



2013 Blake Leaders

Friday 5 July 2013

In 2013 The Governor-General, Lt. Gen. The Rt Hon Sir Jerry Mateparae, and a host of New Zealand's most celebrated leaders came together on Friday 5 July to honour six new Blake Leaders, and the 2013 Blake Medalist, at a glittering ceremony for the Sir Peter Blake Leadership Awards.

The Blake Medal was presented to [Judge Michael \(Mick\) Brown](#) by Lady Pippa Blake, who is patron of the Sir Peter Blake Trust. Lady Pippa spoke to more than 200 guests at Auckland's Town Hall about Judge Brown's incredible career and significant contribution to New Zealand. Judge Brown is considered to be one of the country's most pioneering individuals, whose highly influential leadership dramatically changed the juvenile court system and greatly improved outcomes for individuals and families.

During his time as New Zealand's first Principal Youth Court Judge, Judge Brown was personally responsible for much of the philosophy and development of the new youth court justice system, which has been replicated throughout the world.

Earlier in the evening, [Sir Peter Blake Leadership Awards](#) were presented to six of New Zealand's most exceptional emerging leaders, including: [Dr Lance O'Sullivan](#), a prominent Kaitia-based GP; [Minnie Baragwanath](#), CEO and Founder of Be. Accessible; [Louise Anaru](#), Principal of Flaxmere College; [Dr Joe Harrop](#), Programme Director for the Sistema Aotearoa music programme; [Beatrice Faumuina](#), CEO of BEST Leadership Academy and [Nicola Ngarewa](#), Principal of Tamatea High School.

www.sirpeterblaketrust.org/blake-leaders/



Beatrice Faumuinā

From a global sporting career to forging a path of excellence for the next generation of Pasifika leaders, Beatrice Faumuinā, 37, is a fearless champion for Pacific leadership and business in New Zealand.

A four-time Olympian, 2004 New Zealand Team Captain and flag bearer, and two-time Commonwealth Champion and record holder, Beatrice is one of New Zealand's sporting heroes.

Beatrice won the World Track and Field Championship discus title in Athens in 1997 and Gold Medals at back-to-back Commonwealth games at Kuala Lumpur in 1998 and Manchester in 2002. Her sporting prowess was recognised in 1997 with the prestigious Halberg Award. In 2002 her image was chosen for a Samoan stamp, and in 2005 she was named Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to Athletics.

Throughout her sporting career, Beatrice was committed to being an agile leader, developing the ability to traverse many worlds in order to make an impact and give back post-sport. She trained six days a week all while studying towards a Bachelor of Business Studies, majoring in marketing as well as working part-time to complement her studies.

In 2010, when she was approached to be Chief Executive of a new initiative - the BEST Pasifika Leadership Academy - the Aucklander of Samoan descent, took up a position that connected her passion for creating and growing leaders with her entrepreneurial spirit.

BEST is the first of its kind in New Zealand and aims to provide a breakthrough opportunity for mid-career Pasifika individuals to progress to the next level. With an inclusive and bold approach, Beatrice's leadership of BEST is helping to develop a new voice for Pasifika that resonates across the Pacific region and sees individuals fulfilling their true potential with the support and encouragement of a team.

Now in its third year, the 18 month programme is producing graduates who are sought after in the health, education and social sectors. The first 30 graduates are a community of people who have each developed their own authentic leadership style and are reporting positive performance outcomes in their businesses and organisations.

The programme's success and future potential is being recognised by influential New Zealand organisations and Beatrice has secured the on-going support and sponsorship of the University of Auckland Business School, the Warehouse, Westpac and other corporate entities.

Beatrice has demonstrated throughout her varied career that she is unafraid of taking on new and different challenges that take her out of her comfort zone and she embraces her vision wholeheartedly and with a determined flair.

In 2006, her generous spirit and the power of her influence was recognised in her appointment as a Goodwill Ambassador for the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization, in which she was a spokesperson for worldwide hunger.

She has also been a presenter for the TVNZ current events show Tagata Pasifika, and a contestant on Dancing with the Stars.

As an iconic sportswoman committed to inspiring positive change, Beatrice is inspiring a new generation of Pasifika people along a leadership journey with lasting impact.