



**HAWAII BAPTIST ACADEMY**

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*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders.  
And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

ISAIAH 9:6

**May you and your loved ones experience the hope of Jesus Christ this holiday season.**



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# HBA Soaring Eagle

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Winter 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*

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Alumni 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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## President's Message

### Dear HBA Ohana:



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! As 2019 ends, and we wrap our 70th anniversary year, I am filled with joy and gratitude for God's faithfulness and provision for our school. As we look forward to 2020, and the many years to come, we remain committed to our school's mission which is to provide a college-preparatory education rooted in faith. As an alumnus, I can testify that there is no greater gift than receiving

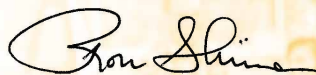
an education that is built on the transformative love of Jesus Christ. It is our greatest desire to continue this legacy, and to raise up the next generation of leaders for His kingdom in our islands and around the world. Thank you for supporting the ministry of Hawaii Baptist Academy. Your partnership has played an integral role in the lives of hundreds of young men and women.

This summer was filled with many celebrations and reunions. In July, we hosted Alumni Week, which included the return of Hoolaulea. We also hosted our very first Alumni Legacy Dinner, celebrating multiple generations of HBA alumni. It was truly a family celebration.

We invite our MAC friends to join us for MAC Week, February 18–21, here in Honolulu. Please make plans to attend and RSVP online at [www.hba.net/MAC](http://www.hba.net/MAC). We look forward to your visit and reconnecting with you soon.

We also invite our alumni and HBA ohana to attend our annual Fun Fair on Saturday, April 4, at the Richard Bento Elementary Campus. The fair is our school's largest fundraiser, with all proceeds going directly to student programs. Please join us for a time of good food and fellowship.

Sincerely,



Ron Shiira '75  
PRESIDENT







NEWS FROM  
HAWAII BAPTIST ACADEMY

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**On the front cover:**  
Nick Smith of Content in Motion

**On the back cover:**  
Derrek Miyahara of Island Digital Imaging

All photos for Alumni Week, Hoolaulea and  
the Golf Tournament by Derrek Miyahara  
of Island Digital Imaging.

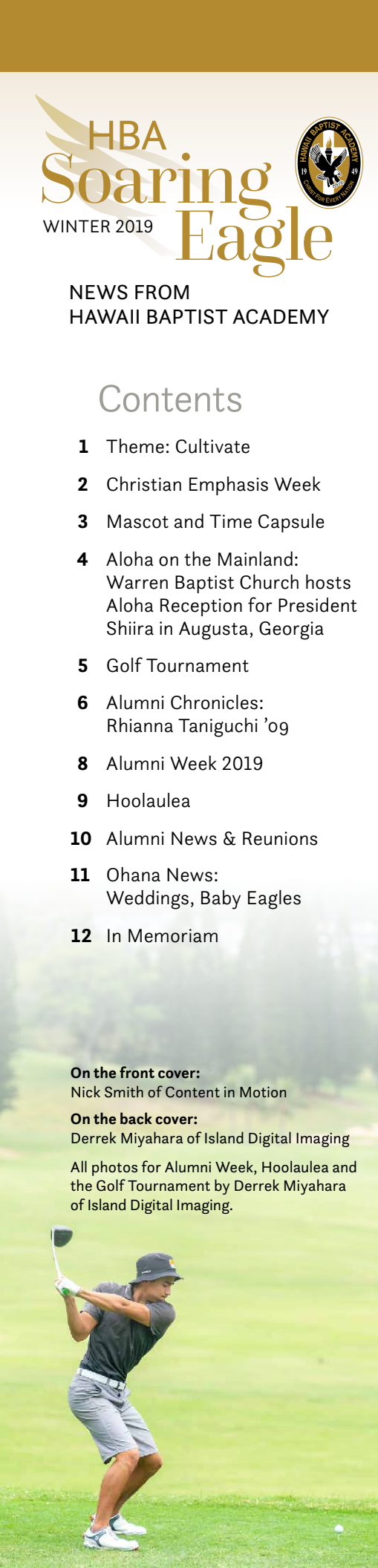
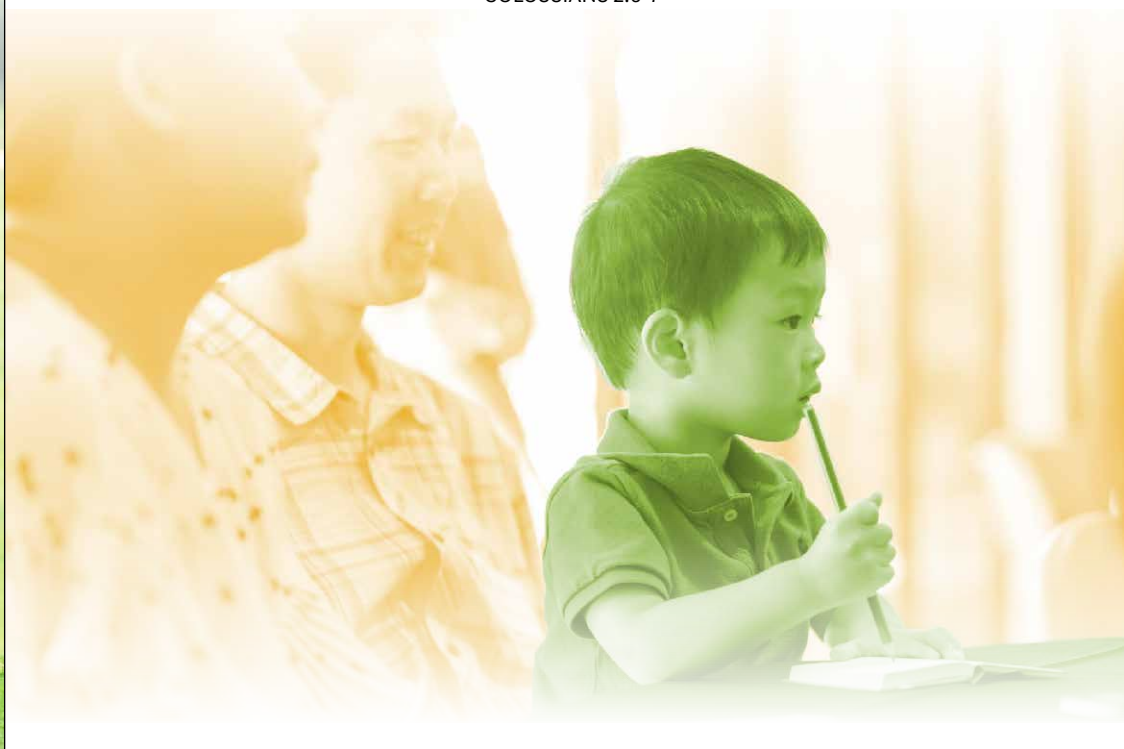


