

TPP – Media Release

Cave Creek Student Excellence Award 2013

Winner – Ari Kingan

Aiming high

This year's recipient of Cave Creek Student Excellence Award– Diploma in Outdoor Instruction and Guiding student Ari Kingan – is 'the complete package' according to lead tutor (mountain and rock) Paula Roberts. 'Ari excelled in all areas of the programme. He's a team player, works really well with clients, is highly motivated and hungry to succeed.'

Ari chose to study at TPP because he believed it offered the best available outdoor education programme. He describes his win as 'awesome' and the diploma programme as a 'life-changing' experience. 'It's a stand out course. You learn so much and come out with some great skills.'

Ari discovered his passion for climbing while at TPP. As well as taking part in the course-related pursuits and activities, he also chose to do a lot of climbing in his own time. Now a keen mountaineer, Ari was recently selected for the New Zealand Alpine Team. Winning this award has allowed Ari to focus on alpine work, rock climbing and fitness training in preparation for the team's ascent of Denali Mt McKinley in Alaska in May 2014. 'It couldn't have come at a better time and I'm so grateful. The money will assist with expenses for the trip.'

The Cave Creek Student Memorial Scholarships and Awards were established to honour the memory of the 13 TPP outdoor recreation students and one Department of Conservation officer who lost their lives in 1995 at Cave Creek in Paparoa National Park on the South Island's West Coast when a viewing platform collapsed into a ravine.

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For further information, contact TPP Marketing Manager Mequa Hourston on 03 769 9405, or go to www.tpp.ac.nz