

HBA Soaring Eagle

www.hba.net

Summer 2019



Hawaii Baptist Academy is a Christian college preparatory school that equips students spiritually, intellectually, physically, socially, and emotionally, so that they bring honor to God.

News from Hawaii Baptist Academy

INSIDE:

Commencement 2019

2019 Legacy Awards and 70th Anniversary

Alumni Chronicles: Les Garringer '63

MAC Week 2019



Hawaii Baptist Academy

Located in Nuuanu Valley on the island of Oahu, Hawaii Baptist Academy (HBA) is a Christ-centered, co-educational, college preparatory school for kindergarten through grade 12. Established in 1949 by missionaries of the Southern Baptist Convention, the school is affiliated with the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention.

HBA is a member of the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools and the Association of Christian Schools International, and accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. HBA is licensed by the Hawaii Council of Private Schools.

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Mission Statement

Hawaii Baptist Academy is a Christian college preparatory school that equips students spiritually, intellectually, physically, socially, and emotionally, so that they bring honor to God.

Soaring Eagle is a publication for alumni, parents, friends and supporters of Hawaii Baptist Academy. It is produced by the Communications Department for:

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An online version of this newsletter is available at www.hba.net.

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President's Message



Aloha Friends:

It has been a busy year as we celebrated our school's 70th anniversary! The festivities began on December 14–15, 2018, with our very first community Christmas concert at the Hawaii Convention Center. It was a joyous celebration as our choirs, Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Halau Hula O Kalama Ula, drama class, and Hoomana sign language team shared the hope of Jesus Christ with our island community. In February, we

honored 10 individuals for their service to HBA and/or their community at our 70th Anniversary Celebration and Legacy Awards. Next, we look forward to Alumni Week, July 8–13, including the return of Hoolaulea. More information can be found at www.hba.net/alumniweek, including the schedule of events and registration. As a proud alumnus myself, I have the honor of hosting our Alumni Legacy Dinner on July 11. This free event is open to families of alumni whose children and/or grandchildren are currently attending or have attended our school. I hope to see you there!

On June 1, we celebrated the accomplishments of all 113 members of the Class of 2019. All of our students have been accepted to colleges in Hawaii and the mainland. Thank you for investing in the lives of these young men and women, who will soon be the next leaders of our communities, churches, businesses and their own homes. In this edition of the *Soaring Eagle*, we highlight their accomplishments and the achievements of our hard-working students.

Another school year begins on August 1. As we finish 2019, we continue to reflect and give thanks for our school's 70th anniversary. May we continue to remain true to our mission, which is to reach every boy and girl and their family with the good news of Jesus Christ. There is no greater joy and freedom than knowing His unconditional and transforming love.

Thank you for being a part of HBA's story, and in doing so, a part of God's story. Let's remain committed through faith for the next 70 years to create an even brighter future for our school and our world. Mahalo for your prayers and for supporting our ministry!

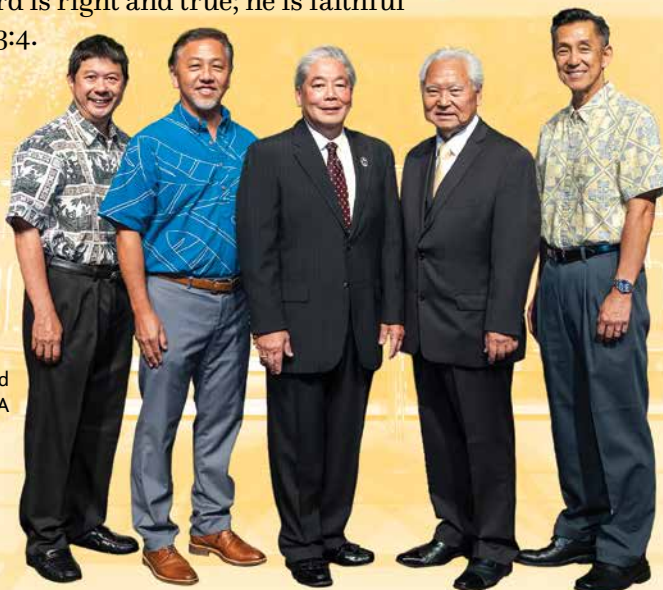
"For the word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does," Psalm 33:4.

Sincerely,

Ron Shiira '75

PRESIDENT

L–R: Dr. Glenn Young, HBA board member; Terrance Arashiro, HBA board vice chair; Ron Shiira '75, president; Walt Agena, HBA board chair; and Hayden Hu, HBA board vice chair.





NEWS FROM
HAWAII BAPTIST ACADEMY

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All Commencement, Legacy Awards, Christmas Concert and MAC Week photos by Derrek Miyahara for Island Digital Imaging.

On the front cover: Kiley Nakagawa

On the back cover: 1. L-R: Maxwell Wiemken and Michelle Hong. 2. L-R: Caitlin Ching, Naiya Fujikawa, Britney Chang, and Anna Kerr. 3. L-R: Kasen Wong and Reanne Inafuku. 4. L-R: Brian Mow, Joshua Loric, Gabe Shibuya, and Tyler Mishima. 5. Aaron Thomas. 6. L-R: Christianne Young, Shannah Mau, Antony Lucuab, and Niko Lopez. 7. David Omura. 8. Center: Justice Stone. 9. Shea Yuen.

Congratulations, Class of 2019!



Back Row, L-R: Jason Mokan, Chase Yara, Kendrick Guillen, Kasen Wong, Racen Horita, and Casey Horio. Middle Row, L-R: Alexander Kam, Marcie Ann Johiro, and Kalyan Char. Front Row, L-R: Cassidy Hihara, Kacie Kaneshiro, and Reanne Inafuku.

The Class of 2019 celebrated their achievements at HBA's 66th Commencement Ceremony on June 1 at the Hawaii Convention Center.

The valedictorian was Kasen Wong. Wong is the son of Kevin Wong and Wendy Matsuzaki '89. This fall, Wong will attend the University of Southern California to study biological sciences.

The salutatorian was Reanne Inafuku. Inafuku is the daughter of Jon and Glori Ann Inafuku. She is also a Daughter of HBA. Inafuku will be attending Santa Clara University to study computer science and mathematics. Her sister, Rachel, is a graduate from the Class of 2013.

Fifty students graduated with highest honors, and 24 with honors.

Madelyn Weaver was awarded the H.P. and Mary McCormick Distinguished Founders Award for consistently exemplifying Christian character during her years at HBA.

Twenty-four students were recognized as Sons and Daughters of HBA, for attending the school since kindergarten. Twenty-two students were also recognized as alumni legacy graduates.

Dawson Vorderbruegge, high school English teacher and senior advisor, delivered the commencement address.

Congratulations to all 113 members of the Class of 2019!

L-R: Brian Mow and Tyler Mishima.



Valedictory

The following is an excerpt from Kasen Wong's address to the Class of 2019.

... **[AS] WE EMBARK ON THE NEXT STAGE OF OUR LIVES**, while making it here is a worthy accomplishment, the path ahead may seem endless in comparison to this stage we stand on tonight. Class of 2019, we have not crossed the figurative finish line. We are only lining up at the start. Sorry, but this is called commencement for a reason.

We've been anticipating graduation for quite a while now. We've completed our requirements in a timely manner, remained in our classes at all times while paying close attention to our instruction, and dutifully adhered to all dress code guidelines even to the last day, always with the intent of graduating. And throughout our high school career, we've been inundated with expectations: expectations to be environmentally aware (so listen to those stickers plastered all over the paper towel dispensers); expectations for sportsmanship (so keep your locker pounding to a minimum during Spirit Week); and expectations of character (so be good and industrious people in the world). We've had countless expectations imposed upon us, and, frankly, at times that's been overwhelming and discouraging. But there is great power contained within expectations, or at least in the ones we set for ourselves.

Our expectations often function as building blocks, elevating us towards high achievement. They are grounded in what we know we can accomplish and therefore reflect our perceived ability. So, by setting very low expectations, we sort of overlook ourselves and ultimately jeopardize our goals and our potential. If personal expectations are critical to developing progress, why don't we all expect more of ourselves? Clearly, setting high expectations does not ensure pure success, but failing to establish high expectations might already set us up for failure. The solution lies in the something I mentioned previously: personal expectations are our belief in our perceived capabilities.

Ability is not glorified by talent. I'm here as your valedictorian, but I'm not the smartest among us. In every subject area I can easily identify someone in our class who's smart: calculus—

Reanne Inafuku; chemistry—Aaron Thomas; English—Dakota Gavin; history—Elizabeth Matthews; Japanese—Caily Okazaki; and music—Karalyn Lum. You see, I am no genius, and I'm sure my friends can attest to that very strongly. But I know how to work really hard, and working hard is something each and every one of us can do.

So, we're only lining up at the start, but that's not so bad anymore, right? Because, sure, some of us are already faster, stronger, and more intuitive, but hard work will easily trump talent when talent fails to work hard. You have the liberty to improve your own abilities, to raise your expectations higher than what observers think you are capable of doing. And as for observers, they impose their own set of expectations. But once we become confident in our abilities, external expectations begin to lose their impact.

