
Cultural Grant – Jaimee Poihipi

The following is based on my trip to Rarotonga with my kapa haka rōpu, first I would like to say thank you for helping me and supporting me to get to the trip. Ngā mihi.

Market

Our first performance was at their local markets, it was such an awesome experience to have, all the locals were getting involved by dancing and singing some of our waiata!, after our performance some people from the lands of Aoeteroa, they asked for photos and we then started talking to them about our pepeha. For me this was a good way to start the trip, knowing how nice the locals were made me less nervous for our big performance.



Captain Tama's boat!

We were greeted into their space with their cultural music and songs, it was so awesome to see how connected they were as one group, first stop was snorkelling, as my feet touched the water below it felt like home, the fish swimming under us, everyone having a good time, I never wanted to leave,

Second stop was their homeland, they took us to a separate island and we feasted on the cultural food, cooked banana!! Yum. Last stop was back to our hotel, I was really sad to leave such a beautiful day.

Big performance!!

All our hard work & training led up to this performance, It was pretty scary to be standing in front of all those people, I stepped forward to do my karakia and I look out nervously but the joy of the locals eyes made me less scared, I felt like both nights were really awesome and I'm glad I had such an awesome experience to do this kind of stuff.



Sports Grant – Danielle Quigley

Once again, I would like to say thank you for your help in allowing me to participate in the 3 test New Zealand trans tasman series against Australia. Without your help I would not have been able to afford this.

We had a great weekend and won all 3 games against the Australia center of excellence team. This event was an important stepping stone in the lead up to Asian Championships in Korea in later August.



I managed to be part of the starting line up for the week did my part as a "senior player" to help those new to the team get over the nerves of playing their first international.

Although I do not enjoy the wind and cold we had a great week in Wellington and I look forward to continuing this journey and build up to Korea!

Thanks again!



“E titia nēi e Te Ātiawa”