

TO: KHS Parents & Ohana, Guardians, Friends (04/10/2026)

KALANI High School

Where the Winds of Knowledge Carry You to a Brighter Future

WEEKLY E-BULLETIN

IMPORTANT DATES...

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 1) Friday, April 17 | Falcon Fair |
| 2) Friday, May 8 | Senior Last Day |
| 3) Wednesday, May 13 | Senior Awards Night @ Moanalua High School Auditorium |
| 4) Sunday, May 17 | Senior Prom |
| 5) Wednesday, May 20 | Graduation at the Stan Sheriff Center - confirmed |
| 6) Monday, May 25 | Holiday – Memorial Day |
| 7) Thursday, May 28 | Last Day for Students – End of 2 nd Semester |
| 8) Friday, May 29 | Last Day for Teachers |

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=5MPVjhw2vDM>

Congratulations

University of Hawaii
New Warrior Scholarships
REGENTS Scholar

Ryder Goto Rylan Gubatan Mirah Levine

Provost Achievement Scholarship

Luka Jube Toby Kim Anson Li Tara Lynn Miura Brielle Rola Ivan Tse

Congratulations

National Merit Finalist

Ivan Tse

Ivan has advanced to Finalist standing in the National Merit Scholarship Program of 2026 by demonstrating high potential for future academic accomplishment through distinguished performance

Congratulations

Congratulations to Kalani's PAAC (Pacific and Asian Affairs Council) Club.

They had three teams compete in this year's Academic World Quest, a statewide competition on international topics. Please help me congratulate all three teams as all three placed in the competition.

1st Place Overall:

Bryce Hara Anson Li Jayden Tran Ivan Tse

Bryce, Anson, Jayden, and Ivan will be representing Hawaii in the National Competition in Washington DC

County Award: Cathy Tran Amelia Sullivan Leo Tse Museong Kim

3rd Place Overall: Lino Tseng Leala Florendo Yinyi Chen Aurora Sullivan

Kimchee King Mike Irish (Kalani 1971) has endured in a remarkable journey of survival and success

<https://www.staradvertiser.com/2026/03/09/sports/curtis-murayama-kimchee-king-mike-irish-has-endured-in-a-remarkable-journey-of-survival-and-success/>

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

Summer School

Registration : Saturday, April 18 ----- 8:00am Virtual Link to be sent to parents next week

Please make sure that your email information is correct

Dates : June 3 – July 8

Time : 8:00am – 1:00pm

1st semester : June 3 – June 19 [Holiday : June 11]

2nd 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 : registration by Kalani Counselors **ONLY**

Congratulations

OIA Championship Qualifiers: Surfing

Girls Shortboard and Longboard: Bella Eberz Coco Macdonald

Girls Shortboard and Bodyboard: Kaipoi Koa

Girls Longboard and Bodyboard: Kapua Gebhardt

Girls Bodyboard: Miu Little

Boys Shortboard : Inti Gutierrez Sunny Drill Max Peters

Boys Longboard : Izumo Miyazawa Reid Bernier Phoenix Rose

Congratulations

Atona Chan

National American Vision Medal awardee and Gold National Medalist

63rd Annual Scholastic Art Awards

Atona won a total of 4 Gold Keys, and 3 Silver Keys overall.



Ko Iki Mini Museum



Celebrating the Kalani High School Ko Iki Project and Kalani alum Dr. Kathryn Ko Built with love by Mr. Bryan Silver's students Destiny Nguyen Sarah Lee Shyla Doi

First printed in the John A. Burns School of Medicine Newsletter (03/2024)

There's a new addition to the great lawn on the John A. Burns School of Medicine campus. Inspired by the free petite library movement that made reading accessible to millions, there's a similar structure intended to provide inspiration and accessibility to art for all who pass by. The Ko Iki Mini Museum (Ko, for her surname and "iki" for "small" in 'Ōlelo Hawai'i) was installed on the JABSOM campus earlier this month by JABSOM alumna Dr. Kathryn Ko.

