



Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi
INCORPORATED

MEDIA RELEASE – 5 February 2025

Kahungunu Iwi Champions Acknowledged

Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated hosted its inaugural Mātauranga Symposium on Friday 31st January 2025, at Toitū Conference and Event Centre. The purpose of the symposium was to support the educational strategic objectives of the iwi and to advance the educational aspirations for Kahungunu whānau.

Leading into the Symposium, a special ‘Ngāti Kahungunu Mātauranga Awards’ evening was held to acknowledge Kahungunu champions who have been great examples in living the educational objectives highlighted in the strategy.

The evening started with a speech from renowned Māori health advocate, innovator and researcher, Dr David Tipene-Leach, after which eight awards were presented to our Kahungunu Iwi Champions. The recipients of these awards came from the 6 Taiwhenua/regions in Kahungunu. The Kaupapa of the awards were created from the priorities of the Kahungunu Mātauranga Strategy.

Awards and Recipients

Award	Recipient
Kahungunu Rangatiratanga Award	Wairoa Taiwhenua Tai-Awhi Alternative Education Programme
Kahungunu Mātauranga Award	David Tipene-Leach
Kahungunu Te Reo me ona Tikanga Award	Te Korou Whangataua
Kahungunu Whakaputanga & Tiriti o Waitangi Award	Mereana Pitman
Kahungunu Tipuria te Aroha Award	Evelyn Ratima
Kahungunu Whakawhanaungatanga Award	Marei Apatu
Kahungunu Lifetime Achievement Award	Ngatai Huata
Kahungunu Champion Award	Hayden Hape

Congratulations to these wonderful recipients. The Honorary recipient for the Kahungunu Champion award was announced on the night. Hayden Hape was humbled to receive this award on behalf of his whānau, hapū and hāpori.

Attached:

*Recipients and their whānau. Pictures supplied by Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated.
Recipients Profiles.*