

KALANI High School

Where the Winds of Knowledge Carry You to a Brighter Future

WEEKLY E-BULLETIN

IMPORTANT DATES...

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) Wednesday, May 20 | Graduation at the Stan Sheriff Center |
| 2) Monday, May 25 | Holiday – Memorial Day |
| 3) Thursday, May 28 | Last Day for Students – End of 2 nd Semester |
| 4) Friday, May 29 | Last Day for Teachers |
| 5) Wednesday, June 3 | 1 st Day of Summer School |

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=5MPVjhw2yDM>

Congratulations to the Class of 2026

Graduation is a milestone event

and we are committed to making it a memorable one for the Class of 2026.

Aloha and mahalo to our graduates for providing countless memories

- memories that help us to remember their accomplishments

and the individuals that make this class so special.

Congratulations

Principal's Award

Bryce Hara

Valedictorians

Cumulative GPA of 4.0 or higher and earn an Honors Recognition Certificate (Academic, STEM, or CTE)

- Kylie Ann Amine Kylie Awakuni Jordan Baggett Lovie Barnhart Rocco Bechirian*
Atona Chan Logan Chang Qian Chen Eda Choi Mari Chong Airi Choy Zean Jade Dalo
Arawi De La Cuba Reece Makenzie Fujitani Cody Fuse Aidan Gia-Diep Ryder Goto
Devin Grune Rylan Gubatan Rui Han Bryce Hara Jaden Hayashi En Xin He
Aaron Huang Kira-Ann Ichiyama Oliana Ikeda Garrick Imamura Sarah Ing
Kate Jones Luka Jube Halia Kaaua Liana Kawai Reina Kawakami Toranosuke Kikuchi
Jeannie Kim Kayla Kim Toby Kim Sora Kishida Nadine Laposi Sara Lau Dylan Lee
Isabella Lee Piper Lee Mirah Levine Alex Li Anson Li Marcus Li Ruiheng Liu
Mira Lum Kalea Maglidt Tamar McMillan-Zilberman Sydnie Melemai Jordan Mitchell
Tara Lynn Miura Anna Motohashi Sadie Nakao Abby Nii Mia Nishiguchi
Kira-May Nosse Noah Pak Lacey Park Brielle Rola Ho'ikeamaka Saigusa Jason Sakata
Mei Sannomiya Hina Sano Jolee Seavey Taylor Shimamura Suzue Shower
Naomi Stremick Keilani Sung Preston Tham Vincent Than Blaise Tomita Jayden Tran
Ivan Tse Alexis Turner Melodie Wang YiJia Wang Juhyun Won Nelson Wong
Nagito Yasuda Stephanie Yeung Julie Yonebayashi Ashlyn Yoritomo Daniel Zhang

2025 Citizen-Scholar Award recipient

Mia Nishiguchi

2025 Mamoru and Aiko Takitani Foundation Scholarship

Taylor Shimamura

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

National Merit Recognition

Congratulations to the following juniors who took the PSAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test in October and met the requirements to enter the 2027 National Merit Scholarship Program. With a Selection Index Score of 208 or above, these high performers have shown outstanding academic potential. These students are among the 50,000

highest-scoring participants and will be recognized in the fall as either a Semifinalist or Commended Student

Summer Hall Mu Seong Kim Andrew Li John Phillips Cathy Tran

Scholarship Awardees

University of Hawaii – Travel Industry Management – Ho`oilina Scholar

Sadie Nakao

Hawai'i Tourism Authority, the Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association and the School of Travel Industry Management (TIM School) at the University of Hawaii at Manoa Shidler College of Business Sadie Nakao has been selected as a 2026 Ho'oilina Scholar and she will receive a full 4-year scholarship.

Congratulations

Mildred Ha Aspiring Educator Award.

4 year \$15,000/year Award - Naomi Stremick

One time \$15,000 Award - Alia Heller, Jayhee Haysty, Landon Nii

Ms. Mildred Ha (Class of 1965) donated the entire proceeds of her estate to Kalani HS to assist aspiring educators.

Summer School

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 offered :

Modern History of Hawaii / Participation in Democracy U. S. History World History

Physical Education Health

Remedial courses : registration by Kalani Counselors **ONLY**

STUDENT SECTION

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>

ATHLETICS

Spring Sports Congratulations

Congratulations

State Girls Bodyboard Champion

Kaipōi Koa

<https://youtu.be/l5tR9Qxq-D0?si=tZRiCMZgVNDnhrEt>

OIA Championship : Surfing

Boys : 3rd Place Girls : 3rd Place

1st Place : Kaipōi Koa (Bodyboard) 1st Place : Bella Eberz (Longboard)

Congratulations

State Boys Judo Champion

Navi Kageyama

2nd Place : Daigo Tokunaga

HHSAA Boys Team Championship : 6th Place

OIA Judo Championship

1st Place – Navi Kageyama

3rd Place – Daigo Tokunaga

Congratulations

HHSAA Track Championship

Girls : 23rd Place Boys : 24th Place

4th Place : Alina Stephenson (Shot Put)

6th Place : Alina Stephenson (Discus) Oscar Richardson (1500m)

7th Place : Jordin Baker (High Jump)

8th Place : Jordin Baker (Triple Jump)

OIA Track Championship

Girls : 5th Place Boys : 11th Place

Girls

2nd Place : Alina Stephenson (Shot Put) Jordin Baker (High Jump) Jordin Baker (Triple Jump)

4th Place : Alina Stephenson (Discus) Tricia Tengan (Triple Jump)

4th Place : Riley Asato Shelby Gouw Anela Ohelo Jordin Baker (4x100m Relay)