"I think art should be free and accessible to all. Sometimes people get intimidated going into a museum, so my idea was to bring the museum to them," Ko said. Dr. Ko is an accomplished neurosurgeon and artist. After graduating from JABSOM, she completed her residency at Mount Sinai in New York City and leaned on her passion for painting when her practice was established. "Art was fundamentally important to making my neurosurgery career. Art enriched it, and I was able to go from the Operating Room to the art studio, from the scalpel to the brush. I think it had such a profound effect on my medical career," Ko said. Ko is now the Chief of Metro Neurosurgery in New York City, and art's importance in her life has never waned.

"Art continues the story from the operating theater into the studio," Ko said. "As a neurosurgeon, there are many things you have to process that are difficult to discuss in the hospital or the operating room. It's in your heart. So through my art, which is mostly based in neurosurgery, I've been able to express my concern, care, and feelings in a way that I'm not able to talk about in the hospital setting." After visiting the [Museum of Contemporary Art Long Island](#) (opens in a new tab), Ko had the idea to share art with her alma mater. "I just fell in love with it," she said. "The minute I saw it, I called the fabricator and said, 'I want to bring a mini museum to Hawai'i.'" The 5-foot by 4-foot mini museum took eight months to build. It traveled 5,000 miles in a crate across a continent and the Pacific Ocean, but when the 200-pound Ko Iki landed in the JABSOM mail room in February, it was already a thing of beauty. With prismatic glass on the sides that illuminate the 11 current pieces, the first Ko Iki show is comprised of acrylic or oil miniatures of Dr. Ko's paintings, all small enough to fit in the palm of a hand. One piece highlighting a surgeon's precision with staples has caught the eye of many who passed by. "When you hold a scalpel, it's sacred," Ko explains. "A surgeon holding a scalpel above a patient is profound because that first cut is everything. You have to keep in mind that every step you make as a surgeon, you cannot take your eye off it. As a neurosurgeon, the margin for deviation is less than a millimeter. The closing of the wound with the staples signifies the end of a successful operation. The staples are going in, and that symbolizes how the patient will be moving on, back to their life." The vision for Ko Iki is like that of a typical gallery. Pieces will rotate every six weeks, and themes will alternate between art and science. The first call for art will be "what inspires you in medicine". "I hope everyone in the medical environment, researchers, clinicians, professors, groundskeepers, will share what inspires them about medicine. Miniature canvases are provided in the Ko Iki Kiosk in the Health Sciences Library. Artists can create anything they want in any medium. Take a pencil, take stencils, take dirt. Just put it on a blank canvas. You will feel it. You could be transformed in a small way." When shows end, the art displayed will go up for adoption. "We want people to take art to their home or office and hopefully get some inspiration," Ko said. "If people choose to, they might want to leave a dollar donation; we can buy more canvases."

For the last 35 years, Ko has delivered neurosurgical care in New York City. As a multimedia artist, she continues expressing herself in her Manhattan studio. She is the Artist in Residence at the Living Museum in the borough of Queens, where she also has a studio. Through Ko Iki, she is grateful to share her passions with students, faculty, and the general public back home. "I feel that holding art close, you retain kindness," she said. "I wanted to give this as my thank you gift to the school in the hopes that the students get the same enjoyment from art and they understand that this JABSOM environment is very special. You don't get the aloha anywhere else." Ko is deeply grateful to the Interim Dean and the administrators at JABSOM for supporting her vision. Interim Dean Lee Buenconsejo-Lum appreciates Dr. Ko's pioneering efforts to infuse art into our medical school. "We're so very thankful to JABSOM alumna Dr. Kathryn Ko for this opportunity," Buenconsejo-Lum said. "Humanism in medicine is really important, and art is absolutely a component of that. It allows us to reflect on the different experiences that our medical students or physicians go through. That pause is significant to maintaining humanity in medicine. We're just really happy to have this as an augmentation to some of our curricular efforts."

