NZ Music Month Song of the Day Fact Sheet
Use with our NZ Music Month Song of the Day calendar and playlist on Spotify and YouTube!

Get ready for NZ Music Month! Learn the 2015 Hook, Line and Sing-along Song “Stickytarday” by Bethlehem College.
Download it at www.hooklineandsingalong.com

D Pluck from Bethlehem College, “Stickytarday”
D Pluck is a five-piece band consisting of Josh Dodanduwa, Jethro Wall, Samuel Tanner, Mackenzie Lines and Daniel Cossey (Year 10) from Tauranga's Bethlehem College. The boys won the 2015 Hook, Line and Sing-along songwriting competition with their song “Stickytarday”.
Recorded and produced by Ben King at Auckland's prestigious Roundhead Studios, the song will be sung at schools May 29 all over the nation, as part of NZ Music Month.

1. Dragon, “April Sun in Cuba”
Dragon was a rock band in the 1970s and were inducted into the NZ Music Hall of Fame in 2011. “April Sun in Cuba” was a hit both in New Zealand and Australia, reaching #9 and #2 on the charts respectively.

2. Prince Tui Teka, "E Ipo"
Prince Tui Teka, born in the heart of Te Urewera, wrote this song with the help of Ngoi Pēwhairangi, a Maori educator, teacher, translator who also wrote the lyrics to “Poi E” for The Patea Maori Club. This was the first song in Te Reo to reach #1 on the charts! The song was based on a popular Indonesian melody that Teka had listened to while performing overseas.

3. Dave Dobbyn, "Slice of Heaven"
“Slice of Heaven” was written for the movie Footrot Flats: The Dog's Tale, which was based on the iconic New Zealand cartoon series. The single the featured reggae band Herbs. The popular song was named the 1986 Song of the Year and was given the status of "unofficial New Zealand National
4. Sisters Underground, "In The Neighbourhood"
This song was one of the first hip-hop hits by a NZ group. Sisters Underground, a New Zealand hip hop and R&B duo, won Most Promising Group at the 1995 New Zealand Music Awards.

5. The Yandall Sisters, "Sweet Inspiration"
The Yandall Sisters, a popular New Zealand/Samoan all-female singing group of the 1970s, made a major contribution to music in New Zealand. The members of the group were Caroline, Mary and Adele Yandall, and later younger sister Pauline Yandall.

In 1974, their hit song "Sweet Inspiration" stayed on the NZ Top 20 singles chart for eight weeks, and has become a classic favourite in New Zealand and the Pacific Islands.

6. Savage, "I Love the Islands"
Demetrius Savelio, also known as rap artist Savage, performed the Savage Island album track "I Love The Islands," to raise funds for the Samoan tsunami relief in 2009. The tsunami left a personal scar on the artist, as on 14 family members were killed his grandmother's side. "I'm a Samoan, know what I mean, and I represent Samoa to the fullest & that's the flag that I carry and the country I wear on my back," he says." Savage shared the stage at Vector Arena in Auckland with some of the country’s top musicians including Bic Runga, Neil and Tim Finn, Dave Dobbyn and Scribe.

Benny Tipene, the 24-year-old singer/songwriter from Palmerston North is known for his appearance on the first New Zealand series of The X Factor. He placed third and his X Factor song Walking on Water was a #1 New Zealand radio song and was certified platinum. He recently released a full-length album Toulouse that was awarded Best Pop Album at the 2014 NZ Music Awards.

8. Lorde, “Yellow Flicker Beat”
Our very own Lorde was given the opportunity to curate the soundtrack for the film The Hunger Games: Mockingjay - Part 1. She released the lead single “Yellow Flicker Beat” in September last year and since then the song was nominated for Best Original Song at the 72nd Golden Globe Awards.

9. Shihad, “Home Again”
Shihad, NZ's highly celebrated rock band has definitely received their fair share of awards in the 27 years of being together. In 1998, they received awards including “Top Male Vocalist (Jon), Top Group and Best Video for “Home Again” at the NZ Music Awards. The song meaning as told by Jon: “It's about coming home after being away for a long time, and also about the times when we've got no money and we're lying in our bunks in a room thinking, 'I'll be home again at some stage.”

10. Adeaze ft Aaradhna, “Getting Stronger”

Adeaze comprises of the two NZ born brothers Feagaigafou and Logovii Tupai'i, otherwise known as Nainz and Viiz. The R&B/Soul brothers both excelled at school and music. They attended Mangere College and were top of the class students at Excel School of Performing Arts. This caught the attention of Brotha D from record label Dawn Raid. ‘We chose Adeaze because it was a description of our music. In army terms, ‘attention’ means a firm stance to attention mode and then ‘at ease’ which means relax.’ At an early stage, the brothers had certainty over what their music stood for.

They released their debut album in 2004, Always and for Real. With the help of songstress Aaradhna, the single “Getting Stronger” reached number one on the official NZ Singles Chart earning gold sales.


"Sway" is a 1997 single by Christchurch born song queen Bic Runga. It appeared on her first album, Drive, and it was featured in the 1999 teenage comedy film American Pie as well as the 2012 American Reunion. In 2001 it was voted 6th Best New Zealand Song of All Time by members of APRA.

