

TO: KHS Parents & Ohana, Guardians, Friends (03/06/2026)

# *KALANI High School*

*Where the Winds of Knowledge Carry You to a Brighter Future*

## WEEKLY E-BULLETIN

### **IMPORTANT DATES...**

- |                       |                                                          |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) Friday, March 6    | Friday Night Prime Time @ McKinley High School 6:30pm    |
| 2) Friday, March 13   | End of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter                           |
| 3) Sunday, March 15   | Junior Prom – Koolau Ballroom                            |
| 4) Thursday, March 26 | Holiday – Kuhio Day                                      |
| 5) Friday, March 27   | Falcons on Fire                                          |
| 6) Friday, April 3    | Holiday – Good Friday                                    |
| 7) Friday, April 3    | Kalani Complex Elementary Track Meet @ Kalani            |
| 8) Friday, April 17   | Falcon Fair                                              |
| 9) Friday, May 8      | Senior Last Day                                          |
| 10) Wednesday, May 13 | Senior Awards Night @ Moanalua High School Auditorium    |
| 11) Wednesday, May 20 | <b>Graduation at the Stan Sheriff Center - confirmed</b> |
| 12) Monday, May 25    | Holiday – Memorial Day                                   |
| 13) Thursday, May 28  | Last Day for Students – End of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester  |
| 14) Friday, May 29    | Last Day for Teachers                                    |

March 16 – 20 : Spring Break

**Email address ----- [mitchell.otani@k12.hi.us](mailto:mitchell.otani@k12.hi.us)**

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**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=5MPVjyv2vDM>**

***Congratulations***

**2026 Citizen-Scholar Award recipient**

***Mia Nishiguchi***

For the past 21 years, the Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association, the Hawai'i State Department of Education, and the Honolulu Star-Advertiser have honored one outstanding senior from every public high school throughout the state who best exemplifies citizenship in school and the community. Each of these students have given back to make our state a better place and embody the Department of Education's Vision of a Public School Graduate.

Please congratulate Mia Nishiguchi - Kalani High School Citizen Scholar 2026

***Congratulations***

**2026 Mamoru and Aiko Takitani Foundation Scholarship**

***Taylor Shimamura***

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 Taylor Shimamura – Kalani High School 2026 Takitani Foundation Scholarship recipient

### **Congratulations**

37th Annual Physics Olympics

Kalani Team 1 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Overall : Andrew Li, Rodrigo Del Carpio and Ella Kimura.

They won First in Car Jost, and Balloon Powered boats

Kalani Team 2 : Kyle Louie, Summer Hall, Reese Sekiya, Xinyue Yu

Second in Car Joust

Kyle Louie's Bridge supported him all the way to Nationals.

He will be the only student representing Hawaii on April 25th in Illinois.

His bridge had a 1112 Efficiency, meaning his 20 gram bridge held more than 22 KG of weight (55lbs).

### **Congratulations**

HOSA

2026 State Leadership Conference – Results

1<sup>st</sup> Place : Health Informatics : Cathy Tran

1<sup>st</sup> Place : Pharmacology : Wenjing ‘Kelly’ Mo

2<sup>nd</sup> Place : Family Medicine Physician : Susan Zheng

3<sup>rd</sup> Place : CPR / First Aid : Bruce Fujita-Simmons Maceo Bodner

1<sup>st</sup> Place : Medical Innovations : Isabelle Lam Summer Hall

2<sup>nd</sup> Place : Medical Innovations : Ella Lam Sarah Lee Kalea Santos

3<sup>rd</sup> Place : Ella Kimura Cortlyn Endo Andrew Li

1<sup>st</sup> Place : Public Service Announcement : Airi Choy Taylor Shimamura

Congratulations to all of our students that represented Kalani High School in the 2026 HOSA Future Health Professionals State Leadership Conference. Of the 59 participants representing Kalani, 15 students qualified to represent Hawaii in the 2026 International Leadership Conference which will take place in Indianapolis in June

### **Congratulations**

2026 Hawaii State Future Farmers of America Convention in Kona  
Career Development Event :

Yaya Germain and Isabella Lorenzo : Ornamental Plant ID 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Landon Nii : Extemporaneous Public Speaking 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Tennessee Idol, Logan Luke, Seth Roach, Tryston Thompson, and Andy Wang : Parliamentary Procedure 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

### **Congratulations**

Kalani LifeSmarts Team

State Runner-up

The LifeSmarts competition tests students on their knowledge of personal finance, health and safety, the environment, technology, as well as consumer rights and responsibilities. Following the preliminary online portion of the competition, top scoring teams from Kalani, ‘Iolani and Waipahu High Schools were invited to in-person competition, where they tested their skills through a “speed smarts” activity and game show-style buzzer rounds.