***Congratulations
Emily Yang***

Kalani Class of 2017
Presidential Scholar 2017



Welcoming the Stanford OB/GYN Residency Class of 2030

First Printed in the Stanford University, Stanford Medicine Newsletter March 20, 2026

Emily grew up in Honolulu, Hawai'i — shaped by the island's ethos of *mālama*, caring for the land and one another — before heading to the University of Southern California, where she earned her B.S. in Bioinformatics and Sociology. A Goldwater Scholar and US Presidential Scholar, she brought that same spirit of curiosity and service to Harvard Medical School. She dedicated her research year to prenatal genetics at Brigham and Women's Hospital, diving into the intersection of genomics and reproductive autonomy; she also conducted research on contraception patterns following medication abortion and contributed to studies on surgical outcomes and anesthesia equity. Alongside her research, she co-developed SAIL, a near-peer teaching program pairing OB/GYN sub-interns with clerkship students that has been presented at national conferences. Her volunteerism spans county jails, homeless shelters, and underserved clinics — reflecting a physician-in-training who shows up wherever she's needed. Her long-term goal is to help expand access to prenatal genetics and fetal surgery in Hawai'i. When she's not doing all of that, you'll find Emily hosting weekend dinners for friends, writing fiction inspired by her own adventures, or exploring the world on savings from part-time jobs.

STUDENT SECTION

NEED MONEY FOR COLLEGE?

CLASS OF 2027!

Find out how to access **more than \$70 million** in grants and scholarships awarded to Hawai'i students each year.

FREE & VIRTUAL JUNIOR JUMPSTART FINANCIAL AID PLANNING WEBINARS

Open to all high school juniors!

April 8 and April 22, 2026
6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Register at:
CollegelsWithinReachHawaii.com

Questions?
Email FAFSA@Hawaii.edu anytime

GEAR UP

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>

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 for more information on how to get involved.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1x_Rxik3nKJY77Fkg38zbJ6IzzJ9FuxW8/edit?usp=sharing&oid=101974132834342025504&rtpof=true&sd=true

ATHLETICS

Spring Sports

Baseball

Kalani 1 – Kaiser 2

Kalani 2 – Kaiser 10

Kalani 1 – Moanalua 11

Kalani 4 – Moanalua 2

Kalani 3 – Kailua 1

Kalani 1 – Kailua 5

Softball

Kalani 6 – Kaiser 2

Kalani 7 – Roosevelt 0 (forfeit)

Kalani 12 – Castle 6

Kalani 13 – Moanalua 3

Kalani 6 – Kaiser 7

Kalani 7 – Roosevelt 0 (forfeit)

Kalani 17 – Kailua 3

Kalani 1 – Moanalua 5

Flag football

Kalani 18 – Kailua 13

Kalani 20 – Anuenue 18

Kalani 0 – Kalaheo 36

Kalani 18 – Roosevelt 19

Kalani 6 – Kalaheo 8

Kalani 35 – Farrington 34

Kalani 0 – Kailua 43

Surfing

Surfing OIA Qualifiers on page 2 of Parent Bulletin

Judo

TBD

Tennis

OIA Eastern Division Champions : Kalani (Boys)

OIA Team Championships Semi-finals Kalani vs Pearl City : postponed - TBD

Track and Field

Kalani Invitational – Meet results : <https://sites.google.com/site/oiatrackingresults/2026-track-field-results>

Moanalua Invitational – Meet results : <https://www.athletic.net/TrackAndField/meet/621502/results/all>

April 11

OIA Eastern Division Junior Varsity Track Championship @ Kaiser

Golf : Girls	Best Round	Course
Sakura Ramirez	70	Ewa Villages
Sora Kishida	73	Ewa Villages
Tatum Frias	77	Ewa Villages
Ashlyn Yorimoto	77	Ala Wai
Rylee Hara-Shimabuku	71	Makalena
Amy Li	82	West Loch
Karina Sung	94	Mililani
Taylor Orlando	98	Mililani
Haley Smith	101	Mililani
Reon Okano	98	Mililani