From there, we are blessed with the choice of how our talents are bestowed upon the world. We have been given gifts and abilities that we sometimes take for granted. As we grow and change, I can only hope we do not diminish the good, unique attributes about ourselves. As we advance towards the brink of our future, be willing to work diligently and direct your talents and abilities towards benefitting the lives of those around you. These experiences will mark some of the truly remarkable years of your life, and might very well lead you to the fulfillment you may have never expected.

Class of 2019, as the gun goes off and we start to run this race, do not let the objective expectations hinder your success. In our world, there is a lot of prejudice formed because of false expectations. Strong polarization between political groups is catalyzed by expectations with harsh judgment against both sides, and society is tearing itself apart from the inside out as a result. But remember that we come from a unique place—a rock in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. This rock is home to a compassionate community with all forms of diversity and acceptance. As we go off and meet new people and places, we will inevitably be exposed to different perspectives. So, in order to transcend these misconceived expectations, we simply need to talk, converse, disagree, but ultimately understand. Unity is not achieved through compromise; it is achieved through understanding. So sincerely try to understand the heart of one another, because in order to appreciate the world, we must first appreciate each other. When expectations are tainted by ignorance, pride, and complacency, pursue the simple art of understanding. Yes, you will risk failure, expecting to run the good race well, but make HBA proud and always aim to be legends. CA-CAW!



Commencement Address

The commencement address was delivered by Dawson Vorderbruegge, English teacher and senior advisor. The following is an excerpt from his address.

TODAY, I want to remind you that you are entering a world that judges people based on accomplishment, oftentimes in a very ruthless way. You are entering a world where you will be constantly pressured and measured by others to accomplish more, do more, make more and get more. In this world so obsessed with accomplishment and success, I'm here today to ask you to remember something: don't forget old people and babies.

Our world is one driven by success, defined by [our] income and possessions, where the first question we ask someone is, "What do you do?"; where HGTV seduces us into having a bigger house in a nicer neighborhood; where musicians tell us that success is "Lambos," expensive champagne and "Hunnid bands in my pocket it's on me;" and where social media posts are always about happiness and the perfect life, no one has hangovers or unintended pregnancies, and everyone sips hot cocoa at a street cafe in the shadow of the Eiffel Tower on a random weekend in February.

*Giving dignity and honor to the
"least" is difficult and demanding,
but also divine.*

These are all lies. Wealth, possessions, and an impressive Instagram account are neat accomplishments, but they are trifles that don't actually accomplish that much. In the midst of these lies, don't forget old people and babies.

Your next 60 years of life will be a constant fight for your attention to the right things. Companies, media, technology, even your family, will all be competing for your time, your wallet, even your soul. In the throes of this battle for your attention, don't forget old people and babies.

The Gospel commands us to care for old people and babies. Christ instructs us to serve "the least," and I can't think of much "least" than an infant who can't even hold up his head, or an old man who can't breathe without the help of a machine. Giving dignity and honor to the "least" is difficult and demanding, but also divine.

We are to spend our lives in order to make someone else's life better. This is how it works: Christ gave His life for us; we give our lives for others. The Apostle James puts it quite simply: "Pure religion is this: to care for widows and orphans." [James 1:27] The value of a human life is not predicated on its maturity, income or its ability to sit still. Life is valued because all life matters, and because all life, no matter how feeble, weak or mentally handicapped it may be, is precious and worthy of dignity. The very old and the very young matter, and I'm asking you not to forget that.



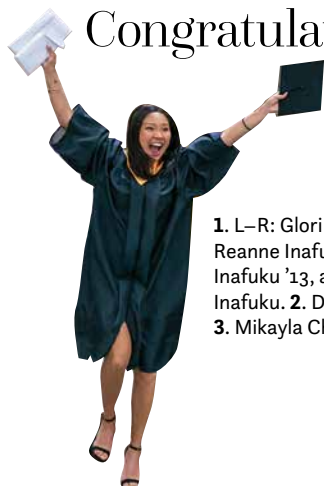
But let's get back to today. Today, you graduate from high school. You've passed your classes. You've sat at uncomfortable desks for ungodly long hours and listened to pompous teachers like me drone on and on like I'm doing now. Don't worry, you're almost finished with me.

Your diploma is really just a symbol of independence. You've jumped through the requisite hoops, and you've earned your ticket to freedom. From this day forward, you will have greater independence than you've ever had before. No more school bells and dress code checks. You have independence to live life as you see fit. Use that independence to spend your life on someone else. Your parents and family have sacrificed for you, paid for your education, fed you and listened to you and wiped sticky doo-doo off of your tiny toddler butt cheeks. Never forget that. They've sacrificed for you; it is your turn to sacrifice for someone else.

Your newfound independence will at times be terribly frightening and daunting, make no mistake. In the midst of massive decisions about career, spouses, choosing a home, and deciding how to spend your life, you will feel lost, like you are wandering, and in need of direction. In those moments of fear and indecision, remember old people and babies. You cannot go wrong by serving the old and the young, and it might just give you the clarity and perspective you need to conquer the next life decision you have to make.

Yes, I'm saying that if you don't know what else to do in life—remember old people and babies. Find some old fogeys or some little kids, start serving them, and watch your life be transformed. It really is that simple.

Congratulations!



1. L-R: Glori Ann Inafuku, Reanne Inafuku, Rachel Inafuku '13, and Jon Inafuku. 2. Drew Yoshida. 3. Mikayla Chun



Hawaii Baptist Academy

Class of 2019

Shanden Alike Adriance
 Nicole Mie Arakaki
 Matthew Subaru Barnes
 Summer Kelly Nanea Bass ♦
 Haley Melissa Benn
 Christien Keiichi Makoa Burgess
 Sharon Chan ♦
 Britney Naomi Chang ★▼
 Trevor Kapono Weng-Yin Chang
 Kalyn Lin How Sachie Char ♦▼
 Caitlin Kalela Ching ♦♥
 Jaylynn Choi ★
 Kylie Sachiko Kahealani Chong
 Janessa Yook Sum Chun
 Mikayla Yasuko Kawaiola Chun ★
 Taylor Pulelehua Eleola ★▼
 Oze Fritz Farris ♦
 Kaylee Leia Fuerte
 Naiya Yukiye Fujikawa ★
 Michelle Mari Fukumitsu ★▼
 Ryan Ruiz Galolo
 Dakota Lee Gavin ★♥
 Koanuiokamauliola Nicodemus Gier
 Bryson Ka'eo Gonzalez ♦
 Kendrick Alexander Simeon
 Ka Wing Chan Guillen
 Cassidy Yoshiko Hamamoto ★
 Cameron Alyssa Emalia Hema
 Katelyn Emi Higashiya ★▼
 Cassidy Yukie Hihara ★▼
 Sean Tadao Hirano
 Tyler Kenji Hisanaga
 Liam Lubimir Hixon ★
 Michelle Andrea Hong ★
 Casey Hideaki Horio ♦
 Racen Seijiro Horita ★
 Adam Thio Hu ★▼
 Reanne Tamiko Doi Inafuku ★▼♥
 Jada Tamae Inouye ★
 Travis Shoichi Ishihara ♦

Jayni Kimie Ishikawa ♦
 Marcie Ann Megumi Johiro ♦
 Alexander Leonard Kam ★♥
 Kacie Akiko Malia Kaneshiro ★▼
 Kristen Wai Ching Kaneshiro ★▼♥
 Coltin-Kai Masaji Kaupiko
 Aiden Mie Kawabata ★▼
 Anna Mika Kerr ♦
 Adam Tomokazu Kikuta ♦♥
 Kristin Samantha Young Lau ★▼
 Jennah Diana Dona Laxamana ★▼
 Courtney Ling Xia Lee ♦
 Payton George Lee ♦♥
 Jessalyn Ka'iulani Li Hua Lim
 Megan Meisi Loh ★▼
 Connor James Lopes ♥
 Niko Galvez Lopez ★▼
 Joshua Paul Yutaka Lorica ♦
 Antony Jonfiel Acfalle Lucuab
 Karalyn Bi Lan Lum
 Elisabeth Chen Yao Mathews ★♥
 Samantha Mari Matsunaka ★♥
 Marcus Kenji Mau ♦♥♥
 Shannah Mei Kiyono Mau ♥
 Kasandra Louise Miao ♦
 Tyler Sanehide Mishima ♦
 Carson James Nainoa Miyachi ♥
 Jason Kevin Moka ♦
 Kacie Yukie Kamalani Moku ★▼
 Kalena Kiyomi Montgomery ★♥
 Brian Ji Ho Mow
 Alexis Michie Nakabayashi
 Kiley Rie Keahileleikalani Nakagawa ♥
 Jazerine Kou Cortez Nakamura
 Mason Hisao Kit Sing Nakamura
 Maya Masako Nakasone ♥
 Jordan Elise Namba ★▼
 Brienna Jane Haruko Nishimura ♦
 Sydney Marie Nucum ★
 Brandon Takenori Okazaki ★

