



» OUR STORY

Innovative Young Minds (IYM) offers young women in Years 11 and 12 the opportunity to learn about the wide range of research and career opportunities available in STEMM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics and high-tech manufacturing).

Now, more than ever, we need to inspire talented people to invent new ways of living. To build a better future for everyone, the next generation of innovators need to reflect our diverse society. This is why it is so important to encourage more young women to get involved in science and technology.

In July 2024, 41 young women from the Greater Wellington Region, Horowhenua and Manawātū took part in our six-day residential programme and were inspired by local researchers, innovators and entrepreneurs who are themselves making cutting-edge advances in STEMM.

After a week of seeing incredible opportunities available in science and technology first-hand, these young women are now ready to become Aotearoa New Zealand's next generation of innovators and industry leaders.



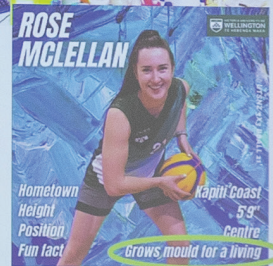
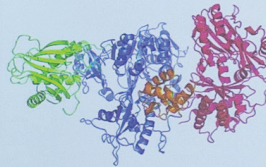


Ferrier Research Institute
Te Kūru

Synthetic and Chemical Biology Lab

We use synthetic biology and
chemistry to:

- Efficiently produce of complex
bioactive molecules
- Understand how enzymes work
- Aid development of potential new
drugs