### **The all-school theme for the 2019–2020 school year is “Cultivate.”**

Merriam-Webster’s Dictionary offers four definitions for this word. The first two are both related to farming, where a farmer prepares the soil to grow crops and then, fosters the growth of these crops. It is also used in the context of improvement and encouraging growth. This year, it is our desire to continue cultivating the sensibilities of humility, curiosity, love and commitment in our students, as stated in the preamble of our school’s Expected School-Wide Learning Results. By doing so, we bring faith and learning together, so that we may join God in the formation of people and the transformation of the world.

*So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.*

COLOSSIANS 2:6-7





# Christian Emphasis Week: CULTIVATE

**HAWAII BAPTIST ACADEMY** hosted **Christian Emphasis Week (CEW)** at the start of second quarter. At the elementary school, students explored 1 Corinthians 16:13-15, where they were encouraged to be brave, stand firm in their faith, be strong and to do everything in love. The guest speaker was James Blay, a pastor from College Park Baptist Church in Greensboro, North Carolina. Originally from Nigeria, Blay shared about his childhood growing up in refugee camps.

“James background was also very relevant because we’ve been exploring different cultures around the world each week in chapel, such as Nigeria, Mongolia, and much more. So it was a real treat for the students to meet someone who grew up so far away,” said Cindy Gaskins, Christian Ministries Coordinator at the elementary school.



Third graders decorate shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child.  
Photo by Traci Morihara.



Taylor Morton, student pastor at Valley View Baptist Church in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

The theme at the middle and high school was “Cultivate.” The guest speaker was Taylor Morton, student pastor at Valley View Baptist Church in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Each day, Morton encouraged the students to cultivate different characteristics, including perseverance, hope, love and healing.

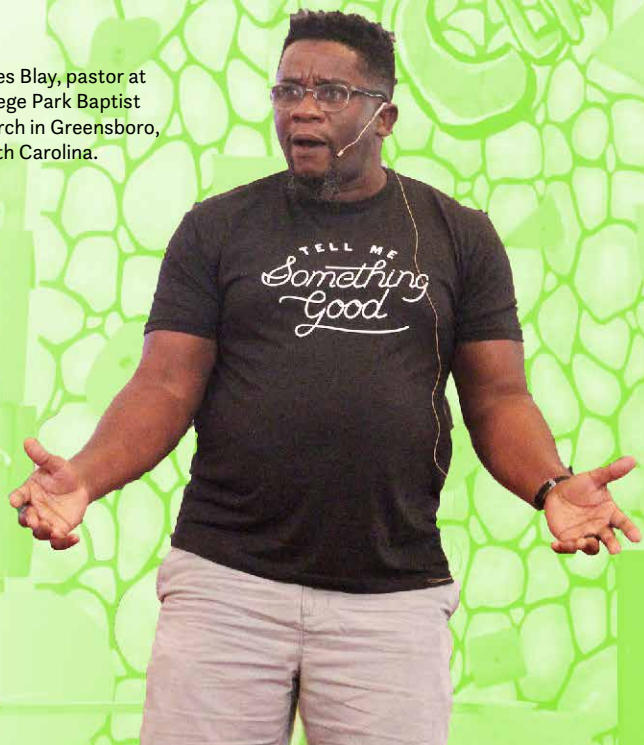
The students attended daily worship and chapel services, followed by workshops and preparation for service projects. Elementary students collected canned goods for the Olivet Baptist Church Food Pantry, and created wall art and encouragement cards for patients at Kuakini Health Care System (KHCS) and Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific (RHP). On Friday, all of the elementary students participated in nine different service projects. Some delivered canned foods to Olivet Baptist Church, others sang songs and played bingo with senior citizens, delivered artwork to patients at KCHS and RHP, and much more. The students also prepared boxes for Operation Christmas Child, a non-profit organization that delivers shoe boxes filled with school supplies, hygiene products, and small toys, to children in need from around the world.

