

HBA Soaring Eagle

www.hba.net

Spring 2022



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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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 junior 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 with aloha by the Communications Department and Office of Institutional Advancement.


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

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A Message from the President



Aloha HBA 'Ohana,

As we tread carefully into 2022, I'm reminded of God's promises to us. "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future"—Jeremiah 29:11.

There are moments, maybe even days or weeks, where it's hard to remain hopeful or feel optimistic about the future. But, we know that God is with us every step of the way and is our rock through all seasons.

The pandemic, or endemic, as many are now calling it, may have cast a shadow for many of us over these past two years. We have seen and heard many stories of loss, pain, and hardship—and we continuously lift our HBA community and greater community up in prayer.

1 Corinthians 12:26 says: "If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it." In the coming pages, we would like to share some stories that we pray will bring encouragement and remind us that God is always at work.

We see hope in action when our children find ways to serve others and bring joy amidst a trying season for us all. Our students joyfully wrote notes of encouragement to our health care heroes, sang and danced to raise the spirits of our kupuna, packed hundreds of shoeboxes full of necessities and toys for underserved children around the world, and more.

We also get to witness God's faithful plans come to fruition when we see thousands of our alumni living out their God-given purposes and dreams. They bring strength of character, wholesome values, and a strong work ethic in all that they do. We are so grateful and proud of our alumni serving Him throughout the world.

These acts of love and service, both seen and unseen, demonstrate God's unconditional love for us and provide a window into the hope and future He has for us. May God bless you all richly and may you feel His continuous presence as we press on together in the coming year.

We wish you and your family a blessed year ahead.

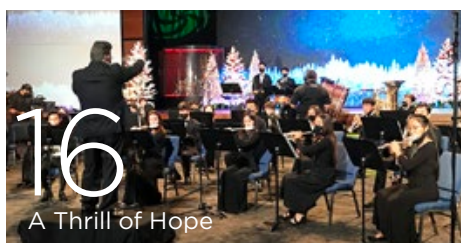
In Christ,

Ron Shiira '75
PRESIDENT





NEWS FROM
HAWAII BAPTIST ACADEMY



On the front cover:
Junior Kindergarten students (L-R): Brett Wada, Haven Breaux, and Brody De La Cruz are pictured riding their tricycles.

On the back cover:

1. Ho'olaule'a drive by food pick up.
2. Ho'olaule'a entertainers (L-R): Bryan Tolentino, Maila Gibson and Shawn Pimental
3. L-R: Da Braddah's Tony Silva and James Roache '85 emceed Ho'olaule'a.
4. Mark Young '01 (center) with the HBA production team (L-R): Nicole Sakaguchi, Mark Ganialongo '94, Megan Dung and Asia Che '12.
5. Billie Takaki Lueder '94 interviews Social Studies teacher Lynne Nakano.
6. Kelli (Kaneda) Williams '90.
7. L-R: Asia Che '12, Megan Dung, Billie Takaki Lueder '94, Jolynn Uyehara, Matt Kamada '02, Nicole Mastusaki Labarre Kamada '05.
8. Valerie (Stackel) Coryell '88
9. Office of Institutional Advancement team.
10. Ho'olaule'a entertainers Imua and Tiffa Garza.

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HBA Junior Kindergarten

Tuition Includes:

- 10-month school year (August-May)
- School Uniform Shirts
- All Meals (breakfast, morning snack, lunch and afternoon snack)
- After School Enrichment Program until 5:30 p.m.
- One week of Fall Intersession and afternoon childcare
- One week of Spring Intersession and afternoon childcare
- Comprehensive Fee
- Book Fee
- Tech Fee

**Now Accepting Applications
for the 2022-2023 School Year**



To learn more or apply, visit HBA.net
#HBAisOurSchool #LeadingToServe



Junior Kindergarten: Welcoming Our Youngest Eagles

By Tammy Mori Brownfield, Director of Communications & Public Relations



A small group of our current junior kindergartners put their heads together on the giant circle time rug. The entire classroom is designed to make learning fun and engaging.



On June 14, HBA welcomed its littlest learners into its first junior kindergarten class. The students came in with a wave of energy, eager to learn, excited to play, and happy for the opportunity to meet new friends.

“It has been amazing. It is a delight to see Mrs. Okuda, Mrs. Sugai, and Mrs. Fong working and interacting with the children,” smiled Amy Vorderbruegge, HBA Elementary School Principal. “They really lean in and listen with intention. These ladies know the ins and outs of each of these kiddos so they can be there to support, nurture, and help facilitate that next burst of growth.”

The teachers can be seen in the classrooms showing the children everything from how art can come alive to how God created the world. They also say quiet prayers with a child when their feelings get hurt on the playground, or they need extra encouragement and love.

“It’s all about relationships. Jesus calls us to be in relationship with Him, and that’s the passion and the calling of all of our teachers,” said Mrs. Vorderbruegge.

“I love working with children. They’re so open and honest, and they want to learn everything. At this age, they don’t have expectations or an attitude,” laughed Junior Kindergarten Teacher, Mrs. Ellen Sugai. “It is such an honor to be able to be a part of giving these children a foundation. We get to share Jesus with them, and it’s amazing to know that we may be some of the first people to teach them about God.”

In addition to providing a solid spiritual foundation, the junior kindergarten program also provides a strong academic foundation to ensure that the students are ready for kindergarten.



“We recently finished a series on creation and learned about the solar system because God created the sun, moon, and stars. So we’re trying to help the children make the connection that God created everything. At HBA, we are encouraged to build faith into all of our curricula,” said Mrs. Sugai.

Mrs. Vorderbruegge shared how parents are amazed at what the children are learning at such a young age. “One mom was so excited that her child came home knowing all the continents and all the oceans! And she was impressed that her child knew there were dust storms on Mars!”



Junior Kindergarten Teacher, Migiwa Okuda, is showing a student how to count money using coins and differentiating between bills.

“They’re learning all the letters and sound recognition, and my daughter is starting to read!” exclaimed Sean Breaux, father of junior kindergarten student Haven Breaux. “The teachers are doing an amazing job with the way they love and encourage the students, as well as recognizing their (students’) strengths and challenging them to grow more.”

The junior kindergarteners also get to participate in the same elective classes that all of HBA’s Elementary students participate in, including art, physical education, library, guidance, music, and STEM. This is one of the many benefits of attending a junior kindergarten program at a larger school. Additionally, students get acquainted with the faculty and campus culture much earlier, so they are better prepared for kindergarten.

HBA’s Elementary campus has been trending upwards in the last few years. The student body has grown by 18 percent in the past year alone.

“During the pandemic, we were one of the first schools to return to in-person learning. Thanks to our entire team, we were able to make the pivot and adjustments to make sure that our campus was prepared to safely bring back our students,” said Mrs. Vorderbruegge. “After some schools and churches needed to scale back their early education programs during 2020, we saw the need in our community and felt called to give back by opening up a junior kindergarten program here on campus.”

HBA’s Elementary campus was one of the first schools to return to in-person learning by swiftly enacting many layers of health and safety protocols. The school recognized the impact the pandemic was having on young learners across the state.



“Being together as a school ‘ohana helps us grow in and live out our four faith-based Expected Schoolwide Learning Results (ESLRs): Humility, Curiosity, Love, and Commitment. And really, our junior kindergarten is founded in that. These are important values to learn, understand, and put into practice. Even as adults, we are still working on that,” laughed Mrs. Vorderbruegge. “We have the opportunity and blessing to get an early start on what it means to love your neighbor and to work and play well together—beginning at four years old.”

