



# Columba College: Arts Blues

## GENERAL CRITERIA

Following are the general criteria for the award of Arts Blues. Each area has, however, specific guidelines which are to be considered in conjunction with the general criteria. The Arts Blues committee will meet to consider applications and submissions so that there is co-ordination and fairness in the awarding of the Blues and to ensure a high standard is maintained.

- Arts Blues can be awarded for Arts areas such as Dance, Debating, Drama, Languages, Music, Public Speaking, Speech and Drama, Visual Arts and Writing.
- Arts Blues awards will recognise **outstanding** achievement or performance. The recipients will have demonstrated exceptional ability in their chosen fields/achieved at the level of distinction or with major success, for example, in a significant event or in competition with other schools. Other considerations will also be taken into account as appropriate, such as:
  - the contribution of the individual to an Arts group within the College over an extended period of time which would *not normally be less than three years*.
  - the advanced level of performance which has been beneficial to the group and has brought honour to the group and to the College.
- Students should be exemplary in their commitment, enthusiasm, dedication, reliability and sustained participation in the Arts area for which the Blue is awarded.
- Students in **Years 9 to 13** may be awarded Arts Blues.
- To be eligible for an Arts Blue, a student must have achieved *more than one* success.
- Over a period of time, successes in more than one Arts area can be accrued.

Achievements or performances must be at a **level of distinction** in public, or in local or national competition against senior students in other schools and be judged to be of a standard equivalent to that of the best students in a large secondary school. Performances in dramatic or musical productions, or concerts, or speech contests would qualify as long as they were unanimously agreed to be distinguished. The performer must be considered good enough to hold their own in top level secondary school competition.

With regard to Music, Singing, Dance, Speech and Drama examinations, the achievements of students who sit high grades as individual examinations and get top marks or “best student in grade” will be eligible for consideration for Arts Blues.

With regard to Public Speaking, a single successful performance in the College’s Speech Competition is *not of itself sufficient* to warrant the award of an Arts Blue. Similarly with Debating, achievement would have to be *over a period of time* with evidence of success in competition with students from other schools.

**Arts Blues will be awarded at the Arts Soiree in Term 3**  
**Applications are DUE 9 am Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> September.**  
**Late applications cannot be considered.**

**ARTS BLUES COMMITTEE**

This will comprise the Head of Schools, Head of Senior School, Head of Middle School, Head of Visual Arts, Head of English, Head of Languages, TIC Music and TIC Drama. Other teachers involved in the Arts may be invited to join the committee.

**NOMINATIONS AND APPLICATIONS FOR ARTS BLUES**

Nominations for Arts Blues may be submitted by any student, staff member or adult in charge of a team or group. Full details supporting the nomination must be supplied in writing for the consideration of the Committee. All information relevant to the award must be supplied at the time of nomination.

Nominations should be submitted to Mrs Harris. Please ensure that you print your application and supporting documentation and hand it in at the office in a folder/envelope clearly marked 'ARTS BLUES NOMINATION'. Applications are due **9 am Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> September.** Late applications cannot be considered. All applicants are expected to attend the Arts Soiree evening awards on **Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> September.**

**ARTS ACHIEVER AWARDS**

Two new prizes recognising achievement in the Arts were instituted in 2001. They are:

- "Arts Achiever of the Year" for Years 11, 12 and 13
- "Arts Achiever of the Year" for Years 9 and 10

There is a runner-up for each prize.

● **CRITERIA FOR ARTS ACHIEVER AWARDS**

1. High level of ability in the activity
2. Students in Years 9 to 13 eligible.
3. Maintaining, at all times within the activity concerned, high personal standards (including those expected by the School), and at other times, presenting a level of behaviour and attitude which is a good example for others.
4. Showing a high level of commitment to the group concerned – this may be shown by regular attendance at rehearsals or practices, or performances (except where there is good reasons for absence), and a high level of participation in such events.
5. Contributing willingly and usefully to the group concerned, showing initiative, loyalty, responsibility and similar attitudes.