The team had a strong run resulting in a 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish.

Individual award - Michele Kabasawa : 2<sup>nd</sup> place in overall combined online test scores.

Through the LifeSmarts program, students gain critical life skills that prepare them for adulthood.

Sponsored by the Hawai‘i Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) Business Registration Division and Insurance Division, and Hawai‘i Credit Union League (HCUL)

Representing Kalani High School : Brandalyn Tran Nicole Du Michelle Kabasawa Zachary Li Cristian Matache

### **Congratulations**

Kalani High School Urban Plan Team

Urban Land Institute's Urban Plan Hawaii State Championship

3<sup>rd</sup> Place

This year's competition included participants from Punahou, Iolani, and Kalani High School. The students were tasked with creating a new development in the fictional city of Yorktown that would simulate the real-world decision making that goes into urban planning and development.

Every plan must balance the economic, political, and social goals/ thresholds set by the city.

Representing Kalani High School : Stephanie Yeung Nadine Laposi Mirah Levine Bryce Hara Rin Dong.

## Lottery for Geographic Exemptions for School Year 2026 – 2027

From January 1, 2026 to March 1, 2026, Kalani High School will accept Geographic Exception (GE) applications for next school year (SY 2026-27).

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, 2026 deadline will be placed on a waiting list.

### *Congratulations*

Aiden Nakamura, Kaydee Nakamitsu, and Serena Uchima-Pyun

Best Produced Video at the 2026 Japan Wizards Competition.

Their piece explores what makes the Sumidagawa Festival unique and exciting, how it reflects Japan's traditions and seasonal life, and how it brings people together. Great job Aiden, Kaydee, and Serena.

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=rm&ogbl#inbox/WhetKLbvVZOPfftwJtsHNlnkGmQzwTIKgzJcZdvRkWXRgkHnpFDHfJGgjHmdwDnmGpzFxl?compose=TffTVSKkxNILtjLwhkdngljhcZWMNPGGNBQxsVjwxwsXIHspGDJnSICqWNHMTJILPPgKGnXGrdXnnvPxVDqHmzPjJBjWVmNTFMBWHFwWnTlpjJFKfkSdlNXHjTgpbBTsrLHLnmLWptWfCJRrlgsBDgLwZCDcRKBvdsCGrZNdptgWtSDTRjPnmZKdTThvXrtvfTbtsjrVhTvsnpBbRHbjVbhfZCqWzcxVbKPrfxWqdpKTjZJxQQMVbrmbLbSdHBICBBCLICpnrqjGglmntJhBZjdVRRpCPRZnnSQnngJJmhTQJwSFHzgrLmmLjFRxNbHDNfdbHhBchzDjHKzKlgwNbTCzdHsKGjq&projector=1>

### *Friday Night Prime Time*

Friday Night Lights (2004) was a movie about a town in Texas that lived for football games on Friday nights. The movie showed how team spirit, team pride, and being a part of a team were beneficial in so many ways, not only winning. Friday Night Prime Time offers that same type of impact:

creates equal opportunity and access to afterschool programs (extracurricular activities, including sports);

provide a venue for afterschool programming for our special needs students;

expand opportunities for all students (those who cannot make it on a varsity team can elect to serve as a peer coach);

impact quality of life for students with disabilities and those at-risk through continued physical activity development and participation; and promote school spirit and pride.

This year, over 15 Oahu schools will participate in this program. Basketball is used to foster and promote interaction within and between schools. Friday Night Prime Time provides equal opportunities for students with disabilities who are at-risk. This proactive approach demonstrates that Kalani and other participating schools are willing to provide equal opportunities for all students.

Friday, March 6 – 6:30pm @ McKinley

Friday, March 27 – 6:30pm vs. Roosevelt

Friday, April 10 - 6:30pm @ Kaiser

### *Congratulations*

Mika Velasco

1st place in the Essay Division in the 2026 TC Ching "What Makes Hawaii Special" Contest.

<https://www.clarencetchingfoundation.org/all/2025-inspired-in-hawaii-essay-poster-digital-poster-and-video-contest-winners/>

### *Congratulations*

Ty Terada

Selected to be a part of this year's Contemporary Photography in Hawaii Exhibition at the Downtown Art Center

February 12 – 28

### *Congratulations*

Rana Terai

2nd place in Poster division for the T.C. Ching Awards.

Posters will be on display at Kahala Mall - so please check it out

### *Congratulations*

American Vision Nominee : *Atona Chan*

Congratulations to Atona Chan for her Gold Key artwork being included as an American Visions Nominee for the 63rd Annual Hawaii Regional Scholastic Art Awards. Atona won a total of 4 Gold Keys, and 3 Silver Keys overall.