“We also teach that mistakes are okay!” said Mrs. Migiwa Okuda, Junior Kindergarten Teacher. “Part of our routine at HBA is to start the day with a Bible story and look for opportunities throughout the day where we can share about God. This week, we were learning about Abraham. We learned that even though Abraham was not perfect and made some bad choices, God still wanted to be his friend and use him for good things. We used this as an opportunity to teach our keiki that even when we make mistakes, God still loves us.”

“My number one hope is that we can teach our students that they are loved by God,” said Mrs. Okuda. “My second goal is to instill in the children that their life has a God-given purpose. God has a plan for their life, and by learning and growing, they are equipped for that purpose.”



HBA Sweeps Cross Country State Championships

Written by Deren Oshiro '86, Director of Athletics



Front Row (Girls, L–R): Callie Kubota, Madison Callo, Jordan Davenport, Caley Chun, Ashley Kodama, Christina Toyomura, Natali Nomura. **Back Row (Boys, L–R):** Shane Kimura, Dylan Djou, Connor Malinge, Xan Waialeale, Ezekiel Lum, Dylan Terayama, Jared Crestetto (missing Chris Wu).

Leading the way for the Eagles was Ashley Kodama '23, whose time of 23:13 was good for 9th place overall. Caley Chun '23 was also a medalist at 16th place (24:07). Other scoring runners were Christina Toyomura '23 (21st, 24:38), Jordy Davenport '23 (30th, 25:25) and Callie Kubota '24 (36th, 25:53). Also competing were Natali Nomura '24 (65th, 27:15)

HBA again stands alone atop the state in Division 2 varsity cross country.

The Eagles girls and boys both won their respective 2021 Honolulu Marathon/HHSAA Division 2 State Cross Country Championship on the campus of Hawaii Preparatory Academy in Kamuela, on the Big Island. The 5-kilometer (3.1 miles) races were held December 4, exactly 763 days since the previous state championship meet and 651 days since the last state championship for any sport in Hawaii.

HBA also swept the girls and boys titles in 2018 when the meet was held at the Central Oahu Regional Park.

The story of this 2021 meet was the extreme weather. Widely considered the most difficult cross country course in the state, the conditions at the HPA campus were more challenging than anyone could have predicted. It was 55 degrees at the start of the boys race, with an estimated wind chill factor closer to 50 degrees due to the constant rain and wind. Making conditions worse was the mud covering most of the hilly course.

Despite most runners falling or slipping throughout the morning event, the HBA girls finished with their third consecutive state championship (2018, 2019, no event held in 2020). The Eagles were also state runners-up in 2016 and 2017.

HBA's 30 points easily outpaced host Hawaii Preparatory Academy's 54 points. Seabury Hall finished third, Kihei Charter finished fourth, Kauai High finished fifth, and Kamehameha-Hawaii was sixth. Although the Division 1 and 2 teams were scored separately, all 200 girls and 200 boys ran together and competed against one another in their respective races. Had all 22 schools been scored together in one division, HBA would have finished 2nd behind only D1 champion Punahou and far ahead of D1 runner-up Iolani.

and Madison Callo '24 (69th, 27:27). The top twenty finishers—regardless of division—were awarded medals.

The team was led by first-year head coach Shelby Tanaka '11.

While their girls counterparts entered states as the 2-time defending champions, the HBA boys were coming off a very close runner-up finish to Seabury Hall in 2019 (51 points to 47 points), following consecutive titles of their own in 2017 and 2018.

HBA's 52 points edged Hanalani (57). The other Division 2 schools posting team scores were—in order—Seabury Hall, Hawaii Preparatory Academy, Island School and Honokaa. Had all schools been scored together in one division, HBA would have placed 5th overall out of 21 scoring teams.

Leading the way for the boys was Connor Malinge '22, whose time of 19:37 was good for 7th place overall. He also medaled in 2019, finishing 9th in that sophomore season. Other scoring runners were Dylan Djou '25 (26th, 20:25), Xan Waialeale '25 (46th, 21:20), Shane Kimura '24 (47th, 21:29), and Dylan Terayama '24 (60th, 21:47). Also competing were Chris Wu '23 (91st, 22:31) and Jared Crestetto '25 (106th, 23:11).

The HBA boys have now won three of the past four D2 state titles and have a state-leading four overall. The Eagles won the inaugural D2 Championship in 2012, also at the HPA campus.

The team was coached by Aaron Kondo '05, who notched his third title as the leader of the boys program.

Assistant coaches for the cross country program were Brent Wakuzawa '13, Ian Doi '07, Nina (Cheong) Kondo '09, Lindsey Jaeger '21, HBA teacher Thatcher King, and HBA alumni parent Manami Keuning (mother to Anika '18 and Kai '21 and wife of David '85).

Congratulations to all of our Eagles harriers for their outstanding seasons!

HBA Wins Second Place in Pacific Business News' Hawaii's Best Workplaces of 2021

By Christina Yasutomi, Student Activities Director JK-12

Pacific Business News (PBN) has awarded Hawaii Baptist Academy second place in its Hawaii's Best Workplaces of 2021. The award honors the island's leading employers who have gone above and beyond to foster an enjoyable and meaningful work environment for their employees.

In partnership with research partner Quantum Workplace, PBN surveyed Hawaii employees at participating workplaces with a confidential survey with more than 50 job-related statements. Respondents were asked to rate their employers on a level of agreement from "strongly disagree" to "strongly agree." Examples of statements include, "At work, my opinions seem to

count," and "I recommend this organization as a great place to work." Based on employees' responses, an organization's employees were deemed to be "hostile," "disengaged," "contributing," or "engaged." These were then tabulated into a Quantum score in order to select the top five companies in these

three categories: small businesses with 10–49 employees; medium businesses with 50–99 employees; and large businesses with 100 or more employees.

HBA was ranked second in the large category with 160 employees with a Quantum score of 90.53, beat out only by Iolani School with a Quantum score of 91.06.

"We are honored to have been nominated and ranked so highly by Pacific Business News and its research partner Quantum. I am pleased to know that the majority of our faculty and staff are highly satisfied working at HBA. Our employees are our most valuable resource. They allow us to fulfill our mission statement, purpose, and vision, which is to raise up the next generation of student leaders who will serve others and make a positive impact in their communities," said Ron Shiira '75, president.

This is the first time HBA has participated in the survey and the process was initiated by Human Resources Director Stephen Arita.



Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and Hawaii Baptist Academy Encourage Pastors and Wives

By Dr. Craig Webb, Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention

ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2021, President Ron Shiira '75 welcomed the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (SWBTS), Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention (HPBC), as well as local pastors and their wives.

The Hawaii Baptist Academy Music Arts Ministry provided a heartfelt presentation of music, singing, hula, and orchestra. Hawaii Pacific Baptist pastors and wives enjoyed a wonderful meal in the HBA Elementary campus pavilion after the program. This event was sponsored by Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary as a part of a partnership with Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention to promote continuing theological education.



HBA's Halau Hula O Kalama Ula. Photo: Kenneth Priest from SWBTS.