One of the highlights of the week was the All-School Fellowship. On Wednesday, the middle and high school students walked down to the elementary school to fellowship and worship with the younger students as one student body.



Sixth grader Samuel Mokan, left, and Kate Iida, right, organize canned foods that were donated to the food pantry at Olivet Baptist Church. Photo by Traci Morihara.

James Blay, pastor at College Park Baptist Church in Greensboro, North Carolina.





# 70th Anniversary Celebration Concludes with Naming of Mascot and Time Capsule



The HBA mascot, left, was officially named Endurance, at the All-School Chapel on October 30. Photo courtesy of the Eagle Eye Staff. Sample items curated for the time capsule collection: eagle plush toy figure (inset above), Ho'omana T-shirt, May 2019 issue of the *Eagle Eye* student newsletter and 3-D printed HBA STEM medallion (below, right).

**SINCE 1961**, the eagle has been HBA's mascot. On October 30, the school concluded its 70th Anniversary Celebration by officially naming the eagle mascot Endurance at the All-School Chapel. The mascot is named after the mounted bald eagle that is displayed in the trophy case at the high school gymnasium. In 1982, MAC member Betty Ellerd, from Tulia, Texas, was inspired by the words of the alma mater and decided to give the school a stuffed bald eagle as a gift. The process of acquiring and bringing this eagle to Hawaii took two years due to federal laws and strict regulations. It was also the first bald eagle to leave the continental United States. When the stuffed eagle finally arrived, the students decided to name him Endurance. As time went on, the name Endurance became synonymous with the school's mascot.

"Officially naming our mascot Endurance is absolutely appropriate. Just like our alma mater, the Bible tells us that when we put our hope in God, He's able to give us the strength and patience we need to overcome any challenges we may face. The name Endurance embodies all of those qualities," said Billie Takaki Lueder '94, director of institutional advancement.

To commemorate this event, every student received a sticker sheet featuring an animated Endurance designed by Gavin Arucan '16. These stickers can be downloaded for free on the Apple App Store by searching HBA Eagles Sticker Pack.



The celebration concluded with Endurance packing the 70th Anniversary Time Capsule. In the capsule he placed several items suggested by the students, including a student identification card with Endurance's photo, a uniform polo shirt, a plastic medal made by the 3-D printer for the middle school's very first STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) Day, class t-shirts, a soup cup from Flik Dining Services, a 70th anniversary Hydroflask, scrunchies, a picture of Apple Air Pods, a student planner, and much more! The time capsule will be reopened on HBA's 100th anniversary.





# Aloha on the Mainland



Warren Baptist Church in Augusta, Georgia, hosted an Aloha Reception on October 6, where President Ron Shiira '75 shared about future plans for HBA. All photos courtesy of Warren Baptist Church.

**SINCE THE EARLY 1970'S**, Warren Baptist Church (WBC) in Augusta, Georgia, has prayed for, partnered with, and invested in the mission of Hawaii Baptist Academy. For nearly 50 years, members of the church have traveled to Hawaii as part of the Mainland Advisory Council and today, the church continues in their commitment and partnership with HBA.

On October 6, 2019, WBC hosted an Aloha Reception in Augusta to hear from President Ron Shiira '75 and the future plans for HBA.

"What an amazing story this has been for Hawaii Baptist Academy! In the early years, HBA struggled financially to keep its doors open for Christian education, and now 70 years later, thousands of lives have been impacted through the school," shares Pastor-Teacher David McKinley. "Warren Baptist Church is honored to be one of the longest, sustaining partners with HBA and its on-mission endeavors to provide quality Christian education, and more importantly, impact students and families with the transforming message of the Gospel."

Warren Baptist was honored at HBA's 70th Anniversary Celebration and Legacy Awards on February 23, 2019, for their support to the advancement of Christian education in Hawaii.

"After attending MAC last year, I realized that we needed to do something to ensure that we didn't get to a day where only a few of us knew HBA's story. Having Ron in-person to share his testimony added credence to the story. Seeing the genuineness in Ron spoke volumes for those hearing the story for the first time," explains MAC member Jim Sechrist.

Pastor Steven Laufer at University Baptist Church in Houston, Texas, hosted an Aloha Reception on Wednesday, October 23, and later that week HBA was represented by MAC Chair Paul Jordan, Alexandria, Virginia, at the D.C. Baptist Convention's 143rd annual gathering.

