

HBA Soaring Eagle

www.hba.net

November 2020



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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Class of 2020

Legacy Graduates

Mr. & Miss HBA

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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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A Message from the President



Dear HBA Ohana,

I am pleased to present to you this Soaring Eagle newsletter honoring the accomplishments of the Class of 2020. The Class of 2020 was faced with something no other graduating class has ever had to do—graduate in the midst of a pandemic. It was a challenge that I can proudly say our graduates met head-on, finishing strong until the very end. After being forced to spend our last quarter of school online, our desire was to show our seniors how much we loved them.

The Senior Send-Off, Baccalaureate and Commencement Ceremonies gave us the opportunity to reimagine how these momentous milestones could be celebrated. It was our first Drive-Thru Senior Send-Off and our first virtual baccalaureate. Other firsts included creating a commencement tabloid that ran in the *Honolulu Star-Advertiser*, and partnering with KHON2 to broadcast our commencement for our graduates' families (and extended families') enjoyment. We were also able to hold an in-person, physically distanced ceremony for the first time in the gym on our Stan Sagert High School campus on June 27, just for immediate families. These efforts were made to properly honor the students and their families.

While the seniors ended their high school years differently than they or anyone could have imagined, we know they have gained a resiliency that will help them achieve their future goals and developed their character. The graduates of the Class of 2020 will have a different perspective from previous classes, and that will present opportunities for them to make the world a better place. There is no longer a "norm," so the future will be paved by those best positioned to do so with the courage to take action. Our prayer for our graduates is that all of the time, energy, and love your families and our faculty and staff have contributed to your lives, have prepared you to become tomorrow's leaders.

While no one knows how the pandemic will play out, we all know it has changed everything. We hope you will remember that HBA and Christ are always in your corner. May He help you to persevere and grow positively from this and your future experiences. As it says in James 1:4, "let [your faith] grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing."

Once again, congratulations to all 110 members of the Class of 2020. We are proud of you. Thank you for being a part of HBA's story, and in doing so, being a part of God's story. May God continue to bless you in all of your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Ron Shiira '75

PRESIDENT



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- 11 Middle School Awards,
Sixth Grade Aloha Celebration
- 12 Athletic Awards,
Newspaper Award
- 13 State Science Fair Award
Recipient: Brendan Aoki

On the front cover: Sylar Takafuji

On the back cover:

1. L-R: Cobi Pimental '20 and Kacie Kwan '20
2. Amy Vorderbrugge, elementary principal
3. Kaimilani Duncklee '20
4. Center: Tyler Ng '20
5. Matthew Yamamoto '20
6. Andrew Ota '20
7. Taylor Marcello '20
8. Siblings watch the commencement ceremony
in the Senior Pavilion.
9. Malia Joy "Aloha" Mussell '20
10. Center: Lyric Albios '20
11. Skyler Suzui '20
12. Todd Yokotake '84
13. Serah Matsunaga '20
14. Center: Caleb Caetano-Castro '20

Graduation Summary



L-R: Yzarra Vidaurri and Kela Kaida.

THE CLASS OF 2020 celebrated their achievements at HBA's 67th Commencement Ceremony on June 27 at the Dan Liu Gymnasium on the Stan Sagert High School Campus.

The valedictorian was Julianne Lau. Lau is the daughter of Ernest and Dorene Lau. This fall, she is attending the University of Washington to study biomedical engineering. The salutatorian was Gabrielle Chun. Chun is the daughter of Andrew and Kelley Ann Chun. She is also a Daughter of HBA. Chun is attending Marquette University to study science in mechanical engineering and business administration. Her brother, Lucas, is a graduate from the Class of 2018.

Forty-one students graduated with highest honors and 27 with honors. Lyric Albios was awarded the H.P. and Mary McCormick Distinguished Founders Award for consistently exemplifying Christian character during her years at HBA. Thirty-one students were recognized as Sons and Daughters of HBA, for attending the school since kindergarten. Sixteen students were also recognized as alumni legacy graduates.

Senior advisors Tara Gruspe, Risha Mishima '09, Katherine (Pang) Moriyama '06, Ross Mukai and Todd Yokotake '84 delivered the commencement address.

