

11. APPLICATION TO HAGLEY/FERRYMEAD COMMUNITY BOARD'S YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUND - HAYDEN WITHERS

General Manager responsible:	General Manager Human Resources, DDI 941-8548
Officer responsible:	Manager Recreation and Sports
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek Board approval for an application for funding from the 2006/07 Youth Development Scheme (refer attached).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The applicant, Hayden Withers, is a 12 year old boy of Maces Road, Bromley, who attends St Anne's Primary School, Woolston. Hayden has been selected to represent New Zealand as a dance finalist at the first World Dance Championships in Las Vegas from 25-27 July 2007.
3. This is the first time the applicant has approached the Board for funding support.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

4. There are no legal issues to be considered. The Board has approximately \$2,400 remaining in its Youth Development Fund and \$52,000 in its Discretionary fund for 2006/07. The following table details trip expenses and funding requested.

EXPENSES	Cost (\$)
Airfares	2,300
Accommodation	2,000
Entries	1,000
Costumes	1,000
Total Cost	6,300
AMOUNT BEING REQUESTED FROM BOARD	2,000

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board allocate \$500 to Hayden Withers to assist with the costs of participating in the World Dance Championships in July 2007.

CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATION

That the Board allocate \$1,500 to Hayden Withers to assist with the costs of participating in the World Dance Championships in July 2007.

BACKGROUND

5. Hayden is a dedicated and outstanding dancer. Through his passion and support from parents and teachers, Hayden has become a top candidate in all his dance examinations and competitions. Hayden also represents New Zealand at dance competitions in Australia with much success, a highlight being his fourth placing in the 2005 Australian Showcase National Dance Championships 'Junior Dancer of the Year'. Hayden is also in the process of finding out if he has been successful in getting a main part in the prestigious West End show 'Billy Elliot' to be held in Australia, later this year.
6. To have the opportunity to compete in the United States at the World Dance Championships will further extend Hayden's ability as a dancer and performer with the experience of dancing with the world's best.
7. Hayden's parents are very supportive and are doing all they can to fundraise for this trip. Personal finances, however, are very limited and therefore support from the Board would be greatly appreciated to enable Hayden to pursue this opportunity.
8. As an outstanding young person from the Linwood area with immense potential both as a dancer, singer and entertainer, Hayden contributes at a community level and has performed at this year's Teddy Bears Picnic, Starry Nights and L.Y.F.E.