There are only 5 nominees for this award given out of all the gold key works selected in the state of Hawaii, and one of these artists has a chance to win the American Visions Medal on the national level. Sarah Ing won it last year as a junior.

## ***Congratulations***

Nicole Du - Gold Key Award  
63rd Annual Hawaii Regional Scholastic Art Awards  
She was also selected as a recipient of the Lexus Hawai'i Takumi Award.

## ***Congratulations***

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America – CTE Competition  
Culinary Students

Pastry Arts Technical Decorating Skills Event Demonstration:

Students demonstrated several different piping skills in script writing, piping animals and flowers out of frosting  
Garrick Imamura, Bronze Medalist  
Connor Lin, Bronze Medalist  
Joshua Zheng, Bronze Medalist  
Kaela Santo, Silver Medalist

STAR Event: Culinary Arts

Students cooked a starch, protein, and vegetable and was judged on their cleanliness, taste of final dish and presentation skills  
Vincent Than, Bronze Medalist  
Louisa Mossman, Bronze Medalist, 5th place overall

STAR Event: Baking and Pastry

Students baked cookies, cream puffs, and decorated a cake with script writing  
Elizabeth Tom, Silver Medalist

## **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  
Japan Super Science Fair – Ritsumeikan High School - Kyoto  
Osaka Gakuin University / High School  
Bihoku High School – Nagoya

Osaka Gakuin University Summer Bridge Program  
Chengdu Debate Competition      Jeju International Youth Forum  
Qinhuangdao Cultural Exchange

Iwakuni High School (Sister School) – Yamaguchi Prefecture  
A delegation of 6 students and 4 adults will be traveling to Iwakuni High School and Meikai University.  
They are leaving on Saturday, March 7 – returning on March 14.

## **STUDENT SECTION**

### **Summer School**

Dates : June 3 – July 8      Time : 8:00am – 1:00pm  
1<sup>st</sup> semester : June 3 – June 19 [Holiday : June 11]      2<sup>nd</sup> Semester : June 22 – July 8 [Holiday : July 3]

Courses to be offered :

Modern History of Hawaii / Participation in Democracy      U. S. History      World History  
Physical Education      Health  
Remedial courses : TBD

### **ASVAB**

The ASVAB assessment (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) is a standardized test that measures developed abilities and helps predict future academic and occupational success in the military.

The ASVAB will be offered at Kalani High School on March 11th from 8:00am-12:00pm (students are responsible for making up any missed classwork). Testing is open to all 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students. If your student would like to participate in the ASVAB, please have them contact Test Coordinator Jaime Edwards at [jaime.edwards@k12.hi.us](mailto:jaime.edwards@k12.hi.us) by Monday, March 9, 2026.

**A message from Mrs. Edwards – Testing Coordinator  
Freshmen and Sophomores**

Thank you for participating in yesterday's PreACT. Score reports are released 2-4 weeks after testing and will be sent to the email address you provided on your answer document.

**Juniors**

Thank you for participating in yesterday's ACT. If you were absent, I will be contacting you shortly regarding make up testing. If you did not yet complete the online Non-Test Information, you have until tomorrow to do so - **failure to do this may result in delayed test scores.**

Test scores are released 4-8 weeks after testing and you will receive an email from ACT when they are ready. In the meantime please take a look at the following links regarding ACT Test Scores:

**SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION**

**SUMMER INTERNSHIP/OTHER EVENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Mrs. Lisa Hayashi      College and Career Counselor      [lisa.hayashi@k12.hi.us](mailto:lisa.hayashi@k12.hi.us)      808-305-0556

**SCHEDULE A MEETING (Students only)**      [Visit our Kalani HS College & Career Site](http://www.kalanihscollegeandcareer.com)

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

**Serve & Protect Mini Fair**

Mahalo to the 70+ students that attended the Serve and Protect Mini Fair. Thank you also to the members of the many groups that ran booths and shared information : Air Force, Army, Honolulu City and County EMT, Hawaii Army National Guard, Hawaii Air National Guard, Honolulu Fire Department, Honolulu Police Department, Honolulu Police Department: Communications, Human Resources, Cadet Program, Honolulu City and County Parks and Recreation, Marine Corps, United States Coast Guard, Navy

**Upcoming events:**

**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>

During these meetings, you will meet the college admission counselor for Hawaii applicants, learn more about the school, programs and majors offered, the application procedures and requirements, and have a chance to ask questions. Students need to sign up using their SCOIR account. Open to Kalani students grades 9-11.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1iz2tLh8e6InR8oa5Za8tLL0Z0q0G6xBqWR15wQnXCM/edit?usp=sharing>

**FAFSA Financial Aid Webinars**      <https://collegeiswithinreachhawaii.com/Upcoming-Events/>

Sign up for virtual webinars occurring every Wednesday through Hawaii P-20 to learn more about financial aid.

