

13. APPLICATION TO HAGLEY FERRYMEAD COMMUNITY BOARD YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUND

General Manager responsible:	General Manager Community Services
Officer responsible:	Recreation and Sports Manager
Author:	Diana Saxton, Community Recreation Adviser, DDI 941-6628

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to respond to the Board's request for more information following the Board meeting on 22 March 2006 and to seek Board approval for a funding application to the 2005/06 Discretionary Fund for youth development.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Funding is being sought by Brooke Williams to attend the New York Film Academy's four week intensive 'acting for screen' course in New York City beginning on 1 May 2006. Raised in Christchurch, Brooke is 22 years old and a second year student at the elite Toi Whakaari, New Zealand Drama School in Wellington. The parental home she returns to in Christchurch is in Kilmore Street - Hagley/Ferrymead.
3. Brooke has an extensive and proven background in amateur and professional theatre. She has more recently discovered a love for film and has demonstrated an enormous talent and passion for on screen acting, devising and writing at Toi Whakaari. She is extremely motivated and determined to succeed in this tough industry and is committed to producing work of the highest standards especially new, New Zealand work whether it be through acting, devising or preferably both. Brooke is convinced that it is necessary to collect skills from other cultures in order to help feed and develop our own artistic identity in New Zealand and to empower us to tell our own stories knowing that they are backed by world class training and technique.
4. Brooke has been identified as being an outstanding woman of her year at Toi Whakaari for both talent, depth of preparation and professional discipline. She is considered to be one of the most talented aspiring actors in the country and is highly regarded for possessing the rare combination of humility and earnest sense of application in her work ethic.
5. The application is eligible under the Council's Youth Development Scheme guidelines. It aligns with supporting an individual aged 12 – 25 years further their educational studies, cultural studies and recreation development as stated in the application form. The Board agreed to consider applications, using these guidelines, on a case by case basis out of the discretionary fund at the Hagley, Ferrymead Community Board meeting on 12 October 2005.
6. There are no guarantees but Brooke has indicated that she looks forward to returning to Christchurch to work in the arts which has potential benefits for Hagley/Ferrymead and the wider community. Similarly, her demonstrated commitment for teaching drama may provide potential benefits and build capacity within Hagley/Ferrymead and the wider community in the future.
7. As outlined in the Creative New Zealand Creative Communities scheme 2006 guidelines and advised by Council's Arts Advisor, Brooke is not eligible to apply for Creative Communities Funding as the project commences before 1 June 2006. Furthermore, the scheme is aimed at local projects.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

8. There are no legal considerations in relation to this application.
9. The cost to attend the course is \$10,456. Brooke has been working as a professional actor over the summer and teaching youth drama workshops. She also has cleaning and babysitting jobs during the year and takes any opportunity to raise extra funds through garage sales, sausage sizzles and raffles. Brooke has also been successful in receiving \$2,000 from the New Zealand Performing Arts Fund.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board agree to allocate up to \$1,000 from the 2005/06 Discretionary Fund for youth development towards the cost of Brooke attending New York Film Academy's four week intensive 'acting for screen' course in New York City in May 2006.

CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATION

That the staff recommendation be adopted.