Caily Isako Okazaki ★
 Julia Lima Oliveira ♥
 David Scott Omura
 Chansen M. Oshiro ★
 Peyton Layne Oshiro ★♥
 Justin Michael Sakamoto
 Alexia Emiko Sanchez
 Haley Yao Sekiguchi ♦
 Sydney Katherine Seiko Settsu ★
 Gabriel Shibuya
 Duke Slater Shimabukuro
 Justice Marie Stone ♦
 Kylee Amanda Sumida ★▼
 Rena Ioana-Grace Takatsuka ★▼
 Emma Hidemi Ming Li Tamashiro ♥
 Kenneth Michael Takito Tamashiro
 Shawn M.K.W. Tamashiro ★
 Aaron Abraham Thomas ★
 Nicole W.Y. Tommee ★▼
 Jacquelyn Tuong-vi Tran ♦
 Lauren Aiko Uchimura ★▼
 Tess Kimiko Wakabayashi ♥
 Madelyn Olivia Weaver ★
 Emily Elizabeth White ★▼♥
 Maxwell Andrew Wiemken
 Kasen Tsuyoshi Kiong Sum Wong ★▼
 Jia Yan Wu ★
 Breeann Kiana Yap
 Chase Michael Yara ♦
 Drew N. Yoshida ★
 Sydnee Lauren Kumiko You ★
 Christianne Lai Yun Young ★▼♥
 Shea Kaheanalani Rikio Shinn Yuen ★♥
 Joy Mika Yukumoto ★▼♥

★ With Highest Honors
 ♦ With Honors
 ▼ National Honor Society
 ♥ Son/Daughter of HBA

Mr. and Miss HBA

KASEN WONG AND RENA TAKATSUKA were elected Mr. and Miss HBA for the 2018–2019 school year. The award, which began in 1955, recognizes one male and one female senior who typify the best in HBA students, including their contributions to school life through leadership, extracurricular activities and in their character. The winners are elected by their peers.

Wong entered HBA in ninth grade. During his high school career, he participated in the Red Cross Club, Environmental Club, Class Council, Science Olympiad, Math League, Interact Club, National Honor Society (NHS), Japanese National Honor Society, Japanese Club, Ministry Team, and played euphonium in the Symphonic Wind Ensemble. He was a runner for the cross country team and played soccer for the Pac-5 state championship team. Outside of school, he volunteered as an assistant coach for AYSO soccer, served as an assistant at the King Intermediate School Summer Band Enrichment Program, and participated in the Hawaii Youth Symphony. Last summer, he was part of a medical research team at the University of California, Los Angeles, where he explored careers in the medical field. This fall, Wong will attend the University of Southern California to study biological sciences. Wong's mother, Wendy Matsuzaki, is an alumna from the class of 1989.

"I'm so proud of Kasen for taking advantage of all of the opportunities that a small school like HBA offers. During my time at HBA, I didn't get as involved and didn't appreciate the specialness of HBA until Kasen started attending the school. It's nice to be in a place where everybody knows your name and there are so many adults praying for you all of the time. I am proud of all of Kasen's accomplishments, but especially being selected as Mr. HBA because he has had a positive influence and impact on everyone who nominated and voted for him. All the other candidates were very deserving of the honor too, but it shows that Kasen made a



Kasen Wong '19, left, and Rena Takatsuka '19, right, were elected Mr. and Miss HBA for the 2018–19 school year.

difference. Through this honor, I hope he leaves HBA a better place than when he entered. Kasen advocated for the first AP Japanese class ever by collecting signatures to petition HBA, and as a result, the first class opened this school year," said Matsuzaki.

Takatsuka entered HBA in kindergarten. In high school, she participated in NHS, Class Council, the President's Aloha Council, played French Horn for the Symphonic Wind Ensemble, and ran for the cross country and track and field teams. As a member of the school's Ministry Team, she was a student leader at grade level camps and led Bible studies at the middle school. She was

also elected student council president her senior year. At church, she taught Sunday School and was a youth mentor. This fall, Takatsuka will attend Hawaii Pacific University to study nursing. Takatsuka's father, Reid, is a graduate from the class of 1983, and her mother, Claudine (Florenco), is a graduate from the class of 1992. Her brother, Kellen '17, was also elected Mr. HBA.

"We are very grateful to the faculty and staff who have taught, loved, nurtured, and prayed over both of our children. We knew that they would be loved by their teachers, but most importantly, we knew they would leave with a good, biblical foundation," said Claudine Takatsuka.



L–R: Reid Takatsuka '83; Claudine (Florenco) Takatsuka '92; Rena Takatsuka '19, Miss HBA; Kasen Wong '19, Mr. HBA; and Wendy Matsuzaki '89.

High School Awards

Bible

Excellence in New Testament

Josiah Lum
Amanda Sato

Excellence in Old Testament

Logan Kaneshiro
Caden Weaver

Excellence in Christian Thought

Kacie Kwan
Courtney Lee
Gabriel Shibuya
Nathan Yee

English

Outstanding English 9 Student

Connor Malinger
Samantha Sebastian
Emi Wada

Outstanding English 10 Student

Johanna Seng
Caden Weaver

Outstanding English 11 Student

Jessica Matsuda

Outstanding English 12 Student

Adam Hu
Lauren Uchimura

Outstanding AP English Language and Composition Student

Lindsay Sasaki

Outstanding AP English Literature and Composition Student

Britney Chang
Joy Yukumoto

Shakespearean Recitation Competition

Lauren Uchimura

Journalism

Eagle Eye's Most Valuable Staffer

Zadie Young

Excellence in Documentary Filmmaking

Jarin Ashimine
Kaycee Nakashima

Excellence in Layout Design

Trinity Halemmano-Reed

Excellence in Portrait Photography

Zadie Young

Most Valuable Staffer in Yearbook

Kylie Chong

Mathematics

Outstanding Student in Geometry

Aaron Omon

Outstanding Student in Algebra 2

Jonathan Aoki



Kailee Ishikawa '20, left, recipient of the L.O. and Johnnie Taylor Outstanding Service Award, with Ryan Frontiera, right, high school vice principal.

Outstanding Student in Algebra 2—Honors

Adia Ainsworth
Johnson Lin

Outstanding Student in Algebra 3

Lia Honbo

Outstanding Student in Trigonometry

Lia Honbo

Outstanding Student in Pre-Calculus

Gabrielle Chun

Outstanding Student in Introduction to Statistics

Stacen Suzuki

Outstanding Student in AP Statistics

Nicole Tommee
Kasen Wong

Outstanding Student in AP Calculus AB

Jennah Laxamana
Joshua Loric

Outstanding Student in AP Calculus BC

Reanne Inafuku

Outstanding Student in Introduction to Programming

Sydney You

Outstanding Student in AP Computer Science

Reanne Inafuku
Coltin-Kai Kaupiko

HBA Mathematics Team High Scorer

Reanne Inafuku

American Mathematics Competition 10—1st Place

Gavin Yamamoto

American Mathematics Competition 10—2nd Place

Adia Ainsworth

Jasmine Oki

American Mathematics Competition 12—1st Place

Reanne Inafuku

American Mathematics Competition 12—2nd Place

Reese Haly

Nathan Yee

Maria Gaetana Agnesi Mathematics Service Award

Reanne Inafuku

Nathan Yee

Hawaii State Mathematics Bowl Team

Adia Ainsworth

Reese Haly

Reanne Inafuku

Johnson Lin

Niko Lopez



Adam Hu '19, left, recipient of the Rev. O.W. "Dub" and Grace Efurd Memorial Scholarship, with President Ron Shiira '75, right.