HBA is blessed to have many supporters across the continental U.S. sharing about the school's ministry and purpose of being a Christian college preparatory school that equips students spiritually, intellectually, physically, socially, and emotionally, so that they bring honor to God.



Pastor-Teacher David McKinley of Warren Baptist Church, left, prays over Robert Whitfield, second from the left, Ron Shiira '75, second from the right, and Clara Inglish, MAC vice chair from Dallas, Texas, right. Photo courtesy of Warren Baptist Church.



# Golf Tournament

**THE HAWAII BAPTIST ACADEMY ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB** hosted their 20th Annual Golf Tournament on June 24, 2019, at Mid-Pacific Country Golf Club in Kailua, Oahu. All proceeds from the event directly benefit HBA's athletic programs.



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[1] Front row, L-R: Bailey Nagai, freshman; and Cassidy Tsutsui, freshman. Back row, L-R: Jade Mauga, freshman; and Jonathan Chung, freshman. [2] Back row, L-R: Jeroldine Tsuha; Amanda Tsuha, sixth grader; Karen Iseri, fourth grade teacher; Candace (Han) Wada '88; and Cyndi Shiira. Front row, L-R: Cynthia (Chong) Yoshida '86; Emi Wada, freshman; and Zoe Lorica, freshman. [3] Right: Ron Shiira '75, president. [4] L-R: Peyton Oshiro '19 and Connor Lopes '19.



# Alumni Chronicles

## Rhianna Taniguchi '09

By Maurine King

### RHIANNA TANIGUCHI '09

has never shied away from adversity. Although she came from modest means, she was always on the lookout for opportunities to grow. Her success is tied to her tireless work ethic and unyielding perseverance. Today, Taniguchi is a standout professional in the marketing and communications field who provides strategic counsel to multibillion-dollar organizations.



While a senior at HBA, Taniguchi enlisted in the Army National Guard to help pay her way through Oregon State University. She chose that branch to honor her grandfather,



Rhianna Taniguchi, left, at a field training with the Oregon Army National Guard. Photo courtesy of Rhianna Taniguchi.

who had reached the highest level of the enlisted ranks. After basic training, she took advanced individual training, receiving the Army Achievement Medal and highest honor graduate distinction. She finished her six-year contract, which included monthly drills and annual trainings.

At OSU, Taniguchi was elected to the student government and says she did her best to improve the lives of her fellow students.

“My greatest accomplishment was authoring a resolution calling on the university’s administration to continue financial aid for veterans, which was threatened by compliance issues,” said Taniguchi. “The administration eventually agreed to comply with the Department of Defense’s new Memorandum of Understanding, ensuring that 119 student veterans would receive over half a million dollars in federal tuition assistance annually.”

Taniguchi also volunteered as the secretary of the OSU Blood Drive Association, which organized the largest blood drive in the Pacific Northwest.

“The first time I tried to donate blood was at HBA; I nearly passed out,” noted Taniguchi. “I wanted to participate, and I kept trying to donate, but I would always get too dizzy to finish. Volunteering to organize and staff the drives helped me connect with my classmates and to a meaningful cause.”

After taking an Asian American studies course, Taniguchi re-founded the Japanese American Student Association at OSU. The organization held a cultural night with over 100 students and community members in attendance. The evening showcased Asian American leaders as well as current issues within the Asian American community. Later that year, the organization hosted two film showings, “The Untold Story of Ralph Carr” and “Vincent Who?” The two films brought in over 150 students.

“I was really unaware of what it meant to be Asian American before taking that course. After learning about the contributions of Japanese Americans to the United States, I felt indebted to the men and women who preserved our culture and served our community through difficult times,” said Taniguchi. “I wanted to find a way to continue their work and honor their legacy, so I contacted the Japanese American Citizens League and attended my first national convention in 2012.



Rhianna Taniguchi, left, with Japanese American Citizens League representatives and Congressman Gregorio Sablan. Photo courtesy of Rhianna Taniguchi.

I drove 259 miles, alone, and across state lines to get there. Since then I’ve served on their national grant committee, National Youth Student Council, and as a columnist and editorial board member for the Pacific Citizen national newspaper. At JACL, I learned about social justice issues that many Asian American communities still face today.”

Michele Oda, HBA secretary, has memories of Taniguchi since early childhood. Taniguchi was close with Oda’s daughter, Morgan Machuta ’10.

“I was shocked to discover that Rhianna could hardly read in second grade,” said Oda. “I convinced her mother to develop an incentive plan to encourage Rhianna to read more. Rhianna became a voracious reader, earning points toward a Game Boy with every book she read. By the time she got enough points for the Game Boy, she wasn’t interested—all she wanted to do was read!”

Taniguchi credits Oda with mentoring her, introducing her to Girl Scouts, and even taking her with Machuta on a tour of mainland colleges. Oda also encouraged Taniguchi to apply to HBA in ninth grade.