Virtual Alumni Week: July 5–9, 2021

Billie Senter, middle left, and Len Silva, middle right, are the first recipients of the Evan Jonah Won Memorial Scholarship. The award was presented



Top: The New Hope Production team, Ho'olaule'a entertainers and HBA Advancement team and volunteers pose for a wrap up photo. **Below:** James Roache '85 of Da Braddahs flashes a shaka. **Bottom:** Retired Elementary Principal Ruby Ovitt participated in the Ho'olaule'a drive-by.



Alumni from near and far tuned in to our second Virtual Alumni Week July 5–9, 2021, that premiered on HBA's YouTube channel. The week featured beloved past and present faculty members, alumni business spotlights, and learning how to be more mindful in our everyday lives. For the full line-up of our special guests, visit www.hba.net/alumniweek.

On the last day of Alumni Week, HBA livestreamed our annual Ho'olaule'a from the Dan Kong Middle School campus. "Although we could not have a live audience, we wanted our viewers to enjoy a meal 'together' from the comfort of their own homes," shares Billie Takaki Lueder '94, Director of Institutional Advancement. "We offered a drive-by food pick up and delivered food to some homes before the livestream began." All meals were catered from 'Olena by Chef Ron Simon. Alumni also blessed more than 50 HBA teachers by purchasing dinner for them. Mahalo to our talented Ho'olaule'a performers and our hosts, Da Braddahs, featuring James Roache '85 and Tony Silva.



Top left (L–R): Director of Institutional Advancement, Billie Takaki Lueder '94, Elementary Christian Minister, Cindy Gaskins; Bible Teacher and Director of Faith Integration, Tony Traugher; and Middle School Christian Minister, Rob Lockridge. **Above:** Ho'olaule'a entertainer, Josh Namba '16. **Top right (L–R):** Bryan Tolentino, Maila Gibson and Shawn Pimental were featured Ho'olaule'a entertainers. **Right (clockwise from upper left):** Class of 2021 officers: Logan Tom, Sydney Senter, Caden Weaver, Cheyanne Yim, and Lan Lan Lee with Billie Takaki Lueder '94. **Below (L–R):** Billie Takaki Lueder '94, retired Elementary Counselor, Pat Murphy, and retired Elementary Principal, Ruby Ovitt.





We have certainly had an eventful, fun, and memorable first 100 days of school! Our students and staff have embraced change and have demonstrated true grit and resilience! Together, we have navigated the pandemic and found new ways to build community and friendships. Although it hasn't always been easy, we have so much to be thankful for! Here's a look at the first 100 days of the 2022-23 School Year.

First 100 Days

2021



AUGUST



SEPTEMBER

Oh, that we might know the Lord!

*Let us **press on** to know Him.* Hosea 6:3a



NOVEMBER

of School



DECEMBER

2022



JANUARY



Alumni Chronicles

Gavan Abe '98

By Maurine King, Retired HBA Teacher and Lifetime Legacy Award Recipient



The Abe family: Walter '65, Gavan '98, and Madan Abe '27 represent three generations at HBA.

The seed of service planted in the '90s has borne fruit back at HBA.

Gavan Abe '98 is part of HBA's second third-generation family. In the '60s, I taught his father, Walter '65, uncle, Ben '67, and aunt, Florence '69. Gavan's brother Jordan '01 is also a graduate, and now Gavan's son Madan is in 7th grade.

Gavan is the Community Services Coordinator, or the "community face" for Ho'opono, part of the state services for the blind, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. When he went to the University of Northern Colorado, Gavan intended to become a teacher. But an elective course in gerontology showed him that he enjoyed working with older adults more than with children. He went on to get a master's degree in the field. When he and his wife, Jodie, decided to return to Hawaii to raise their family, Gavan assumed jobs would be easy to find, considering how many assisted living places were being built. But the doors didn't open, so he applied to the state for a social work position and was sent to Ho'opono for an interview. Although he had no experience working with the



Jamaal and Gensen, Ho'opono Volunteer Readers, both read braille children's books to kindergarten students. Photo courtesy of Gavan Abe.



Ho'opono Services for the Blind staff answer questions from students while visiting during Christian Emphasis Week. Photo courtesy of Gavan Abe.

In 2014, Cindy Gaskins, Christian Ministries Coordinator at the Elementary campus, connected with Ho'opono for Christian Emphasis Week. Rather than having the elementary students do community service for the blind, Gavan wanted the interaction to be educational. Students from multiple grades have come each year to learn about what Ho'opono does. Due to COVID-19 last year, the routine visit wasn't possible, but a virtual tour was scheduled

blind, he got the job. He was told that he was selected because he didn't just pity the blind for their disability, but rather had high expectations for those with poor vision. As his father taught him, "You can teach skills but not attitude."

In effect, Gavan is in education after all. He is part of a team that trains new employees, who learn blindness skills such as braille and cane travel. He teaches blind individuals who want to become more independent, and he trains potential employers to see the advantages of hiring those with low vision. He emphasizes, "Blindness is not a barrier to success."

The Abes first came to HBA because of a Christian grandmother. She heard about the school from their neighbors in Kahaluu, the Gimmas. (Paul Gima was a science teacher and his children were attending HBA.) Until Walter was old enough to drive, they rode in with the Gimmas. The long commute from their Windward Oahu banana farm continued with Walter's driving his sons. Gavan, who started HBA in fifth grade, admits to being embarrassed by Dad's leaky old car, "la bamba," but it got them into Honolulu.

Reflecting on his HBA experience, Gavan marvels at how many graduates were influenced to go into "helping careers"—education, medicine, social work, and ministry. The emphasis on service has only increased. Gavan does his part by nurturing the connection between HBA and Ho'opono.

The Elementary students are used to seeing Ho'opono clients walking along Kuakini Street with white canes. To make the connection more personal, he started a braille reading program with the kindergarten classes back in 2015 with the late Carolyn Casey. Current students and graduates of the training program would read to the kindergarteners, demonstrating with clear plastic sheets embossed with braille covering the pages of their storybooks. The children remember and speak to these new friends. The interaction removes the stigma and gives the students a positive outlook on blindness and those with disabilities.

with Traci Morihara's sixth-grade class. In return, her class used a 3-D printer to make Christmas ornaments for the Ho'opono staff, imprinted with their names in braille.



Ho'opono Services for the Blind staff and New Visions students teach HBA students how to use a cane while visiting during Christian Emphasis Week. Photo courtesy of Gavan Abe.

A further connection came about this year when Shellford Cantan, a cane travel instructor at Ho'opono, and his visually impaired wife, enrolled their son Kealii in kindergarten. Father and son walk to campus together after getting off the bus on Nuuanu Avenue, giving our students another chance to see a blind person living a normal life.

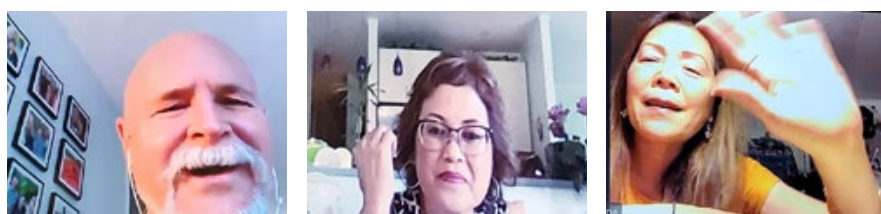
Gavan hopes that the braille reading program can resume, as the benefits for both Ho'opono and HBA students are priceless. He would also like to make a connection with the upper campus to educate older students about his work with those with disabilities and encourage them to follow his career footsteps, furthering the themes of service and "Christ for Every Nation."