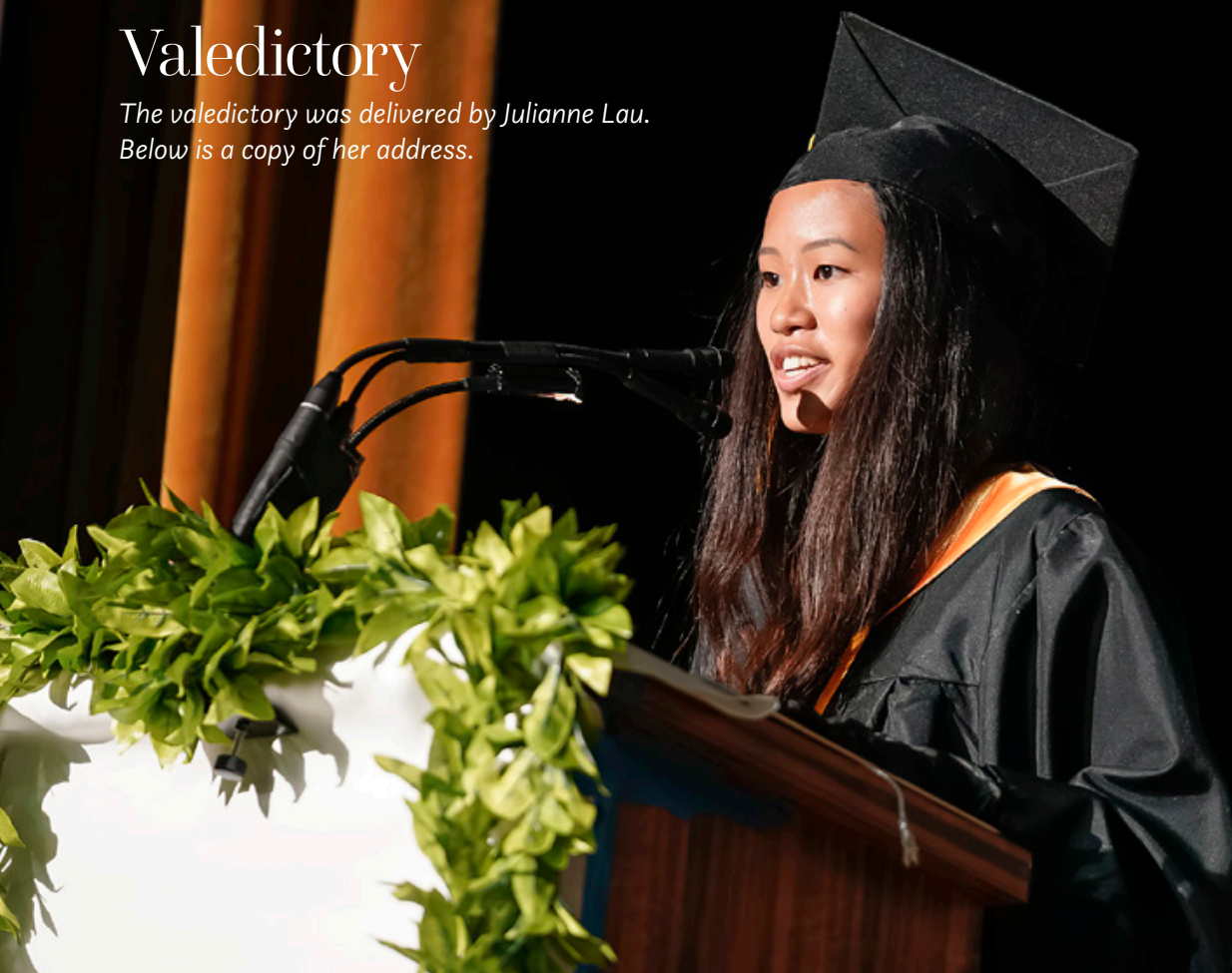
Congratulations to all 110 members of the Class of 2020!



L-R: Lucas Chun '18, brother; Kelly Ann Chun, mother; Gabrielle Chun '20, salutatorian; and Andrew Chun, father.

Valedictory

*The valedictory was delivered by Julianne Lau.
Below is a copy of her address.*



*Do not be afraid to try new things, embrace change, and along the way,
you will become the person that God intended you to be.*

ALOHA HBA OHANA! Whether you are here or at home, thank you for joining us to celebrate the Class of 2020's Commencement Ceremony. It is an honor to be speaking here on this special occasion.

I know this is definitely not how any of us imagined we would be graduating. I did not realize that March 13 would be the last day we could all be together as a class. We expected another quarter, a final play, a final band performance, and other celebrations, yet we experienced something completely different. I know many of us are disappointed; however, we still had many valuable experiences with one another at camps, proms, spirit weeks, and special moments everyday. I will cherish all of these memories.

Anyway, we made it! We finally finished this crucial portion of our lives together. However, this is only the beginning. I know this sounds cliché, but as we move on to the next chapter of our lives, take what you've learned here at HBA and continue to build upon it. Do not be afraid to try new things, embrace change, and along the way, you will become the person that God intended you to be.



L-R: Dorene Lau, mother; Julianne Lau '20, valedictorian; and Ernest Lau, father.

I've been asked to comment on what my next steps might be, but I can't be sure what's ahead for me or where we all might be going. However, graduating in this unprecedented year, I know that we are resilient and will face all obstacles with the same spirit of hope and optimism that we have demonstrated this year. I look forward to seeing the amazing things everyone here will accomplish.

Commencement Address



L-R: Mike Hu, Tara Gruspe, Risha Mishima '09, Traci Haly, Katherine (Pang) Moriyama '06, and Ross Mukai. **Back:** Todd Yokotake '84.

The commencement address was delivered by senior advisors Tara Gruspe, Risha Mishima '09, Katherine (Pang) Moriyama '06, Ross Mukai, and Todd Yokotake '84. The following are excerpts from their address.