**College Visits**

Pick up an activity pass from the College and Career Center in the Library  
Ask your teacher for approval (sign up for NO more than 3 visits for the same class period)  
\*\*Students who have off campus during a college visit do not need a pass to attend\*\*

**Project Grad 2026:**

Please email [kalanipg26@gmail.com](mailto:kalanipg26@gmail.com) for more information on how to get involved.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1x\\_Rxik3nKJY77Fkg38zbJ6lzzJ9FuxW8/edit?usp=sharing&oid=101974132834342025504&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1x_Rxik3nKJY77Fkg38zbJ6lzzJ9FuxW8/edit?usp=sharing&oid=101974132834342025504&rtpof=true&sd=true)

## ATHLETICS

### *Congratulations*

**OIA JV Paddling Champions : Boys – Girls – Mixed : 1<sup>st</sup> Place in all 3 divisions**

**OIA Eastern Division Champions**

*Girls Varsity Basketball*

*Boys Varsity Swimming and Diving*

*Boys Varsity Soccer*

*Boys Junior Varsity Soccer : Boys Junior Varsity Boys Soccer lose 2-1 in OIA Championship Match*

### WINTER SPORTS

Swimming – Boys Junior Varsity East 1<sup>st</sup> Place      Girls Junior Varsity East 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
Boys Varsity East 1<sup>st</sup> Place      Girls Varsity East 3<sup>rd</sup> Place  
Boys OIA Varsity – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place      Girls OIA Varsity – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

### Wrestling

OIA Dual Champions - Boys

**OIA Eastern Division Boys Champions**

**OIA Eastern Division Girls – 4<sup>th</sup> Place**

OIA Championship Boys – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

OIA Championship Girls - 12<sup>th</sup> Place

### HHSAA

Boys : 3<sup>rd</sup> Place      Girls : 20<sup>th</sup> Place  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place : Koan Hotema      Caleb Kazarian      Daigo Tokunaga  
4<sup>th</sup> Place : Kaiona Talamoa      Gracesen Tecson  
5<sup>th</sup> Place : Tia Hotema      Ryder Tagami  
6<sup>th</sup> Place : David Summers

### Season Completed

Girls Basketball – Eastern Division Champions      OIA – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place      HHSAA – top 8  
Boys Soccer – Eastern Division Champions      OIA – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place      HHSAA – top 4

### Paddling

**OIA JV Paddling Champions : Boys – Girls – Mixed : 1<sup>st</sup> Place in all 3 divisions**

OIA Varsity : Girls - 4<sup>th</sup> Place      Boys - 3<sup>rd</sup> Place      Mixed - 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

HHSAA Championship – Boys Varsity – 4<sup>th</sup> Place      Mixed – 5<sup>th</sup> Place      Girls – Semifinals 5<sup>th</sup> Place

Girls Soccer – East 4<sup>th</sup> Place – OIA 5<sup>th</sup> Place

Boys Basketball – Division II 4<sup>th</sup> Place after regular season

JV Tennis – Eastern Division 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

JV Baseball : results forthcoming

### 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

### **Athletic Supply, Equipment & Transportation (ASET) \$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 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.

The **ASET Fee** is charged once per school year for the first sport a student plays.

- If your child played a fall sport this year, you won't need to make any additional payment.
- Payment is made **online through GoFans** once your child is selected for a team.
- We no longer accept in-person payments.
- A small transaction fee applies.

### **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](mailto: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](mailto: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

## **AHERA**

In 1986, Congress passed the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) which mandated the Asbestos-Containing Materials in Schools Rule, 40 CFR Part 763. It requires all primary and secondary school buildings to be inspected by AHERA accredited inspectors and to identify all asbestos-containing building materials. The rule further requires the development of a management plan by an AHERA accredited management planner that is based on the findings of the inspection. The management plan outlines our intent in controlling the potential for exposure to asbestos fibers in our school. In February 2001, Hawaii Administrative Rules Chapter 11-502 was adopted by the Hawaii State Legislature. These rules essentially mirror the requirements of the AHERA regulations. In both cases, the rule requires our school to notify parents, teachers, and employees of the presence and status of asbestos containing material in our school buildings.

The initial inspection of our school was conducted in 1958 and identifies some asbestos-containing materials. Since that time, we continue to conduct periodic surveillance and triennial re-inspections to ensure that the asbestos-containing materials remain in good condition and do not pose a hazard to our students and staff. An asbestos management plan was drafted based on our initial inspection and submitted to the Hawaii State Department of Health. It outlines in detail the methods we will use to maintain the material in a safe manner. The management plan is updated regularly as asbestos is removed or conditions change. A copy of the management plan is on file in the administrative office and is available for your review during our regular school hours. Should you have any questions, please call the school at 808-305-0500.

