

TO: KHS Parents & Ohana, Guardians, Friends (02/14/2025)

KALANI High School

WEEKLY E-BULLETIN

IMPORTANT DATES...

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 1) Sunday, February 16 | Freshman/Sophomore Banquet |
| 2) Monday, February 17 | Holiday : Presidents' Day |
| 3) Tuesday, February 25 | ACT / Pre-ACT Testing (Grades 9-11) / Senior Grad Practice (Mandatory) |
| 4) Sunday, March 2 | Las Vegas Raiders Talent ID Flag Football Clinic @ Kalani |
| 5) Sunday, March 16 | Junior Prom |
| 6) Wednesday, March 26 | Holiday : Prince Kuhio Day |
| 7) Friday, April 18 | Holiday : Good Friday |
| 8) Monday, May 26 | Holiday : Memorial Day |
| 9) Sunday, May 18 | Senior Prom |
| 10) Wednesday, May 21 | Confirmed : Graduation |
| 11) Friday, May 30 | Last Day for students |
- March 17 – 21 Spring Break

Email address ----- mitchell.otani@k12.hi.us

Vision: Character. Compassion. Community.

Mission : We at Kalani High School create opportunities to discover our passions, purpose, and personal pursuits. A vision is not just a picture of what could be; it is an appeal to our better selves, a call to become something more.

Ne'epapa: Stronger Together

Kindness 101 : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5MPVjhv2vDM>

Congratulations

Dear Kalani High School (Partner School)

This is to announce that the following students recommended by Kalani High School have been accepted to Sophia University's program starting in Autumn 2025
Sophia University (Jochi Daigaku) is the oldest Catholic university in Japan, located in the heart of Tokyo.

Koa J Close Global Studies (SPSF) ***Xander Y. Okata*** (Green Science)

Atsushi Iizuka, Deputy Director - Sophia University Admissions Office

Congratulations : Boys Varsity Wrestling : OIA Eastern Division Champions

FAFSA HELP FOR FAMILIES COMPLETING THE FORM

VIRTUAL WEBINARS: Please check out the weekly FAFSA webinars hosted by P-20.

Register here: <https://collegeswithinreachhawaii.com/upcoming-events/>

EMAIL OR CALL: Hawai'i FAFSA Assistance through P-20 Call (808) 842-2540 or email FAFSA@Hawaii.edu Email or call to receive a response within 24 hours from a local financial aid expert. These resources are free and available to all students, regardless of where you plan to attend college!

VIRTUAL COLLEGE PLANNING NIGHT FOR GRADES 9-11

Want to know more about what to expect for the college planning process?

Topics include: college search basics, financial aid basics, college fit, etc.

Join us for a virtual informational night including guest speakers from UH West Oahu, Pacific University, and Washington State University. This informational session is geared for Kalani students and families grade 9-11.

Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 Time: 6:00 - 7:30 PM Platform: Zoom

Please complete the form if you plan on attending Kalani High's College Planning Night. You will be sent the Zoom link to join the event after completing this form with the email address you provide.

RSVP Here: <https://forms.gle/J9WYFB17rzXtBGMr7>

Mrs. Lisa Hayashi College and Career Counselor lisa.hayashi@k12.hi.us 1-808-305-0550

Congratulations
Please congratulate Skyler Rivera

Kalani recipient of the 2025 Mamoru and Aiko Takitani Foundation Scholarship

The Takitani Foundation Legacy Scholarship Program was started in 1993 by Mamoru and Aiko Takitani, founders of Hawaiian Host chocolates as a way to give back to the people of Hawai'i. Since that time, the Mamoru and Aiko Takitani Foundation (Takitani Foundation) has awarded scholarships each year to an outstanding student at every qualifying high school in the state. The Takitani Foundation Legacy Scholarship Program recognizes outstanding students who exemplify the qualities of hard work, high academic achievement, commitment to excellence, and dedication to our community.

Please congratulate Skyler Rivera – Kalani High School 2025 Takitani Foundation Scholarship recipient

2025 Contemporary Photography of Hawaii

If you're looking for something to do this Friday night, check out the *2025 Contemporary Photography of Hawaii* at the Downtown Art Center. The opening reception will feature the work of Kalani sophomore ***Ty Terada***, who has two of his photographs on display. Ty's street photography style channels the spirit of Henri Cartier-Bresson, with subtle nods to the work of Alex Webb and Trent Parke. His sophisticated compositions, sharp attention to detail, and intuitive ability to capture dynamic moments create immersive images that invite viewers to see the world through his lens.



