

HBA Soaring Eagle

www.hba.net

Spring 2023



Hawai'i Baptist Academy brings faith and learning together to join God in the formation of people and the transformation of the world.

News from Hawai'i Baptist Academy

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First 100 Days of School

HBA Discovers New Bacteria

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HAWAI'I BAPTIST ACADEMY

Hawai'i Baptist Academy (HBA) is a top Christian school serving students from preschool through high school. HBA's elementary, middle, and high school campuses are located in Nu'uano Valley on the island of O'ahu. HBA's first satellite preschool is located in Mililani Mauka in Central O'ahu. Established in 1949 by missionaries of the Southern Baptist Convention, the school is affiliated with the Hawai'i Pacific Baptist Convention.

HBA is a member of the Hawai'i 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 Hawai'i Council of Private Schools.

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Hawai'i 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 Hawai'i 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.

Please send address changes to: development@hba.net or call (808) 533-7094



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A Message from the President

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the end of the age." —Matthew 28:19-20



Aloha HBA 'Ohana,

I have been reflecting on the many ways that HBA continues to stay true to our mission—sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. HBA's steadfast mission continues to reveal itself in numerous ways on and off our campuses.

This past year, we were fortunate to have the opportunity to partner with GracePoint Church to open our first satellite preschool in Mililani Mauka. HBA Preschool at GracePoint provided us with a way to strengthen the early education pipeline in the community, and it also offered us another touchpoint to share God's love.

Our students have shared God's love by leading dozens of community outreach projects whether by collecting canned foods to help those in need, or making artwork and cards for our kupuna during Christmas. Classes and clubs have raised funds and provided manpower to support nonprofit organizations from local animal shelters to Kāko'o 'Oiwī.

While there are many ways we have reached out to touch lives off campus, hearts are also being transformed on our campuses. Students are growing closer to God through the fellowship of their small groups and learning more about Him during weekly chapel time. This school year, we were able to have our Christian Emphasis Week in person again. During that week alone, our Christian Ministries team helped lead more than 100 students to Christ.

The effort to introduce others to Jesus doesn't end upon graduation. We are pleased to be able to celebrate Alumni Month in-person again and host pau hana events here in Hawai'i and on the mainland where we have the chance to reconnect, fellowship, and encourage one another.

We could not be more proud of the impact and love our students, faculty, staff, and alumni are sharing in all parts of the world. In the coming pages, we are excited to showcase more of our HBA 'ohana—stories, programs, and projects—that we hope encourage you and bring you hope. As we finish the second semester, HBA continues to be a place bringing faith and learning together for the formation of people and the transformation of the world.

May God bless you and your families this coming year as we continue leading to serve.

In Christ,

Ron Shiira '75
PRESIDENT





HBA Preschool at GracePoint

Hawai'i Baptist Academy
Opens a Preschool in Mililani Mauka

Hawai'i Baptist Academy welcomes our youngest learners through our preschool program. Believing Jesus Christ to be "the Way, the Truth, and the Life," Hawai'i Baptist Academy brings faith and learning together so that we may join God in the formation of people and the transformation of the world.

HBA Preschool at GracePoint is located in Mililani Mauka and offers programs for toddlers through pre-kindergarten. The preschool curriculum includes a balance of academics, spiritual development, and social-emotional learning with a focus on HBA's core values of humility, curiosity, love, and commitment.



Learn more at HBA.net/preschool
or call (808) 564-0211

#HBAisOurSchool #LeadingtoServe

HBA Soaring Eagle

SPRING 2023

NEWS FROM
HAWAII BAPTIST ACADEMY



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On the front cover:

Preschool at
GracePoint student
Photo: Craig Chang

On the back cover:

Candid moments from HBA's first 100 days of school, which include: (1) the retirement of our beloved security guard, Steve Louis; (2) door decorating contest at the upper campuses over the holidays; (3) Kawai Park celebrated as a member of U13 baseball champions, Team Kado; highlights from (4) art class, (5) grade level camps, and more!





Hawai'i Baptist Academy Opens its First Satellite Preschool – Serving with a Spirit of Excellence



Clarice Mulleitner, preschool teacher at HBA Preschool at GracePoint, works with a small group of students in her pre-kindergarten classroom.