Reunion

The class of 1981 enjoyed a 40th reunion dinner on September 3, 2021, at Burgers On Bishop. Three classmates joined via Zoom.



Top row from left: Mark Dangler, Paul Yoder, Tin Shing Chao, Colin Sato, Jon Hosaka, Adam Sutton, Kurt Nishiguchi, and Kris Uyehara. **Bottom row from left:** Jamie (Yamashiro) Almarez, Ruby (Hidano) Fukuji, Tracy (Cordes) Cordes-Frei, Keri (Sumida) Kobayashi, Megan (Howarth) Billinger, Lisa (Leder) DePonte, and Cheryl Takaki.



Left to right: Kevin Hopkins (Kaneohe), Cheryl (Furusho) Yoshioka (Hilo), Lauzanne (Fung) Oshiro (Wahiawa)

Weddings



Paige (Oshiro) '17 and Ryan Su '17 were married on January 9, 2022 in an intimate ceremony with their immediate family. Friends since high school, they remained in touch through their college years at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Ryan is the webmaster for Hawaii Baptist Academy, and Paige is a Reverse Mortgage Specialist at Mutual of Omaha. They reside in Pearl City.



Angela (Choy) '98 and Waylen Miyashiro '98 were married at Cafe Julia in Honolulu on November 28, 2021. After many years of friendship stemming from high school it eventually turned into love! Their wedding party included fellow alum from class of 1998 proving true friendships form at HBA: Nadine Nakamatsu, Sherrie Suzuki, Davin Itano, and Alan Yeh, and sister, Roxanne (Choy) Hashim '01.

Baby Eagle



Logan Tyke Kiyoshi Kamada, born to parents Matthew '02 and Nicole '05, entered this world at 1:26 a.m. on Friday, November 26 just as Thanksgiving was ending. He gave their family a little something extra to be thankful for in 2021. He joins big sisters, Kaylee '25, Blair '28 and Brooke '30 and big brother Luke '32 who all adore him. They are looking forward to watching him grow and hopefully becoming a future Eagle one day, following in a long line of family who are also alumni.

Hawaii Baptist Academy Donates Angel Tree Gifts for Honolulu Keiki

HBA's Interact Club helped collect and distribute keiki and kupuna Angel Tree gifts

By Tammy Mori Brownfield, Director of Communications & Public Relations



HBA's High School Interact members assist The Salvation Army with distributing gifts at the Kroc Center.

Hawaii Baptist Academy's staff and faculty recently donated approximately 190 gifts for keiki in need to The Salvation Army's (TSA) Angel Tree Program at Kauluwela Corps in downtown Honolulu. HBA's Interact Club worked together with TSA to load the gifts, which were later distributed by Corps officers, staff, and volunteers to keiki in several neighborhood schools before Christmas break.

In addition, HBA's Interact members volunteered at The Salvation Army Kroc Center Hawaii's Angel Tree gift distribution to keiki and kupuna on Saturday, December 18.

HBA is among many local companies and individuals which collectively worked together to fulfill thousands of Angel Tree requests during the holiday season. More than 31,000 gifts were distributed to keiki and kupuna in need during the 2021 Christmas season.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, the need for gifts was even greater this year as more of our local families faced new economic challenges.

"We are grateful to HBA for their generosity, hearts of service, and support of our Angel Tree Programs," said Major Phil Lum, Divisional Commander of The Salvation Army Hawaiian & Pacific Islands. "Moreover, the students were able to experience first-hand the joy of giving as they helped us distribute hundreds of gifts to local keiki and kupuna."



President's Aloha Council members hold some of the High School's Angel Tree tags.

Hawaii Baptist Academy started from humble beginnings as a small school founded by Christian missionaries in 1949, with 36 students. Today, we serve more than 1,000 students each year on our Elementary, Middle School, and High School campuses.

What has remained steadfast in our nearly 75-year story is that we bring faith and learning together so that we may join God in the formation of people and the transformation of the world.

How do we do that? We believe that every person has a God-given purpose with many unique gifts and talents. We are committed to helping our students grow and discover these giftings and further equipping our students to develop confidence in their calling.

By equipping our students, we are not only providing a solid academic and extracurricular foundation, but we are nurturing the faith-based values of humility, curiosity, love, and commitment.

With these values, we are cultivating leaders who will shine God's love in our community and world through the way they are leading to serve. This is something that has been woven into the tapestry of HBA's history. You can see God's handiwork that has been guiding a heart of leadership and service since the inception of HBA.

LEADING TO SERVE



November 5, 2021 HBA's Elementary students, shared some cheer with their neighbors at the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific and Malulani Hale by performing songs, dances, and messages of gratitude and encouragement.

As part of Christian Emphasis Week, the students learned that even though they may be small, God can use them in big and powerful ways. In this case, they were able to share the gift of music, laughter, and love. The students were delighted to see how they could positively impact our neighborhood and surrounding community.

HBA continues to look for ways to demonstrate leading to serve, whether it is through neighborhood flash dances, food drives, or holiday gift projects. HBA's efforts to cultivate love, humility, commitment, and curiosity, teaches keiki that life is bigger than just ourselves.



October 29, 2021

Mahalo to our Elementary families and students for donating 1,347 pantry goods for Olivet Baptist Church's food pantry for those in need.



November 8, 2021 We are so thankful to all of our front line workers and emergency responders helping keep our community safe! Our Elementary students sent notes full of encouragement and thanks to our front line workers right across the street at Kuakini Medical Center.



November 20, 2021 This holiday season, the students and faculty shared the hope of Jesus by packing more than 600 gifts for children around the world as part of Operation Christmas Child, hosted by Samaritan's Purse. Students filled shoe boxes with school supplies, hygiene products, small toys and clothing. The boxes were then sent to children in need around the world. For many of these children, this is the only gift they'll receive this Christmas. To prepare the boxes, students wrote letters to the children, and included personal artwork. Most importantly, they prayed over their boxes, and asked God to bless the recipients.



November 8, 2021 The Japanese National Honor Society organized its Annual Onigiri Action Campaign. Students and staff made onigiri (musubi) at home and school because for every photo provided, corporate sponsors provided five school meals to children in need around the world. Mahalo to all for showing your onigiri love for others.



COVID Vaccination Clinic

In partnership with
Kaiser Permanente
Hawaii

Pediatric & Booster Doses also available!

December 28, 9am - 12pm
HBA Middle School Campus
2425 Pali Highway
Registration open to the public

August 2021- January 2022
In a world that is divided, let us be an 'ohana that chooses to press on together. HBA partnered with Kaiser Permanente to make it easier for any of our staff, faculty, age-eligible students, families, and the greater community to get vaccinated.

December 14, 2021
Our High School Student Council also helped spread the Christmas cheer by passing out "cocoa and donuts" to fellow classmates. The students also decorated Christmas cards for kupuna in neighboring care homes to share the love!



Serving grades Junior Kindergarten through High School
LEADING TO SERVE
Apply now at HBA.net!



Virtual Christmas Concert

HBA Broadcasts “A Thrill of Hope”

Annie Tasaka '22, HBA Eagle Eye Writer



Halau Hula O Kalamā 'Ula danced in front of the Wyllie House.