Except for being in Servant Group and performing in the radio play version of “It’s a Wonderful Life,” Taniguchi had relatively few extra-curricular activities,



Rhianna Taniguchi, bottom right, at the International Girl Scout Sustainability Summit in Switzerland in 2013.  
Photo courtesy of Rhianna Taniguchi.

at least of the kind that made it into the yearbooks. Oda recounted that “Rhianna knew money would be tight for college, so she concentrated on her studies. She took every AP exam she could, even for courses she had not taken, in hopes of amassing early college credits.” Taniguchi also worked at the elementary school’s After-School Enrichment Program in order to earn money to cover her participation in the Center for Tomorrow’s Leaders fellows program in her junior year. She was also active at her church, St. Mary’s Episcopal. When Taniguchi graduated in 2009, she was the recipient of the Kilohana Kai Scholarship.

After graduating from OSU with her bachelor’s degree in psychology, Taniguchi moved to Washington, D.C., to serve as the Norman Y. Mineta Fellow for the Japanese American Citizens League, the nation’s oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization. She worked with the Obama administration and with Congress on immigration reform, voting rights and veterans’ issues.



Taniguchi currently lives in the D.C. area. She develops digital advertising strategies, manages digital ad operations and delivers strategic earned media coverage for her clients at iQ 360, a Honolulu-based communications agency, with her HBA classmate, Joshua Shon ’09. Her public relations and media relations work was recently recognized by Public Relations Society of America, Hawaii Chapter. Taniguchi is currently on the Diversity & Inclusion committee of the PRSA Nation’s Capital Chapter.

In her free time, she studies design thinking and was part of the inaugural class of Designing for Social Innovation & Leadership course in Bangkok, Thailand, and Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

The program was put on by the UN University for Peace & Sarus. She also is involved with the Designing Your Life for Women program, which uses the Life Design method, popularized by the New York Times bestseller “Designing Your Life.” She is currently studying for the GMAT and hopes to enroll in a part-time business school program in 2021.

Taniguchi believes that volunteering can transform your community and contribute to your professional development. In college, Taniguchi served as a Girl Scout troop leader and was sent to Chicago for a week-long global conference, where girls from over 90 countries came together to discuss the United Nations Millennium Goals. The same year, Girl Scouts sent her to Switzerland for the Helen Storrow Seminar for Environmental Sustainability. Her first two jobs out of college were also a result of her volunteer activities.

“The networks and leadership opportunities that came from volunteering helped me to grow professionally and to find like-minded people who care about their community,” said Taniguchi. “I am blessed to have had incredible mentors and organizations, including HBA, support my development.”



**Above:** Rhianna Taniguchi, second from the right, in Bangkok, Thailand, participates in community service as part of the Designing for Social Innovation & Leadership course.  
Photo courtesy of Rhianna Taniguchi.





# Alumni Week

July 8-13, 2019



**ALUMNI WEEK 2019** kicked off with a professional networking lunch at the Mandalay Restaurant in downtown Honolulu, hosted in partnership with the HBA Alumni Association. Forty alumni representing a broad range of industries attended the event where they connected with one another and learned how to get involved with our school.

On Thursday evening, President Shiira '75 hosted a spaghetti dinner at HBA's first ever Alumni Legacy Dinner celebrating multi-generational families. Over 100 people attended the dinner, including 47 alumni. Some alumni received a special pin that recognizes both them and their child as members of HBA's legacy families.

Alumni Week culminated with Hoolaulea on Saturday, July 13, after a five-year hiatus. The evening featured entertainment by Holunape and Da Braddahs, with James Roache '85. Brian Nagai '92, chef de cuisine at Foodland Farms, was our featured chef along with HBA's new dining vendor Flik, and Il Gelato, a local gelato company. Classes ending in the years 4 and 9 were highlighted in conjunction with the school's 70th anniversary. We look forward to Alumni Week 2020—July 6–11!



Back row, L-R: Luther Beck '04, Mark Young '01, Keoni Wasano '03, Matt Evans '00, Nicole (Nakamura) Do '01, Lacey Nakaguma '01, and Graham Enomoto '03. Front row, L-R: Dayna Hasegawa '01, Amber (Ching) Takenouchi '01, and Andrew Kurata '03.



L-R: Kellen Takatsuka '17, Sara Utsugi '15, Claudine (Florence) Takatsuka '92, Susan (Miyamoto) Utsugi '82, Reid Takatsuka '83, Rena Takatsuka '19, Kara (Suehiro) Crosson '99, August Suehiro '67, Katherine (Ching) Lee '69, Joanna Lee '06, Erica Chun '07, Gerin Chun '73, Nicole Watts '10, Marty (Lovelace) Watts '79, and Cynthia (Chong) Yoshida '86.