THIS SCHOOL YEAR, Hawai'i Baptist Academy (HBA) was able to open its first satellite preschool in Mililani through a collaboration with GracePoint Church. HBA Preschool at GracePoint currently has the capacity to serve 60 students in five classes, four of which are preschool classes and one that is an infant/toddler class.

Under the leadership and guidance of Preschool Director Kalei DeMello, who has nearly 30 years of experience in early childhood education, the preschool is providing a much-needed resource for the community's youngest learners. It has also created a Christ-centered environment in which the children will thrive.

"I love how the church and HBA were able to work together to reach more families in our community," said James Shiroma '88, lead pastor at GracePoint Church. "This partnership allows the preschool to focus on being the very best preschool it can be and fulfilling a need in the community, while allowing the church to focus on ministering to the community."

For many years HBA has been educating elementary, middle, and high school students via its campuses in Nu'uano. In 2021, HBA added a junior kindergarten class at the elementary campus before adding the preschool this school year.

"HBA's heart is to partner with the community and support families and their children, as well as strengthening the educational pipeline especially for young learners," said DeMello. "We opened the doors to our preschool on August 1, 2022, and even though it is our first year here, we started with a strong veteran staff with approximately 160 years of combined experience."





Josephine Beltran, preschool teacher at HBA Preschool at GracePoint, holds the microphone for a student during the Christmas Program.

“Our students are lights in our community, and we are excited to expand beyond the greater Honolulu area and into Central Oahu,” said HBA President Ron Shiira ’75. “Believing Jesus Christ to be the Way, the Truth, and the Life, HBA continues to bring faith and learning together so that we may join God in the formation of people and the transformation of the world.”

DeMello said of becoming the director at the preschool, “One thing that makes HBA Preschool at GracePoint special is the passion and inspiration our team has for serving others. We call it serving with a spirit of excellence. Our goal is to develop the whole child with an emphasis on genuinely expressing God’s love for each and every child daily.”

HBA has a strong track record of providing nurturing, passionate, and committed professionals to support the needs of its students. It also has a reputation for academic rigor. The school also strives to provide a safe place to develop a strong foundation that goes



Pastor James Shiroma ’88 of GracePoint Church with Director of Preschools Kalei DeMello.

beyond academics and provides opportunities for its students to develop a deeper relationship with Christ. While not every student who attends HBA is a Christian, they learn about Christ and Christian values.

Justin Fajota, a proud parent of two girls at the preschool with another on its way soon said, “What I love most about GracePoint is the staff. The growth I’ve seen in my daughters the last few months has been exponential, and you can tell the teachers take a lot of time to nurture and teach the kids.”

Pastor Shiroma said, “Kalei and her staff are doing a great job, and we are excited about the foundation that has been established and what that may lead to in the future. God was leading us in this partnership, and we knew He would provide everything we needed to make this preschool a reality. We are extremely grateful.”



JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN

We had an amazing first 100 days of school from our preschool all the way through our senior Class of 2023! We wanted to show you a few highlights from our four campuses from camps to sports, and Christian Emphasis Week (CEW) to field trips.

Oh, that we might know the Lord!

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

First 100 Days



PRESCHOOL AT GRACEPOINT CHURCH



VARSITY GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

AUGUST Top: (clockwise from top left) JK students AJ Whitaker, Gabriel Kwon, Niko Hansen, Hiro Yamada and Kiko Duda enjoying some outdoor fun. **Above:** Kalei DeMello welcoming students (L–R) Oliver Monico, Elly Honda, Lexi Ann Nakasone, Ryla Yamamoto, and Sadey Tolentino to HBA's brand new preschool.

SEPTEMBER Above right: Varsity girls volleyball team is ready for Spike Night. **Right:** Dawson Coover, Jared Cruz, Dylan Cayetano, and other seniors battle it out for the win at Camp Homelani.