## *US News 2025 Best High Schools*

Kalani High School is ranked first within Hawaii (non-charter public schools).

<https://www.usnews.com/education/best-high-schools/hawaii>

### *Congratulations*

#### **Kalani High School Named to Advanced Placement (AP) Honor Roll**

College Board announced that Kalani High School has been named to the 2025 Advanced Placement (AP) Program School Honor Roll, earning Silver distinction. The AP School Honor Roll recognizes schools whose AP programs are delivering results for students while broadening participation. Schools can earn this distinction annually based on criteria that reflect a commitment to increasing college-going culture, providing opportunities for students to earn college credit, and maximizing college readiness. Kalani High School is the only school in the State to receive a Silver Distinction – no Hawaii school received a Gold Distinction.

Kalani High School had 57% of seniors who took at least one AP Exam during high school, 48% of seniors scoring a 3 or higher on at least one AP Exam and 14% of seniors who took 5 or more AP Exams.

AP Courses Offered : 17      Sections Taught : 29      Number of teachers Teaching AP : 14      671 students

#### **National Merit Scholarship Program Semifinalist**

Ivan Tse

On September 10, 2025, officials of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation announced the names of the more than 16,000 Semifinalists in the 71<sup>st</sup> annual National Merit Scholarship Program. These academically talented high school seniors have the opportunity to continue in the competition for some 6,930 National Merit Scholarships worth \$26 million that will be offered next spring. In October 2024, Ivan took the PSAT/National Merit Qualifying Test and met the requirements to enter the 2026 NM Scholarship Program. He is one of 10 Hawaii public school students recognized.

#### **National Merit Scholarship Program Commended Student**

Bryce Hara      Jayden Tran

On September 11, 2025, the National Merit Scholarship Corporation released the names of approximately 34,000 Commended Students based on a national selection score of 210. These students are also being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. *“Those being named Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding potential for academic success. These students are vital to the advancement of educational excellence in our nation, and we hope that this recognition will help broaden their educational opportunities.*

#### **Air Force Academy Appointment**

Appointment of Senior Ryder Goto to the United States Air Force Academy as a member of the Class of 2030.

#### **Rhode Island School of Design**

Atona Chan

Congratulations to Atona Chan for being accepted by the prestigious Rhode Island School of Design.

#### **Center for Tomorrow’s Leaders**

Class of 2026 Fellows

Mia Nishiguchi

#### **Dean’s List Finalists**

Reese Sekiya and Rodrigo Del Carpio are Dean's List Finalists for FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC).

They are the only two from the state of Hawaii selected as Dean’s List Finalists.

They are invited to attend FIRST World Championship in Houston April 29 to May3.

#### **2025-2026 MTNA Performance Competitions**

##### **Hawai‘i State Division**

Junior Performance (strings) : Hawai‘i State Winner: Evangeline Tjoeng

Junior Performance (woodwinds) : Alternate: Desmond Sutton

Senior Performance (Woodwinds) : Alternate: Zhi Yi Chen, student of Aileen Kawakami

## **Congratulations - continued**

### **Honolulu District Science and Engineering Fair Awards**

First Place

Summer Hall

3D Printed Biodegradable Skin Scaffolds Using Cross-linked Polymers to Predict Cell Regeneration

Second Place

Alexander Wang

Exploring the Use of Hybrid Post-Quantum Key Exchange in TLS 1.3

Summer and Alexander have qualified for ISEF (International Science and Engineering Fair), where they will represent our school and the state of Hawai'i at the highest level of scientific competition.

Advancing to State Science Fair (8 of the 16 total advancing)

3D Printed Biodegradable Skin Scaffolds Using Cross-linked Polymers to Predict Cell Regeneration – Summer Hall

Exploring the Use of Hybrid Post-Quantum Key Exchange in TLS 1.3 – Alexander Wang

Aloha Red: *Hylocereus Costaricensis* and *Hibiscus Rosa-Sinensis* as Natural Colorant Alternatives to Red 40 – Andrew Li

Creating a Medical Device to Facilitate Greater Upper Mobility - Ella Kimura

Examining the Effects of Sunscreens on *E. mathaei* and *T. gratilla* Embryos and Larvae - Tehya Lipman

Fused Deposition Modeling of Activated Carbon Fiber-Reinforced PLA Filters for Low-Cost Microplastic Removal- Lina Herzog