# Hoolaulea



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[1] L-R: Ron Shiira '75, president; and Bart Nakamoto '82. [2] Center: Von Kenric Kaneshiro '83. [3] Center: Cheryl (Arakaki) Kaluhiwa '94. [4] L-R: Courtney (Glaza) Naso '89, Jennifer (Harada) Okino '89, and Jennifer (Orrick) Gonzalez '89. [5] Front row, L-R: Isaac Gusukuma '69, Katherine (Ching) Lee '69, and Ronald Abel '69. Second row, L-R: Ron Shiira '75, Susan (Miyamoto) Utsugi '82, Robin (Oka) Estrada '82 and Traci (Maeda) Hirakawa '82. Third row, L-R: Von Kenric Kaneshiro '83, Leighton Miyachi '84, and Courtney (Glaza) Naso '89. Fourth row, L-R: Cindy (Vargo) Siok '85, Marcie Ann Johiro '19, Jennifer (Orrick) Gonzalez '89, Kelvin Espiritu '89, Jennifer (Harada) Okino '89, and Bart Nakamoto '82. Fifth row, L-R: Billie Takaki Lueder '94, Brian Nagai '92, Enoch Lum '94, Deren Oshiro '86, Carole Ann (Nakama) Masaki '95, Luther Beck '04, and Jennifer (Lee) Siatafu '95. Sixth row, L-R: Kevin Suehiro '94, Jon Kato '94, Keoni Ching '94, Scott Sunaoka '94, Cheryl (Arakaki) Kaluhiwa '94, Joanna Lee '06, and Nicole Ginoza '06. Seventh row, L-R: Matthew Chun '94, Greg Schlais '94, Jessica (Arita) Schlais '98, Mark Ganialongo '94, Nicole (Matsusaka) LaBarre '05, and Trisha (Fukumoto) Lee '94. Top row, L-R: Daniel Douglass '94, Ryan Su '17, and Jordan Yasutomi '03. [6] Jon Kato '94, center, with Da Braddahs (a.k.a. Tony Silva, left, and James Roache '85, right).



# Reunions



[4] The Class of 1999 also gathered for the 20th Class Reunion on July 13 at the Oahu Club. Front row, L-R: Lori (Tanigawa) Miyasaki, Kara (Suehiro) Crosson, Laurie (Takemori) Blanco, Kristen (Kamada) Lau, Dustin Lau, Jessica (Ching) Katayama, Kym Yano, Andrea (Monden) Rhodes, and Malia (Ogino) Pakele. Second row, L-R: Kyle Miyamoto, Tina Sandoval-Banfe, Bethany Fong, Joy Yoshida, Michelle Marks, and Mike Bruce. Third row, L-R: Chris Chun, Dane Canida, Joel Masatsugu, and Jon Ng. By the tree: Travis Suzawa. *Photo courtesy of Dane Canida.*

[5] The Class of 2009 gathered for their 10th Class Reunion on August 17 at Square Barrels in Honolulu. Pictured: Daniel Kosasa, Caleb Alipio, Chad Okada, Max Cleary, Justin Shin, Joshua Prager, Kaloa Robinson, Curtis Lee, Matthew Lui, Chelsie Mow, Ryan Yasuda, Leesa (Viveiros) Khan, Isaac Hayashi, Reid Morihara, Jordan Urabe, Jenna Kagimoto, Stacie Nomura, Elisabeth Seamon, Catherine Nakamura, Laurie Uehara, Nina (Cheong) Kondo, Troy Takahashi, Tony Traugbber (faculty member), Keline (Yoshimura) Akiyoshi, Chantae (Tesoro) Inamasu, Stefanie Sueda, Trevor Hu, Danielle Fong, Alyssa Imai, Jaryn (Lau) Iwamoto, Angela Xiong, Mari Tadaki, and Chelsea Casil. *Photo courtesy of Catherine Nakamura.*

[1] The Class of 1979 gathered for their 40th Class Reunion in Las Vegas the weekend of June 22. Front row, L-R: Garren Thomas, Yuki Kobayashi, Terri (Oshiro) Gilmour, Liz (Hansen) Gough and Maria (Trejo) McDonald. Second row: Jon Hergert, Debra (Mokiau) Hsu, Tera (Thompson) Saunders, Tim Savage, Judy (Humphrey) McDonald, Anita Bice, Jeffery Ching and Eric Yuasa. Third row, L-R: Kelly Rothwell and Gary Matsuura. Back row, L-R: James Loomis, Steve Lamborn, William Cotter, Charlie Baugh, Alan Smith, Peter Moruzzi, John Harris, and Andy Willems. *Photo courtesy of Samantha Ching.*

[2] The Class of 1989 gathered for their 30th Class Reunion in Las Vegas, June 20-23. Front row, L-R: Mark Sora, Warren Hayama (friend of '89), Jennifer (Harada) Okino, Ross Umebayashi, Nikki (Murayama) Senter, Robyne (Harada) Watanabe, David Tokuda, and Alan Young. Back row, L-R: Michael Okino (friend of '89), Garvin Tsuji, David Takiguchi, Jeff Harada, Scott Shimokawa, and Lance Kikuchi. *Photo courtesy of Jennifer (Harada) Okino.*