2022



SENIORS AT CAMP HOMELANI



of School

HIGH SCHOOL CEW



ASEP FALL HOLIDAY



FIELD TRIP:
KUAKINI FIRE STATION

OCTOBER Top: Fun and games during high school CEW. **Above:** Kindergarten student Sarah Honazki enjoying her class field trip to Kuakini Fire Station. **Left:** Olia Ahuna getting her kicks during ASEP's Fall Holiday program. **Below:** Ali Zaidi and Isla Enriquez enjoying time on the preschool playground.



PRESCHOOL AT GRACE POINT



FIELD TRIP: WHOLE FOODS



'OHANA NIGHT

NOVEMBER Above: 'Ohana night fun with seventh graders (from left), Ronin Viloria, James Kowal, Christian Ortiz, Noah Ishii, Luke Uyehara, Aaron Corpuz, Taichi Wong. Left: JK students Niko Hansen, AJ Whitaker, Josiah Tauaefa, and Boaz Hakemolo took a field trip to Whole Foods. Below: Thankful Turkey Trot participants Camryn Kim, Auggie Yamashita, and Joshua Gaison.



THANKFUL TURKEY TROT



JK NATIVITY DRESS UP

DECEMBER Above: Junior Kindergarten (JK) nativity dress up day with Hiro Yamada, Daralynn Chang, Kiki Duda, Elijah Reign Kishimoto. Right: Mrs. Kishimoto's class says aloha to elementary school campus security guard, Steve Louis.



ALOHA MR. STEVE

Bustling School Lunches Are Back

Excerpts by Titus Lee '24, Eagle Eye writer

THIS NEW SCHOOL YEAR has ushered in a number of changes for HBA's dining service, FLIK. There are new ways to order food and new menu options. Unlike the past two years—when COVID-19 social distancing protocols necessitated staggered lunch periods—more of our upper campus students now eat lunch during the same period on most days of the week.

Students, staff, and faculty now order food with the new online order feature through the MyEagle student and parent portal, which also came with a \$150 food and beverage credit (courtesy of HBA) given to all students, staff, and faculty at the start of the school year. The new Dining Services app also allows pre-ordering lunch up to 10 a.m. on the same day.



Jensen Manuel, senior chef manager of FLIK, is pleased with the outcome. "Managing the long lines has been challenging. We are glad to see that lunch participation has increased, and we are thankful for that. We've had to make a few adjustments to help with keeping up with the lines. I was actually able to clock how long it would take to go through the line one day, and I have to say that serving 150 lunches in ten minutes is a pretty amazing feat by any standard," Manuel said.



FLIK's Darrell Gose is making musubi at the high school campus.
Photo: John Yamamoto '23.

HBA's Senior Chef Manager, Jensen Manuel, Wins National Award



Jensen Manuel Sr. of FLIK (left) stands with President Ron Shiira (right) after distributing lunches for staff and faculty for Thanksgiving. Photo: Craig Chang



HBA would like to thank FLIK, our dining services provider, for the healthy and delicious meals they make for our students on all campuses. We would also like to congratulate Jensen Manuel for being selected for FLIK's President's Award. He is the first chef from Hawai'i to be selected for this honor! We are blessed to have you and your team on our campuses providing lunches for our students and catering many of our special events.

Hawai'i Baptist Academy Students Help Sequence and Name a New Bacteria



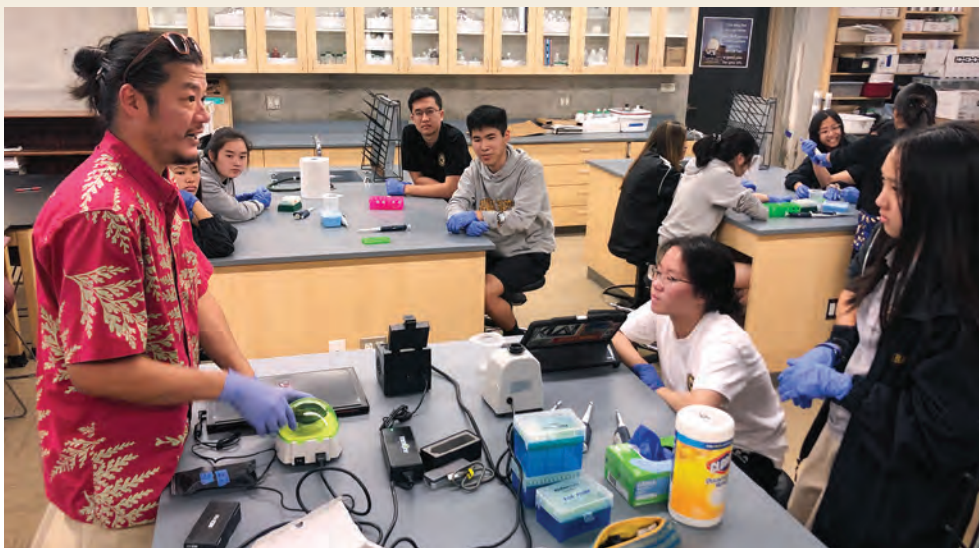
Hawai'i Baptist Academy's High School Pre-Med Club students, faculty members of HBA's science department, and the coordinator of 'Iolani School's 'Āina Informatics Network as they began the process of selecting the name for the new bacteria.