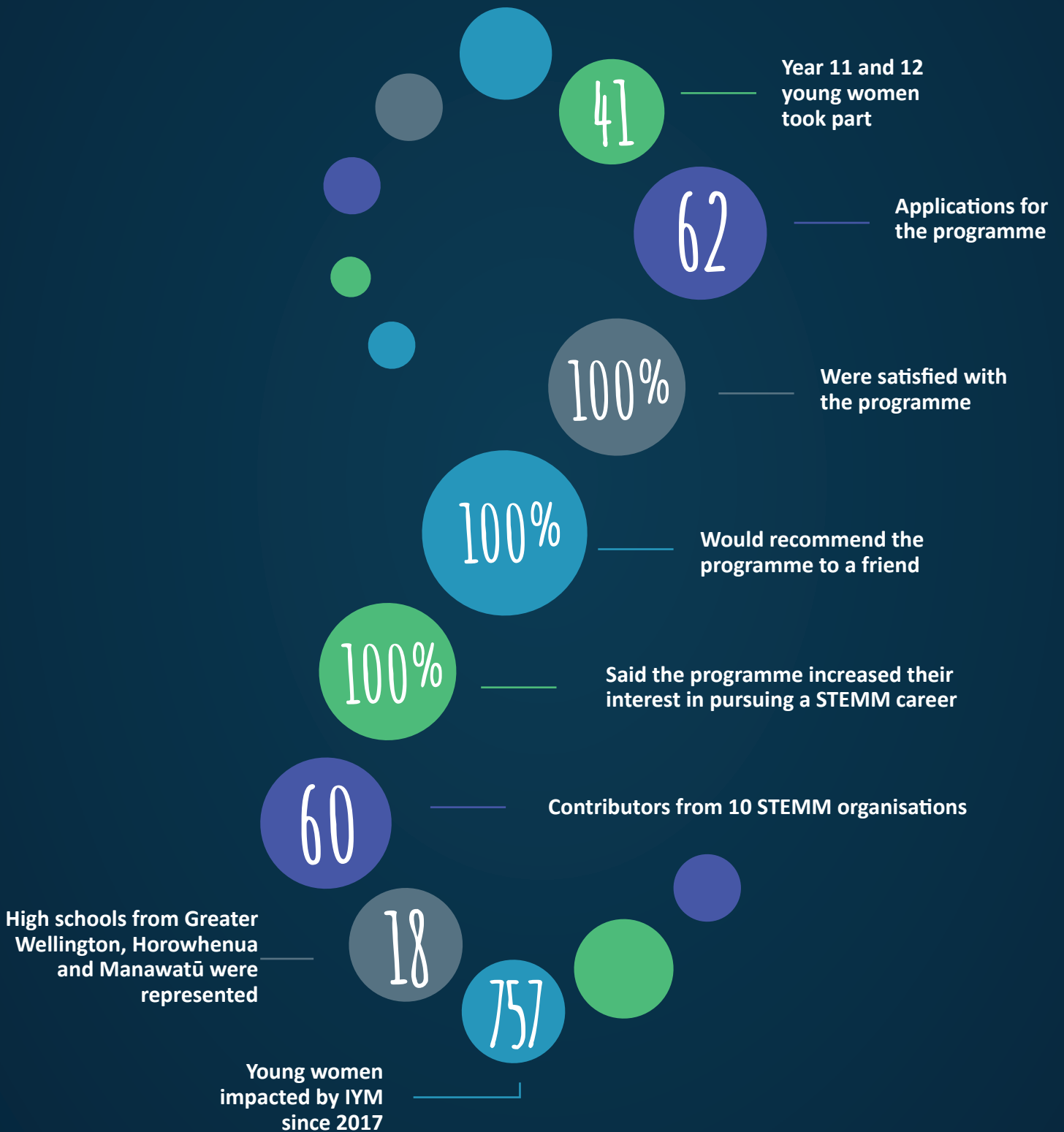


CAPITAL THINKING.
GLOBALLY MINDED.
MAI I TE IHO KI TE PAE



VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF
WELLINGTON
TE HERENGA WAKA

» OUR NUMBERS





» OUR PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

► **University of Otago**

A visit to the Wellington Medical School hub for medical and biomedical research, learning about radiation therapy, visiting the pathology museum and hands-on lab activities including practising a suturing technique to close wounds.

► **Ferrier Institute**

Visiting the Gracefield Innovation Quarter to tour a working chemical laboratory. Wearing your own lab coat and safety glasses to prepare aspirin from scratch and testing its purity. A meet and greet with some of the scientists to hear about their varied areas of interest.

► **WSP**

From concrete, steel and roading to behavioral sciences, a walk through the world of engineering firm WSP's research and environmental training centre, plus presentations on various roles in the organisation from some of the experts.

► **Brian Perry Civil**

Seeing civil engineering in action on our own doorstep. Getting on the high vis and boots to see Brian Perry Civil's latest work on one of Wellington's most critical water supply pipelines. A Q&A session learning firsthand about working in the sector.



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

► **Wētā FX**

A rare peak behind the screens to see how world-leading visual effects are created. Checking out the motion capture stage. A hands-on experience putting on a suit, handling props and camera gear to bring a fantasy world to life. Hearing from a panel of young wāhine working at Wētā FX.

► **Winkless Science Storytelling**

Inspiring storytelling from Physicist turned author Laurie Winkless, exploring the fascinating world of sticky, from ice and earthquakes to gecko's feet.

► **Parliamentary Reception**

Networking reception at Parliament hosted by Hon. Chris Bishop. Attended by IYM supporters and industry leaders working in the science and technology sector.

AS WELL AS...

- Hearing from a panel of amazing Innovative Young Minds alumnae about their experiences with IYM and where they are now.
- A crash course in the art of networking with business coach Gaylene Hughes.
- Team building, design thinking and mentoring sessions led by Paul Newsom from the Young Enterprise Scheme and IYM staff.
- Innovation Challenge where student teams designed and pitched innovative smart city solutions to industry judges.
- ...and to top it off, a graduation ceremony with family celebrating the learning experiences, incredible growth and new friendships of the group.

"I WAS BLOWN AWAY BY THE CALIBRE OF THE STUDENTS, AND EXCITED TO SEE WHAT THESE TALENTED INDIVIDUALS ACHIEVE IN THEIR CAREERS."

Dr Amy Foster, Scientist, Ferrier Institute

» OUR STUDENTS' FEEDBACK



“ Innovative Young Minds has opened my mind and I have learnt about so many new careers that I didn't even know that I would be able to do.

Leila, Year 12, Aotea College

”

“ From this program, I have further developed my skills in networking, science, engineering and innovation. These skills will be used in other aspects of my life; for school, meeting people and choosing what I would like to study after school. IYM opened my eyes to other opportunities in the medical field. These other careers and people we have met at site visits have helped me to take into consideration other jobs that I might like to pursue.

