

Newington College



2016 Newington Medal - International

The Newington Medal recognises outstanding contributions, actions and achievements of Old Boys who have gone beyond the normal expectations. This is the highest honour Newington can bestow on an Old Boy for meritorious and commendable achievement. The Medal acknowledges an Old Boy (both Australian and International residents) whose work, profession, skill, dedication, generosity and/or support has involved meritorious and commendable achievement in business, the professions, community service, industrial development, technology, human relations, education, cultural development, sport, international relations, the arts or philanthropy.

Dr Ian Penn (ON 1970)

Ian Penn was a student at Newington College from 1966 to 1970. He was a member of the Student Representative Council in 1968 and the Fletcher/Metcalf House Vice Captain in 1970.

Awarded a Commonwealth Secondary Scholarship in 1968, Ian was identified by his teachers as, "Having gifted qualities and a fine academic future." Ian also achieved success as a member of the College's 1st Debating team and on the stage where he played the role of Caliban in the Tribal-Love-Hate Musical, based on Shakespeare's The Tempest, in his final year.

Ian went on to train in Internal Medicine and Cardiology at The University of Sydney, then in Interventional Cardiology in Calgary, Alberta and subsequently in Phoenix, Arizona where he worked with Dr Richard Schatz, the pioneer of coronary artery stents.

Dr Ian Penn spent over 20 years developing coronary stents, initiating and implementing a Canadian trials group that investigated their safety and efficacy in the early 1990s. From 1992-2000 he was Director of Interventional Cardiology at Vancouver General Hospital and is a co-founder of Evasc, an endovascular medical device company.

Often referred to as cardiologist and artist, Ian Penn completed his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Emily Carr University of Art and Design in Vancouver to accompany his Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery. He has also studied Philosophy and Political Science.

Ian Penn is the son of Holocaust survivor parents and it is this family history that has strongly influenced his art. His first solo exhibition was held in 2011 at the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre where he explored the second generation's relationship to the Holocaust through a number of media.

Ian has been recognised for his work in the art world, having been awarded the Contemporary Art Society of Vancouver Emerging Artist's Award upon graduation from Emily Carr. He has published over 120 abstracts and articles and has an active art practice.

Through his remarkable body of work, both in medicine and art and the impact that both have had on the world's population, Dr Ian Penn has brought great accolades to himself, his family and Newington College. It is with much honour that the College awards the Newington Medal (International) 2016, to Dr Ian Penn.