"I have learned that while we all must forge our own path, our families are there for us.... [They] will be there to comfort us when we fail and to cheer us when we succeed.... Appreciate your family... tell and show them often that you love them, and keep the door open to these long-lasting relationships... [God] has comforted our family and has orchestrated divine appointments, demonstrating that His ways are higher than our ways. He has also made us so keenly aware of the richness of our brothers and sisters in Christ.... [As] you navigate these next chapters in life, I urge you not to miss out on the richness that comes from being united with the family of God." —**Tara Gruspe**

"It seems some enterprises deem us selfish if we take time to look out for only ourselves. However, self-care and personal management are important for one to accomplish even the simplest tasks of our daily lives. Even God took a Sabbath, a day of rest, when He created the world—I think you deserve some self-care too. My wisdom for you is to seek wise counsel; pray, ask the wisest of all beings; consult, have a conversation with those who have gone through similar events before you; and have an experience. This one is sometimes a brutal teacher, yet it is with hope that you interact with the opportunities thrown into your life on a manageable scale." —**Risha Mishima '09**

"It doesn't matter how old or young you are! You can still make a difference in this world... set this world on fire. Use your passions, gifts, talents, and abilities to change this world.... You don't have to set the whole world on fire, but you can at least set one person's world on fire. You don't know how your one action can mean the world of difference to that person.... You will always have a generation behind you that you can help teach or inspire... use what God gave you to set this world ablaze and change it for the better!" —**Katherine (Pang) Moriyama '06**

"Since I've become a parent, I've realized that my experiences as a father have shaped the teacher that I am to you, and you have helped shape the father that I am to my kids. They are not separate from each other. Being a parent has helped me feel the great love your parents have for you. The passions of your life do not need to be mutually exclusive. They can work together to enhance each other. Do not sell yourself short by giving up your passions. Sometimes it may seem that you have to make a choice, but with help and creativity you can make it work." —**Ross Mukai**

"Maybe for some of you, sometimes the clarity got a little blurred, a little skewed, a little muddy... But when all is said and done, will you have had the clarity to make Jesus Christ your personal Savior? ... Anchor yourself to the future. May you look back with clarity for the lessons learned and the blessings received, and may your future give you inspiration." —**Todd Yokotake '84**

Hawaii Baptist Academy

Class of 2020

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

Lyric Hi'ilani Albios ♥
Erin Akemi Arashiro ♦
Courtney Miekō Arume ★▼
Jarín Hiro Ashimine
Caleb Tekoa Caetano-Castro
Kellen Andrew-Makani Chang
Kailey Kau'inohea Mei Jun Chang ★▼♥
Tatiana Marie Mei Ji Chang ★▼♥
Cameron Takeshi Chee ♦
Gabrielle Keali'ika'apuni Gae Bo Chun
★★♥
Alexis Noelani Tesoro Dang
Ciyana Enjolie Davis ★
Kieran Raiden Shimazu Dela Cruz ★♥
Donovan K.A. Denham ♦
Jordan Ichiro Shane DePonte
Timothy William Dixon
Ka'imilani Mei Lin Duncklee ★
Jhennai Yukiko Frances Felipe
Josiah James Layugan Flores ♦
Dillon James Kanoa Francisco ♦
Michael Antonio Nagal Garces ♥
Megan Giang
Trinity Jane Keikiakeakua
Halemano-Reed ★
Reese James Haly ★
Kathryn Mayumi Harada ★▼♥
Tyra Joy Hayashi
Jason Matthew Kum Wai Hee ★
Grace Emi Fan Yan Higa ♦▼
Lia Hannah Honbo ★▼♥
Justin Naokatsu Ishida
Kailee Mika Ishikawa ★▼
Fisher Lane Jardon
Kela Sha-Yue Kaida ♦♥
Faith Tomiko Kaminaka
Raven Shigeko Kiyota-Au ♦
Jordyn Kira Eiko Kobayashi ★▼♥

Quinn Keiko Kono ★▼
Kacie Elizabeth Kwan ★▼
Nicholas Kainalu Kwon ★▼
Julianne Le Ping Lau ★
Zach Hiroshi Lau ★
Melanie Quynh Le ♦
Amy YWF Lee ♥
Christopher Garyi Lee
Maya Chiyuki Mei Ling Liao ★♥
Natasha Mei Yan Loh ♦▼
Brent Anthony Labayog Low
Chloe Euphe Machida ♦
Joshua Tsugio Machida ♦
Summer T. Mae ♦▼♥
Taylor Yanlu Marcello
Makua Austin Marumoto ♦
Ashley Aiko Masuoka ★♦
Jessica Tamiko Meilani Matsuda ★♦♥
Serah Bethany Matsunaga ★♦
Paige Miyuri Mayeda
Alyssa Akemi Mayeshiro ★▼♥
Jessica Michiko Miyasato ★
Micah Akira Murayama ♥
Malia Joy Alohalani Mussell
Victoria Paige Nago ★▼
Elyse Aiko Nakano ★▼♥
Kaycee Mitsuko Nakashima ♦▼
Rachel Emi Nakata ♥
Natalie Marie Narito ♥
Tyler Ng ♥
Davin Shooji Nikaido ♦
Regan Leigh Sachiko Agullana
Nishimura
Vincent Koji Ogasawara ★
Ashley Kumiko Oshiro ♥
Andrew Tatsunobu Ota ♦
Kelsey Alyssa Masako Ota ★
Amber-Lynn Kahiau Palama ♥
Sasha Ipolani Phillip

