

Entries now open – Bernina Young Fashion Awards, New Zealand

Entries are currently being sought for the 2008 Bernina Young Fashion Awards. New Zealand's premier fashion design competition for schools, these awards are open to students in Years 7 & 8 (Junior Section), Years 9-11 (Intermediate Section) and Years 12 & 13 (Senior Section).

Following the successful formula of previous years, the 2008 awards will include eight fashion design categories:

- Creative menswear
- Cultural
- Street Cred (Trendsetters)
- Leisure Sportswear
- Wearable Art (Fantasy)
- Evening Wear
- Embellishments or Creative Add-ons
- Quilting

The judges will be looking for creative, innovative, well-balanced and functional designs, which clearly show the entrant has followed the design process. Merino Wool is one of the preferred materials to be used this year, particularly in the 'Active sports leisurewear category'. In this section, entrants can choose to design sports specific clothing that reflects the quality and unique properties of Merino Wool as an essential sportswear material e.g. for athletics, skiing and cycling.

Bernina New Zealand is sponsoring two major prizes in the Young Fashion Awards this year - one for Young Designer of the Year, based on creative talent and the other for the Best Technically Constructed Garment. In each case the winning student will receive a Bernina Activa 220 valued at NZ\$1499. Their school will also receive NZ\$1000 (including GST) towards Bernina products.

Whilst **entries close on 6 June 2008**, garments are only required by 1 August 2008, giving students plenty of time to get their creative juices flowing. The Awards Ceremony will take place on Saturday 18 October.

A highly motivating event for fashion technology students throughout New Zealand, this year there's an added incentive, with all entrants going in a draw to win a Bernette 92C sewing machine valued at NZ\$899.

For further information, entry forms, and pictures from last year's prestigious awards ceremony held in Christchurch, see [Young Designer Awards](http://www.yda.org.nz). www.yda.org.nz

Competition only open to students attending New Zealand schools.



Sarah Parker, last year's winner.