Hawaii Baptist Academy's first Christmas TV Special, *A Thrill of Hope*, was televised and shared with the HBA community and our greater community throughout the month of December. Due to COVID restrictions, annual in-person end-of-the-year student performances took the form of a TV special airing on news stations and streaming online. HBA's High School Wind Ensemble, the Soldiers of Light choir, Drama Department, and Halau Hula 'O Ka Lama 'Ula were showcased on the half-hour special.

The concert's theme was drawn from the carol, “O Holy Night.” The carols celebratory lyrics inspired HBA's theme “A Thrill of Hope.” The thrill of our Savior's long-awaited coming was foretold to Adam and Eve and prophesied to be called “Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, the everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace.” (Isaiah 9:6).

“Through our service projects, we hope that we can demonstrate Jesus's love in a tangible way,” said HBA President Ron Shiira '75. “We want our students to know that it is the music of our hearts that truly demonstrates and helps share God's love and hope.”

The Soldiers of Light prepared for the concert all semester. Freshman Randie Lueder said, “We have

prepared by going over the songs over and over again to perfect them. Mr. Yo (Todd Yokotake '84, Choir Director) split us up into sections based on our vocal part, so we could tighten sound and harmonies. We also practiced taking off

our masks and singing in groups while the rest of the choir critiqued our stage deportment. We also watched other virtual performances and took note of what they did well and what didn't feel or look right. Critiquing each other and other companies helped us learn what we should and shouldn't do. It's been really exciting putting everything together and I believe our hard work paid off.”

For the students, performing for a video recording is a different experience than live performances. Senior Kira Hasuiki said, “It's not just technical-wise, but also mental. Unlike in a live performance, we didn't have the same adrenaline rush recording in a studio with a mic as we would on stage. Instead of just singing in front of a crowd in one go, we recorded our voices separately and then filmed ourselves lip syncing to a track while trying to make it look as real as it would in a live performance. In addition, we filmed ourselves while trying to make it look ten times more interesting since people tend to lose focus faster watching pre-recorded television rather than a live concert.”

The atmosphere of a live concert does not translate into the viewer's home well, transferring the burden of captivating the audience onto the performers. “That's why we really had to push ourselves to sing



Soldiers of Light



HBA's Wind Ensemble were filmed at New Hope Oahu.

even more expressively than we do in live concerts and really try to imbue the emotion into the song we're singing," Hasuike adds.

Despite the challenges, these students say they are enjoying choir. Lueder writes, "My favorite part of the performance is our ending song 'Believe For It.' Mr. Yo really challenged us to sing from our hearts and relate to the song, so I always got chills when we practiced together."

The Wind Ensemble filmed "Sleigh Ride" and "O Holy Night" at New Hope Sand Island. Shea Erler, senior clarinet section leader, commented on the pieces and her experience filming. She says, "I've been in ensembles since freshman year. I've played ['O Holy Night' and 'Sleigh Ride'] for probably about four years, but it's still fun and we make it unique. 'O Holy Night,' it's like a Christmas classic."

Despite the challenges of a virtual performance, Band Director Dwaine Woo is proud of what the students have done. He wrote, "The students spent two months preparing for the video. Shooting a video performance takes more concentration because there are so many distractions. From the cameras and lights to the process of doing takes and pick-up shots. Although it was very different from a normal public performance, the students did well. I hope the students enjoyed their experience." Through the Christmas Special, Woo hoped to "create new experiences for the music students besides just public concerts. From doing studio and video recording to musicals and hopefully Jazz and Rock bands. There was a lot to learn from doing this type of performance."

Erler can attest to his hopes. She says, "It was a lot of fun because we all got to play together. It was also really fancy. They set up all these like Christmas trees and decorations. That was a lot of fun. But it was very long and hot. But it was fun." She also adds, "Mr. Woo put a lot of work into the band's performance. Everyone's going to come together, and there's going to be all these different clubs. I think the special will be pretty cool."

Halau Hula 'O Kalama 'Ula is HBA's three-member hula program that performed with the Soldiers of Light. Freshman Mari Cesar performed for the first time with HBA. She said, "My favorite part definitely was the preparation and practices leading up to

the 'big day'. Since I haven't danced hula for a couple years, I had a bit of a challenge at first because it felt all new to me."

Like Hasuike and many other performers, Cesar shared similar challenges when it comes to performing for a camera instead of a live audience. Despite the challenges, Cesar mentions that "a video performance relieves a lot of stress and that 'nervous' feeling before going onstage."

Through the hula programs' hardwork and perseverance, Cesar was able to build community. She adds, "I loved getting to learn new styles of dancing from other hula dancers and ultimately creating new friendships. Luckily I had Brandi and Riley to help me out when I had questions, and they are so supportive!"

The Drama Department was represented by senior Kiani Vidaurri. She performed a monologue about Jesus's mother. Vidaurri described the play: "Mary, as she discovered her purpose in life, which was to bring forth the Messiah that everyone has waited hundreds of years for."

Describing her preparation process, Vidaurri wrote, "I had three rehearsals/meetings with Mr. Chang (Peter Chang '92, Bible and Visual Performing Arts Teacher) and Mrs. Yasutomi (Christina Yasutomi, Student Activities Director JK-12) to discuss my acting for the monologue and how we would film it. I filmed the one minute monologue for about 80 minutes in the film room a week ago. A one minute monologue took 80 minutes to film because the cameraman had to get different angles and shots."



Tisha Leffeldt from The Fish 95.5 FM was the emcee for HBA's "Thrill of Hope."

Chang, one of Vidaurri's advisors, adds, "The process was relatively light on the stress—at least from my perspective—since the piece itself is really short (about one minute) and everyone involved were experienced in their field, from the 'talent' (Kiani) to the producer, filmographer, and director."

Vidaurri continues, "Filming differed quite a bit from stage acting because I filmed the monologue in chunks and repeated lines instead of performing it in one take. I didn't feel that nervous because it wasn't in front of an audience. I was able to film certain lines

again if I didn't like how I acted, whereas performing for a live audience is all in one go."

Chang writes, "In the case of this piece, the monologue was so short and done in only one location, it didn't take too long to get the final shots we wanted. In stage performances, you are able to gauge to some degree how well your performance and the show as a whole is connecting to the audience in real-time, based upon audience reactions (i.e. gasps, applause, laughter, etc.), since the performance is live. Film performances don't have the opportunity to be that interactive."

HBA's Middle and High School students had the opportunity to preview the special during the last chapel of the quarter.

A life dedicated to Service in Christ

Joyce Baker Wong (1938–2021)



JOYCE BAKER WONG, 83, of Etowah, Tennessee, formerly of Honolulu, Hawaii, passed away on Saturday, October 9, 2021.

Joyce was passionate about her love for Jesus. She was an active member of Nuuanu Baptist Church and a beloved teacher at Hawaii Baptist Academy for thirty-seven years. In 2014, HBA awarded Mrs. Wong the Lifetime Legacy Award for her years of service, commitment, dedication, and love.

Joyce was the daughter of the late James and Helen Baker. She was preceded in death by her parents; her loving husband, Arthur Yun Yuen Wong; three sisters, Betty Quinn,

Emily Cobb, and Helen Hope Baker; and one brother, James Lark Baker.

Survivors include her two sisters, Norma Orsborne of Sandy Springs, Maryland, and Lucy Wilson of Frankfort, Kentucky; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

A private burial took place in Tennessee. Memorials may be made to the Joyce Wong Scholarship at HBA's Office of Institutional Advancement, 420 Wyllie Street, Honolulu, HI, 96817. Online memorials may be made at www.hba.net/giving. Please specify in the memo "Joyce Wong Scholarship."