Nathan Rhys Beltran Pilar
Cobi Shane Pimental ♦
Zachary Qin ★
Piper Dayv Lehuanani Rabang ♦
Samantha Raven Lazaro Rasos
Lindsay Hannah Hiroe Sasaki ★▼
Jenna Rae Serikaku ♦
Donovan Kato Shiraishi
Skyler K. Suzui ♦
Sage Hitoshi-Lee Suzuki
Stacen Takeo Suzuki ★
Sylar Ryoshi Takafuji ★
Kayla Kiyomi Tanaka
Lance Riki Tasaka ★
Aimee Lorraine Terashima ★▼♥
Trevor Yoshihide Tokairin ♦
Nathan Yansing Tong ♥
Kassidy M.L. Trang ★▼
Norman Lee Tu
Marissa Joy Natsuko Uehara ♦♥
Yzarra Hope Ramos Vidaaurri ♦
Ridge Rikio Wada
Ryder Tadashi Watanabe ♦
Tanner Nobu Weeks ♥
Riyana Inez Werny ★♥
Jonathan Daniel Wilson ★
Isaiah Keanuenueokalani Wong
Jiayan Wu ★
Kailan Wu
Matthew Norito Yamamoto ♥
Nathan Keiji Yee ★▼
Cole Tadashi Yokoyama ♦♥
Hunter Wan Hoy Yokoyama ♦♥
Cydni Keahilani Akiko Yoshida ★▼♥
Micah David Hugh Yoshida
Ridge Keiji Yoshida

CLASS OF 2020

Legacy Graduates

Legacy graduates are students whose parents are HBA alumni. To celebrate our legacy families, both the student and parent are recognized with a special pin that they wear at the commencement ceremony.



Cory Arume '83



Courtney Arume



Christie
Caetano '94



Caleb
Caetano-Castro



Jennifer (Chang)
Dunclee '00



Ka'imilani
Dunclee



David Francisco
'88



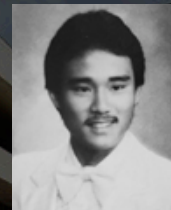
Dillon James
Francisco



Maya (Fujii)
Harada '86



Kathryn Harada



Reid Honbo '85



Lia Honbo



Lynley (Murakami)
Honbo '85



Brian Ishikawa '88



Kailee Ishikawa



Eric Au '93



Raven Kiyota-Au



Cindy (Murayama)
Masuoka '88



Ashley Masuoka



Jason Matsuda
'86



Jessica Matsuda



Derek
Mayeshiro '88



Alyssa Mayeshiro



Robin (Seo)
Palama '88



Amber-Lynn
Palama



Dean Suzuki '83



Sage Suzuki



JoAnn (Yukumoto)
Terashima '86



Aimee
Terashima



Matthew
Vidaurri '88



Yzarra Vidaurri



Cynthia (Chong)
Yoshida '86



Cydni Yoshida



1 2

[1] Kela Kaida '20. [2] Risha Mishima '09, science teacher.



SENIOR



5



7



6



8

[5] Teachers and staff decorate the senior pavilion and cheer students on as they drive past them.
 [6] Ron Shiira '75, president, greets a student and their family in front of the Student Service Center.
 [7] Michael Garces '20 and his parents wave goodbye and throw shakas to the teachers and staff.
 [8] Mr. Hu, science department chair, blows an air horn in celebration and Mrs. Gruspe, counselor, (indicated by arrow) holds a laptop for the seniors to see their underclassmen bid them farewell.
 [9] Todd Yokotake '84, choral director, fills the air with bubbles in front of the library.



[3] Sean Shiroma, science teacher, holds up “Congratulations” signs from him and the Class of 2022 on the middle school campus. [4] Kathleen Fujimoto, teacher’s aide, greets a student and their parents at the entrance of the drive-thru.

SEND-OFF

To celebrate their last day of exams, and officially say farewell to the high school campus, the senior class is celebrated by the entire middle and high school at the Senior Send-Off. The annual event is highly anticipated by all students, as the seniors are greeted by every faculty member and the entire student body with high fives and hugs as they take their last walk through the campus.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, and the mayor’s stay-at-home-order, the Class of 2020’s Senior Send-Off was held as a drive-thru. Parents decorated their cars for the occasion. As the students and their families drove onto campus, they were greeted by faculty and staff members with cheers and celebratory congratulations.



Mr. & Miss HBA

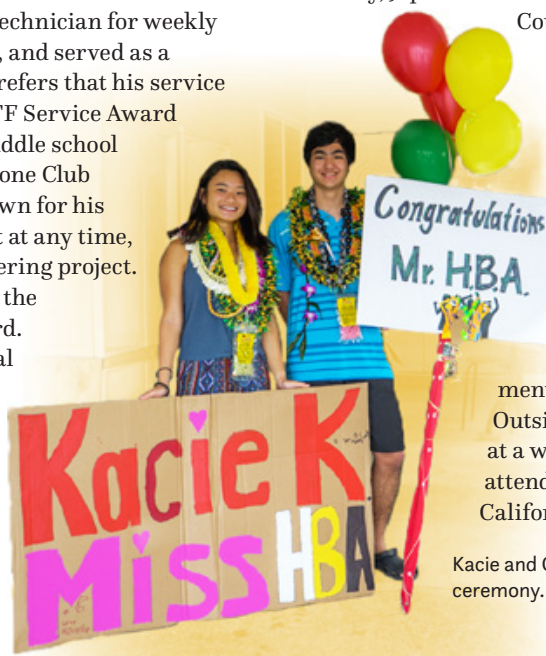
Cobi Pimental and **Kacie Kwan** were elected Mr. and Miss HBA for the 2019–2020 school year. The award, which began in 1955, recognizes one male and one female senior who typify the best in HBA students, including their contributions to school life through leadership, extracurricular activities and in their character. The winners are elected by their peers.



