



Biography

Sam Verlinden

Contact Details

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Date of Birth: 01/10/1997

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Education

2015 Y13 St Peters College – studying Cambridge
Extra Curricular: Captain 6th Grade & 7th Grade Rugby, Touch Rugby,
Senior Cantor, Amnesty Leader, Special Character Leader, Vinnies, Jazz Band,
Senior Orchestra, Senior Cadre Leader, Senior Choir Leader

Summary

Sam is currently studying Cambridge in Y13 at St Peters College and has proven himself a popular and relatable student to his peers across all levels of the school.

He is a quiet, humble, conscientious and hard working student – while at the same time - he is also very driven, competitive and articulate.

He achieved outstanding results from his 2014 exams, including top of the school results in 2 subjects (Music and English). This will keep him in line for several scholarship options awarded at the end of 2015 - and also for the Head Prefect of Music Portfolio for 2015.

Sam is also actively involved in many other groups at school, including Orchestra, Amnesty Leader, Jazz Band, Stage Band, Concert Band, Senior Choir and Vinnies. He is also the School Production Co-Leader – having performed in the lead role in the last 2 school productions.

He enjoys working in several leadership groups and was selected (1 of 10 boys) to travel to the Philippines in December 2014 on a Humanitarian Immersion trip following the Edmund Rice Program. The 10 students worked with orphaned street children and also on a feeding program with younger children in orphanages.

Later this year, he will be travelling to Europe with his Music Team. They are scheduled to perform in Rome, Croatia, Austria and several other countries. In September, Sam and the Orchestra will travel to Rarotonga to perform for their 50th Year Cook Island Independence celebrations.

Sam's longer term plans include enrolling at University in 2016 (no gap year for Sam) ... and all the while he will continue to work on refining his craft as an Artist. (More about Music below).

Sam also has a special needs sister and possibly as a result of this, he has a natural inbuilt compassion for others, from all walks of life.



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Music Summary:

Sam was awarded an internal Scholarship grant in 2014, which he will putting to use this year.

He completed his Cambridge A Level Music at the end of last year with the schools highest marks (2nd year in a row). He has decided to continue to study Music in 2015 with his main focus on composing, song-writing and producing.

Over the past 12 months Sam has been working with the School Senior Orchestra and as a result they have been performing in the world of classic crooners – such as Michael Buble, Frank Sinatra and others. This has provided him an opportunity to showcase his abilities in a new genre and has gained him many more fans along the way. In fact some of Sam’s fans have debated this could be his best genre yet.

Outside of school he has been working with legendary Producer Vince Harder and together they have created an impressive library of 4 radio-ready songs over the past year.

His own personal genre is classic soul and R&B – and his music releases reflect this.

His latest single “What You’ve Done” is scheduled for release in February 2015, along with a Music Video.

Ultimately Sam would like to release an EP in 2015 - but there is no hurry.

He feels strongly that ‘Good Things Take Time’.

Music Achievements

- Feb 2015: Sam will release his latest single and music video of “What You’ve Done For Me”
 - August 2014: Received NZ On Air Funding (Music Video and Production) of a new single.
 - 2011 – current: Television appearances and interviews include: The 4:30 Show, Maori TV, Juice TV, The Erin Simpson Show, Sticky TV, Fresh TV, Matariki TV Show
 - 2010 - 2014: Annual performance at Parachute Music Festival on Mainstage
 - 2011 – 2013: Special guest artist at annual CanTeen Fundraiser
 - Dec 2011: Won Best Vocalist Battle of the Bands and performed at Finale
 - Dec 2009: Coca Cola Christmas in the Park – special guest vocalist
 - 2007 – current: Musical Theatre – many lead role performances including professional paid role in Oliver with Auckland Theatre company in 2010.
 - 2007: Represented NZ at the World Championship of Performing, winning 10 gold and 2 silver medals in his 12 entries. He also received 3 plaques for most valuable performer in his category.
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