PE & Health

Outstanding Student in Physical Education and Health

Elisabeth Dennis
Jeremy Oyer
Noah Shiira
Zadie Young

Science

Outstanding Student in Biology

Aaron Omon
Kelsey Zane

Outstanding Student in Chemistry

Johnson Lin
Dayna Okazaki

Outstanding Student in Physics

Nicholas Kwon
Kylee Sumida

Outstanding Student in AP Biology

Aaron Thomas
Kasen Wong

Outstanding Student in AP Chemistry

Quinn Kono
Lindsay Sasaki

Outstanding Student in AP Physics 1

Reanne Inafuku
Nathan Yee

Outstanding Student in AP Physics 2

Brandon Okazaki

Outstanding Student in AP Environmental Science

Kacie Kaneshiro
Kristen Kaneshiro

Rensselaer Medal Award

Nathan Yee

Bausch & Lomb

Honorary Science Award
Cobi Pimental

Social Studies

Outstanding Student in Ancient World History 9

Connor Malinger
Amanda Sato

Outstanding Student in Government 9

Samantha Sebastian
Kelsey Zane

Outstanding Student in US History 10

Collin Lucas
Johanna Seng

Outstanding Student in Modern World History 11

Sylar Takafuji
Aimee Terashima

Outstanding Student in Economics

Brandon Okazaki
Christianne Young

Outstanding Student in Psychology

Katelyn Higashiya

Outstanding Student in AP US Government

Shawn Tamashiro

Outstanding Student in AP World History

Cyndi Yoshida

Social Science Scholar

Shawn Tamashiro

Visual & Performing Arts

Outstanding Achievement in Basic Art

Samantha Sebastian
Jia Yan Wu

Outstanding Achievement in Basic Drawing

Serah Matsunaga
Kaylee Ann Tani

Outstanding Achievement in Basic Mixed Media

Rebecca Aberilla
Caily Okazaki

Outstanding Craftsmanship in Ceramics 1

Alexis Nakabayashi
Jordan Namba

Outstanding Craftsmanship in Ceramics 2

Anna Kerr
Victoria Nago

Outstanding Artist in Advanced Drawing & Painting

Nikki Arakaki
Katelyn Higashiya
Kailee Ishikawa
Max Wiemken
Christianne Young

Outstanding Artist in Advanced Mixed Media

Joy Yukumoto

Unsung Heroes 2019 ArtEffect Project Competition – 1st prize Senior Division

Dakota Gavin

Outstanding Student in Concert Band 1

Cody Yeung

Outstanding Student in Concert Band 2

Jace Sugimoto

Outstanding Student in Wind Ensemble

Courtney Lee
Karalyn Lum

Excellence in Service & Development of the Band Program

Rena Takatsuka

Outstanding Leadership in Wind Ensemble

Hunter Yokoyama

Outstanding Student in Theater

Adam Hu
Lauren Uchimura

World Languages

Outstanding Achievement in Chinese 1

Chloe Wut

Outstanding Achievement in Chinese 2

Kylie Trang

Outstanding Achievement in Chinese 3

Kassidy Trang

Overall Excellence in Chinese

Megan Loh

Outstanding Achievement in Japanese 1

Sarah Kawakami-Williams
Aaron Yoshida

Outstanding Achievement in Japanese 2

Adia Ainsworth
Christine Yamamoto

Outstanding Achievement in Japanese 3

Aimee Terashima

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



Kristen Kaneshiro '19, right, and Kasen Wong '19, second from the right, recipients of the White Ohana College Scholarships. Also pictured: Emily White '19, Winona (Au) White '83, and Patrick White.

High School Awards

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7



Summer Bass '19, center, recipient of the Sue Nishikawa Family Scholarship. Also pictured: Edith White, Sue Nishikawa's sister, left; and Naomi Masuno, Sue Nishikawa's niece, right.

Outstanding Achievement in Japanese 3 Honors & Japanese 4
Lindsay Sasaki

Outstanding Achievement in AP Japanese Language and Culture
Caily Okazaki

Overall Excellence in Japanese
Niko Lopez

Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 1
Connor Malinger
Aaron Omon

Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 2
Logan Kakugawa
Jiayan Wu

Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 3
Tatiana Chang
Gabrielle Chun

Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 4
Maddy Weaver

Overall Excellence in Spanish
Anna Sullivan

Japanese National Honor Society Inductees

Ethan Aimoto
Nathanael Aiu
Jonathan Aoki
Mia Eshima
Jason Hee
Kai Keuning
Lydia Lan
Bryanna Lau
Aimee-Louise Lee
Summer Lee
Hinson Leung
Matthew Li
Joy Maehara
Taylor Anne Oda

Dayna Okazaki
Jasmine Oki
Ryden Sumi
Logan Tom
Grace Toyama
Christine Yamamoto
Gavin Yamamoto
Tamryn Yamamoto
Parker Yara
Brenna Yoshioka
Tani Yoshioka

National Honor Society Inductees

Kailey Chang
Tatiana Chang
Ryan Encarnacion
Kate Higa
Lia Honbo
Catelyn Jochim
Sarah Kawakami-Williams
Lydia Lan
Johnson Lin
Natasha Loh
Summer Mae
Connor Malinger
Ashley Masuoka
Jessica Matsuda
Serah Matsunaga
Kai Moriyama
Kaycee Nakashima
Dayna Okazaki
Jasmine Oki
Amanda Sato
Samantha Sebastian
Ryden Sumi
Aimee Terashima
Emi Wada
Jessica Yamamoto
Reese Yoshikawa

National Merit Program

Certificate of Merit in 2018 National Merit Program (Finalist)
Reanne Inafuku
Emily White

School Awards & Scholarships

HBA Alumni Association Eagle Pride Scholarship
Niko Lopez

Kilohana Kai Scholarship in Memory of Mr. Larry Wong
Aiden Kawabata

L.O. and Johnnie Taylor Outstanding Service Award
Kailee Ishikawa

Mallory Kathryn Ellis Soldier of Light Leadership Scholarship
Peyton Oshiro

Rev. O.W. "Dub" and Grace Efurd Memorial Scholarship
Adam Hu

Stacie and Julie Lee Scholarship
Chansen Oshiro

Sue Nishikawa Family Scholarship
Summer Bass

White Ohana College Scholarships
Kristen Kaneshiro
Kasen Wong

Veterans of Foreign Wars Award
Aerin Dias
Hunter Kobayashi
Meredith Lau
Johnson Lin



Chansen Oshiro '19, left, recipient of the Stacie and Julie Lee Scholarship, with Julie Lee, right.



Aiden Kawabata '19, left, recipient of the Kilohana Kai Scholarship in Memory of Mr. Larry Wong, with Richard Yaginuma, right, president of Kilohana Kai.



Niko Lopez '19, left, recipient of the HBA Alumni Association Eagle Pride Scholarship, with Jennifer (Harada) Okino '89, president of the HBA Alumni Association, right.

PTF Awards

PTF High Achievement Award

Adia Ainsworth
Kailey Chang
Tatiana Chang
Gabrielle Chun
Kailee Ishikawa
Daniel Jurek

Quinn Kono
Aimee-Louise Lee
Johnson Lin
Joy Maehara
Jessica Matsuda
Victoria Nago
Dayna Okazaki
Lindsay Sasaki
Johanna Seng

Sydney Senter
Reiko Shiraishi
Len Silva
Kylie Trang

PTF Service Award – Grade 9

Amanda Sato
Samantha Sebastian

PTF Service Award – Grade 10

Nicole Nakagawa

PTF Service Award – Grade 11

Kaycee Nakashima
Nathan Yee

PTF Service Award – Grade 12

Anna Kerr
Shawn Tamashiro

Middle School Awards

Bible

Excellence in Bible 7

Ezekiel Lum
Taylor Malinger

Excellence in Bible 8

Noah Hu
Michela Lim

English

Outstanding English 7 Student

Hannah Cheng
Riley Lorenzo

Outstanding English 8 Student

Cameron Pien
Lyndsy Wong

Mathematics

Outstanding Student in Algebra 1

Kacie Agena
Bryson Akagi

Outstanding Student in Math 7

Samantha Hart
Ezekiel Lum

PE & Health

Outstanding Student in Physical Education and Health

Elisha Lum

Outstanding Student in Physical Education and Health

Leina Chu
Cerra Leong
Jolie Wong

PTF Academics & Service Awards

PTF Service Award – Grade 7

Riley Lorenzo

PTF Service Award – Grade 8

Hannah Dela Cruz
Waika Wilson

Science

Outstanding Student in Science 7

Hannah Cheng
Taylor Malinger

Outstanding Student in Earth Science 8

Minori Batara
Megan Lee

Social Studies

Outstanding Student in American History 8

Michela Lim
Cameron Pien

Outstanding Student in Geography

Brendan Aoki
Lindsey Toda

Visual & Performing Arts

Outstanding Artist in Middle School Art

Kyle Kumasaka
Euodia Lan
Rhea Matsumoto
Lindsey Toda

Outstanding Student in Fine Arts 7

Leina Chu
Alissa Tong

Outstanding Student in Fine Arts 8

Michela Lim
Lyndsy Mashino

Outstanding Student in Middle School Band

Ryan Fukui
Haylee Yokoyama

Outstanding Student in Middle School Beginning Band

Ezra Lee
Mikayla Wong

Outstanding Student in Middle School Drama

Kira Baker
Elle Yi

Sixth Grade Aloha Celebration

THE CLASS OF 2025 bade farewell to the Richard Bento Elementary Campus on May 28 at the Sixth Grade Aloha Celebration.

Thirty-three students were recognized as Sons and Daughters of HBA, which means they have attended the school since kindergarten.

Seven students received the President's Awards for Academic Excellence. These students had an A- average or better in fourth and fifth grade, during the first two quarters of sixth grade and scored at least 85 percentile on standardized testing in reading and math. They are Isaac Kahiau Kawai, Joshua Legawa, Samuel Lim, Natali Nomura, Jaden Oki, Ryden Toyama and Xan Waialeale.

Two students were recognized for scoring the highest in their class on a national language arts, math, and science competition. They are Brody Nakasone and Xan Waialeale, language arts; and Xan Waialeale for math and science.

Six students were elected by their peers for the following awards: Sara Chang and Kenshin Casamina, Citizenship Award; Selah Hanson and Treyton Birose, J.O.Y. (Jesus first, Others second, then Yourself) Award; and Amanda Tsuha and Jaden Oki, All Around Awards.

Congratulations to all 91 members of the Class of 2025!



Recipients of the President's Award of Academic Excellence. L–R: Isaac Kahiau Kawai, Joshua Legawa, Samuel Lim, Natali Nomura, Jaden Oki, Ryden Toyama and Xan Waialeale.

Athletic Awards

By Deren Oshiro '86, Athletic Director

THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR was filled with outstanding performances by many Eagle teams and individuals. At the intermediate level, the girls tennis team won their Division 2 Interscholastic League of Honolulu (ILH) championship. Junior varsity teams winning ILH D2 titles were girls bowling and girls basketball, while boys cross country claimed their first ever Division 1 championship. ILH titles were claimed at the varsity level by girls bowling, boys tennis, girls basketball, girls tennis and boys golf (D1).