TODD YOKOTAKE '84

In a spirit of humility, Mrs. Wong was a godly woman who submitted her life to serving Jesus. She reminded us often that life is larger than the moment, and yet, the moment is the most important part. In those “moments,” she always found a gentle way to point people to Jesus, reminded us to “be good,” and was never afraid to say, “I love you.” I consider myself so richly blessed that she took the time to invest and pour into my life in such a meaningful and profound way.

DIANE HOM, Retired administrator and faculty member

When I first arrived in Hawaii, a friend told me that Joyce Wong was the best teacher she had ever seen. And she was right. Joyce had the unique gift of challenging students academically while inspiring them to become better people and involved citizens. But more importantly, she used her position to introduce them to Jesus. Many years later, when as principal I needed someone to teach 7th grade Bible, I prayed, “Lord, I need someone like Joyce to teach these students.” And the Lord answered, “Why don’t you ask Joyce?” I asked, and she graciously agreed to move from the Social Studies Department to the Bible Department. She made the Bible come alive to a new generation of students.



Joyce with HBA graduates from the Class of 1992.

MAURINE KING, Lifetime Legacy recipient and retired faculty member

When the tributes to Joyce Wong appeared on the online message board, a former student told me ruefully that she had always thought she was Mrs. Wong’s favorite. Now she realized that they all thought the same! Her ability to make every child feel loved and special was what made her great. Joyce was my first housemate and social studies colleague, as well as my dear friend and mentor.

ALAN YEH '98

She was the best there ever was, and we all continue to be inspired and impacted by her example of God’s love and its power to change lives.

PASTOR TED GOSLEN, former Christian Ministries Coordinator

I was new at HBA and she gave me a book called *Balcony People*. The premise of the book is that there are people who go to see plays who sit in the balcony. You cannot see them but their cheering has a louder sound than those on the ground floor whom those on stage could see. We need people who are envoys who we may not be able to see, but they are in our balcony. She wrote a note on the inside cover that said, “I will always be in your balcony.” True to her word, she stood by and encouraged me, even when I did crazy things. She was one of the purest examples of Jesus I have ever met!

JANETTE AMOS, Friend and MAC member
Favorite scripture: *Isaiah 43: 1b-3a*

Sixty-three years ago, Joyce and I became close friends when we entered Carson-Newman College. In the twenty-four years since her retirement, we have been blessed to share our home in Tennessee. Her unconditional love included her family, her friends and her students. During all these years, I have seen Christ lived out in her life...daily...and hourly. Her gentle, servant heart knew no bounds: reminding us always to “be good.”



In Memoriam

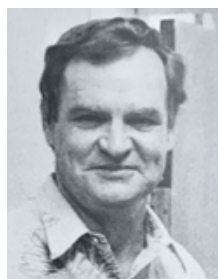
Dr. Ron Boggs (1938–2021)

HBA PRESIDENT, 1987-1988

Reflection provided by Pastor Ted Goslen, son-in-law of Dr. Boggs.



Seated on floor from left to right: Thien Huynh, Caleb Goslen and Thaddeus Goslen. **Seated above from left to right:** Ron Boggs, Lorraine Boggs, Lisa (Boggs) Huynh, Hoang-An Huynh, Leah (Boggs) Goslen and Ted Goslen. **Standing:** Tai Huynh



In the fall of 1987, Hawaii Baptist Academy found itself in need of the leadership described by Henry Kissinger. Stan Sagert had retired as President after leading HBA since 1970. Thanks to the Colonel's leadership, the school had survived some rocky moments that threatened her very survival. Now HBA faced a new challenge: to move beyond survival and compete with the top private schools in Hawaii.

God had also opened the door to purchase the Sacred Hearts property in Nuuanu, but that came with a hefty \$15 million price tag. So the school board hired a man to lead HBA through the hurdles ahead, Ron Boggs. He had just moved back to Hawaii after serving the American Consulate in places like Turkey and Hong Kong. He had years of experience directing government affairs at many levels. He was also married to a local girl, Lorraine Boggs, and he had a deep love for the islands.

Boggs's faith in Christ led him to embrace the challenges of being the President of HBA. He immediately immersed himself in the culture of HBA, getting to know the faculty and students. He had a stern exterior that belied a tender heart and passion for taking HBA where she had not been.

One of his main passions was the Christian witness of HBA. He put resources into the Christian activities such as the camps, chapels, and Christian Emphasis Week (CEW) programs. One of his



From Ron Boggs' Installation as HBA President, from left to right: Leah (Boggs) Goslen, Ron Boggs and Lorraine Boggs.

greatest strengths was in administration. He knew HBA needed a connection with the business community, so he started a campaign with the United Way and brought business leaders to the campus.

He also garnered more support amongst the Baptist churches and gave opportunities for churches to connect with and be involved with the school. He worked to get scholarships for the students at the Leeward campus and tried to find ways to transition them to the upper school in Nuuanu. Although his tenure was short, many of the changes he put in motion helped HBA take her place among the finest private schools in Hawaii over the next ten years.

Ron Boggs was an overcomer. He was born on August 19, 1938, and his home situation and childhood were difficult and filled with trauma. He escaped this by leaving home at age 16 and joining the Coast Guard. He transitioned into government service by working with immigration through the Foreign Service. He learned to adapt and was able to advance because of his sharp mind and determination. He faced so many obstacles working with consulates, yet that just strengthened him and gave him an international vision.

He was also a lifelong learner. After leaving HBA, he followed his passion for education by getting a Ph.D. in education from the University of Southern California. He returned to Hawaii to work at Le Jardin School and worked with Molokai Ranch researching the value of starting a private school. He worked as the lead administrator at Ala Moana, then transitioned back to government service, accepting positions in California.

His thirst for knowledge never ended as he became an instructor in the Seven Habits of Highly Successful People, leading classes in the Coast Guard and local churches. He even led home Bible studies, helping people grow in their faith and knowledge. His path was always one led by knowledge, able to converse on almost every topic with wisdom and insight. He enjoyed talking with his grandsons, from politics to sports to faith. His faith in Christ is a legacy that his grandchildren continue to honor with their own lives.

Though Ron Boggs was not a perfect person, he was the right man at the right time in leading HBA where she had never been. He always wanted to see HBA thriving and took a continuous interest in the latest *Eagle* news. He will be missed by our family, and we thank God for his legacy of faith and leadership.



Ron Boggs with his grandsons, from left to right: Hoang-An Huynh, Thaddeus Goslen, Thien Huynh and Caleb Goslen

"The task of the leader is to get people from where they are to where they have not been." HENRY KISSINGER

In Memoriam

Lurie Walker Stewart (1923–2021)

FORMER HBA KINDERGARTEN TEACHER

Reflection provided by the Walker family.

Lurie Walker Stewart passed away on June 6, 2021, at the age of 97. Lurie taught kindergarten at HBA for nine years, serving close to two hundred children. Lurie wanted to give the young children an introduction to the HBA environment that would encourage them to stay at HBA for their entire K-12 experience, and many of them did. Later in her life, Lurie set up and faithfully donated



to the Dr. Edmond Walker and Lurie Walker Stewart Scholarship Endowment Fund, whose annual proceeds have been used to provide scholarships to incoming kindergarteners at HBA.