Golf : Boys	Best Round	Course
Issac Kim	70	Ala Wai
Brady Kudo	82	West Loch
Koa Tseng	76	West Loch
Yuya Shiragami	88	West Loch
Lancerlot Wang	82	West Loch
Brendan Ho	112	Makalena
Jayden Kim	87	West Loch

Volleyball

Kalani 1 – Kahuku 3	Kalani 0 – Roosevelt 3	Kalani 3 – Farrington 1
Kalani 2 – Castle 3	Kalani 0 – Moanalua 3	Kalani 1 – Kahuku 3
Kalani 0 – Roosevelt 3	Kalani 3 – Farrington 0	

Water Polo

Results : TBD

Winter All-Stars

2025-2026 Girls Basketball All-State Feb 15 – Jordin Baker Soccer – East Player of the Year – Toranosuke Kikuchi

Girls Basketball –

1st Team Jordin Baker & Angel Stephenson
2nd Team Isabelle Baker Peyton Frye Kaliyah Kapahua-Kahele

Boys Basketball –

2nd Team Garrick Imamura
3rd Team AJ Stephenson
Hon. Mention Jakob Pasion Zeke Smith

Boys Soccer –

1st Team Toranosuke Kikuchi Aito Sameshima Arawi De La Cuba Daichi Fujita Carlos Barlos Cody Fuse
Hon. Mention Desmond Maurer Davian-Fox McElfresh Seth O'Neal Preston Tham

Girls Soccer –

1st Team Chiara Doyle Tia Trinidad
2nd Team Riley Asato Pomaikai Oneha Makena Young Kira-May Nosse
Hon. Mention Emmy Fernandez Kira Yamaguchi

Paddling – Swimming and Diving – Wrestling – All Stars forthcoming

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.

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

Beth Schimmelfinnig, Director

Hawaii State Department of Education

Rhonda Wong, Compliance

P.O. Box 2360

Aaron Oandasan, Title VI

Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Toby Yamashiro, Title VII

(808) 586-3322 or relay

Nicole Isa-Iijima, Title IX

CRCB@k12.hi.us

Krysti Sukita, ADA/504

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:

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CRCB@k12.hi.us

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.

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 71st 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

HOSA

2026 State Leadership Conference – Results

1st Place : Health Informatics : Cathy Tran

1st Place : Pharmacology : Wenjing 'Kelly' Mo

2nd Place : Family Medicine Physician : Susan Zheng

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

1st Place : Medical Innovations : Isabelle Lam Summer Hall

2nd Place : Medical Innovations : Ella Lam Sarah Lee Kalea Santos

3rd Place : Ella Kimura Cortlyn Endo Andrew Li

1st Place : Public Service Announcement : Airi Choy Taylor Shimamura

15 students qualified to represent Hawaii in the 2026 International Leadership Conference in Indianapolis in June

2026 Hawaii State Future Farmers of America Convention in Kona

Career Development Event :

Yaya Germain and Isabella Lorenzo : Ornamental Plant ID 2nd Place

Landon Nii : Extemporaneous Public Speaking 2nd Place

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

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.

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

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

37th Annual Physics Olympics

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

1st in Car Jost, and Balloon Powered boats

Kalani Team 2 : Kyle Louie, Summer Hall, Reese Sekiya, Xinyue Yu 2nd in Car Joust
Kyle Louie's Bridge supported him all the way to Nationals.

Kalani High School Urban Plan Team

Urban Land Institute's Urban Plan Hawaii State Championship : 3rd 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.

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

VEX Robotics Tournament.

Good Engineers Notebook top third

4th in skills and 6th over all.

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

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

2nd Place : Isebell 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 Sydney Melemai Ivan Tse Sara Lau Miki Okata

OGU Sister School Partnership

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 4th place.

Koyo High School – Hiroshima

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

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
Nicole Du Cindy Lin Alexandra Knight Adelyn Shelverton Olivia Liu Cael Sneed
Nicole Du - Lexus Hawai'i Takumi Award.