Jada Inouye



Kasen Wong



Reanne Inafuku



Max Wiemken



Johanna Seng



Peyton Oshiro

The boys golf team went on to win their first ever HHSAA Division 1 State Championship May 9–10 at the Waikoloa Kings Course on the Big Island. Other HBA teams winning D2 State titles were girls cross country (which outpointed D1 champion Punahou), boys cross country (their second consecutive title and third overall), and girls basketball (their second overall). Individually, Johanna Seng won the HHSAA Division 1 track and field title in the 3000m run. Her time of 10:12.93 is one of the fastest in Hawaii high school history. HBA students named ILH D2 Players of the Year in their respective sports were Alexis Dang, junior, in girls basketball, and Kaimilani Dunklee, junior, in girls water polo. Congratulations to all of our Eagles!

ILH Championship Teams

- Girls Basketball
- Girls Bowling
- Boys Tennis
- Girls Tennis
- Boys Golf

HHSAA State Championship Teams:

- Girls Cross Country
- Boys Cross Country
- Girls Basketball
- Boys Golf

Pac-Five Awards:

- Chansen Oshiro-Sakamoto (Football), senior
- Mikayla Chun (Softball), senior
- Kasen Wong (Boys Soccer), senior
- Connor Lopes (Baseball), senior

Ken & Rosemond Street Sportsmanship Awards

- Female—Jada Inouye (Cross Country), senior
- Male—Peyton Oshiro (Cross Country, Track & Field), senior

Athletes of the Year

- Female—Johanna Seng (Cross Country, Track & Field), sophomore
- Male—Maxwell Wiemken (Basketball), senior

Robert Fulford Scholar Athlete Awards (each winner is presented a \$1,000 scholarship)

- Female—Reanne Inafuku (Bowling), senior
- Male—Kasen Wong (Soccer), senior

Newspaper Award

HAWAII BAPTIST ACADEMY'S student newspaper, the *Eagle Eye*, won the top prize for a fifth consecutive year at the Hawaii High School Journalism Awards on April 17. The class is taught by Eunice Sim, who took over in 2012. Since then, the newspaper has greatly expanded. In 2013, Sim oversaw the launch of the paper's website. Traditional newspapers are no longer printed; rather, the class publishes a monthly magazine with themes ranging from holidays to important issues such as social and emotional health. They also promote their content on their Instagram account, @hbaeagleeye, which was launched in 2016.

This year's competition included six private schools and eight public schools. Private and public schools were judged separately to determine the top three winners in 19 different categories, including writing, photography, social media, blogs, and more.



The *Eagle Eye* staff received the Best in State award at the Hawaii High School Journalism Awards on April 17. **Front row, L-R:** TJ Halemano-Reed, junior; Kasandra Miao, senior; Sydney Settsu, senior; Zadie Young, freshman; Kristin Lau, editor-in-chief; Eunice Sim, advisor; Jazerine Nakamura, senior; and Michael Garces, sophomore. **Second row, L-R:** Marcus Mau, senior; Jayni Ishikawa, senior; Kaycee Nakashima, junior; Lance Tasaka, junior; and Jarin Ashimine junior. **Back row, L-R:** Daniel Jurek, sophomore; and Timothy Dixon, junior. Photo courtesy of Eunice Sim.

Dakota Gavin '19 Wins \$3,000 Award for Artwork

DAKOTA GAVIN '19 received a \$3,000 award for his digital painting entitled “Glorifica,” which honors Cher Ami, a carrier pigeon who saved the lives of 194 American soldiers during World War I.



The award comes from the Lowell Milken Center for Unsung Heroes, which hosts a yearly national art competition called the ArtEffect Project. Contestants create an original art piece that celebrates an unsung hero, and submit it for a chance to win cash prizes totaling \$15,500. Gavin was awarded Best in Show for the high school division, which is the highest honor for that group.

Gavin has been fascinated with World War I, particularly with the animals who served alongside the brave men and women on the battlefield. He says he first heard Cher Ami’s story from a video on YouTube.

“World War I is often forgotten by the history books and gets next to no attention when compared to other major wars such as World War II and Vietnam. I hope ‘Glorifica’ will inspire others to explore the history of a war that forever changed our understanding of conflict and global politics,” said Gavin.



Gavin is a Son of HBA, which means he entered the school in kindergarten. This fall, he will attend Baylor University in Texas to study aviation administration and chemistry.



“Glorifica”

Middle School Students Win Award for PSA

A PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT put together by nine middle schoolers won top honors at the Youth Xchange Statewide Video Competition, hosted by Olelo Community Media, on April 24. The PSA, entitled “Eat Local, Eat Fresh,” was named the winner for the PSA category. For their prize, the students received a Sony HD video camera which will be used for future student projects.

The PSA features a grape tomato who takes a five-day journey to Hawaii by boat. Sadly, his journey is just too long, and he arrives in Hawaii as a dark red, shriveled raisin. He is greeted at the dock by a tomato who has been grown in Hawaii. The local tomato is fresh, filled with color, and looks appetizing. The message, which is clearly stated at the end of the PSA, encourages all viewers to eat locally grown, fresh produce.

VIDEO: “Eat Local, Eat Fresh”



The production crew of “Eat Local, Eat Fresh.” **Front row, L–R:** Noah Katz, 7th grader; Jordan Davenport, 8th grader; Ashley Kodama, 8th grader; and Blu Wong-Ogata, 8th grader. **Back row, L–R:** Noah Camacho, 8th grader; Titus Lee, 7th grader; Faith Fujiwara, 8th grader; Keira Guerri, 8th grader; and Landen Otaka, 8th grader. Photo by Sean Malinger.

Celebrating 70 Years of

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO GOD AWARD

Hawaii Baptist Academy celebrated its 70th anniversary on February 23, 2019, at the school's 70th Anniversary Celebration and Legacy Awards. The event was held at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Waikiki Beach Resort. Guests were treated to a banquet-style dinner and a performance by The Soldiers of Light choir.

Ten individuals were honored for their service to the school, and/or to their community. They are:



Julie Reynolds, center, accepted the Distinguished Service to God award on behalf of her father, Dr. Darold Morgan. Also pictured: Walt Akena, HBA board chair, left, and Ron Shiira '75, president, right.

LIFETIME LEGACY AWARD



Maurine King, Lifetime Legacy Award recipient, center, with Walt Akena, HBA board chair, left, and President Ron Shiira '75, right

Maurine King, Retired Faculty 1960–2012

During her 52 years at HBA, Maurine King taught English, Spanish and social studies, and was the yearbook advisor. Retired since 2012, Ms. King continues to be an active volunteer at the school while also connecting many alumni back to HBA.

Dr. Darold Morgan, Founding MAC Member

A long time supporter of HBA, Dr. Morgan joined the Mainland Advisory Council (MAC) in 1977 and served as MAC Chair for three terms. Called to preach at the age of 16, he served as a pastor for over 20 years. In 1970, he became the president of the Southern Baptist Convention Annuity Board before retiring in 1990. Dr. Morgan resides in Dallas, Texas, and teaches Sunday school at First Baptist Richardson.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AWARD

Morris & Lilian Kimoto

The Kimotos have faithfully served HBA in many capacities, including The Aloha Council (TAC) and as MAC hosts for 11 years. Retired from the Department of Education after 34 years of service as a teacher, counselor, vice principal and principal, Mr. Kimoto served on HBA's board of directors from 2007–2011, and as chair from 2012–2016. Mrs. Kimoto was the financial secretary for the office of institutional advancement for 24 years.



Front row, L-R: Jim Sechrist; Morris and Lilian Kimoto, Distinguished Service to the Community award recipients; and Jon Kimoto. Back row, L-R: Connor Lopes '19, Daniel Kimoto '14, Linda and Mark Kimoto, Lindsey Kimoto, and Geri Kimoto.

Brad & Esther (Quilit) McDaniel '86

Pastor Brad and Esther McDaniel are full-time missionaries with Harvest Family Life Ministries Hawaii (HFLM), providing Bible-believing, godly homes for children who are abandoned, neglected, and abused. They have been serving families by partnering with the State of Hawaii Department of Human Services-Child Welfare Services and Family Court since 1995.

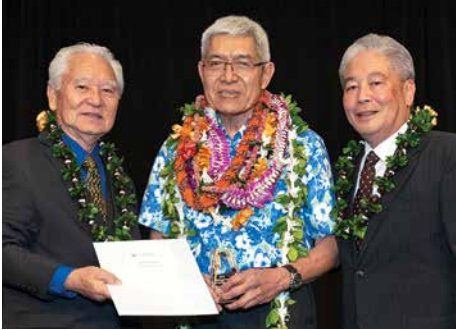


Brad, left, and Esther, right, McDaniel '86, Distinguished Service to God award recipients, with Onita McDaniel, center.

Learn more about our awardees at www.hba.net/legacy

Hawaii Baptist Academy

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO HBA



L-R: Walt Akena, HBA board chair; Suchart Archpru, recipient of the Distinguished Service to HBA award; and President Ron Shiira '75, right.

Suchart Archpru, Retired Facilities Director 1978–2012

Suchart Archpru began as a maintenance provider, later overseeing the maintenance and improvement of both the elementary and high school campuses for more than 30 years. He currently resides in Colorado with his family.