FRONT ROW (L–R): Sara Chang '25, Katie Chen '23, Rachel Cheung '23, Miah Nakamura '26, Landri Otaka '26, Barbara Storm '25, and Alissa Tong '24. **SECOND ROW** (L–R) : Sean Shiroma (HBA science teacher), Risha Mishima '09 (HBA biology teacher), Ella Lim '23, Hannah Morse '24, AJ Castillo '23, Ellie Pelesky '24, Amanda Tsuha '25, Tabby Yee '25, Colin Higgins '26, and Annalyn Higgins '26. **BACK ROW** (L–R) : Nathan Kang '24, Ethan Eto '24, Ty Koch '24, Hannah Dela Cruz '23, Brooke Ichiki '25, Kenshin Casamina '25, Jordon Tam '26, Eric Tong ('Āina Informatics Network Coordinator), and Claire Mitchell (HBA's science department chair).

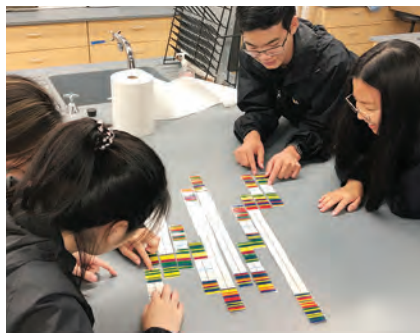
Hawai'i Baptist Academy (HBA) students had the opportunity to learn more about the unique microbial biodiversity within Hawaii Island's lava caves. The project stems back to the spring of 2020, when HBA hosted 'Iolani School's 'Āina-Informatics Network (AIN) in collaboration with University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Astromaterials Research and Exploration Science (ARES) Program at NASA's Johnson Space Center, and Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL).

Claire Mitchell, HBA's science department chair, brings her laptop around class so the students could introduce themselves and thank the academic partners.





Left: Eric Tong, 'Āina-Informatics Network Coordinator, has been pioneering the use of cutting-edge MinION sequencing technology in high school classrooms statewide. Tong returned to HBA to let the students know about the novel bacteria they sequenced together in Spring 2020. **Below:** Below: students conducting genomic sequencing.



AIN taught students how to use state-of-the-art technology to conduct genomic sequencing using DNA isolated from bacteria cultured by Dr. Rebecca Prescott (UH and NASA) and Dr. Stuart Donachie (UH) from Kaumana Cave on Hawaii Island. The DNA the students had the opportunity to help sequence back in 2020 has now been determined to be an entirely new bacterium to science.

“At the time, I didn’t understand the enormity and scope of what we were doing. It was my freshman year at HBA when we learned how to sequence the DNA and we had the chance to learn about micro-pipetting technology and I remember placing some DNA samples into a centrifuge,” recalls Katie Chen, who is now a senior.

“Shortly after this sequencing workshop, the pandemic put a pause on this project,” said Risha Mishima ’09, HBA biology teacher. “It’s amazing to find out a few years later that our students sequenced something never seen before and something entirely new to science.”

In November of 2022, the collaborative academic team reconvened in the same HBA science classroom to let the students know more about the discovery and presented them with the privilege of naming the new species. The learning opportunities continued as some of the HBA students involved in the original genome project became chairs of the naming committee together with members of HBA’s Pre-Med Club.

