The two 2006 Ethel Benjamin prize-winners - Katherine Sanders and Nicole Roughan - have several things in common. Both are from Wellington, both will attend Yale University, both will study towards an LLM and both are also 2006 Fulbright Award recipients.

Katherine Sanders
Auckland

Katherine graduated LLB (Hons) and a BA from Auckland University in 2004. She has since worked for the Court of Appeal, the Supreme Court and, most recently, Chapman Tripp.

In her LLM, she will specialise in constitutional and administrative law. Katherine’s research will explore different understandings of the relationship between law, society and government through study of rights law.

"I am particularly interested in the rights of foreign nationals and the difficult challenges the law faces in this area," she says.

Following her overseas study, Katherine plans to teach and practise law in New Zealand.

The Law Foundation established the Ethel Benjamin scholarship to commemorate New Zealand’s first woman lawyer. It is awarded each year to outstanding women scholars to support post-graduate research in law that encompasses the Foundation’s wider objectives, in particular research that will protect and promote the interests of the public in relation to legal matters in New Zealand. Most years, two scholarships are awarded.