



“Nichola Te Kiri... you will be going through to New Zealand Fashion week.”

“[I] don't know if those were the exact words said, but that's all I heard.”

“Me, Nichola Te Kiri, child of the mist, who lives in Hamilton but whose bones are in Waimana, Pouahīnau Pā...

Me, someone who is creative as, but who is only just starting to try her hand at fashion.

**I get to show Aotearoa my mahi on a National platform;
New Zealand Fashion Week!**

Kia ora all, my name is Nichola Te Kiri and on the day of June 24 2017, I was announced as a runner up in the Miromoda Fashion competition.

Miromoda is an opportunity for Māori fashion designers to put in a collection of clothing, be judged and if successful the prize is to show at New Zealand Fashion week from 28 August to 03 September 2017. You are initially shortlisted into a group, who then presents to a panel of judges. You present your designs, your skills, your creativity and your story. The group is then shortened to about eight entrants (winners and runners up) who get to show at Fashion week.

This year the competition was followed by a Fashion show of invited Māori designers, both held at Pātaka in Porirua.

The whole experience has been a bundle of excitement and nerves! I really wanted to push myself outside my comfort zone and try my hand at fashion. I'm *normally* known for my jewellery and artworks. Prior to that my brand name was NTKmade.

Getting the opportunity to show in Fashion week is amazing, I'm still a little shocked really to tell the truth!

I must say though I wouldn't be here without some key people, firstly my friend Tracey Whitiora, she's my right hand. We've been friends since high school (Fairfield College) and I wouldn't be here without her!

My whānau, Tyler, Tahlia, Mum, Christine and even Isaac for all their support in all the crazy creative things I do! My babies and hubby... who love me endlessly and come with me (more like dragged with me... lol) across the country on journeys, events and markets.

I'm so proud of who I am, where I come from, who my whānau are, what I've achieved along with their support. Thank you for letting me share this snippet of my journey with you all so far.”

“I hope you'll be able to follow me some more www.nichola.co.nz

I'm also on Facebook and instagram <https://www.facebook.com/Nichola.co.nz/>

Bring on NZ Fashion week!!!! Yeah ya!”