NASA Postdoctoral Fellow, Dr. Rebecca Prescott, and AIN shared more details about the new organism’s genus, species, color, and details about the Hawaii Island cave in which it was collected. The students said they used that information to propose the name *Paraflavitalea speifideiaquila*, which combines the Latin words for “hope” (spes), “faith” (fides), and “eagle” (aquila, HBA’s mascot).

“I learned that there are a lot of things that go into coming up with this scientific name, a name that will stick around for longer than we will be around,” explained Rachel Cheung, HBA senior and vice president of HBA’s Pre-Med Club (and a student who was also involved in the original genome project). “We wanted to

choose a name that represented our group of students here at HBA.”

“In my day, we were naming our pet goldfish in science class, not novel species!” joked Claire Mitchell, HBA’s science department chair. “Now, our HBA students have the chance to impact not just Hawai‘i, but beyond. Because this is part of NASA’s ARES Project, the impacts will be far reaching. For our students to have this opportunity is a science teacher’s dream come true.”

The next step in this process is for the name to be proposed to the International Committee on Systematics of Prokaryotes (ICSP) for approval.

HBA students would like to again mahalo all the academic partners and organizations that made this opportunity possible. The research was funded by NASA Exobiology grant (80NSSC18K1064), NSF Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in Biology grant (1711856), U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Science, Biological and Environmental Research Division award (LANLF59T), 'Iolani School, and Edward E. Ford Foundation for support of the 'Āina-Informatics Network.



HBA student, Landri Otaka '26, holds up the MinION sequencing technology that was used in spring 2020 to sequence the novel bacteria.



Excerpts by Megan Lee '23, Eagle Eye writer

On August 24, all high school clubs participated in the first in-person Club Fair since the start of the pandemic. A total of forty clubs, the most ever since the 2013-2014 school year, gathered in the gym and set up tables to promote their organizations at lunch.

Many students enjoyed the return of the in-person showcase event, which allowed them to ask questions about each club's activities or requirements before signing up. In addition, rather than only hearing about clubs from friends or returning to the same club, students were able to view and inquire about other organizations.

School clubs represent a wide variety of student and faculty interests. This year, there are cultural, religious, professional, educational, and recreational clubs, and students and faculty founded a total of ten new clubs.

High school vice principal Jeroldine Tsuha, who oversaw the Club Fair, believes that this year's event was a success. She enjoyed seeing students coming back together to sign up for a club or share about their own. Throughout this school year, Tsuha hopes that clubs will provide a way for students to socialize and participate in activities that align with their interests and passions.

"I wanted to run this club because art is a therapeutic experience for me, and I love the fulfillment I get from creating something. I would really love to share that feeling with other students by leading projects that are enjoyable and relaxing, and since this is my last year at HBA, I hope I can leave a positive influence on the community. I know not everyone takes art classes, maybe due to schedule conflicts or because they may not have a real interest or aptitude for art, so I hope our club can be a space where they don't have to feel obligated to be a master at anything but simply be there to have fun." — **Lauren Chee, Art Club**



Senior Lauren Chee welcomes students to sign up for Art Club.

"We run the Tabletop Game Club, a club where students can come and de-stress after a long day by playing board games with friends or [getting] to know new people and bond over similar interests. I started this club with Drew originally as a means to just play around but I saw that it could be something for everyone to enjoy together." — **Nicholas Niwa, Tabletop Game Club**



“I want to create a place where people can bond over their favorite stories. I think books are an amazing vessel for connection, and stories can uplift and inspire, so I’d love to encourage that at HBA. Hopefully, we can foster a community that encourages literacy at HBA, and encourage more of our peers to read for fun. I’m also looking forward to everyone sharing recommendations with one another; maybe people can find new favorites through the club!”
—**Cameron Pien, Book Club**

“Although I didn’t start the Debate Club, I wanted to continue it because I think public speaking as well as logical reasoning is a useful life skill, and debate club is a good place for that. It also helps people to learn using respectful language and seeing other perspectives of a topic, even the sides they may not personally agree with.” —**Kira Baker, Debate Club**

