

Auckland student to take on Latin America right from our very doorstep.

Whangaparaoa College's Estefanya Patjane has been selected for the LatAM Biz: Entrepreneurship in Latin America – Domestic Programme.

Patjane is one of 20 selected students who will spend the second week of the October school holidays developing their entrepreneurial mindset, learning about trade between New Zealand and Latin America and delving into the Latin American culture all while completing set business and cultural challenges.

Students will visit New Zealand businesses in Hamilton, Wellington and Dunedin who are operating successfully in Latin America. Key aspects of the programme include how to do business in Latin American markets, meeting NZ Inc. representatives from MFAT and NZTE, and participating in cultural activities.

This domestic learning experiences is part of the ongoing partnership between Young Enterprise and the Latin America Centre of Asia Pacific Excellence (CAPE) with 7 LatAm Biz programmes delivered since 2017. Originally 2 programmes to Mexico and Argentina were planned for 2020 however with closed borders due to COVID-19, a new domestic version of the successful LatAm Biz programme has been created.

The participating students have been selected based on their passion for business and entrepreneurship, interest in learning about another culture and developing their global perspective. They are taking part in The Lion Foundation Young Enterprise Scheme (YES), where they set up and run a business at school. The students are from various regions in New Zealand including our largest city and some of our smallest towns and rural areas.

Both Young Enterprise and Latin America CAPE are proactively managing the health and safety with well-being a top priority in the planning and delivery stages of the programme. Government guidelines around travel will be strictly followed. The students are excited to be able to partake in this exciting Latin America business and culture programme while still based in New Zealand. "Students participating in YES this year have shown incredible resilience throughout 2020. Being able to provide this experiential learning opportunity in collaboration with the Latin America CAPE is really exciting and sure to create enduring impact for all involved" said Head of YES, Liz Pittman.

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