4th Place : Beatriz Amaral Jerney Martin Tricia Tengan Ashlyn Wang (4x800m Relay)

5th Place : Jordin Baker (Long Jump)

6th Place : Anela Ohelo (300H) Shelby Gouw (Triple Jump)

Boys

3rd Place : Aiden Cayangho Ethan Enomoto Elijah Gregory Pacey Hatanaka (4x100m Relay)

5th Place : Hayden Bishop Rui Imai Mason Nuttall Jisung Kang (4x800m Relay)

6th : Brennan Takara (200m) Oscar Richardson (1500m)

OIA Champions

Boys Varsity Tennis Team (3-peat)

Girls Junior Varsity Track and Field

OIA Eastern Division Champions

Boys Varsity Tennis

Girls Varsity Golf

Girls Junior Varsity Track and Field

Congratulations
Girls Varsity Golf
HHSSA Championship : Girls 3rd Place
OIA Championship : Girls 2nd place
OIA Eastern Division Girls Champions

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

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.

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.

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:

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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.*

2026 Citizen-Scholar Award recipient

Mia Nishiguchi

2026 Mamoru and Aiko Takitani Foundation Scholarship

Mamoru Takitani Outstanding Student (\$10,000 award)

Taylor Shimamura

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

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.

1st Place Overall: Bryce Hara Anson Li Jayden Tran Ivan Tse

County Award: Cathy Tran Amelia Sullivan Leo Tse Museong Kim

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

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

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.

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

Hawaii State Science Fair

Best in Category

Software Design : 1st Place – Alexander Wang

Biochemistry : 2nd Place – Sarah Lee Biomedical Engineering : 2nd Place - Summer Hall

Chemistry : 2nd Place – Andrew Li Chemistry : 3rd Place - Isabelle Lam

Senior Research Exemplary Chemistry Projects

\$25 Award at HI ACS Banquet – Andrew Li, Kalani High School

“Aloha Red: Hylocereus Costaricensis and Hibiscus Rosa-Sinensis as Natural Colorant Alternatives to Red 40”

\$200 Cash Award – Isabelle Lam, Kalani High School

“Infusing Wound Dressings with Plant Pigment to Monitor pH Levels”

\$500 Cash Award – Summer Hall, Kalani High School

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

Regeneron Biomedical Science Award \$375 Cash Award & Certificate – Summer Hall, Kalani High School

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

Yale Science and Engineering Association Certificate – Isabelle Lam, Kalani High School

“Infusing Wound Dressings with Plant Pigment to Monitor pH Levels”

37th Annual Physics Olympics

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

1st in Car Joust, 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.

Mauna Kea Scholars

Summer Hall received an unprecedented 8 hours of time (usually 30 min to 1hr)

Magnetic topology as a driver for Non-Equilibrium - Taurus Cloud

John Phillips : Study of filamentary structure of the Veil Nebula

Xinyue Yu : Parameter Space Constraints in the Draconis Binary System

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 : Medical Innovations : Ella Kimura Cortlyn Endo Andrew Li

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

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

Kalani High School Urban Plan Team

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

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 Crosswell

Honua Scholars Laulima Symposium

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

2nd 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 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.

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.

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

Oahu Math League

Mu Seong Kim – Top 10 High Scorer (season average)
Congratulations to junior Mu Seong Kim being in the top 10 individual high scorers for the season. Over the course of 7 meets he achieved an average score of 29.0 out of 30. This is the first time in Dr. Ida’s 25+ years of coaching OML that Kalani has had a top scorer --- usually dominated by Iolani students.

Ka Leo O Kalani

5th in the State

Individually:

Sakura Enami, 2nd, Commentary Sakura Enami, 3rd, illustration

Maya Gregory, 2nd, Review Isabella George, 3rd, Podcast.

Kalani High School

3rd, Online Division 4th, Photo Division 5th, Design Division 5th, Writing Division

Yearbook Awards

1st Place in Digital Art

2nd Place in Copy and Captions

3rd Place Overall for Best High School Yearbook in the State

Localicious Art / Recipe Contest

Halia Kaaua

<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.

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/WhctKLbvVZQPffwtJtsHNlnkGmQzwTIKgzJcZdvRkWXRgkHnpFDHFJGgjHmdwDnmGpzFxrI?compose=TfjTVSKkxNILtjLwhkdngljhcZWMNPGGNBQxsVjwxwsXIHspGDJnSICqWNHMTJLPPgKGnXGrdXnnvPxVDqHmzPjJBjWVmNTFMBWHFwWnTlpiJFKfkSdINXHjTgpbBTsrLHLnmLWptWfCJRlgsBDgLwZCDcRKbvsCGrZnNpdptgWtSDTRiPnmZKdTTThvXrtvfTbtsirvhTvsnpBbRHbjVbhfZCqWzcxVbKPrfxWqdpKTtjZjxQOMVbrmbLbSdHBICBBCLICpnrqiGlnmtJhBZjdVRRpCPRZnnSQnngJmhTOJwSFHzgrLmmLjFRxNbHDNfdbHhBchzDjHKzKlgwNbTCzdHsKGjq&projector=1>

Questbridge

Yijia Wang – Matched with Stanford University

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 Swimming and Diving

Boys Varsity Soccer

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

Emily Yang (Class of 2017)

Presidential Scholar 2017

Matched with Stanford OB/GYN Residency Class of 2030

University of Southern California --- B.S. in Bioinformatics and Sociology

Harvard Medical School

Goldwater Scholar and US Presidential Scholar

Research year : Prenatal Genetics at Brigham and Women's Hospital

Co-developed SAIL, a near-peer teaching program pairing OB/GYN sub-interns with clerkship students

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.

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/>