Leilani Phan and Daniel Shiraki

Last week, the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program announced the 2025 candidates.

Seniors Leilani Phan and Daniel Shiraki are two of the 90 candidates from Hawaii selected for this prestigious honor.

The Presidential Scholars Program will narrow the list to select the semi-finalists and shortly thereafter, they will announce the 2025 awardees. The U.S. Presidential Scholars Program was established in 1964, by executive order of the President, to recognize and honor some of our nation's most distinguished graduating high school seniors.

In 1979, the program was extended to recognize students who demonstrate exceptional talent in the visual, creative and performing arts. In 2015, the program was again extended to recognize students who demonstrate ability and accomplishment in career and technical education fields. Each year, up to 161 students (from all 50 states and are named as Presidential Scholars, one of the nation's highest honors for high school students. Application is by invitation only; therefore, students may not apply individually to the Program, nor may their schools nominate them.

Kalani's Presidential Scholars 1964 to present

1972 Pamela Zeitlin – Stanford University (1976) – Yale PhD and MD (1983) – Pediatric Pulmonologist

1975 Joanne Thede – TBD 1981 Tina Lee – TBD 1990 Colan Kwock - TBD

2017 Emily Yang – University of Southern California (2021) – Harvard Medical School (2024)

Congratulations

NCWIT Aspirations in Computing High School 2025 Awardees

Kristalyn Lee : Hawai'i Affiliate Winner

Leilani Phan : Hawai'i Affiliate Winner

Katie Ta : Hawai'i Affiliate Winner

Summer Hall : Hawai'i Affiliate Honorable Mention

Latasha Hui : Hawai'i Affiliate Honorable Mention

The students listed above have been selected as a 2025 NCWIT Aspirations in Computing High School Hawai'i Awardee

They are being recognized for significantly demonstrating interest and aptitude for computing and technology, for the leadership they've shown in their classrooms, and for their aspirations to pursue technology throughout their future journey to solve problems and positively impact humanity.

The students will be recognized at an award ceremony planned for Wednesday, March 12, 2025.

NCWIT Aspirations in Computing High School 2024 Awardees

The NCWIT Aspirations in Computing High School Award honors students for their computing-related achievements and interests, and encourages them to pursue their passions. Award recipients are selected based on their aptitude and aspirations in technology and computing, as demonstrated by their computing experience, computing-related activities, leadership experience, tenacity in the face of barriers to access, and future plans. This organization puts together multiple organizations that work to increase the influence and meaningful participation of girls and women from every community.

Leilani Phan : 2024 Hawaii Winner and 2024 National Honorable Mention (only one from Hawaii)

Sydnie Melemai : 2024 Hawaii Honorable Mention Latasha Hui : 2024 Hawaii Rising Star

Congratulations

Kalani LifeSmarts Team 5.1

January 13, 2025

HONOLULU — The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) Business Registration Division and Insurance Division, and Hawai‘i Credit Union League (HCUL) announce the top-scoring high school teams for the online portion of the annual Hawai‘i LifeSmarts State Competition. Teams from ‘Iolani, Kalani, and Waipahu high schools have earned their spot to compete at the in-person state competition, which will be on Friday, February 21, 2025, from 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. at the Neal S. Blaisdell Center Hawai‘i Suites. The event will be open to the public.

Students will complete individual assessment tests prior to the state competition, then they will test their team skills through a “speed smarts” activity and gameshow-style buzzer rounds at the in-person state competition. The winner of the competition will represent Hawai‘i at the National LifeSmarts Competition in Chicago, Illinois from April 24 – 27, 2025. LifeSmarts is a consumer education program designed to teach students in grades 6-12 about personal finance, health and safety, the environment, technology, and consumer rights and responsibilities. The Hawai‘i LifeSmarts program is locally sponsored by the DCCA Business Registration Division and Insurance Division, in partnership with HCUL, and is run by the National Consumers League.

Team Members : Jiaorong (Michelle) He, Zhoulin Chen, Leila Florendo, Aileen Kong and Kouki Oda.

Congratulations

Please help me congratulate these three teams for placing in the ITEEA Reach Challenge <https://www.iteea.org/reach>

The Stylus: Jasmine Spurling, Yijia Wang & Taylor Shimamura - REACH Challenge Finalists

Da Car Maid: Airi Choi, Yuna Otsuka & Rui Han - REACH Challenge Semi-Finalists

The Carb Enabler: Kalea Maglidt & Nadine Laposi - REACH Challenge Semi-Finalists

These three teams entered their Medical Innovation into the Reach Challenge back in December. They found a client (person in need), worked with KHS other students (Engineering), got feedback from Manos (KHS teachers), got advice from community organisations and finally created and entered their final innovation.