Lurie was born in Etowah, Tennessee, on September 21, 1923. She gave her heart and dedicated her talents to the Lord early in her youth. She met Edmond

Richmond Walker while they were both studying at Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, where she majored in music. They married and moved to Modesto, California, where Edmond pastored a church, and Edmond Richmond Jr. was born in 1947. During this time, Edmond was finishing his Doctor of Theology at Golden Gate Seminary in San Francisco.

In 1950, they moved to El Monte, CA, where Edmond pastored Calvary Baptist Church and Howard was born in 1953. In 1956, Edmond took a position as Director of Missions for the California Baptist Convention in Fresno, California. Lurie played piano for their church with her son, Howard, often sitting on the bench beside her. In 1963, Edmond took the position of Executive Secretary of the Hawaii Baptist Convention. Lurie played piano and led the youth choir at Olivet Baptist Church.

Edmond was diagnosed with leukemia early in 1964 and was told he had six months to live. Lurie went back to school to finish her degree in English and get her teaching credential as she was now having to plan for the possibility of being a single mother. Edmond's leukemia went into remission, and he lived another thirty years.

When he did pass away in 1994, Lurie reconnected with Dr. Jones Stewart, who happened to be the OB/GYN who delivered Howard. They were married and enjoyed five years together in San Marino, California, before Jones passed away. Lurie moved from San Marino to Ventura, California. Lurie brought joy to many people with her music and her vivaciousness. In the Cypress Point Retirement Facility, the residents awarded her the first-ever "Hero of Happiness" award because she brought joy to so many people. Her last years were spent in San Diego near her son Howard and family. She will be remembered as the hero of happiness to all who knew her and will be greatly missed.

Anita Ridings (1929–2022)

FORMER HBA ENGLISH TEACHER, 1968–1972

Reflection provided by Ms. Maurine King, Retired HBA Teacher and Lifetime Legacy Award Recipient.

Anita Ridings, who taught English at Hawaii Baptist Academy from 1968 to 1972, died January 11, 2022, in Huntsville, Alabama. She was 93. The Ridings family included Geary, who graduated in '69, and Dana, in '72.

Kathryn Anita Ray was born in 1929 in Prattsville, Arkansas. Soon after high school, she joined the Women's Air Force (WAF), hoping to see the world and get a college education. She met Leland (Lee) Ridings at an Air Force tech school in Wyoming and they married in 1950. And see the world they did! As a communications (later aerospace) engineer, Lee worked in England, Colorado, Libya, Central Europe and California. After leaving Hawaii, Lee's work with Kentron, Boeing, and then with NASA took them to Kwajalein in the Marshall Islands, to Taiwan, Utah, California and Alabama, sometimes back and forth. After finally settling in Huntsville, the world came to Anita, who taught ESL to scores of internationals, many of them the wives of space scientists.

Wherever the Ridings lived, they worked in their local church, chapel or mission. In Huntsville they helped to start what has become a thriving congregation in an underserved part of town. On Kwajalein, Anita encouraged the Women of the Chapel to start a scholarship fund that has sent a number of young Marshallese to college.

Anita was a lifelong learner and started working toward a degree by correspondence while living in Germany. She graduated from San Francisco State University and later earned her MA in history from the University of Alabama at Huntsville.

Former colleague Suzanne Royer recalls: "Anita was so good to me, especially the first year I taught. We did the "Adventure Club" together and it WAS always an adventure! Our rooms were side by side and she was truly an invaluable onsite advisor and friend to me. I worried. She pointed out that there were just things we couldn't control... a good intro to the real world for a beginning teacher. She always found something positive in the day."

That same good humor and positivity blessed her students. Rae Watanabe '77, recently retired from teaching English at Leeward Community College, remembers Mrs. Ridings' 7th-grade classroom on the "old campus," so rickety and porous that we joked that if the termites stopped holding hands the building would collapse. Rae quotes Sir Michael Morpurgo: "It's the teacher that makes the difference, not the classroom."

Obituaries

ALUMNI

Agnes Nitta, 81, of the class of 1957 passed away February 5, 2021.

Craig K. Harada, 65, of the class of 1974 passed away on August 4, 2021.

Eryn A. Nakamura, 43, of the class of 1996, passed away on Friday, August 13, 2021. Eryn was born on January 17, 1978 in Honolulu, the youngest of two daughters born to Philip and Gertrude Nakamura. She attended the University of Washington and University of Hawaii at Manoa. She was a licensed social worker practicing at Paradigm Hawaii Counseling Inc. in Kailua, and is survived by husband Kevin Yamane, and their two children Luke and Ava, her mother, Gertrude, and her sister, Karey (Rommel) Estepa.

Beverly Michie Teramae, 82, of the class of 1956, passed on March 25, 2021.

Daniel Uyeunten, 43, of the class of 1996 passed away on November 8, 2021 in Honolulu. Daniel will be missed as a son, brother and most of all as a father to his two young children Natalie and Nathaniel Uyeunten.

THE ALOHA COUNCIL

Frank Tadashi Ifuku, 78, of Honolulu, passed March 9, 2021. He worked as a Civil Engineer at the Board of Water Supply, Hawaii Housing Authority and then at Mitsunaga and Associates. Board Member of Hawaii Youth for Christ for 35 years and enjoyed leading home Bible studies. He is survived by his wife, Elisabeth, and daughters, Sheri-Ann (Ifuku) Dennis '89 and Lori-Ann (Ifuku) Langford '93 and his five grandchildren.

MAINLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL

Pauline "Polly" Willis Causby, 92, of Shelby, North Carolina died Tuesday, November 23, 2021. She taught English in the Cleveland County school system for over 30 years. As a longtime member of First Baptist Church in Shelby, she served as a faithful member of the choir, deacon, church historian, WMU member, and an encourager to all. She is preceded in death by her devoted husband of 47 years, Punk Willis and her loving husband of 7 years, Harold Causby, and children Jan (Mark), Bryan (Natalie), David (Rebecca), and many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Allen Goodrich, 81, of Rio Rancho, New Mexico, passed away on September 13, 2021. Allen was a longtime member of First Baptist Church of Rio Rancho. He is survived by his two sons, Troy, and Steven (Sharon), and his two grandchildren.

Joyce Ann Love Heiman, 95, of Dallas, Texas passed away on July 30, 2021. Her late husband, John Heiman Sr., built the first Whataburger Restaurant in Dallas County. An educator, Joyce would come in after a hard day at teaching and cook fries for the evening business and on the weekends and later would work in the office as their franchise expanded. She is survived by her son, John Heiman; daughter, Jacque Kirk, and four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Barbara Lester, age 93 of Winnsboro, Texas passed on October 10, 2021. She was a homemaker and nurse and longtime "Pink Lady" volunteer at Presbyterian Hospital in Winnsboro. She was a member of First Baptist Church of Winnsboro and the Eastern Starr. She was preceded in death by her husband, Leon Lester and is survived by her sons Bruce (Brenda) Lester, George Lester and Paul (Kim) Lester; daughter, Ruth Lester Deaton of Houston; ten grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren.

Dorothy P. Lytal, 89, of Springfield, Virginia passed away on July 21, 2021. Dotty, as she was affectionately called, was a beloved teacher at Fort Hunt Elementary School in Fairfax County. She is preceded in death by her husband Donald (Don) Lytal, and is survived by her sister, Nancy (Nan) Zimmerman and her niece, Carolyn White.