ABOVE: Cobi Pimental, left, with his parents Colleen and Bill Pimental. **RIGHT (L–R):** Christopher '17, Candace, Kacie '20, and Keith Kwan. Photos courtesy of the HBA Eagle Eye Staff.



PIMENTAL entered HBA in fourth grade. In middle and high school, he became well-known for his servant-style leadership. Always ready to help, he consistently volunteered for the City of Joy ministry, served as a sound technician for weekly chapels and multiple grade-level camps, and served as a Christian Ministries intern. While he prefers that his service go unnoticed, he was awarded HBA's PTF Service Award three times. Pimental also mentored middle school students and led clubs, including the Drone Club and Science Olympiad. He was also known for his cleverness and ingenuity. It seemed that at any time, he was always working on some engineering project. During his junior year, he was awarded the Bausch & Lomb Honorary Science Award. In addition to his many talents, Pimental played french horn in the wind ensemble and was a member of the varsity golf and tennis teams. He is attending the University of North Dakota to study aeronautical engineering. His dream is to be a pilot.



KWAN entered HBA in seventh grade. In high school, she served on the student council and was a member of the National Honor Society, Japanese National Honor Society and President's Aloha Council. In 2018, she won the ILH individual champion title in cross country. She is the second girl in the school's history to receive this honor. She was also known for her extraordinary leadership among her teammates in both cross country and track and field. Her love for Christ was also evident in her words and interactions with her peers. She was a member of the Soldiers of Light select choir, participated in weekly Bible studies at Core Group, and mentored underclassmen at grade level camps. Outside of school, she volunteered as a counselor at a week-long Boy Scout Camp. Kwan is attending Westmont College in Santa Barbara, California, where she continues to run.

Kacie and Cobi were honored at their homes during a drive-by ceremony. Photos courtesy of the HBA Eagle Eye Staff.