Lottery for Geographic Exemptions for School Year 2025 – 2026

From January 1, 2025 to March 1, 2025, Kalani High School will accept Geographic Exception (GE) applications for next school year (SY 2025-26).

Lottery will take place on the first Friday in April

Please mail completed applications with a Self Addressed Stamped Envelope to:

Kalani High School
4680 Kalanianaʻole Highway
Honolulu, Hawaii 96821

Applications received after the March 1, 2025 deadline will be placed on a waiting list.

ACT/PreACT

On February 25, 2025, all 9th and 10th grade students will participate in the PreACT (practice ACT) and all 11th graders will take the ACT. These assessments are free of charge and all students are expected to attend. There will be no classes on this day and students will be released after testing. More information will be emailed in the coming weeks; if you have any questions, please contact Test Coordinator Jaime Edwards at jaime.edwards@k12.hi.us.

STUDENT SECTION

FAFSA

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the 2025-2026 academic year is OPEN.

WHAT STUDENTS CAN DO NOW TO PREPARE

Prior-Prior Year (PPY) Tax Information: The 2025-2026 FAFSA will use 2023 tax information for you and your families to determine eligibility for federal student aid. You should ensure that this information is completed and accessible. All students and parents contributing to the FAFSA will need a FSA ID. If you don't already have one, you will need to create an account.

AP Exam Fee Payments

An email was sent to all parents with information about this year's AP exam fee payments and all current AP students were emailed their personalized invoices for this year's AP exam fees. Please review these documents for details about payment. If you have any questions, please contact AP Coordinator Jaime Edwards at jaime.edwards@k12.hi.us

Kalani Project Grad 2025 : kalanipg25@gmail.com

Clubs

Anime Club (Daphne Miyashiro)
Ceramics Club (Ms. Berenzi)
Center for Tomorrow's Leaders (Mr. Iwanaga)
Chinese Club (Ms. Young Chan)
Computer Club (Dr. Ida)
Core Club (Ms. Kaaua)
DECA (Ms. Potterton)
Environmental Science Club (Mr. Sumida)
Future Farmers of America (Ms. Doran)
HAAEA - Hawaii's Aspiring Aerospace Engineers Academy (Ms. Sato)
Health and Fitness (Mr. Melemai)
Interact Club (Ms. Tateyama)
Japan Club (Ms. Klein)
KEY Club (Mrs. Takayesu)
Korean Club (Dr. Kim)
Laulea Club (Ms. Yagi)
LEO Club – connected with Lions Club (Ms. Uemura / Mr. Lee)
Model United Nations (Mr. Melemai)
National Honor Society (Dr. Ida)
Oahu Math League (Dr. Ida)
Robotics (Mr. Silver)
Science Club (Ms. Hamasaki / Mr. Okawa)
Smash Ultimate Club (Mr. Nakano)
Surf Club (Ms. Yang)

Sister School Partnerships – International Travel

Busan Computer Science High School – Korea
Koyo Senior High School – Hiroshima
Obihiro Hakuyo High School – Hokkaido
Iwakuni High School – Yamaguchi Prefecture
Japan Super Science Fair – Ritsumeikan High School
Osaka Gakuin University / High School
Bihoku High School – Nagoya

Visited Korea July 14-21 2024 – Hosting in January 2025
Hosted in August 2024– Visited Hiroshima in January 2025
Host in March 2025 – Travel to Hokkaido in July 2025
Hosted in January 2025 – Travel in March 2025
Visited Kyoto Nov. 2024 – Will hosted in July 2025
Will host in September 2025
Hosted in Feb. 1-8 2025 – Travel to Nagoya in October 2025

Chengdu Debate Competition – **Visited China Nov. 2024**

Jeju International Youth Forum – **Visited Korea Nov. 2024**

Hainan/Beijing Cultural Exchange Trip – **Visited China Dec. 2024**

Potential Student Misconduct

Parents : We ask for your support in encouraging open conversations with your child about maintaining a respectful and safe campus environment. Remind them that student altercations and misconduct affect our entire school community. If they hear of any potential conflicts or concerning behavior, please encourage them to notify their counselor right away. Working together, we can foster a positive and secure atmosphere for all students. Thank you for helping us make a difference.