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 TC Ching "What Makes Hawaii Special" Contest

Mika Velasco : 1st place in the Essay Division Rana Terai : 2nd place in Poster Division

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*

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/>

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America – CTE Competition

Culinary Students

Pastry Arts Technical Decorating Skills Event Demonstration: Kaela Santo, Silver Medalist
Garrick Imamura, Bronze Medalist Connor Lin, Bronze Medalist Joshua Zheng, Bronze Medalist

STAR Event: Culinary Arts: Vincent Than, Bronze Medalist Louisa Mossman, Bronze Medalist, 5th place overall

STAR Event: Baking and Pastry : Elizabeth Tom, Silver Medalist

2026 NCWIT Aspirations in Computing High School Award Hawai'i Affiliate Winner

Summer Hall Katie Ta : Both are State Winners and National Honorable Mentions
Mia Nishiguchi : State Honorable Mention.

Industry Certification

Arisa Baruffi

Arisa Baruffi completed her Dual Credit ITS122, Cyber Security course in December.
Successful completion of the industry's certification exam

2nd Annual ICSpark Hackathon

Students created web-based projects to solve real-world problems.

Congratulations to the following students : 4th Place : Amy Li, Susan Zheng, and Caleb Crosswell

Best Produced Video at the 2026 Japan Wizards Competition.

Aiden Nakamura, Kaydee Nakamitsu, and Serena Uchima-Pyun

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.

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

Questbridge

Yijia Wang – Matched with Stanford University

Accepted to Sophia University

Yuna Otsuka Sociology (SPSF)

Sports

Winter Sports

OIA JV Paddling Champions : Boys – Girls – Mixed : 1st Place in all 3 divisions

OIA Eastern Division Champions

Girls Varsity Basketball
Boys Varsity Soccer

Boys Varsity Swimming and Diving
Boys Junior Varsity Soccer

Swimming – Boys Junior Varsity East 1st Place
Boys Varsity East 1st Place
Boys OIA Varsity – 2nd Place

Girls Junior Varsity East 1st Place
Girls Varsity East 3rd Place
Girls OIA Varsity – 3rd Place

Wrestling

OIA Dual Champions - Boys

OIA Eastern Division Boys Champions

OIA Championship Boys – 3rd Place

HHSAA Boys : 3rd Place Girls : 20th Place

OIA Eastern Division Girls – 4th Place

OIA Championship Girls - 12th Place

Girls Basketball – Eastern Division Champions

OIA – 2nd Place HHSAA – top 8

Boys Soccer – Eastern Division Champions

OIA – 2nd Place HHSAA – top 4

Paddling

OIA JV Paddling Champions : Boys – Girls – Mixed : 1st Place in all 3 divisions

OIA Varsity : Girls - 4th Place

Boys - 3rd Place

Mixed - 3rd Place

HHSAA Championship – Girls – Semifinals 5th Place Boys Varsity – 4th Place

Mixed – 5th Place

Girls Soccer – East 4th Place – OIA 5th Place

Boys Basketball – Division II 4th Place after regular season

JV Tennis – Eastern Division 2nd Place

JV Baseball : results forthcoming

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

1st Team All-Stars : Lexi Duldulao Sydney Lin Conner Lin Tyka Ching

2nd Team All-Stars : Isabella Lee Haley Smith Jasmine Uyesono Breydi Nuibe

Crosscountry All Stars

1st Team All-Stars : Seita Takinishi Rui Imai Ashlyn Wang

2nd Team All-Stars : Oscar Richardson Jisung Kang Hayden Bishop

2nd Team All-Stars : Tricia Tengan Ella Kimura Jerney Martin Anela Ohelo

Volleyball All Stars

2nd 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 Ida (one of three teachers) at the annual Computer Science PD Summit. Congratulations for his willingness to go above and beyond for our 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/>

Kimchee King Mike Irish has endured in a remarkable journey of survival and success

<https://www.staradvertiser.com/2026/03/09/sports/curtis-murayama-kimchee-king-mike-irish-has-endured-in-a-remarkable-journey-of-survival-and-success/>