

**Ricky Chan**

**Freyberg High School, Palmerston North**

**Recipient of the 2018 ASG National Excellence in Teaching Award**



Ricky knows that teachers make a significant impact on students' attitudes and values. Therefore, he approaches teaching in a style that encourages the values of collaboration, compassion and acceptance, he says.

He has helped students achieve their goals by helping them take responsibility for their own learning and developing individualised courses to suit their needs. He says that this method is well placed for music, as the range of standards is so diverse—varying from performance to composition and research.

Ricky hopes to use his NEiTA professional development grant to become a member of the International Society for Music Education. This will enable him to have online access to resources for members and subscribe to the International Journal for Music Education. He also hopes to attend The Midwest Clinic 2019 conference in Chicago, which he hopes will help him garner ideas to take performance music in his community to new heights.

His long-term ambition is to combine the best players from all schools in the region to create a community youth band to rival high school bands in the US.