

Media release – 7th February 2013

New music programme proving popular

The West Coast is set to rock to the sound of its own beat with over a dozen Coasters signing up to Tai Poutini Polytechnic's Foundation Sound and Music programme.

So far 14 people have enrolled to study for the 34-week Certificate in Foundation Sound and Music which begins on 11 February 2013. This is the first time the programme has run at the Greymouth campus, previously it was only available at the central Auckland and Otago campuses. It will be run in conjunction with the Music and Audio Institute of New Zealand (MAINZ), which is a faculty of TPP.

Programme tutor Dean Hetherington, who is a well-known local musician, says he is delighted to see such a high level of interest in the new programme.

"So far there's a great age range with students from 17 to 50 years old and an even split between males and females. Some of the people who have enrolled are already very competent musicians so when we get out into the community performing I think we will make quite an impact," he says.

The programme will give students a great grounding in the basics of performance music, audio engineering and live sound. Students study entry-level recording and song writing and will perform music and run live events at polytechnic and public venues throughout the year.

"It's an exciting time, the programme is not just about being in the classroom we will also put a lot of energy into the community. The students will get out and perform all over the Coast at charitable, school and cultural events, we'll even help out with live sound when bands are in town."

MAINZ programme leader Phil Oxenham says the Certificate in Foundation Sound and Music programme will give students an introduction to working in the different areas of the contemporary entertainment industry.

“It’s a great introduction for students interested in exploring whether they want to go on to higher study in live sound, audio engineering, music performance, event management or DJ and electronica at MAINZ in Christchurch or Auckland,” he says.

TPP is still taking enrolments for the Certificate in Foundation Sound and Music. For more information contact TPP on 0800 800 411, e-mail info@tpp.ac.nz or visit www.tpp.ac.nz

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