Steven Kim '81, left, and Sharon Hagio, Distinguished Service to HBA award recipient, right.

Sharon Hagio, Institutional Advancement Office 1969–Present

Known to many as the “connector” of people to HBA, Sharon Hagio has served in various capacities for the school, with her longest position in the office of institutional advancement. As HBA's ad hoc historian, she keeps detailed records on MAC and TAC members, HBA families and alumni, and major milestones of HBA's history.



L-R: Walt Akena, HBA board chair; Faustina Lazo, Distinguished Service to HBA award recipient; and Ron Shiira '75, president.

Faustina Lazo, Retired Faculty 1968–2012

A beloved middle school science teacher, Mrs. Lazo inspired many alumni to develop a love for science, influencing many to enter careers in the health industry. She taught at HBA for 27 years and was a substitute teacher for eight years.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD



Kurt Murao '87

After HBA, Mr. Murao graduated from the University of Hawaii at Manoa with a B.A. in economics, a Juris Doctorate from Villanova University's Charles Widger School of Law, and a taxation LL.M. degree from the Georgetown University Law Center. He is currently the vice president of legal and administration and corporate secretary for Hawaiian Electric Industries.

L-R: Walt Akena, HBA board chair; Kurt Murao '87, recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award; Ron Shiira '75, president.

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



Warren Baptist Church

Warren Baptist Church, located in Augusta, Georgia, has faithfully supported HBA for almost 50 years by including our school in their missions' budget. Hawaii Baptist Academy is grateful for their prayers and generous support through this special partnership, which has made a difference in the advancement of Christian education in Hawaii.

President Ron Shiira presents special appreciation plaque to Connie McKinley and Dr. David McKinley, pastor-teacher at Warren Baptist Church, Augusta, Ga., for the church's support of HBA for nearly 50 years.

Christmas Concert

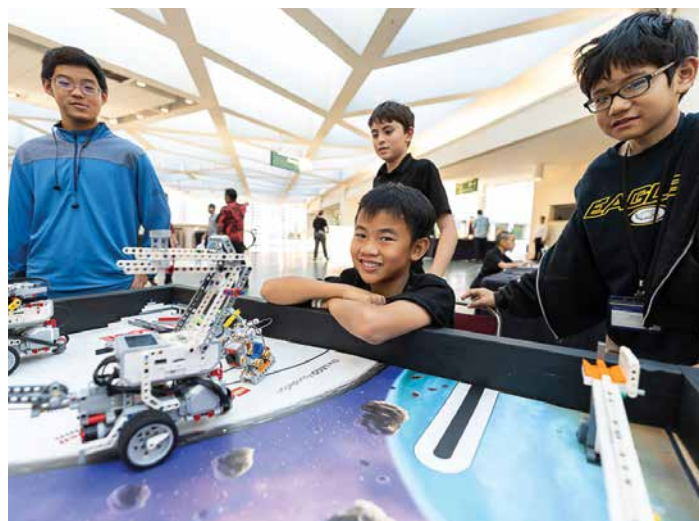
December 14–15, 2018



HAWAII BAPTIST ACADEMY kicked off its 70th anniversary celebration with a community Christmas concert at the Hawaii Convention Center, December 14–15, 2018. More than 1,000 guests attended the concert each night, with Saturday's show selling out at nearly 1,600. The performers included all of the school's choirs, the Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Halau Hula o Kalama Ula, the high school drama class, the Hoomana sign language and praise team, a group of elementary students to reenact the Christmas story, and a special performance by New Hope Music and Halau of New Hope alongside HBA's halau.

Prior to the concert, guests enjoyed the student showcase and art gallery entitled "A Portrait of Faith." The showcase featured interactive science exhibits hosted by the elementary Lego robotics team and the high school engineering program. Guests enjoyed a "river walk" lit by trees with lights put together by elementary art teacher Katie Small, and various student art pieces. On Saturday, Jam 4 Jesus, an elementary worship band, sang songs and Christmas carols.

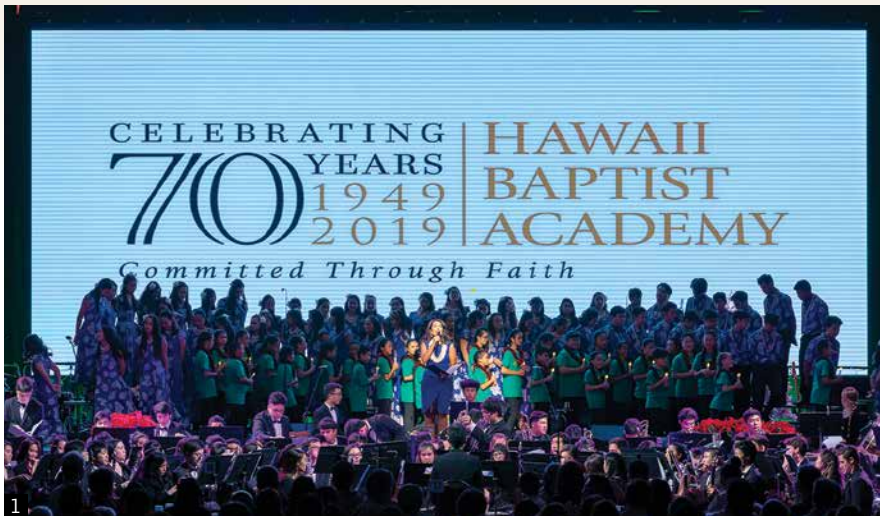
The event raised funds for the school's financial aid fund. The school also honored The Salvation Army's Hawaiian and Pacific Island Division with a gift of \$8,500.



Above: [1] L–R: Reese Lueder, 3rd grader; Kaitlyn Cheah, 4th grader; James Kaneshige, 5th grader; Micah Biggers, 5th grader; Jordan Tam, 5th grader; Evie Chandler, 6th grader; Kanoa Gloy, 6th grader; Dylan Sasano, 5th grader; Jaxson Cadiz, 5th grader; Colton Gallano, 5th grader; Piper Decova, 5th grader; and Katherine Butay, 4th grader.

Left: L–R: Winston Yamanaka, 7th grader; Nicholas Guillen, 6th grader; and Kyler Kiyabu, 6th grader.

Opposite: [1] Hawaii Baptist Academy celebrates its 70th anniversary at its very first community Christmas concert at the Hawaii Convention Center. [2] Randie Lueder, 6th grader. [3] Art River Walk by Katie Small, elementary art teacher. [4] The Eagle Choir. [5] L–R: Billie Takaki Lueder '94, dir. of institutional advancement; Ron Shiira '75, president; Major John Greholver, administrator of the Adult Rehabilitation Center; and Kenneth Yoshikawa, residence manager of the Adult Rehabilitation Center. [6] L–R: Riyana Werny, junior; Brandi Yap, freshman; Tani Yoshioka, sophomore; and Tiffany Hamada, sophomore. [7] L–R: Callie Kawaguchi, 5th grader; Jazmyne Alo, 4th grader; and Verily Coryell, 4th grader. [8] L–R: Reese Kunitake, sophomore; Tyler Mishima, senior; and Nicholas Kwon, junior. [9] L–R: Alicia Yoon, 2nd grader; and Ryder Kadooka, 4th grader.



Alumni Chronicles

Les Garringer '63

By Maurine King

Les Garringer '63 attended HBA only one year, but he says it was the best year of his life.

A military kid, he had been at a public school where he was bullied. When a senior class counselor told his parents that he wasn't "college material," they decided a transfer was in order. Little did Les know that the move would become a life changing event.



Les Garringer '63.
Photo courtesy of
Les Garringer.

The school year had already started and Les recalls his first morning. He was watching some boys shoot baskets before the first bell and they invited him to join them.

"I could have stood there forever at my previous school and no one would have asked me!" says Les. "After that day, I was not just a student in a crowd, but a member of a loving Christian family. With the individual attention I received from Mr. Bankston, Mrs. Moore, Miss King, and Coach Kanemura, I flourished as a student and, more importantly, as a person."

Les was a welcome addition to a class of a dozen. He lettered in track, played basketball, was president of the Latin Club, and fell in love with a future Miss HBA.

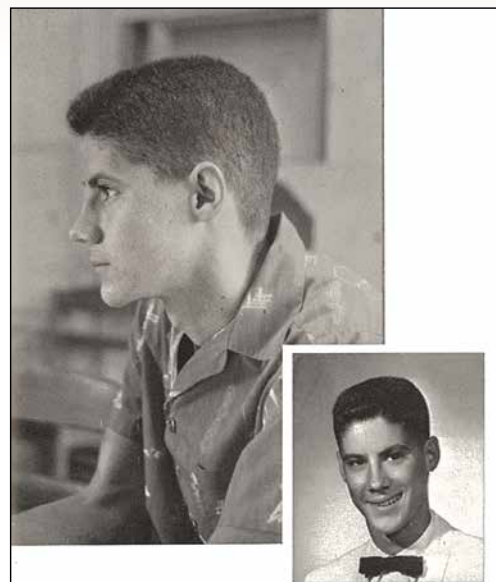
After graduating from HBA in June of 1963, Les attended Trinidad State Junior College. He transferred to Old Dominion College and got a degree in psychology in 1967.