“I started the Chess Club with Mr. Shiroma after playing chess with friends and realizing that it’s more fun to play with people that are just as interested as you are. I also want to learn more about chess, so finding those people who are interested may be able to teach me and I can teach them.” —**Kira Baker, Chess Club**

“I’m the president of the Badminton Club, and I wanted to run it to give students a chance to play the sport outside of PE class. The badminton unit in PE is really short, but I’ve heard that many people like playing badminton, so this club would allow people to explore the sport more. Aside from being fun, it’s also a great exercise and is one of the higher calorie-burning sports. I’ve been playing badminton for over 12 years and I also wanted to use this opportunity for me to play more casually.” —**Rachel Cheung, Badminton Club**

“[Pre-Medical Association] offers students who want to go into the medical field a chance to explore their interest through hands-on medical activities and speakers. Previous activities include an injection workshop where students learned how to administer shots, a suture lab where students learned how to suture a wound, a phlebotomy lesson where students learned how to draw blood and practiced on a dummy, and CPR training. This year, we plan to do some of last year’s activities as well as other hands-on activities, for example, dissections (likely pig feet), basic first aid training, a presentation from an EMS team, and a potential field trip over break to JABSOM.” —**Rachel Cheung, Pre-Medical Association**



Above: Ho’omana (L–R) Lydia Crestetto, Zoe Lim, Larissa Pagano, Abi Hasha, and Olivia Custer. **Left:** Club Sign Up day Randie Lueder (left) and Kaylee LaBarre.

“I am running the cooking club with Blu and Ayda, and I wanted to run this club because I enjoy making food and would like to share this practical skill with others. The primary goal of the club is to have fun making tasty food that is easy and accessible for college. The plan is to meet every month or so and learn how to cook various dishes. The requirements to join are a \$15 club fee and an attitude ready to learn without burning down the school.”
—**Arielle Cook, Cooking Club**

“Our primary goal this year is to fix up the garden and get fruits and vegetables growing. In the past, we had a productive garden, but due to COVID, we had a hard time maintaining it. Other goals are reaching out to community projects where we can practice and learn to give back to the environment like cleaning beaches, planting native trees, or even helping by fundraising. We want to have an active part in school whether it’s small things like composting or holding events where people can learn about sustainability.” —**Jasmine Chang, Environmental Club**

“I wanted to run this club to create more opportunities for people who love music to collaborate, practice, and learn from each other. I founded this club because I wanted to find other musicians who were also passionate in growing in their skills. I wanted to have a space where musicians could play together and help each other out to grow as performers. This year, we are planning on meeting once a week to learn new music concepts and practice songs. We are also planning on having several performance opportunities throughout the school year to show what we have learned.” —**Abigail Bumgardner, Contemporary Music Club**



Middle school students make cake pops at the Culinary Club. L–R: Cinnamon Lee, Elvy Chun, Maya Wong, and May Shiraishi.

Clubs CONTINUED



Good game! First year of the Chess Club at the elementary campus.



The Green Team on our elementary campus studies our earth—everything from mauka (mountain) to makai (ocean). This after school club is led by STEM teacher, Julie Venegas.

"I want to help the earth and make it a better place. I'm learning how microplastics can end up in the ocean because plastic never decomposes—and that's bad because fish eat it. We have to do what we can to gather it (plastic), whether it be through recycling or just picking up litter. It (Green Team) really motivates me to help the earth—and it just feels good to be doing something good.

— **Cassia Lee, Generation Green**



Students in our Creative Music and Drama club. This after school program is led by our elementary music teacher, Sam Browning.

I enjoy everything about music — I like learning music, writing music, and playing different instruments. Music teaches me that we all have to work together to make our music sound good. It teaches me that everyone has individual parts, so we all get to do something special, to bring our music together.

— **Demi Chae, Creative Music and Drama**



(Art Club) is a fun way to use your creativity and meet other people that are also interested in art. We're experimenting with different materials, like using Prisma color pencils, acrylic paints, and watercolors. I'm learning that it's okay to make mistakes because in art you can always change your mistake into something else. I'm also learning to be myself.