Edith Mabry, 94, of Texas, passed on May 5, 2021 and lived to be 94 years old. Edith is preceded in death by her husband Samuel Mabry Jr. and is survived by her son Michael (Marsha) and her son Martin (Jeanne Mabry) and her grandchildren and great grandchildren. Sam and Edith and her husband of 74 years were active members of First Baptist Church in Bartlesville and First Baptist Church in Tulsa. She served for many years at FBC Tulsa as the Sunday School Secretary. Edith was active in the Women's Missionary Union where they supported Foreign Missionary Board missionaries spiritually and financially.

Inez Snider, 99, passed on July 8, 2021. Inez was an active member of First Baptist Church for over fifty years. She is preceded in death by husband, Aron Ray Snider and survived by their daughters, Jeanetta Brown and husband Alan of Tyler and Melissa Stockholm and husband Kurt of Denton; grandchildren, Kevin Brown and wife Aidan McKean Brown of Melissa; Courtney Womble and husband Blake of Prosper; Collin Brown of The Colony; Kristen Stockholm Garwood and husband Clay of Huntersville, North Carolina; and Kaitlyn Stockholm of Denton; great-grandchildren, Madelyn Brown, Gracie McKean and Halle McKean; Cooper, Preston and Blaire Womble; and Peyton and Mason Brown.

Charles N. Thacker, 81, of Cleveland, Tennessee, passed away on April 19, 2021. He had a long career with Louisiana Power and Light/Entergy Corporation, serving in various roles throughout northeast Louisiana and southern Arkansas. He attained an MBA from NLU and then completed his working years as a Certified Financial Planner with John Kelly and Associates in Monroe. He was an ordained deacon and regular member of the church choir. He is survived by his wife Beth, son Dr. Chris (Stephanie) Thacker, and two grandchildren.

OTHER FRIENDS

Mary Elizabeth Oshiro, 83, of Honolulu, Hawaii, died in Honolulu on December 25, 2021. She served 31 years as an Academic Resource Specialist for the Richard Bento Elementary School.

Betty K. Petherbridge, 96, of Kaneohe, Hawaii passed away on January 18, 2022. Over four decades, she held several positions with HBA to include Elementary Teacher, Elementary School Principal's Assistant, and Assistant Director of Admissions.

Welcome to the family!

By the Human Resources Department

Here are new members of our HBA 'ohana (listed in alphabetical order) that were promoted or joined us during the 2021-22 School Year!



Christopher Barnhart

High School Math Teacher

Christopher Barnhart recently moved here from Burlington, Colorado. He joins us with 22 years of teaching experience.

Executive Assistant to the President

Michelle Brese, who has served as the President's Assistant since September 2016, has been promoted to Executive Assistant to the President. In her new role, she will join HBA's Senior Leadership Team and oversee daily operations of security, food services (Flik), and physical plant.



Michelle Brese

Director of Communications

Tammy Mori Brownfield, oversees and implements marketing and public relations strategies and programs that support our school's mission and brand while serving as a Senior Leadership Team member. In addition to working in local news, she has served as the Director of Communications for the state Department of Transportation and the Hawaii State Judiciary, and ran her own marketing and consulting company.



Tammy Mori Brownfield

JK-12 Director of Counseling

Danford Chang was hired in 2011 as a High School Counselor and promoted to Department Chair in 2014. Now, he will be serving as our JK-12 Director of Counseling. He holds a master's degree in counseling psychology from Chaminade University, a college counseling certificate from the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), and a bachelor's degree in kinesiology from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Since 2008, he has also been an Assistant Volleyball Coach for the Varsity boy's team!



Danford Chang

Administrative Assistant to the Elementary Principal

Welcome to **Monyah Farley**, our new Administrative Assistant! Monyah is excited to be a part of our HBA ohana, and is also happy to be back in the islands after living several years in Alaska.



Monyah Farley

Director of Technology

Bryan Furuhashi comes to us with more than 10 years of technology experience. He worked most recently at First Assembly of God, where he also attends church.



Bryan Furuhashi



Kristy Hara

Administrative & Special Events Coordinator

Kristy Hara joined the Institutional Advancement department as the Administrative & Special Events Coordinator. Kristy previously worked at KITV4 Island Television as the Marketing Coordinator. Kristy's goal is to have a career that serves God in a place with Christ-like minded people.



Raelene Hinkel

Christian Ministries Assistant

Raelene Hinkel '15 is assisting Tony Traugher with the planning, coordination and implementation of the High School's Christian Ministries program.



Joelle Spainhour

Middle School Art Teacher

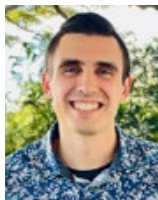
Joelle Spainhour is teaching an art elective class and is excited to get to know her students and watch them make great art. She is married to Gray Spainhour, our High School Spanish teacher.



Ryan Su

Webmaster and Digital Media Specialist

Ryan Su '17 started as an intern with HBA and then was hired part time as he earned his degree in Political Science at the University of Hawaii. He joined us full time this school year as our Webmaster and Digital Media Specialist.



Emmet Winters

Supplemental Programs Director and Educational Technology Specialist

Emmett Winters III, Ph.D., joined HBA as the new Supplemental Programs Director and Educational Technology Specialist at the elementary campus. Emmett worked at several schools before coming to HBA, most recently Mid-Pacific Institute. His vast experience includes teaching, research and development of new technology and curriculum development.



Christina Yasutomi

Director of Student Activities

Christina Yasutomi, who has served as our Communications Officer since 2013, assumed the role of Student Activities Director (Jr. K-12).

Hawaii Baptist Academy Hires Elton Kinoshita As High School Principal

HBA is excited to welcome Elton Kinoshita as its new High School Principal. Kinoshita began transitioning at the end of November 2021, under the wing of veteran Principal Marsha Hirae. Kinoshita assumed full responsibility on January 1, 2022.

“We are very excited to welcome Elton to our team. His wealth of experience, commitment to Christ, and educational leadership background will greatly benefit HBA’s students,” said Ron Shiira ’75, President of Hawaii Baptist Academy.

For the past eight years Kinoshita has served as Principal at Lanai High and Elementary (K–12) School. Kinoshita also previously served as a teacher and Vice Principal at James Campbell High School where he led a career academy

program. Prior to his 21 years in education, Kinoshita was President of Living Stones Brew. He also worked at Liberty Bank and American Savings Bank.

Marsha Hirae is planning to retire at the end of 2022, “I will always treasure the time I spent at HBA as a student, teacher and principal.” Hirae had this to say about her successor. “Elton is kind and compassionate, and I can tell that he really cares about our students. I am grateful that God brought him to HBA.”



Giving Week 2021

Mahalo for supporting HBA through our first-ever Giving Week, October 25–29, 2021. With your contributions, we raised over **\$105,000** and **350 gifts**, that included a total of **\$17,000** worth of matching gifts! We couldn’t have done it without you and are so thankful for your willing hearts to glorify His kingdom through your generous giving towards our Fund for Excellence, which supports financial aid scholarships, academic programs and campus enhancements.

Whether this was your first donation or your 100th, your gift makes a difference. Thank you again for supporting HBA through our first-ever Giving Week and making it such a success!



Above (L–R): Billie Takaki Lueder '94, Reese Lueder, and Amy Vorderbruegge.

Left (L–R): Faith Takushi, Courtney Kuwaye, Reese Lueder, Keira Liew, Stella Leong, and Keira Chang.



HAWAII BAPTIST ACADEMY

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