



Tom Orlando crowned best up-and-coming drummer at Ultimate Drummers Weekend

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Brighton Secondary College student Tom has won Australia's Best Up and Coming Drummer competition at The Ultimate Drummers Weekend. Picture: Valeriu Campan Source: News Limited

BRIGHTON Secondary College student Tom Orlando is on a roll.

The 17-year-old has just been crowned Australia's best up-and-coming drummer at Australia's Ultimate Drummers Weekend.

He's also set to perform on September 10, 11, 12 as a drummer in the zombie-style musical, *28 Songs Later* at Brighton Secondary College.

"We're playing some of the classics, like *T hriller*, those zombie songs. It's awesome."

The Mentone student first picked up drumsticks when he was 10 years old and started taking lessons as soon as he got them.

He said he originally wanted to play drums to have a family band.

"My mum used to be a piano player, my dad was a guitar player my sister was a singer and I had an idea that we could have a family band ... the only thing that was missing was a drummer."

Tom sent in a video of himself performing four musical pieces before he was selected as a finalist.

"I was sitting in French (class) and got the call saying I had been picked in the top three," he said.

"I was really happy with that."

He won \$1700 worth of drum gear at the August 24 competition.

"I tried hard not to get too nervous before these shows ... I was really happy with the outcome."

Tom is also in progressive punk band *Cranium*, and is competing in Bayside's Battle of the Bands competition.