— **Amari Siguid, Art Club**

CLUB LIST

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Art Club
Campus Ministry Team
Chess Club
Creative Music & Drama
Green Team
Jam For Jesus
Sports Program
Student Council

Environmental Club
Filipino Club
Film and CGI Club
FIRST Robotics
Gaming and Anime Club
Hawai'i Club
HBAAFF Committee
Ho'omana
Interact

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Boba Club
Culinary Club
eSports
Girls Bible Study
Ho'omana
National Junior Honor Society
Student Council

Investment Club
Japanese National
Honor Society
Just Dance Club
Korea Club
Live Mas
Mac-Cro-Knit
Mathematics Team
Mock Trial

HIGH SCHOOL

Art Club
Badminton Club
Boba Club
Book Club
Bowling Club
Campus Life Ministry
Chess Club
Chinese Club
Contemporary Band Club
Cooking Club
Debate Club
Drama Club

National Honor Society
Pen to Paper Club
Pep Band
Philosophy Club
Photography
Pre-Med Association
Running Club
Science Olympiad
Student Council
Surfrider
Table Tennis Club
TableTop Game Club



February 25, 2023

Legacy Awards Night

See Legacy Awards story on pages 34–35.



HILTON HAWAIIAN VILLAGE BALLROOM



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO HBA HONOREES



WADA FAMILY



SOLDIERS OF LIGHT



BAND DIRECTOR
DWAINE WOO



HIGH SCHOOL WIND ENSEMBLE



Redemption and Empathy Through Art

By HBA's Communications Department

but now,
I walk forward in **confidence**
because **I am**
holding hands
with the one who holds the

For this week's 'Ohana Stories, we had the opportunity to sit down with **Mrs. Lynne Nakano**, HBA's social studies chair, and **Cameron Pien '23**, a senior at HBA. Although Cameron has never been a student of Lynne Nakano, they got to know each other through HBA's Core Group Christian Ministry. When Cameron was a sophomore, she was invited to Mrs. Nakano's group, and over the past two years, Mrs. Nakano has become a trusted mentor and friend. The two will have lunch together every week. They have prayed together, cried together, and Lynne



Nakano has been one of Cameron's greatest encouragers throughout her high school career. Below are excerpts from our conversation as they shared from their hearts.

Lynne Nakano (LN): When Cameron invited me to see her dance show, I decided to attend because I wanted to see how much she had grown. I attended one of her ballets a couple of years ago, and I know she has remained committed over the years.

What I didn't realize until I got there is that Prisma Dance had really changed how the students were involved! It turns out that the production was student-created, choreographed, and led. The show, titled "Seasons," was a combination of dance, music, and poetry.

Cameron was in charge of the Autumn portion of the production, which was really powerful for me. The poem that she wrote to accompany the production was amazing.

Cameron Pien (CP): This was Prisma Dance's first-ever student-led production, so I got to be one of the guinea pigs! It was a great opportunity, and I feel like God did a lot of work through that show.

LN: It had an element of making God known; it was like a dance ministry.

CP: The show was also a fundraiser for a non-profit organization, Camp Ohana, which supports dance and music programs in Kenya. Back in April, our studio director emailed four dancers, including myself, and invited us to be the artistic directors for this show and guide the production. We decided to tell the story of the four seasons through dance. We wanted to talk about what each of the four physical seasons represented in our lives, and how God has a purpose for every season. After we had the concept and overall theme, we planned out and casted each piece and started rehearsals in August.

One of the most memorable things I got to do was work with a composer to come up with the three songs for my season, autumn. Although I don't know too much about music, I outlined the overall feel of the piece, and then he translated it into music. For example, I wanted the "Harvest" piece to feel very earthy and grounded, so he incorporated lots of organic percussion. It was amazing to see how different types of artists could work together.

As for the poetry part, my director knew that my friend and I liked to write for fun, so she asked if we wanted to write poems for the show as interludes between the seasons. I wrote the first three poems, which were the introductory one about time, change, and God being constant, and then the summer and autumn poems. A lot of the inspiration for the poems came from the choreographers for each season and what their pieces meant to them.

