



2011 Hinerau Huia Te Kani Tertiary Excellence Award



Kia Maia Ellis
Masters in Maori Studies

In 2011 Ngai Tukairangi Trust was proud to award Kia Maia Ellis with the Hinerau Huia Te Kani Tertiary Excellence Award to support her work to gain a Masters in Maori Studies.

Ngai Tukairangi Trust has a long history of supporting tertiary studies and previous recipients of this particular award have been Marama Lambert (2004) in memory of Wiparera Te Kani and Meremaihi Aloua (2010) in memory of Hauoterangi Rikihana.

In 2011 the Trust recognises the contributions of one of Ngai Tukairangi's much loved kuia Hinerau Huia Te Kani who was renowned for her unwavering commitment to our marae and hapu. She was admired for her support to her husband Turirangi Te Kani enabling him to achieve many things for Maori. Hinerau was a pillar of strength in her own right and served as an inspiration for many young Maori women in Matapihi and beyond.

Kia Maia Ellis is a mokopuna of Steve Ellis and Riri Te Whara Te Kani with Riri in particular being a well renowned kuia instrumental in establishing Hungahungatoroa Marae. Her parents Matiu and Kay live next to the marae and both are very proud of her achievements thus far. They look forward to seeing her flourish as she reaches her goals. Kia Maia is a young mother of one son, Te Ohomairangi, to her partner Hemi Callaghan.

Kia Maia is proud to report that some of the recommendations in her thesis are already being implemented for the benefit of Tauranga Moana. Her recommendations have been designed to assist with the management of customary fisheries and nominated kaitiaki in the region. Kia Maia has been involved with facilitating the Tauranga Moana Iwi Customary Fisheries Trust, updating the Rohe Moana Management Plan and liaising with customary fishing database developers.

Ngai Tukairangi Trust congratulates Kia Maia on her work thus far and is sure that this award will inspire her to forge on with her work with the dedication, resilience and determination demonstrated by Hinerau in her time.