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

SUMMER INTERNSHIP/OTHER EVENT OPPORTUNITIES

Mrs. Lisa Hayashi College and Career Counselor lisa.hayashi@k12.hi.us 808-305-0556
[SCHEDULE A MEETING \(Students only\)](#) Visit our Kalani HS College & Career Site

Check our website for more information – <https://sites.google.com/k12.hi.us/kalanicounselorscorner/college-and-career>

Ongoing events:

Many colleges visit Kalani High School to share more information about their school. Please visit our ongoing calendar of visits. These visits are open to Kalani students only. <https://sites.google.com/k12.hi.us/kalanicounselorscorner/college-and-career/college-visits-presentations-meetings-slides?authuser=0>

Congratulations

- **Kalani High School : Hawaii School of Democracy**
- **Kalani High School : Science Olympiad – 3rd Place**
See February 7, 2025 Parent Bulletin for Awardees
- **Bryan Silver named 2025 Hawai'i State Teacher of the Year**
- **Scott Melemai named Nationally Board Certified Teacher**
 - **Bryan Silver : Harbor Freight Tools for Schools**
- **Dr. Mike Ida : Presidential Award for Excellence in Math and Science Teaching**
 - **Dr. Mike Ida : Kleenex Heroes of the Classroom**
- **Kalani High School : ITEEA 2024 – 2025 STEM School of Excellence**
 - **Leilani Phan : Mauna Kea Scholar**
- **Jiaorong He, Zhoulin Chen, Leila Florendo, Aileen Kong and Kouki Oda : LifeSmarts State Qualifier**
 - **Katie Ta : Robotics Dean's List Finalist**
 - **Shea Brown and Alex Chan : Rikkyo University Global Program**
- **Sarah Ing : American Vision Nominee Award - 62nd Hawaii Regional Scholastic Art Awards**
Sarah is the recipient of a total of 5 Gold Keys in Scholastics: 2 for art & 3 for photography.
 - **Leilani Phan : JSHS Junior Science and Humanities Symposium**
4th Place and is invited to compete at the National level
 - **62nd Hawaii Regional Scholastic Art Awards**
Drawing & Painting students received 8 Gold Keys, and 9 Silver Key Awards
Gold Key winners will have their work on display at Capitol Modern March 1st- April 1st.
The awards ceremony for Gold Key winners will be held on March 1st at Capitol Modern – Teacher : Mr. Mosher
See February 7, 2025 Parent Bulletin for Awardees

2024 College Success Award <https://www.greatschools.org/hawaii/college-success-award/>

Schools of the Future Conference

The Robotics team did demos and shared the programs they run at Kalani.
Sydnie Melemai, Katie Ta, Reese Sekiya, Sarah Lee, Susan Zheng, and Tina Au - Innovation Station
Anson Li was a part of a group of students on Students and AI use in school.
Sydnie Melemai presented with Punahou students on her ongoing Sustainability Project started last summer

ATHLETICS

Congratulations Alumni

Information from Star Advertiser (will try to include this every week)

Kara Kaneshiro, Golf, Colorado State: Grabbed a top-20 finish with 14th place at the Collegiate Invitational in Guadalajara, Mexico, going 3 over par to beat eight women who are ranked ahead of her.

Keoni Thiim, Volleyball, Brigham Young: Had 10 kills and a season-high six blocks in a sweep of UC Santa Barbara, hitting over .500 in a match for the first time since early January with a .526 mark.

Lana Lubecke, Water Polo, Cal Tech: Started her season with a hat trick in a 16-9 loss to Carthage, she hadn't scored since the fourth match of 2023 and it was the first three-goal match of her career.

Emily Paulino, Wrestling, Midland: The senior took second at the Midland Open, the final home tournament of her career. She won her first three matches with two pins and a technical fall but lost in the 124-pound final 8-4 to Talea Guntrum. Paulino hadn't lost a match since November.