Infusing Wound Dressings with Plant Pigment to Monitor pH Levels - Isabelle Lam

Study of EDTA Acid to Break Down Albumin Aggregates for Alzheimer's Disease Research - Sarah Lee

Best in Category:

BCHM - Sarah Lee ENBM - Summer Hall CHEM - Isabelle Lam ENEV - Lina Herzog SOFT - Alexander Wang

Special Awards:

Regeneron Biomedical Science Award- Summer Hall Society for In Vitro Biology Award - Isabelle Lam

United States Metric Association Award - Alexander Wang

United States Air Force Award - Sarah Lee, Andrew Li, Tehya Lipman

U.S. Stockholm Junior Water Prize - Lina Herzog Yale Science & Engineering Association Award - Summer Hall

### **VEX Robotics Tournament.**

Good Engineers Notebook top third

4th in skills and 6th over all.

Robot made it to the semifinals before getting knocked out.

They are recognized with the Energy award. Our first state trophy in 14 years.

Cristian Matache, Katie Ta, Aliya Gallucci, Dylan Gia-Diep, Alessio Cherubini Morrison, and Caleb Crowell

### **Honua Scholars Laulima Symposium**

1<sup>st</sup> Place : Sarah Lee, Ella Lam & Kalea Santos: Honua Pitch Competition : Medical Innovation: Rescuopen

2<sup>nd</sup> Place : Isebelle Lam & Summer Hall: Honua Pitch Competition and Honua Proposal Competition:

Medical Innovation: Targeted Knee Thermotherapy Device

### **Jeju International Youth Forum**

The students participated in discussions involving a variety of topics to improve their respective countries.

Students proposed solutions to real-life problems.

Chaperone : Ms. Kaneko

Students : Tamar McMillan-Zilberman + Mirah Levine + Qian Chen + Jeannie Kim

### **Japan Super Science Fair**

The fair aims to cultivate scientific thinking, promote learning across different subjects and cultures, and create friendships through curiosity and discovery.

Chaperones : Ms. Hamasaki and Mr. Okawa

Students : Rodrigo Del Carpio Sydnie Melemai Ivan Tse Sara Lau Miki Okata

### **OGU Sister School Partnership**

Kalani High Staff and students returned from visiting Osaka Gakuin High School

Chaperones : Lisa Hayashi Rei Akasaki Dan Hamada

Students : Kira Ann Ichiyama Madeline Eakin Jayhee Hasty Kylie Amine

Isaac Kim Shota Nakamura Daigo Tokunaga Jett Kume Ace Kume

### **Chengdu Debate Challenge**

Chaperone : Scott Melemai Bryce Hara and Anson Li captured 4<sup>th</sup> place.

### **Koyo High School – Hiroshima**

We would like to welcome home our delegation that went on a cultural exchange to Hiroshima, Japan.

Koyo Senior High School – Hiroshima is a sister-school to Kalani High School.

### **Kalani High School Model UN Team**

Model United Nations Conference at Vancouver, British Columbia

H-USS - Historical Senate : Mirah Levine - Outstanding Delegate Bryce Hara - Honorable Delegate

HCC Historical Crisis Committee : Ivan Tse - Outstanding Delegate Ryder Goto - Best Research

UNSC- United Nation Security Council : David “Morgan” LeNoir – Best in Committee

Results from January 17 MUN conference at Mililani.

Kalani had delegates in two committees and we got best delegate for both of them : Anson Li and Ty Terada.

Kalani also received the best researcher : Bryce Hara and Verbal Commendation for Lino Tseng and Ivan Tse.

Morgan LeNoir went to Columbia University MUN in New York.

Received Best Delegate in his committee on French Wars on Religion.

### **63rd Annual Hawaii Regional Scholastic Art Awards**

7 Gold Keys 10 Silver Key Awards 25 Honorable Mention Awards

Gold Key winners will have their work on display at Capitol Modern starting February 4th.

The awards ceremony for Gold Key winners will be held on February 28th (1-3:30pm)

at the Capitol Modern Museum downtown.

#### **Gold Key Awards**

Atona Chan (grade 12) - 2 Gold Keys Awards (one for the Portfolio category) and 3 Silver Key Awards

Cindy Lin Alexandra Knight Adelyn Shelverton Olivia Liu Cael Sneed

#### **Silver Key Awards**

Sadie Leong Zimeng (Annie) Li Riona Miyazawa Chelsea O'Brien Russet Sounthala Ellie Tsumoto

#### **Honorable Mention**

Atona Chan Shiho Chan Anna Demarco Aidan Giliberti-Ippel Emily Hashimoto Sarah Ing Michelle