[3] The Class of 1999 gathered for their 20th Class Reunion on July 3 at Natsunoya Tea House in Honolulu. Front row, L-R: Joel Masatsugu, Blaine Watanabe, Jason Nakayama, Cindy Sato, Alyssa Arakaki, Laurie (Takemori) Blanco, Dustin Lau, and Chris Chun. Second row, L-R: Travis Hong, Jon Chinen, Justin Sugiyama, Travis Suzawa, Kelli Rakta, Michelle (Pond) Risser, Bryan Yi, Kym Yano, and Keri (Kawabata) Brown. Third row, L-R: Kyle Miyamoto, Mark Mendez, Dane Canida, Mike Bruce, and Scott Bingo. Fourth row: Joy Yoshida and Michelle Marks. Fifth row, L-R: Kara (Suehiro) Crosson, Crystal (Sato) Ido, Danelle Miyamoto, Kara Takata, Tina Sandoval-Banfe, Andrea (Monden) Rhodes, and Malia (Ogino) Pakele. Back row, L-R: Bethany Fong, Randy Uyuenten, and Jon Ng. *Photo courtesy of Dane Canida.*





## Weddings



**[1] Jennifer (Marshall) '90** and Brian Garriss were married on June 15, 2019, in Laie, Hawaii. Jennifer is a school counselor at HBA's high school, and Brian is an IT Specialist at Maryknoll School. They reside in Honolulu.



**[2] Taylor (White) '16** and Michael Svetlichny were married on June 21, 2019, in Hawaii Kai. Taylor graduated magnum cum laude from Whitworth University with a bachelor's degree in psychology. She is currently enrolled in the marriage and family therapy master's program at Whitworth, while growing her wedding photography business, Taylor White Photography. Michael is completing his degree in mathematical economics at Whitworth while working as a project engineer for Pan-Pacific Mechanical Construction —Hawaii. They reside in Spokane, Washington.



**[3] Ashlea and Shawn Saito '12** were married on July 21, 2019, at the Hale Koa Hotel in Honolulu. Shawn is a sales manager for THE Orchid Lei Company. Ashlea is a patient service administrator at a doctor's office in Kahala. They reside in Honolulu.

## Baby Eagles

**Quinn Emily Hong** was born on September 17, 2019, to **Jonathan '94** and Jasmine Hong. She was 17 and three-quarters of an inch long, and she weighed five pounds and 12.8 ounces. Quinn's name means wisdom, intelligence, and reason, and it is her parents greatest desire to instill these wonderful qualities in her character. Quinn's father is a district chief for the city and county of Honolulu. Her mother is a store supervisor at the Navy Exchange. They reside in Honolulu.



## Alumni Bowling Tournament

**THE FIRST ANNUAL ALUMNI BOWLING TOURNAMENT** organized by the Hawaii Baptist Academy Alumni Association (HBAAA) was held on September 15 at Aiea Bowl. Fifteen teams came out to compete, with 50 alumni representing classes between 1986–2016.



**Above:** Back row, L–R: Jennifer (Harada) Okino '89, Mark Sora '89, Reid Oshiro '89, Kyle Nishioka '89, Wendy (Matsuzaki) Wong '89, Carrie (Kawanishi) Matsunaga '89, Nikki (Murayama) Senter '89, and Mia (Noguchi) Hasuie '89. Front row, L–R: Blake Kawakami '89, Ross Umebayashi '89, and Courtney (Glaza) Naso '89. Photo courtesy of Jennifer (Harada) Okino.

**Left, L–R:** Kyle Nishioka '89, Reid Oshiro '89, Mark Sora '89, and Blake Kawakami '89. Photo courtesy of Jennifer (Harada) Okino.



# In Memory

## Alumni

**T.L. "Terry" Harlan**, 65, of the class of 1972, died May 25 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He retired as a Lt. Colonel from the U.S. Army where he served as a Department of Defense Special Agent. He is survived by his wife, Yolanda; sons, Josh and Ricardo; daughters, Rachel, Rebecca, Yoly, and Trinity; brother, Barton; sisters, Cheri Weaver and Lani Pivaroff; and 11 grandchildren.

**Richard L. Parker**, 67, of the class of 1970, died July 21 in Mason, Ohio. He served on the Audio Team at Crossroads Church Oakley. He is survived by his son, Alan (Valerie) and daughter, Nancy (Katie); one grandson; brother, Ken, and sister, Sherri Parker '68.

**Landon Viliamu**, 49, of the class of 1988, died July 26 in Kapolei. He worked at Mitsunaga & Associates as a drafting technician. He is survived by his sons, Logan and Layne; parents, Ray and Lena; sister, Lenore '86; brother, Larson '88 (Jenna); two nieces; and one nephew.

## Mainland Advisory Council

**Norma Reagan**, 87, of Houston, Texas, died May 30. She was a member of Tallowood Baptist Church in Houston. She is survived by her husband, Jimmy Mack; son, David; daughters, Martha Reagan, Miriam (Richard) Wattenbarger, and Sarah Jean (William) O'Dell; and four grandchildren.

**Martha Wheeler**, 101, of Tallahassee, Florida, died July 10. She was a member of First Baptist Church, Tallahassee. She is survived by a daughter, Stephanie (Tim) Smith; sons, John, Jr. (Becky) and Randy (Pam); four grandsons; 11 great grandchildren; and three great-great grandchildren.