Emily, Year 12, St Oran's College

”

“ After attending the IYM Residential Programme, I have greatly broadened my understanding of women in STEMM in the workforce and I have been inspired to explore more career options.

Sum Sum, Year 12, Scots College

”

“ I thoroughly enjoyed this programme, it was truly life changing.

Hannah, Year 12, Paraparaumu College

”

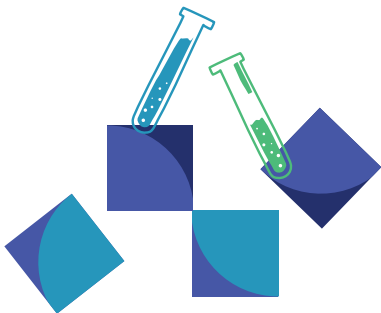


“ I really enjoyed the site visits and listening to the speakers talk about their fascinating careers. The IYM residential programme has opened my mind to research the many university degrees I can choose from. This will help me to focus and be motivated in school. ”
Chelsea, Year 11, St Mary's College

“ IYM helped me confirm the career path which I would like to take, so I will continue to go in that direction and continue to strive until I become a woman in STEMM. ”
Deborah, Year 12, Naenae College

“ I will pursue more experiences like IYM, especially from universities, because of the insight and knowledge this programme gave me. The programme gave me awareness of all the different pathways computer science has and how diverse the careers and the future of the field is! It has really given me the confidence and determination to keep taking the course at college, even when my class is male dominated. ”
Elizabeth, Year 12, Kuranui College

“ Because of IYM, I want to deepen my knowledge into the biochemical field and explore more of the career options this field has to offer. I also want to spread the news of this programme to other girls I know who would be interested and would benefit from the opportunity. ”
Clare, Year 12, Paraparaumu College





OUR IMPACT

We know IYM's programmes are making a difference. Each year we survey our programme participants and alumnae to measure our impact. We are genuinely interested in how IYM has influenced the many young women who have attended our programmes.

757

Young women from around Aotearoa New Zealand have been impacted by IYM's programmes.

84%

Of high school graduates who attended IYM are studying or working in STEMM.*

81%

Of IYM attendees who are still at high school plan to pursue STEMM and 12.5% have yet to decide.*

IYM's mission is to break down barriers and encourage young women to enter the STEMM sector and to do so we must ensure that our programmes are as engaging and accessible as possible. This is only possible with the help of our dedicated sponsors and supporters. With our three programmes – IYM Residential, IYM Online and IYM Anytime – we look forward to making an impact on the lives of even more young women and creating a better future for everyone.

*2023 Alumnae survey results

"I LOVE THE IYM PROGRAMME. I'VE BEEN INVOLVED IN SO MANY STEM INSPIRATION / ENGAGEMENT PROJECTS OVER THE YEARS (HERE AND THE UK), BUT THIS IS FAR AND AWAY THE MOST IMPACTFUL."

Laurie Winkless, Physicist and Science Storyteller, Winkless Science Storytelling

» OUR SUPPORTERS – THANK YOU!

IYM Residential 2024 with Petronic would not have been possible without our generous sponsors and contributors. Our programme was a success thanks to the valuable contributions made by:

Founding Partners



Naming Sponsor



Programme Sponsors



Student Sponsors



Menopause
& Wellness



Carterton Rotary Club
Eastern Hutt Rotary Club
Hutt City Rotary Club
Hutt River
Valley Rotary Club

Hutt Valley Rotary Club
Johnsonville Rotary Club
Kapiti Rotary Club
Rotary Club of Mount Victoria
Masterton Rotary Club

Porirua Rotary Club
South Wairarapa Rotary Club
Tawa Rotary Club
Wellington Rotary Club
Waikanae Rotary Club

Programme Contributors

IYM is also grateful to its dedicated volunteers and the 60 staff from 10 STEMM organisations who generously gave their time and knowledge.



To find out more about IYM or how you can help, go to www.iym.org.nz or email us on info@iym.org.nz

Facebook: @iym.nz Instagram: @innovativeyoungminds LinkedIn: @Innovativeyoungminds