High School Awards

Bible

Excellence in New Testament

Brilynn Au Yuen
Joey Lin

Excellence in Old Testament

Krysti Williams
Cody Yeung

Excellence in Christian Thought

Dillon Francisco
Kathryn Harada
Collin Lucas
Jessica Yamamoto

English

Outstanding English 9 Student

Hannah Dela Cruz
Noelle Nagaishi
Jolie Wong

Outstanding English 10 Student

Conner Malinger
Emi Wada
Evan Yoshishige

Outstanding English 11 Student

Arianna Raping
Gavin Yamamoto

Outstanding English 12 Student

Quinn Kono
Jessica Matsuda

Outstanding AP English Language and Composition Student

Johnson Lin

Outstanding AP English Literature and Composition Student

Lindsay Sasaki
Aimee Terashima

Shakespearean Recitation Competition

Madison Duren

Journalism

Eagle Eye's Most Valuable Staffer

Kaycee Nakashima

Excellence in Documentary Filmmaking

Michael Garces

Excellence in Photography

Jarin Ashimine

Excellence in Photography & Writing for a Photo Essay

Grace Glenn

Excellence in News Writing

Trinity Halemno-Reed

Excellence in Feature Writing

Johanna Seng

Excellence in Illustration

Daniel Jurek

Excellence in Yearbook Layout

Kailey Chang
Tatiana Chang

Mathematics

Outstanding Student in Geometry

Cameron Pien

Outstanding Student in Algebra 2

Kazuki Kawasaki

Outstanding Student in Algebra 2—Honors

Aaron Ing
Renn Tanitomi

Outstanding Student in Algebra 3

Grayson Becker

Outstanding Student in Trigonometry

Caden Weaver

Outstanding Student in Pre-Calculus

Johnson Lin

Outstanding Student in Introduction to Statistics

Lindsay Sasaki

Outstanding Student in AP Statistics

Julianne Lau
Nathan Yee

Outstanding Student in AP Calculus AB

Quinn Kono
Lindsay Sasaki

Outstanding Student in AP Calculus BC

Jessica Matsuda

Outstanding Student in Introduction to Programming

Ka'imilani Duncklee
Logan Kakugawa

Outstanding Student in AP Computer Science

Nathan Yee

HBA Mathematics Team High Scorer

Johnson Lin

American Mathematics Competition 10—1st Place

Aaron Omon

American Mathematics Competition 10—2nd Place

Xan Waialeale

American Mathematics Competition 10—3rd Place

Samantha Sebastian

American Mathematics Competition 12—1st Place

Zach Lau
Nathan Yee

American Mathematics Competition 12—2nd Place

Adia Ainsworth

Mathematics Service Award

Victoria Nago

PE & Health

Outstanding Student in Physical Education and Health

Dane Anderson
Kira Baker
Rachel Harris
Andy Siu

Science

Outstanding Student in Biology

Michela Lim
Lyndsy Mashino

Outstanding Student in Chemistry

Jordyn Ajimine
Ian Anderson

Outstanding Student in Physics

Piper Rabang
Aimee Terashima

Outstanding Student in AP Biology

Julianne Lau
Lindsay Sasaki

Outstanding Student in AP Chemistry

Courtney Arume
Johnson Lin

Outstanding Student in AP Physics 1

Johnson Lin
Gavin Yamamoto

Outstanding Student in AP Physics 2

Julianne Lau
Victoria Nago

Outstanding Student in AP Physics C

Gabrielle Chun
Nathan Yee

Outstanding Student in Marine Science

Cobi Pimental
Marissa Tonaki

Rensselaer Medal Award

Adia Ainsworth

Bausch & Lomb Honorary Science Award

Johnson Lin

Social Studies

Outstanding Student in Ancient World History 9

Michela Lim
Timothy Shimizu

Outstanding Student in Government 9

Hannah Dela Cruz
Joey Lin

Outstanding Student in US History 10

Conner Malinger
Amanda Sato

Outstanding Student in Modern World History 11

Jacob Norimoto
Jasmine Oki

Outstanding Student in Economics

Lindsay Sasaki
Nathan Yee

Outstanding Student in Psychology

Serah Matsunaga

Outstanding Student in AP World History

Jonathan Aoki

Outstanding Student in AP Economics

Jessica Matsuda

Social Science Scholar

Jordyn Kobayashi

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

High School Awards

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

Visual & Performing Arts

Outstanding Achievement in Basic Art

Victoria Luk
Jolie Wong

Outstanding Achievement in Basic Drawing

Tiffany Arucan
Kira Baker

Outstanding Achievement in Basic Mixed Media

Mikaela Dukelow
Kaylee Ann Tani

Outstanding Craftsmanship in Ceramics 1

Meredith Lau
Kaylin Urata

Outstanding Craftsmanship in Ceramics 2

Aimee-Louise Lee

Outstanding Craftsmanship in Ceramics 3

Victoria Nago

Outstanding Achievement in Animation

Connie Chen

Outstanding Artist in Advanced Drawing & Painting

Megan Tomas
Tani Yoshioka

Outstanding Achievement in Advanced Placement Art & Design

Gabrielle Chun

Outstanding Student in Theater

Andrew Ota
Lindsay Sasaki

World Languages

Outstanding Achievement in Chinese 1

Katie Chen

Outstanding Achievement in Chinese 2

Celina Tong

Outstanding Achievement in Chinese 3

Megan Giang

Overall Excellence in Chinese

Davin Kwon

Outstanding Achievement in Japanese 1

Sera Gavin
Joel Tanoue

Outstanding Achievement in Japanese 2

Emi Wada
Amanda Sato

Outstanding Achievement in Japanese 3

Tani Yoshioka

Outstanding Achievement in Japanese 3 Honors & Japanese 4

Taylor Anne Oda

Outstanding Achievement in AP Japanese Language and Culture

Aimee Terashima

Overall Excellence in Japanese

Jessica Matsuda

Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 1

Hannah Dela Cruz
Timothy Shimizu

Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 2

Aaron Omon

Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 3

Len Silva
Johnson Lin

Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 4

Ciyana Davis

Overall Excellence in Spanish

Alexis Dang

Japanese National Honor Society Inductees

Jordyn Ajimine
Jarren Chiang
Emma Chun
Shea Erler
Grace Glenn
Rachel Harris
Kaitlyn Hasegawa
Kira Hasuike
Caleb Hilacion
Zoe Loric
Sarah Matsuda
Jaelyn Mina
Kai Moriyama
Bailey Nagai
Amanda Sato
Noah Shiira
Elyse Suzuki
Kisa Tamai
Sarah Ushigome
Emi Wada
Emma Watanabe
Noah Watanabe
Lia Yamamoto
Melissa Yamanaka
Aaron Yoshida
Kelsey Zane

National Honor Society Inductees

Kacie Agena
Jonathan Aoki
Jordyn Ajimine
Arielle Cook
Hannah Dela Cruz
Shea Erler
Noah Hu
Ashlie Kiyabu
Summer Lee
Michela Lim
Zoe Loric
Lyndsy Mashino
Aaron Omon
Cameron Pien
Timothy Shimizu
Abigail Sumida
Kelly Tada
Hayley Taka
Kisa Tamai
Kaylee Ann Tani
Lauren Toda
Eliana Tsui
Aidan Uchimura
Jolie Wong
John Yamamoto
Kelsey Zane
Lisa Zheng

National Merit Program

Certificate of Merit in 2018
National Merit Program (Finalist)
Zach Lau

School Awards & Scholarships

HBA Alumni Association
Eagle Pride Scholarship
Sophie Hepton

"It Takes a Dream" Scholarship
Ka'imilani Duncklee

L.O. and Johnnie Taylor
Outstanding Service Award
Aimee-Louise Lee

Mallory Kathryn Ellis Soldier of
Light Leadership Scholarship
Kacie Kwan

Rev. O.W. "Dub" and Grace Efurd
Memorial Scholarship
Lindsay Sasaki

Stacie and Julie Lee Scholarship
Kacie Kwan
Alyssa Mayeshiro

Sue Nishikawa Family Scholarship
Lyric Albios

PTF Awards

PTF High Achievement Award

Aimee-Louise Lee
Johnson Lin
Joy Maehara
Sydney Senter
Reiko Shiraishi
Len Silva
Jordyn Ajimine
Justin Do
Kaitlyn Hasegawa
Ashlie Kiyabu
Kaden Kobashigawa
Connor Malinger
Kai Moriyama
Aaron Omon
Amanda Sato
Hayley Taka
Kaylee Ann Tani
Emi Wada
Evan Yoshishige
Kelsey Zane