**Ernest Jett, Sr.**, 99, of Winnsboro, Texas, died July 11. He was retired as a comptroller for Exxon Mobil. He served as a deacon at First Baptist Church, Tyler, and was a member of First Baptist Church of Winnsboro. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Mary, in 2008. He is survived by his wife, Burnell Hutcherson-Jett, sons Ernest, Jr. (Janene) and David (Gail); stepson, Jimmy Hutcherson; stepdaughters, Sylvia (Peter) Maddox and Sharon (George) Gorham; 14 grandchildren; and 30 great-grandchildren.

**Charles Driscoll**, 91, of Richardson, Texas, died July 29. Retired from Texas Instruments, he was active in the choral music program at First Baptist Church, Richardson. He is survived by his wife, Diane; three sons, Charles (Karen), Jeffrey (Margaret) and Arthur (Barbara); daughter, Carol Ann (Staley) Edwards; nine grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

**Donald Lytal**, 89, of Springfield, Virginia, formerly of Alexandria, Virginia, died August 3. He was retired as principal of Waynewood Elementary School. He served as a deacon and trustee at First Baptist Church of Alexandria. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy.

**Jewel D. "J.D." Andrews**, 94, of Corona, California, died August 14. He was a school teacher for 31 years and served as a pastor with the California Southern Baptist Convention. He and his late wife, Janis, served as Mission Service Corps volunteers and assisted with disaster relief around the globe. He is survived by his son, Timothy (Ginger); daughters, Linda (Bill) Durbin, and Ruth (Reagan) Williams; six grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

**Berdell "Dell" Mays**, 87, a former resident of Ozark, Alabama, died August 31 in El Reno, Oklahoma. Dell was a military wife during her late husband Archie's 37-year career in the U.S. Army and also 16 years in civilian service at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Dell was an active volunteer at her church and her children's schools. Her daughter, Jayne '76 Assoc. (Mike) Craig, attended HBA during 1972-1974 when they were stationed in Hawaii.

**Robert Fanning**, 87, of Dallas, Texas, died November 2. A retired attorney, he was a member of Park Cities Baptist Church in Dallas and served on the boards of numerous denominational entities and community organizations. He is survived by his wife, Margaret; sons, Barry and Marc; and five grandchildren.

## Aloha Council

**Julia Nakamura**, 80, of Honolulu, died June 14. She was a retired public school teacher. She is survived by a daughter, Donnie Ann (Ricky) Wong '80; sons, Warren (Michele) '83 and Ross '91; and four grandchildren, including Deanna Wong '15.

**Toshie Nakamura**, 93, of Honolulu, died June 21. She retired as HBA's cafeteria manager in 1991 after 20 years of service. She is survived by daughters Ruth Nakamura '77 and Lois Nakamura '83.

**Carol Omoto**, 85, of Honolulu, died September 30. She was retired from the City and County of Honolulu. She is survived by two sons, Randall '78 (Jessica) and Garrett '79 (Gail); two daughters, Crystal (Joel) Shiroma and Annette; seven grandchildren, including Jessi Omoto '13 and Kaci Omoto '17; and one great-grandchild. Garrett is an art teacher at HBA's high school; grandson Sean Shiroma teaches biology and chemistry at HBA.

**Deanna Aoki**, 72, of Honolulu, died October 31. She was retired as Woman's Missionary Union director of the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention. She is survived by her husband, John; three sons, Christopher '92 (Cicely), Stephen '94 (Pauline), and Joseph '97 (Megan Fong '97); and seven grandchildren. The memorial service will be held January 11 at Olivet Baptist Church at 10:00 a.m., following visitation at 9:00 a.m.

## Former Staff

**Marsha Onaga**, 73, of Honolulu, died June 17. She was recently retired as an administrative assistant in the HBA high school office. She is survived by two daughters, Shelbi Ancheta and Kory Onaga '96; three grandchildren; and siblings, Harold, Johanna, and Harrison Kim.

**Julie Harpe Pierce**, 56, of Newtown, Connecticut, died July 2. She taught social studies, primarily geography, to middle school students in New York, Hawaii, New Mexico and Connecticut, including HBA, 1993-2000. She is survived by her husband, Brendan; son, Jack; mother, Fairy Harpe; and brother, David (Elizabeth).

**Forrest T. Franklin, Jr.**, 80, of Seattle, Washington, died December 5. He taught History and Bible at HBA, 1970-72, and was the intermediate-high vice principal, 1972-73. He was retired as a security officer at Univ. of Washington and belonged to the North Seattle Alliance Church. Survivors include his wife, Susan; and sister, Carol Franklin Sutton, who taught English and Speech at HBA, 1969-71.

**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is also expressed to the following HBA faculty on the loss of a loved one:

Jeri Rawlings, fourth grade teacher, on the passing of her mother, Vona Marie Batdorf, on September 20 in Ann Arbor, Michigan. She was 94.