Kabasawa Sae-Eun Kim Alexandra Knight Sadie Leong Zimeng Li

Jayden Liang Olivia Liu Mahina Lopez Yueqi Luo Riona Miyazawa Kiran Ngo

Chelsea O'Brien Rose Pak Taylor Shimamura Ty Terada Ellie Tsumoto Bokyeong Yang

### **2026 High School Select Band**

Kainoa Alcain, Trumpet Hope Bayudan, Flute Junyu Blas, Clarinet Rylan Chan, Tenor Sax

Kai Herzog, Trumpet Yuto Kawaguchi, Clarinet Jett Katano, Clarinet Jeannie Kim, Clarinet

Lani Kim, Alto Sax Olivia Kobayashi, Bass Clarinet Kaden Kojima, Trumpet Brandon Lai, Alto Sax

Jayden Lamayo, French Horn Ethan Lewis, Euphonium Samuel McNeil, French Horn

Kobe Miyamasu, French Horn Tanner Nagata, Clarinet Ellie Obara, Clarinet James Oulayrack-Oshiro, Trombone

Erin Suehisa, Clarinet Brandalyn Tran, Oboe Jessica Wiemer, Flute Nagito Yasuda, Alto Sax

### **2026 High School Honor Band**

Jake Hwang, Bassoon Slayter Kamimura, Tuba Desmond Sutton, Flute Peyton-Reese Sylva, Tuba

## DECA

Kalani High School returned from representing Kalani at DECA's national leadership conference in Arlington, VA.  
Students : Rex Ho Annika Li Brandalyn Tran                      Advisor : Mrs. Lisa Potterton

## DECA

### Individual Event Finalists (top 6 in State)

Accounting Applications - Reese Sekiya, Bradlee Simmons  
Apparel and Accessories Marketing - Reece Fujitani  
Food Marketing - Stephanie Yeung  
Hotel & Lodging Management - Erin Wong  
Personal Financial Literacy - Rylan Gubatan  
Principles Event: Business Management - Michelle Kabasawa  
Principles Event: Entrepreneurship - Yuna Takimoto  
Principles of Marketing - Phoebe Feng  
Retail Merchandising - Lilyanne Florendo

### Team Event Finalists

Business Law and Ethics - Annika Li/Keagan Ocampo  
Buying and Merchandising - Kate Jones/Brandalyn Tran  
Financial Services Team Decision Making - Logan Chang/Jisung Kang  
Hospitality Services - Elijah Chung/Luke Waters  
Marketing Management Team Decision Making - Ryder Goto/Morgan Lenoir  
Travel and Tourism Team Decision Making - David Summers/Ty Terada, Aiden Nakamura/Justin Wong

### Written Event Finalists

Community Awareness Project - Rex Ho, Katie Ta  
Start-up Business Plan - Kylie Amine, Madeline Eakin, Kira Ichiyama

### Written Exam (top 3 in State)

Accounting Applications: *Third Place* - Bradlee Simmons  
Apparel and Accessories Marketing: *Second Place* - Reece Fujitani  
Business Law and Ethics: *First Place* - Annika Li  
Buying and Merchandising: *First Place* - Brandalyn Tran, *Third Place* - Kate Jones  
Hotel & Lodging Management: *First Place* - Erin Wong    Human Resources Management: *Third Place* - Mia Doma  
Marketing Management Team Decision Making: *Second Place* - Ryder Goto, *Third Place* - Morgan Lenoir  
Principles Event: Business Management: *Second Place* - Michelle Kabasawa  
Retail Merchandising: *Second Place* - Lilyanne Florendo  
Travel and Tourism Team Decisions Making: *Second Place* - David Summers

*The following students placed top 3 in the state for their role-plays:*

### Role-plays

Accounting Applications: Bradlee Simmons, Role-Play #1: *First Place*  
Apparel and Accessories Marketing: Reece Fujitani, Role-Play #1: *First Place*, Role-Play #2 - *First Place*  
Business Law and Ethics: Annika Li/Keagan Ocampo, Role-Play: *First Place*  
Buying and Merchandising: Kate Jones/Brandalyn Tran, Role-Play: *First Place*  
Financial Services Team Decision Making: Logan Chang/Jisung Kang, Role-Play: *First Place*  
Hospitality Services - Elijah Chung/Luke Waters, Role-Play: *Third Place*  
Hotel & Lodging Management: Erin Wong, Role-Play #1: *Third Place*  
Marketing Management Team Decision Making: Ryder Goto/Morgan Lenoir, Role-Play: *First Place*  
Principles Event: Business Management: Michelle Kabasawa, Role-Play - *Second Place*  
Principles Event: Entrepreneurship: Yuna Takimoto, Role-Play - *Second Place*  
Retail Merchandising: Lilyanne Florendo, Role-Play #1 - *First Place*  
Travel and Tourism Team Decision Making - David Summers/Ty Terada - Role-Play: *First Place*; Aiden Nakamura/Justin Wong - Role-Play - *Second Place*

