

PARTNERS PORIRUA
EDUCATION BUSINESS COMMUNITY

Bright Sparks

A celebration of Porirua's Young Bright Sparks

Brought to you regularly by Partners Porirua, a provider of the Youth Transition Service and facilitator of business, education partnerships

Bright Sparks is a new column dedicated to the celebration of the achievements of Porirua's youth. Often the media are criticised for highlighting the negative news. Instead this column will celebrate the positive. If you have a nomination of a Bright Spark drop us a line at info@partnersporirua.org.nz.



Nichola with Diana

Pukerua Bay hairdresser, Nichola Ahnau was announced as the winner of the Partners Porirua Young Employee of the Year at the Chamber of Commerce Business Awards at the end of last year.

Nichola who works for Red's Hairdressing left school at 16 and Red's was her first employer in 2004. Since starting as the junior sweeping floors, she now has excellent styling skills and constantly goes the extra mile to ensure her clients have a great experience. Nichola is now winning awards for her skills including placing second in a regional competition for men's styling. Last year she won a place on an international photo shoot assisting a well known stylist Grant Bettjeman.

Not only is Nichola a bright sunny personality, she also gets results for her employer. In the last year Nichola achieved a 90 percent increase in new clients and increased the frequency of client visits from an average nine weeks to six weeks.

Nichola's confidence has increased so much since winning her award. Her existing clients love it that they have an award winning stylist and she has had a huge increase in her new client referrals. She now has a waiting list and is fully booked an average of 2 to 3 weeks in advance.

Owner of Red's Hairdressing, Diana Beaufort said "Many of my team is generation Y and I have found Nichola to be exceptional in her clear vision of where she wants to go and her positive attitude which helps her to achieve her goals. Nichola is an extraordinary and essential part of our team. I love employing young people and seeing them grow and learn. I get a thrill watching them become confident and successful and knowing I have helped them to achieve that."

Manager of Partners Porirua Michelle Robinson said many young Bright Sparks had been identified through the annual Young Employee Awards sponsored by Partners Porirua. "We're constantly impressed with the calibre of nominations and in the last couple of years of sponsoring the award we have found that the nominees, while excellent in their own right, are usually surrounded by successful business owners and managers who provide mentoring and coaching, and act as a good example for their young staff."

At Partners Porirua we are constantly on the lookout for both employers and employees who can demonstrate to new job seekers how far a healthy dose of motivation and enthusiasm can take you," Michelle said.

DO YOU HAVE THE MOTIVATION AND ENTHUSIASM TO BE A FUTURE BRIGHT SPARK?

Partners Porirua can help you to create a work and training plan to get your future on track. If you are aged between 15 and 24 give our friendly staff a call.

DEVELOPING
YOUTH
FOR THE
WORKING
WORLD

Ph 237-1099 Located at The Employment Hub, 6 Hagley Street, Porirua