He then enlisted in the Army and spent one year in Vietnam assigned to a psychological operations unit. After being honorably discharged, he deliberately chose to attend Florida State University College of Law, a small college, because he recognized that, as he had at HBA, he was most likely to thrive there.

Why law? "I knew that a career in the military was not for me and I had no desire to be a psychologist. Three years of law school sounded like a good idea. I had no clue what I was going to do after law school until I was fortunate enough to intern in a prosecutor's office.... One day of serving the public as a solicitor was all I needed to find my legal calling."

Les began his legal career as an Assistant County Solicitor for Monroe County, Florida, and later was the Chief Assistant State Attorney in the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit. In 1976, he was elected as a county court judge in Monroe County and served in that capacity until 1980. Realizing that his legal calling was more in line with prosecution, he resumed his career as a prosecutor in the Florida Keys before relocating to Tallahassee in 1989.

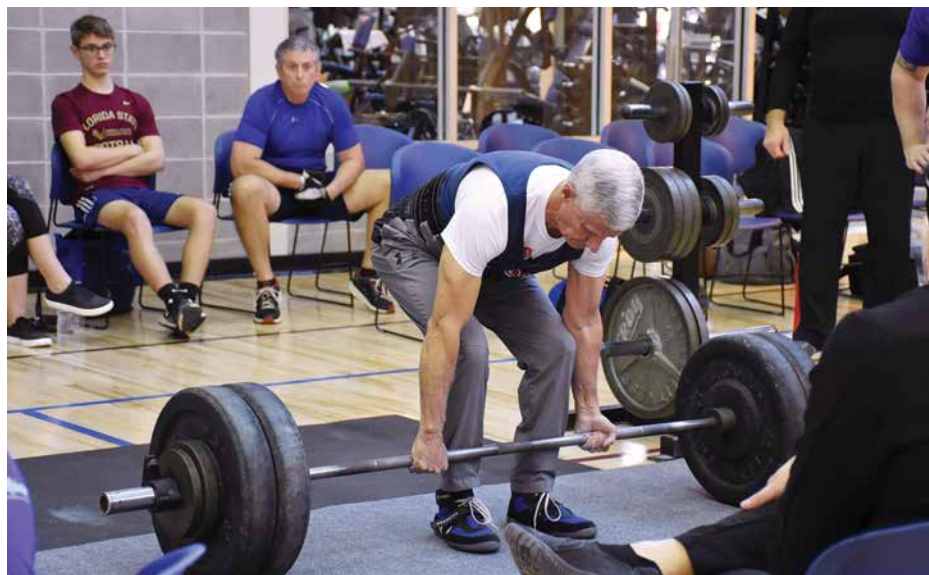
From 1989 until 2005, Les served as an Assistant Attorney General with the Attorney General of Florida. During his first year, he was Chief of the RICO section. Beginning in 1990, he served as the Assistant Deputy Attorney General in charge of the Economic Crimes Division, supervising attorneys and staff in the RICO, Consumer, Antitrust, and Medicaid Fraud units throughout the state.



Les Garringer, our newest senior, has added much to the Class of 1963 with his vitality and enthusiasm. Les is a real bowling enthusiast, but he doesn't limit himself; he also enjoys track and basketball. His other activities included being Latin Club president.

He hopes to attend the University of Kentucky and after graduation, join the United States Navy.

Following his thirty years of service with the State of Florida, Les engaged in the private practice of law for two years but missed serving the people of the state. He returned to state service as an Assistant General Counsel in the Office of the State Court Administrator. Because of his background in criminal law,



Les Garringer '63 has taken up the sport of powerlifting while in retirement. Photo courtesy of Les Garringer.

he reviewed all criminal law legislation that was filed each year in the Florida Legislature. He served as the staff attorney to two Supreme Court committees and lectured to both circuit and county judges statewide on new legislation that affected the court system.

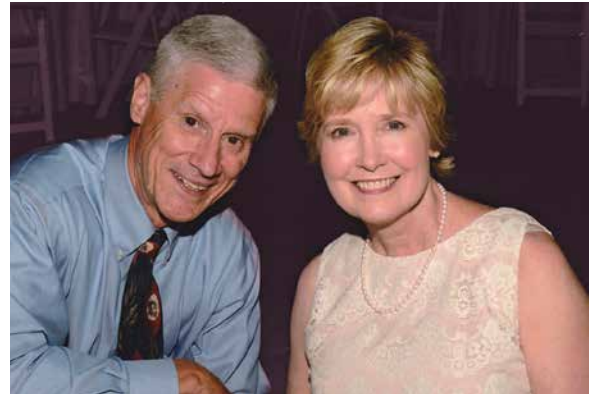
In 2010, Les was appointed Executive Director of the Florida Innocence Commission.

"This was a perfect fit for me. I was intimately familiar with the causes of wrongful convictions after handling literally thousands of criminal cases over the decades. I felt I was in a position to guide the commission members to recommend to the courts and legislature meaningful changes to help protect innocent persons from being convicted of crimes they did not commit."

Les retired in 2012 after 39 years of government service, but continues to test himself. He still practices law, doing pro bono work for those who cannot afford legal representation. He has also immersed himself in the sport of powerlifting. He currently holds the Florida Senior Games records in his age and weight class, as well as Florida records with the USPA and USAPL powerlifting associations. When he is not lifting, he spends two nights a week bowling in sanctioned city leagues. He says that in some magical way, his HBA Mock Trial shirt always comes through in the clutch.

Les and his wife, Sharon, have three children, Les, Jenny and Justin. Les is an independent

contractor, Jenny is a registered nurse, and Justin is the associate pastor for discipleship at Canopy Roads Baptist Church in Tallahassee. Justin and his wife, Lindsey, have given Les and Sharon three beautiful grandchildren.



Les Garringer '63, left, and his wife, Sharon. Photo courtesy of Les Garringer.

Alumni Week

July 8-13, 2019

Join us for our all-class Alumni Week!

Monday, July 8—Networking Lunch presented by the HBA Alumni Association

Thursday, July 11—Alumni Legacy Family Dinner hosted by President Ron Shiira '75

Saturday, July 13—Ho'olaule'a
Featured entertainment:
Holunape and Da Braddahs
Honoring reunion years ending in 4 and 9.

RSVP today!
www.hba.net/alumniweek



CELEBRATING
70 YEARS
1949
2019
HAWAII BAPTIST ACADEMY
Committed Through Faith



Fran Byrd, center, and Bob Byrd, right, of Villa Park, Calif., with their student host, Sophie Hepton, sophomore, left.

MAC Week 2019

The Mainland Advisory Council is a body of Christian supporters who believe in the purpose of HBA and are committed to ensuring its well-being. The council was first organized in 1977 with 54 members. Today, 259 families from 27 states belong to the family of HBA supporters. Members attend the annual meetings in Honolulu at their own expense.

HAWAII BAPTIST ACADEMY welcomed back the Mainland Advisory Council (MAC) for their 43rd annual meeting in Honolulu, February 19–22. The guest devotional speaker was Dr. David McKinley, pastor-teacher of Warren Baptist Church in Augusta, Georgia, which has supported HBA for nearly 50 years. Paul Jordan of Alexandria, Virginia, was elected MAC Chair for 2019–2020. He replaces Bob Oxford of Golden, Colorado. Seventeen guests came to MAC Week for the very first time, twelve of which became new members.

Throughout the week, members were inspired by testimonies from students, faculty members, parents and administrators about how God, through HBA, has impacted their lives.

Shea Yuen '19 was born with a hearing disability, which has required him to wear hearing aids his entire life. When it came time to enroll in kindergarten, his parents applied to several prominent private schools, including Hawaii Baptist Academy. One of



Shea Yuen '19

the schools refused to accept Yuen due to his disability, but Dr. Ruby Ovitt, who was HBA's elementary principal at the time, wasn't ready to dismiss Yuen. After visiting his preschool and meeting with his teachers, Ovitt was confident that Yuen would thrive at HBA.

"From the moment I started Kindergarten, and met my teachers and friends, I felt comfortable and confident I was in the right place. It took a few days for the kids to get over my hearing aids, they wanted to wear them and asked me a lot of dumb questions, but eventually they just became 'Shea's ears.' HBA has been a big part of my journey. From the caring teachers to the college prep courses, I feel very blessed to be a part of HBA's community."

This fall, Yuen will attend the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor where he plans to study computer science.

Watch more MAC Week testimony highlights on our website at www.hba.net/MACWeek2019



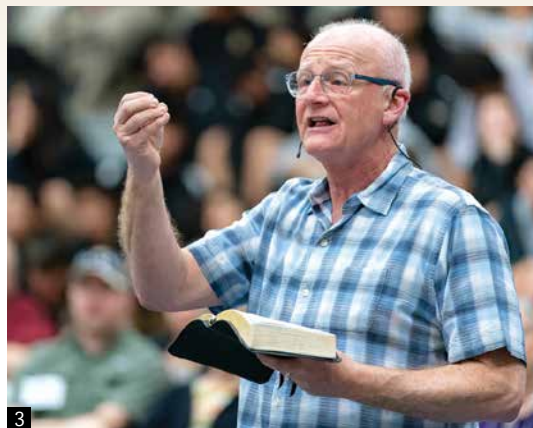
Ron Shiira '75, president; Ruka Furuta, fourth grader; and Clara Inglish of Dallas, Texas.