PTF Service Award – Grade 9

Arielle Cook
Maxwell Lee

PTF Service Award – Grade 10

Madison Duren
Kaylee Ann Tani

PTF Service Award – Grade 11

Sydney Senter
Landon Wong

PTF Service Award – Grade 12

Jarin Ashimine
Trinity Halemano-Reed



Ka'imilani Duncklee



Aimee-Louise Lee



Kacie Kwan



Lindsay Sasaki



Alyssa Mayeshiro



Lyric Albios

Middle School Awards

Bible

Excellence in Bible 7

Lydia Halcomb
Brady Katano

Excellence in Bible 8

Zoey Kamikawa
Hudson-Clark Kobayashi

English

Outstanding English 7 Student

Joshua Labaczewski

Outstanding English 8 Student

Aaron Ing
Lindsey Toda

Mathematics

Outstanding Student in Math 7

Kenshin Casamina
Jaden Oki

Outstanding Student in Algebra 1

Jonathan Aoki

Outstanding Student in Algebra 2—Honors

Aaron Ing
Renn Tanitomi

PE & Health

Outstanding Student in Physical Education and Health

Kenshin Casamina
Terra Kawamoto
Euodia Lan
Sydney Zane

Science

Outstanding Student in Science 7

Jaden Oki
Sage Shiroma

Outstanding Student in Earth Science 8

Brendan Aoki
Taylor Maling

Social Studies

Outstanding Student in Geography

Asia De La Cruz
Jaden Oki

Outstanding Student in American History 8

Brendan Aoki
Alissa Tong

Visual & Performing Arts

Outstanding Artist in Middle School Art 7

Harumi Ho
Ally Low

Outstanding Artist in Middle School Art 8

Katherine Kotowski
Cerra Leong

Outstanding Student in Fine Arts 7

Samuel Lim
Amanda Tsuha

Outstanding Student in Fine Arts 8

Dylan Okamura
Nicole Shibuya

Outstanding Student in Middle School Drama

Yuxiang Liu
Winston Yamanaka

PTF Academics & Service Awards

PTF Service Award – Grade 7

Alyssa Kauleinamoku
Robert Nordin

PTF Service Award – Grade 8

Riley Lorenzo
Ezekiel Lum

Overall Excellence

Soaring Eagle (Overall Excellence in Middle School)

Taylor Maling



Taylor Maling, eighth grader, recipient of the Soaring Eagle Award



Sixth Grade Aloha Celebration

THE CLASS OF 2026 celebrated their achievements and said goodbye to their teachers at the Sixth Grade Aloha Celebration on May 26. This year's celebration took place as a drive-thru around the Richard Bento Elementary Campus. Students and their parents started at the lower blacktop parking lot, made their way to the pavilion and ended at the cafeteria to take photos and receive their certificates.

Twenty-six students were recognized as Sons and Daughters of HBA for attending the school since kindergarten. Six students received the President's Award for Academic Excellence. To qualify, students must have an A- or better and scored in the 85th or higher percentile on a standardized math and reading test. They are Eve Davidson, Ryan Ing, Christian Kim, Marcos King, Lauren Okuda and Braeden Takeuchi.

Six students were elected by their peers for three awards. They were the All-Around Award, given to Tia Takekawa and Samuel Moka; the J.O.Y. (Jesus first, Others second, then Yourself) Award to Hannah Jung and Prescott Yamanaka; and the Citizenship Award to Callie Kawaguchi and Ryan Ing. Congratulations to the Class of 2026!

Micah Biggers, sixth grader, waves and celebrates at the Sixth Grade Aloha Celebration Drive-Thru. Photo by Rhona Halmos.

Athletic Awards

Varsity athletes were celebrated at a virtual ceremony in May. Recipients of the school's athletic scholarships were presented their trophies and scholarships at their homes by Deren Oshiro '86, athletic director.



Eagle Awards (3 Varsity Sports)

Josiah Lum (Cross Country, Wrestling, Judo), sophomore
Ka'imilani Duncklee (Cross Country, Swimming, Water Polo), senior
Kailan Wu (Cross Country, Basketball, Track), senior
Lindsey Jaeger (Cross Country, Precision Riflery, Track), junior
Alyssa Young (Volleyball, Basketball, Track), sophomore

Eagle Awards (3 Varsity Sports)

Male: **Makua Marumoto** (Basketball, Volleyball), senior
 Female: **Kacie Kwan** (Cross Country, Track), senior

Ken & Rosemond Street Sportsmanship Awards

Male: **Cobi Pimental** (Tennis, Golf), senior
 Female: **Kacie Kwan** (Cross Country, Track), senior

Robert Fulford Scholar-Athlete Awards

Male: **Sylar Takafuji** (Soccer), senior
 Female: **Julianne Lau** (Basketball), senior



[1] Makua Marumoto '20, [2] Kacie Kwan '20, [3] Cobi Pimental '20, [4 and inset] Sylar Takafuji '20, and [5 (series)] Julianne Lau '20.

Brendan Aoki Wins State Science Fair

What is a cloud chamber?

A cloud chamber is a tool for observing subatomic particles with the naked eye. In a cloud chamber, extremely fine droplets are created near the bottom so the alcohol creates a visible trail.

EIGHTH GRADER BRENDAN AOKI became fascinated with nuclear research after learning that a 14-year-old boy was the youngest person in the world to achieve nuclear fusion by using a nuclear fusor he built in his garage. Aoki says he came across Taylor Wilson's story on the Internet while searching for inspiration for his upcoming science fair project.

