- b. Representing Aotearoa New Zealand at a significant cultural event in Aotearoa, or overseas (e.g. opening of Commonwealth Games / political conference or event / diplomatic or promotional tour of another country)
- c. That tours nationally or internationally representing their art form or country

Performing arts – Theatre (On or offstage)

Students will have demonstrated excellence in at least one of the following:

- a. Significant role in professional production at local or national level (on or off stage)
- b. Award at a national or international theatre, arts or fringe festival
- c. Award at a major national or international comedy festival, or finalist in the national RAW Comedy comps, or selection as a Billy T finalist
- d. Devising, producing or creating new work for performance which is performed at national level or as part of major NZ festival
- e. Participating in a placing team at the National Theatresports Comps

- f. Participating in Shakespeare Globe Centre NZ Young Shakespeare Company
- g. Demonstrable contribution to local or national arts environment, e.g. in creating performance opportunities through the production of a festival or significant performance event or similar
- h. Acceptance into competitive development opportunity at national or international level e.g. workshops, creative internships, summer schools

Section C: University of Canterbury arts recognition award

The University of Canterbury Sport Recognition award recognises those who have performed exceptionally, however are not eligible for an Arts Blue as an individual.

Eligible applicants may include producers, administrators and executives etc. who in the opinion of the panel have achieved exceptional merit or honour in the particular art form concerned, at regional, national or international level during the qualifying period.

This award will be presented to the nominees for Outstanding Contribution Awards. These awards allow recognition across a broader range of categories, while retaining the prestige and level of performance that characterises University Blues.

Section D: Major arts awards

For all of the Major Arts Awards, if an individual or group wins the same award category for two years in a row, they are not eligible to enter that category the following year.

Outstanding achievement in the arts

The most prestigious Arts award presented is the Outstanding achievement in the Arts Award. It is awarded to the student or students who in the opinion of the panel have performed outstandingly in the field of Arts during the year in question.

Blues in Arts are awarded for achievements at an international or national level.

Outstanding contribution to University arts

The Criteria will be based on:

- Length of service to the development of University/Tertiary arts (although not essential).
- The positions the nominee has held within UCSA Arts Clubs and during which years (Producer, director, stage manager, executive, administrator, event manager etc.).
- How the nominee has influenced;
 - Club growth and development.
 - New or existing initiatives and/or works
 - Visibility for the arts in the local, national and/or international community
 - Individual or group success on the national stage
- Other circumstances, such as personal contribution to student arts above and beyond duty.

The award recipient need not be a student, but has contributed to the Arts at the University of Canterbury