

D'Angelo Martin

Instagram Facebook

At the tender age of 21, D'Angelo Martin has a list of achievements long enough to rival someone twice his age; he juggles work as a news reporter at Māori Television alongside his job as a content creator; and manages to fit in public speaking, voice artist and MC work - all with his most important role, as a young dad.

D'Angelo's unique take on the day-to-day of life is reflected in his cheeky sense of humour, which he found an outlet for in 2015, when he started creating comedic skits in his backyard and posting them online.

His hilarious outtakes quickly gained him a sizeable social media following, which now stands at over 100,000 across Facebook and Instagram.

D'Angelo's journey has taken him from a small town in the far north of New Zealand, to fronting public service advertising campaigns – a significant feat, considering the challenges he faced growing up.

D'Angelo's Iwi is Te Rarawa Kaiwhare and his hapu is Te Tao Maui. His whanau raised him fully immersed in te ao Māori from a young age; D'Angelo attended Kohanga Reo, Kura Kaupapa and Wharekura. Te reo Māori is his first language, and he shares his quirky Māori humor in his online skits.

However, D'Angelo says growing up in Kaitaia was tough, with few opportunities to develop the skills he wanted in order to pursue a creative career. So a week after he turned 18, he moved to Auckland by himself to set his career plans in motion.



outspoken

With no media degree or experience, D'Angelo thought he had little chance of being accepted for a role as a multimedia journalist at Māori Television – however, the team could see his innate talent and commitment to hard work, and he was offered the position. Learning everything on the job, D'Angelo has been a reporter for the station since 2019, and has undertaken presenting and production work as well.

Challenging conventional thinking - and inspiring young people to chase their goals - motivates D'Angelo in everything he does. In his role at Māori Television, he strives to tell stories that matter most to Māori in a way that resonates.

In 2018, D'Angelo was approached to be the face of WorkSafe New Zealand's "Be a Safe Guy" campaign, which engaged his comedic talents to educate young Māori workers about staying safe in the workplace. The campaign was so successful that he was re-booked to front the 2019 campaign as well.

More recently, he fronted the NZ Electoral Commission's online advertisements to encourage young Kiwis to vote in the 2020 elections – again to a hugely positive reception.

D'Angelo is a dynamic MC, having hosted events including Kapa Haka competitions for primary and intermediate levels, and many school prize-givings and festivals around regional New Zealand.

As a speaker, D'Angelo shares stories from his upbringing honestly and articulately, giving raw accounts of the obstacles he faced growing up and accomplishing goals on his own terms, in a way that deeply connects with his audience. His over-arching message is; regardless of your situation in life, you have the choice to "be the change" and take control of your path to success.

D'Angelo is a proud young dad of his son Kuaka, and lives in Auckland with his partner Hailie.