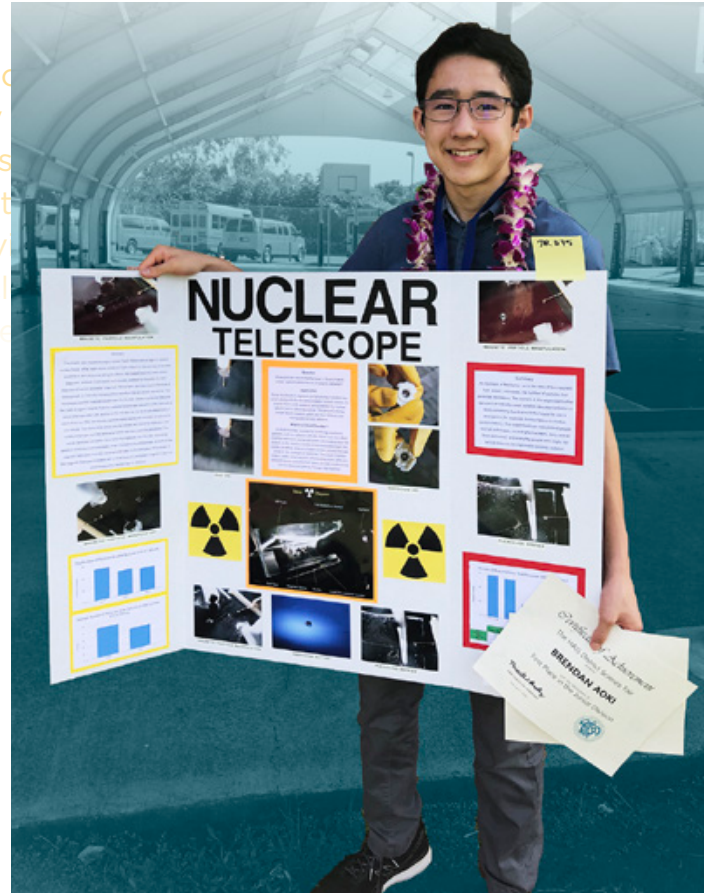
"I wanted to do what he did, but after realizing how much was involved, I decided to try something simpler," said Aoki.

So instead of building a nuclear reactor, he opted for building a cloud chamber. Cloud chambers allow scientists to visualize radioactive particles with the naked eye. To create the cloud chamber, Aoki used alcohol and dry ice. The cold temperatures from the dry ice cooled the vapors from the alcohol, allowing the radioactive particles in the cloud vapor to be visible. From there, he was able to see what types of materials would make effective barriers against radiation.

"You could see the particles flying off the source, and sometimes they would penetrate the barriers."

The barriers he tested included saran wrap, paper, magnets, plexiglass and felt (to simulate fabric worn in everyday clothing). Aoki says plexiglass was the best barrier, followed closely by the magnetic fields produced by permanent magnets.

"The magnets were interesting because they were able to stop the radiation without a physical barrier."



Eighth grader Brendan Aoki after winning the HAIS District Science Fair in February. His project, Nuclear Telescope, took first place overall in the junior division at the Hawaii State Science and Engineering Fair on May 4. Photo by Traci (Shibuya) Morihara '91.

*"Don't go small because it might seem like an easy way out.
Do what's most interesting to you, even if it's hard."*

To convince his parents that this project would be safe, Aoki showed them how radioactive materials are used in everyday household items, like smoke detectors. He then found some materials online, specifically an isotope of lead called lead-210, that he could purchase. His parents had to trust in his ability to be safe in his experimentation.

"My parents decided that if this stuff was safe enough to ship through the mail, it would be safe to handle for my project."

Aoki's project, entitled Nuclear Telescope, won first place overall in the junior division of the Hawaii State Science and Engineering Fair on May 4. He also took first place overall at the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools District Science Fair in February. Seven other HBA students participated in the state fair with Aoki. They were eighth graders Madi Callo, Mari Cesar, Hannah Cheng, Ty Koch, and Taylor Malinger; and seventh graders Kyla Mira and Sage Shiroma.

Aoki says the most important thing he learned from this project is that not all nuclear energy and radiation are bad. He hopes that his research can help those who are regularly exposed to high levels of radiation, such as astronauts, nuclear plant workers and military personnel.

"You always hear about nuclear bombs and reactors blowing up. Through this project, I learned it's all around us and not necessarily something to be afraid of. We've evolved to live with it and we cannot assume it is all bad. But sometimes, we need to be protected from high levels of it."

To all future students who will have to participate in the science fair, Aoki offered this advice:

"Don't go small because it might seem like an easy way out. Do what's most interesting to you, even if it's hard. I did that and I got something good out of it."

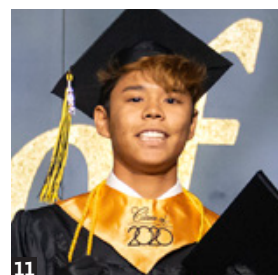
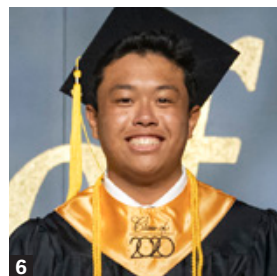
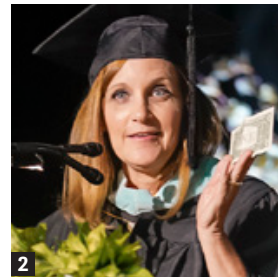


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