12. Ruru Karaitiana, “Blue Smoke” (featuring Pixie Williams)

“Blue Smoke”, was the first New Zealand record composed, recorded, recorded and pressed in the country. It was recorded in 1948, and issued in June 1949 by the new TANZA (‘To Assist New Zealand Artists’) label. It was a hit and sold over 50,000 copies.

It was written in May 1940 on board Aquitania, the troopship taking the Māori Battalion to the Second World War. Among the soldiers in D Company was a dance band leader and multi-instrumentalist from Dannevirke, Private Ruru Karaitiana. He recalled that one day off the coast of Africa, “halfway across the Indian Ocean”, he was sunbathing on the
deck when a sergeant came along, stopped beside him, and looked up: “Look at that blue smoke,” he said, pointing up to the smoke drifting from the funnels. “It’s going the right way – back to New Zealand – and we’re steaming farther from home.”

In April 2015, Neil Finn released a cover version of the song.

13. Jamie McDell, “You’ll Never Take That Away”

Singer-songwriter Jamie McDell was a YouTube sensation as a teenager and found herself great success on social media, with her channel views reaching 4.9 million views. She released her first single You’ll Never Take That Away in Feb 2012 and topped the Top 20 charts. The single was certified gold in May 2012.

McDell explained what her song is about: “It’s about appreciating the things I have in my life and the things I love to do. It’s human nature to judge others and that can really get to some people, I’m guess I’m saying in this song that I chose not to care and be happy with my life no matter who tries to bring me down and hopefully the single can encourage that attitude. Besides life is so much more fun when you’re not worrying about what people think.”

14. Six 60, “Special”

Six60 is a rock band that formed as students at the University of Otago in Dunedin. The first single of Six60’s second album, “Special,” out now, debuted at No.1 and has not left the top 10. It’s also one of the highest selling singles of 2014. The title of the song says it all. Special.

15. Broods, “Bridges”

"Bridges" is an indie pop and synthpop song by New Zealand brother-sister duo Broods (Caleb and Georgia Nott) from their debut self-titled EP. It was released as the band’s first single in January 2014. It is also included on their debut studio album, Evergreen (2014). Their video on YouTube has over 3.3 million views. The siblings first found fame in 2011, when they won the National Smokefree Rockquest competition as the group The Peasants.


Nesian Mystik is Polynesian culture merged with RnB, Hip Hop and Reggae. The boys met while studying music at Western Springs College and found success after winning the Smokefree Pacifica Beats competition. They wrote and produced all their own material highlighting
the group's ability in songwriting, musicianship and production. They had 10 top ten hit singles. The band also composed the score for NZ's first Pacific cartoon, “Bro'Town”. The single “Sun Goes Down” from their fourth album 99 A.D. debuted in the Official New Zealand Top 40 Singles in 2010.

17. Tiki Taane, “Always On My Mind”
Christchurch born musician Tiki Taane found fame as a solo artist, as well as being in groups such as Concord Dawn, Shapeshifter and Salmonella Dub.
This song was released as the first single from Taane's first solo album, Post, Present, Future. It reached number one on the New Zealand Singles Chart. "Always On My Mind" has also become one of the most successful singles of all time in New Zealand, landing at number one on the Best of All Time Singles Chart, a chart that has been tracking singles since 1994.

18. Fat Freddy's Drop, “Wandering Eye”
Fat Freddy's Drop is a dub/reggae band that has gained great success in New Zealand and overseas.
This was Fat Freddy's first publicly released single. It gained an excellent response from the public, debuting on the New Zealand Singles Chart at No. 31 and peaked at No. 6. It left the chart after 17 weeks and achieved gold sales by October 2010. The music video also won the New Zealand Music Tui Award for Best Music Video.

19. The Naked and Famous, “Young Blood”
"Young Blood" is a single by an indie-electronic alternative band, The Naked and Famous. Frontwoman Alisa Xayalith and composer Thom Powers met while studying music at MAINZ in Auckland, and started making pop, and grunge inspired tracks for their earlier EPs This Machine and No Light. Released onto radio in May 2010, with great success, "Young Blood" went to number one and received the 2010 APRA Silver Scroll for Song of the Year.

20. Mt Eden (Dubstep), “Sierra Leone”
Mt Eden are a dubstep production duo from New Zealand consisting of Jesse Cooper and Harley Rayner. Their most well known songs are their original "Sierra Leone" (a remix of Freshlyground's "I'd Like"), which went viral on social media in 2009 and reached over 29 million views on YouTube. They have since relocated to New York but are returning to open for Six60's nationwide tour in May 2015.
To celebrate Māori Language Week, **Stan Walker** decided to release his first song completely in Te Reo Māori, alongside three of our Mentors **Ria Hall, Troy Kingi** and **Maisey Rika**. Inspired by the 1984 song "Poi E" by the Patea Māori Club. Walker says, "We all have to connect ourselves back to the mainland where we are all from. I have never been more proud to be Māori. It doesn't matter who you are or where you've come from, to live in New Zealand, you are us and we are you. We are one! Hall calls the result "a song to celebrate our nation, our landscape, our uniqueness, our language and our people."