DECA continued

Trophy Winners

Accounting Applications: *Third Place* - Bradlee Simmons  
Apparel and Accessories Marketing: *First Place* - Reece Fujitani  
Business Law and Ethics: *First Place* - Annika Li/Keagan Ocampo  
Buying and Merchandising: *First Place* - Kate Jones/Brandalyn Tran  
Community Awareness Project: *First Place* - Katie Ta, *Third Place* - Rex Ho  
Financial Services Team Decision Making: *Second Place* - Logan Chang/Jisung Kang  
Hotel & Lodging Management: *Third Place* - Erin Wong  
Marketing Management Team Decision Making: *First Place* - Ryder Goto/David Lenoir  
Principles Event: Business Management: *Second Place* - Michelle Kabasawa  
Principles Event: Entrepreneurship: *Second Place* - Yuna Takimoto  
Retail Merchandising: *Third Place* - Lilyanne Florendo  
Travel and Tourism Team Decision Making - *First Place* - David Summers/Ty Terada, *Second Place* - Aiden Nakamura/Justin Wong

Erin Wong received a \$500 check from Joni B. Redick-Yundt, the Founder and CEO of FAMES Hawaii  
Kalani DECA Officers elected to Hawaii DECA State Leadership for 2026–2027:  
- VP of Hospitality: Annika Li      - VP of Career Development: Rex Ho

**Hawaii News Now Feature**

Halia Kaaua

Localicious Art / Recipe Contest

<https://www.hinowdaily.com/2026/01/22/enter-hawaii-agricultural-foundations-localicious-art-recipe-contest/>

**Boston College Nursing Program**

Jeannie Kim

**Questbridge**

Yijia Wang – Matched with Stanford University

**Accepted to Sophia University**

Yuna Otsuka Sociology (SPSF)

**Sports**

Congratulations

Fall Sports

HHSAA Champion – Christina Kidd

HHSAA Runner-up : Girls Bowling

OIA Champions

Girls Junior Varsity Crosscountry

OIA Runner-up : Girls Air Riflery      Boys Air Riflery      Girls Bowling

OIA Eastern Division Champions

Girls Soft-Tennis      Girls Air Riflery      Girls Bowling      Girls Junior Varsity Crosscountry

**Soft-Tennis All Stars** : Player of Year: Lexi Duldulao

1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Stars : Lexi Duldulao      Sydney Lin      Conner Lin      Tyka Ching

2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Stars : Isabella Lee      Haley Smith      Jasmine Uyesono      Breydi Nuipe

**Crosscountry All Stars**

1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Stars : Seita Takinishi      Rui Imai      Ashlyn Wang

2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Stars : Oscar Richardson      Jisung Kang      Hayden Bishop

2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Stars : Tricia Tengan      Ella Kimura      Jerney Martin      Anela Ohelo

## **Volleyball All Stars**

2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Stars ; Rohm Takamoto

Honorable Mention : Hana Engelhardt   Shayla Harris   Kyry Kiyabu   Mira Lum   Marie Muir  
Samantha Niide   Suzue Shower   Ariana Taylor

### **Dr. Michael Ida**

Computer Science Honor Society Teachers Award

CSTA Hawaii is pleased to recognize Dr. Michael (one of three teachers) at the annual Computer Science PD Summit.  
Congratulations for his willingness to go above and beyond for your students.

### **Alumni in the News**

Jill Takasaki Canfield (Class of 1984), Hawai'i Literacy executive director

<https://www.staradvertiser.com/2025/11/07/editorial/name-in-the-news/5-questions-jill-takasaki-canfield-hawaii-literacy-executive-director/>

**Kalani grads from the early-'70s proving to be the school's golden age**

<https://www.staradvertiser.com/2025/12/15/sports/hawaii-prep-world/curtis-murayama-kalani-grads-from-the-early-70s-proving-to-be-the-schools-golden-age/>

**Overcoming racial and Hawaii bias in MLB should mean more than World Series victory for Lenn Sakata**

<https://www.staradvertiser.com/2026/01/05/sports/curtis-murayama-overcoming-racial-and-hawaii-bias-in-mlb-should-mean-more-than-world-series-victory-for-lenn-sakata/>

### **Dr. Kathryn Ko**

<https://hawaiipublicschools.org/2026-alumni-spotlight-kathryn-ko-kalani-high/>

<https://www.staradvertiser.com/2026/02/02/sports/curtis-murayama-jabsom-grad-ko-hurdled-obstacles-to-become-rare-gem-in-medical-field/>