1



2



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4



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[1] MAC members are greeted with a Chinese lion dance as part of the high school's culture fair. [2] Box Oxford of Golden, Colorado, right, passes the gavel to newly elected MAC Chair Paul Jordan, left, of Alexandria, Virginia. [3] Dr. David McKinley, pastor-teacher of Warren Baptist Church in Augusta, Georgia. [4] MAC members help put the final touches on the stained-glass mural project at the elementary school. L-R: Shana, Bobby, and Zachary Bailey of Floresville, Texas; Belinda Giles of Olton, Texas; and Matthew McCall of Broomfield, Colorado. [5] Mel Lutz of Boiling Springs, North Carolina, center, visits with first graders.

Jennifer (Hee) Oyer '97, who recently served as the chief development officer for The Salvation Army's Hawaiian and Pacific Islands Division, shared how her relationship with MAC members Ernest and Mary Jett influenced her career choice.

"It was the Jetts, and this amazing group of people who belonged to the Mainland Advisory Council, that inspired me to become a professional fundraiser. I knew I wanted to be surrounded by people who were so thrilled to not be receiving money, but to be giving money away, all while being obedient to God and transforming lives like mine," said Oyer. "Every day I wake up and I thank God for the opportunity He has given me to raise money on behalf of The Salvation Army, so that we can serve those in most need."



Jennifer (Hee) Oyer '97.

During their week-long visit, the MAC visited all three campuses. At the elementary school, they worshipped with the students at chapel and visited classrooms. They also finished the stained-glass mural project. Five years ago, students and MAC members began painting stained glass murals that depicted the biblical story as a five-act play. All of those panels are now finished and can be seen at the chapel. At the high school, MAC members worshipped with the middle and high school students, and enjoyed a special performance by the Symphonic Wind Ensemble. Following the chapel service, they were treated to a culture fair hosted by various

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ethnic clubs on campus. Some highlights included students performing a Chinese lion dance, tasting new foods, and pounding poi. During their visit to the middle school, the MAC took a walk down memory lane by revisiting the theme of the MAC's first visit to Hawaii entitled, "Mission Aloha," as students shared lei, song and hula.

On Friday evening, a special reception was held to honor recipients of the school's 70th Anniversary Celebration and Legacy Awards as well as past Legacy honorees. HBA also recognized two new Alii Eagle Circle honorees for their lifetime giving of \$100,000: Kiyo '54 and Laura Itokazu of Honolulu and Jim and Jacki Hall of Tulsa, Oklahoma.



Juanda Halliwill of Roanoke, Virginia, center, meets high school students in the Japanese club.

In Memory

Alumni

Barbara Burgess Hedvall, 69, of the class of 1966, died in Concord, California, on November 9, 2017. She had a 30 year career with several telephone companies. She was a member of Tabernacle Baptist Church in Concord. She is survived by her husband Richard, sister Jane, and brother Peter '65.

Rebecca Liberato Kanekoa, 79, of the class of 1956, died in Honolulu on January 29, 2019. She was the first alumna to return to teach at HBA. She later served as a missionary to the Philippines and established Temple Bible College and Diliman Christian Academy. After nine years in Manila, she returned to Hawaii and taught in local public schools. She was active in the ministry of the Full Gospel Temple, pastored by her father and later by her husband. She is survived by her husband, Mitchell Kanekoa Jr.; children, Mitchell (Norma) Kanekoa III and Darlene (Patrick) Gist; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Shannon C. Walker, 49, of the class of 1989, died in Hilo on March 11. He is survived by his mother, Hazel McGregor Walker '67 of Honolulu; father, Richmond Walker '65 of San Antonio, Texas; and grandmother, Lurie Walker Stewart of San Diego, California, MAC member and former HBA faculty.

Former Staff

Ernest I. Kanemura, 86, of Arlington, Texas, died February 14. He was a physical education teacher at HBA, 1963–1966, before moving to Texas, where he was employed at American Airlines in reservations. He worked with the youth group at First Baptist, Arlington, in basketball and volunteered at Arlington Memorial Hospital for 16 years. Ernest is survived by his wife, Darlene; sister, Rose (Pete) Moon; and four nieces and nephews.

Pamela Duncan Furlow, 73, died February 22 in Calera, Alabama. She taught social studies at HBA, 1986–1990. She was a member of Calera Baptist Church and an honorary member of Olivet Baptist Church in Milton, Florida. She served as Sunday School teacher, Bible study leader and minister to women and children. Pam is survived by her husband, Bruce; her daughters, Kimberly Furlow '88 and Kristina Furlow Linkins '90, of Calera, Alabama; and two grandchildren.

Aloha Council

Glenna Wong, 86, of Honolulu, died January 19. She was retired as a bookkeeper at Olivet Baptist Church where she was a member for nearly 69 years. She was an assistant to her late husband Alfred with his numerous photography assignments, including HBA events. Glenna is survived by her son, Gregory (Doreen); daughter, Lisa (Gordon) Kamei; three grandchildren; and four siblings, including Janet Young, TAC member.

Betty Usui, 86, of Honolulu, died April 30. A member of the Japanese Division of Olivet Baptist Church, she was retired as a public school teacher and librarian. She and her late husband established the Frederick and Betty Utsui Scholarship Endowment Fund at HBA.

Mainland Advisory Council

Norma Harris, 94, of Hickory, North Carolina, died December 8, 2018. Her late husband, J. Hoffman Harris, was the founding pastor of Briarlake Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia, where they served for 29 years. The Harris family were charter members of MAC. Survivors include two daughters, Beth (Rand) Brandes and Chris Harris (Sally Hand), and a grandson.

Barbara Ann Spottswood, 87, of Dallas, Texas, died January 13, 2019. She was active at First Baptist Church, Richardson, as a deacon, Bible study leader, choir member and participant in numerous international mission trips. An accomplished artist, she was a strong supporter of HBA's art program. She is survived by her husband, Bob; daughter Barbara (Mike) Mayo; son Rob (Janet) Spottswood; two grandsons; two step-daughters; and a great-granddaughter.

Michael Corbett, 62, of Albuquerque, New Mexico, died January 8. He is survived by his wife, Karla, and son, Joshua.

Willie Mae Rogers Ray, 89, of Stuart, Virginia, died January 20. She was an admissions director at R.J. Reynolds Memorial Hospital, and she served as a Sunday School teacher and Woman's Missionary Union director at Peters Creek Baptist Church in Lawsonville, North Carolina. Willie Mae is survived by a son, Richard; three daughters, Judith Lynn Ray (Tim) Morton, Beverly Rogers (Bill) Morten, and Kathy Rogers (Mike) Perkins; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Ida Mae Schnautz, 100, of Oxford, Mississippi, died January 29. A retired registered nurse, she previously lived in Wichita Falls, Texas. She was a member of First Baptist, Oxford. Survivors include her sister, Pauline Guyton, two nieces and a nephew.

David Wade, 74, of Frankfort, Kentucky, died February 21. A member of First Baptist Church on St. Clair, he was retired from the Kentucky State Labor Cabinet. He is survived by his wife, Martha, and two daughters, Mollie Ann Wade and Ashley Wade.

Irene M. Laube, 96, of Seattle, Washington, died March 19. She taught music and Bible at HBA, 1972–74 and 1977–78. Her vocal and handbell choirs performed at churches and various community venues in Honolulu and on the Big Island. Besides Hawaii, she and her husband, Roger, led in music ministry in Alaska, Arizona and in Sequim, Washington. Survivors include her sons David, Philip and Steven '76, eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Mavis Jackson, 84, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, died March 22. She was a member of First Baptist Church, Tulsa. She is survived by her husband, Bill, and son, Mark (Cathy).

Robert K. Barnes, 93, of Tustin, California, died April 2. Retired from Barnes Accountancy Corporation, he was active at Crossroad Church and with the local and state Southern Baptist Convention boards. He was a MAC member for 40 years and served as MAC chair, 1994–1995. He belonged to the Kiwanis Club for over 60 years. Bob is survived by his wife, June; two sons, David (Sherry) and Greg (Rachel); and six grandchildren.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21

Betty Sue Kendrick, 88, of Shelby, North Carolina, died April 9. A retired teacher, she was an active church member, serving at Bethel Baptist Church of Ellenboro, Ross Grove Baptist Church of Shelby, and First Baptist Church of Shelby. She is survived by two daughters, Angela (Larry) Bradmon and Betsy Kendrick; one son, Jody Kendrick; and five grandchildren.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is also expressed to the following HBA faculty on the loss of loved ones:

Patricia Ota, curriculum director, on the passing of her mother, **Jane Ota**, 92, on January 13 in Honolulu.

Nikki Okazaki, middle school counselor, on the passing of her mother, **Bertha Okazaki**, 88, on February 15 in Honolulu. Bertha was also the mother of Mark (Anita) Okazaki '75 of Solvay, New York.

Cody Reyes, After School Enrichment Program coordinator assistant, on the passing of his mother, **Cassandra Tesoro**, 54, of Honolulu, on May 8. She was the daughter of Jane (Makiya) Tesoro '58.

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