**GUIDELINES FOR ARTS BLUES**

Following, are the guidelines that will be considered by the Arts Blues Committee when deciding on awards. *Please note that achieving only one criterion may not be regarded as sufficient by the Arts Blues Committee to justify the award of an Arts Blue. **More typically, two***

***or more of the criteria would need to be met.*** Applicants are advised to read these guidelines carefully when writing their applications.

## **DANCE**

- Outstanding and advanced level of achievement in dance.
- Recognition of achievement in dance by a regional or national body.
- Delivered performances of outstanding merit on school occasions.
- Danced in performances beyond the school at a significant level.
- Has contributed to raising the profile of dance in the school and has encouraged the participation of others.
- Has been involved in choreography or coaching other students in dance for a school occasion.

## **DEBATING**

- Been recognised by adjudicators as having achieved excellence or been nominated “Best Speaker” in an outside debate on several occasions.
- Made a significant contribution to the success of Columba debating in contests outside the College, inter-school and other.
- Has contributed to raising the profile of debating and has encouraged participation by others.

## **DRAMA**

- Consistently been a member of a production, whether on stage or backstage, showing commitment and loyalty.
- Performed in as many productions as possible for her age level.
- Delivered either a performance or service of outstanding merit, showing creativity, flair and initiative.
- Participated responsibly over a number of years, encouraging younger students, as well as peers, to become involved in drama and has achieved at a high level.
- Performed a role on stage or backstage for a local theatre company or film.

## **LANGUAGES**

- Outstanding and advanced level of achievement in a language.
- Chinese: Placed in the Chinese Speaking Competition at South Island level.
- French: Participated in the Alliance Française Speaking Competition at South Island level.
- German: Selected for interview for the PAD or NZGSC Scholarships.
- Has contributed to raising the profile of languages in the school.

## **MUSIC**

- Outstanding musical achievement such as:
  - gaining placement in  
New Zealand Secondary Schools’ Choir  
New Zealand Secondary Schools’ Orchestra
  - or being a member of a winning group such as:

- the Regional Secondary Schools' Chamber Music
- Recognition in national or regional Secondary Schools' Music Contests such as:
  - Madrigal Choir selection for National Big Sing Finale
  - Composition Competitions
  - Chamber Music Contest (Otago Region)
- Outstanding achievement and contribution in raising the profile of music within the school and, possibly, the wider community.

## **PUBLIC SPEAKING**

Refer to Page 1 of the General Criteria.

- Outstanding and advanced level of achievement in public speaking.
- Recognition of achievement in public speaking by a regional or national body.
- Delivered performances of outstanding merit on school occasions.
- Participated in public speaking beyond the school at a significant level.
- Has contributed to raising the profile of public speaking in the school and has encouraged the participation of others.

## **SPEECH AND DRAMA**

Refer to Page 1 of the General Criteria.

- Outstanding and advanced level of achievement in Speech and Drama.
- Recognition of achievement in Speech and Drama by a regional or national body.
- Delivered performances of outstanding merit on school occasions.
- Participated in Speech and Drama beyond the school at a significant level.
- Has contributed to raising the profile of Speech and Drama in the school and has encouraged the participation of others.

## **THEATRESPORTS**

- Sustained commitment over a period of time which includes involvement in several competitions, attending practices and workshops, representing the College at an advanced level of achievement.

## **VISUAL ARTS**

- Sustained involvement, success and achievement in the Visual Arts field.
- The exhibition by students of works of high quality in competitions or exhibitions; works which bring recognition to themselves and honour to the College.
- Student work should be of a standard that would be competitive with top secondary school level.
- The promotion of the Visual Arts by the student within the College and possibly the wider community will be considered.

## **WRITING**

- Placed in local, regional, national or international writing competitions.
- Work published other than in the school magazine.
- Has had work of high calibre published in the school magazine.
- Placed in the College's annual Creative Writing Award.

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