Congratulations

OIA Boys Junior Varsity Swimming and Diving Champions

OIA Girls Junior Varsity Tennis Champions

Keira Oba - Sydney Lin - Binta Sawo Mattes - Cameryn Credo - Breydi Nuibe - Jasmine Uyesono - Eunice Kim - Haley Smith

Eastern Division Girls Swimming and Diving Champions

Eastern Division Boys Varsity Soccer Champions

Eastern Division Boys Junior Varsity Soccer Champions

Eastern Division Boys Junior Varsity Baseball Champions

Boys Basketball Season completed **Eastern Division 5th Place**

Girls Basketball Season completed **Eastern Division 4th Place**

Boys Soccer **Season completed**

OIA Junior Varsity Boys Soccer Runner-up
Varsity Eastern Division Champions

Girls Soccer **Season completed** **Eastern Division 5th Place**

Wrestling

January 28 *JV results TBD*

February 1 *Dual Championship /Round Robin* February 7 Eastern Division

February 14 *OIA Championship* February 21 HHSAA

Paddling - pending

Swimming and Diving

Kalani / Dorothy Aki Invitational Swim Meet

Results pending

OIA Results pending

February 14/15 HHSAA

Girls Tennis JV **Season completed**

Eastern Division and OIA Champions

Baseball JV **Season completed**

Eastern Division Champions

Grade Check Dates

Tuesday, February 18, 2025

Monday, March 3, 2025

Friday, March 14, 2025 End of 3rd Quarter

Friday, April 4, 2025

Monday, April 21, 2025

Monday, May 5, 2025

Monday, May 19, 2025 End of 4th Quarter

ASET FEE \$80.00

Once your child has been selected to a team, parents will receive an email asking you to log into your child's account to pay the \$80.00 Athletic Supply Equipment & Transportation (ASET) fee. The amount of money allocated by the DOE for Athletic Transportation is much less than is needed considering the current cost of buses. This fee (pays for buses and other transportation costs) is charged once per school year regardless of the number of teams your child gets selected for. A \$3.00 convenience fee is applied to online payments.

Department of Education requirements for athletic participation:

- Current Department of Education Athletic Physical
- Department of Education Consent and Assumption of Risk form per sport. (1 sport per form)
- Concussion Management Student Consent
- Need a physical? We encourage you to take your child to their regular doctor. Those who want a physical quicker please contact your nearby Urgent Care facility to inquire about walk-in physical appointments. (Fee may be charged). Don't forget to download and take the physical form with you.

Kalani High School requirements for athletic participation:

- Completion and submission of Athletic Registration - New to Kalani? Create a new account and remember your password. Returnees log in with their password.
- Sign up and try out for a team.
- Once selected to a team, student-athlete will pay the \$80.00 ASET Fee

Annual Notice of Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Statement

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, and religion. This requirement extends to all of the Department's programs and activities, including employment and admissions as applicable. If you have difficulty understanding English, you have the right to receive language assistance at no cost to you. Please contact your school's principal for more information. For the Department high schools that offer Career and Technical Education (CTE) Programs of Study in arts and communications, business, health services, industrial and engineering technology, natural resources, and public and human services, there are no admission criteria. Department high schools will take steps to assure that the lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in CTE programs and will provide equal access to designated youth groups. The Department does not tolerate acts of harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, and religion. Any student who believes that he or she has been subjected to harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, and religion is encouraged to report such harassment. Students and parents may report allegations of discrimination or harassment to the school's administrator or to the Department's Civil Rights Compliance Branch at the address listed below. The Department is committed to conducting prompt investigations. Support, including counseling and educational resources, will be available to students who are harassed as well as to students found to have engaged in acts of harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, and religion. Students found to have engaged in harassment may be disciplined up to and including suspension if circumstances warrant. Students, parents, and Department staff should work together to prevent harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, and religion. The Department will not tolerate retaliation for reporting discrimination and/or harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, and religion, and will take steps to protect those who wish to report the discrimination or harassment. Please direct inquiries regarding Department nondiscrimination policies to:

Civil Rights Compliance Branch
Hawaii State Department of Education
P.O. Box 2360
Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
(808) 586-3322 or relay
CRCB@k12.hi.us

Beth Schimmelfinnig, Director
Rhonda Wong, Compliance
Aaron Oandasan, Title VI
Toby Yamashiro, Title VII
Nicole Isa-Iijima, Title IX
Krysti Sukita, ADA/504

Inquiries concerning discrimination and/or harassment may also be referred to the Office for Civil Rights, United States Department of Education.

Continuous Notice

The Hawaii State Department of Education (HSDOE) and its schools do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, and religion in its programs and activities. Please direct inquiries regarding Department nondiscrimination policies as follows:

Civil Rights Compliance Branch
Hawaii State Department of Education
P.O. Box 2360
Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
(808) 586-3322 or relay
CRCB@k12.hi.us

Beth Schimmelfinnig, Director
Rhonda Wong, Compliance
Aaron Oandasan, Title VI
Toby Yamashiro, Title VII
Nicole Isa-Iijima, Title IX
Krysti Sukita, ADA/504