My favorite one was definitely the autumn poem. It's about learning how to say goodbye and to not only let go of your idea of how your life should be, but to truly relinquish control to God. I had to accept that some people or situations weren't meant to be in my life in every season, and God gave me the strength

to depend on Him and trust that He would take care of me and was working for my good.

LN: Can you please read the last lines of the poem for us?

CP: 'But now, I walk forward in confidence because I am holding hands with the one who holds the world.'

That was really a God moment for me. I feel like God wrote that through me, for me. I was in the piece right after this poem, and so I'd always be watching on the side of the stage and getting kind of emotional, but the piece I was in was very uplifting and all about embracing change, so it wouldn't be fitting to walk on stage tearing up! Having the poem end with those lines felt like God was speaking directly to me every time and saying, I'm with you, and you are literally walking onto this stage holding hands with me.

LN: That is a hard-fought quote. We learn from the hard things in life, and the Lord can make flowers out of what may be a mess. It means something to me as well.

CP: Thank you. It was amazing to see that the words and production meant so much to people.

I think the purpose of art is to make people feel understood. Art is empathy. My hope whenever I create something is that it will make people feel something, and maybe feel less alone.

LN: That is part of love biblically as well. One of my favorite verses in 1 Corinthians 13 is verse 12, the line about 'being known'... That loving someone is knowing them.

CP: It was really important for me to know that this production was for a greater purpose. Oftentimes, it can be tempting to make the performing arts self-centered and to literally want the spotlight for yourself. But I knew this wasn't for me; I wasn't trying to sell tickets to glorify myself. It was about God, and about this organization, and what He wants to do for the audience and these kids in Kenya through us. It was an honor to contribute to this dance ministry and put altruism and compassion first.

LN: I would echo that. I experienced that. I ended up leaving with the feeling of God's redemption.

CP: It was also really exciting to see the amazing things that the younger choreographers created. Often, kids don't have the chance to unleash their ideas because they haven't been entrusted with the opportunity. I learned that if I'm ever in a leadership position in the future, I hope I won't be a domineering leader, but someone who is inspirational and welcomes input. To me, leadership is actually all about listening.

Ever since I was a kid, I've felt like the teachers here believe in me and my potential. That gives me the confidence to know that I'm surrounded by people who encourage and support me.

I think the National Honor Society (NHS) also prepared me for being an artistic director for the show, since I'm a co-chair for one of the committees. It helped with the logistical part of the event, such as leadership, timely communication, project management, and delegating of opportunities.

I also want to thank my studio director for giving me the opportunity; she's been my teacher since I was three. It was a great bonding experience for all my dance classmates, and all the girls have strong relationships with God and inspire me to grow closer to Him. I'm also thankful to my parents for supporting me,

believing in me, and listening to me when I was stressed during rehearsals, and of course, I'm super grateful to God for giving me this experience.

I think it was a great way to close out my high school dance career and a good start to my senior year. After the show ended, I felt that God was calling me to step back from dance and to enjoy life more and spend time with my family, my younger siblings, my friends, and my teachers. I've always been a workaholic, so I wanted to find more balance in my life.

LN: I feel like that was a very concerted choice to choose people over achievement. It wasn't giving up on something.

CP: Yes, I've always been tempted to base my identity on achievement and chase validation from success. There's that voice in my head wanting me to keep going, keep pushing, to always be the best, and to be honest, I was never the best dancer in the studio. I got to the point where I was good, and I feel like I found my style

and my niche in dance, but I was never cast in main roles or anything. When I was deciding to stop, part of me was discontent and felt like I

was giving up. But, a larger part of me knew that that desire for perfection is prideful and egocentric. If you're never satisfied with where you are, life becomes empty and draining; there's always going to be someone better than you. I think God helped me to be content with where I am in this season of my life and to be proud of myself for dancing for so many years and putting in the work and time.

I'm not regretting the decision at all. I do want to start getting better at hip-hop, just for fun. I did ballet and jazz, but now I'm excited to dip my toes in a new style. I'm not putting pressure on myself; it's just something I've always wanted to do. It's been a good mindset change for me.

LN: My word for this would be redemption. The redemption of what you went through deepened your character in ways that you can make these hard decisions, think about more than yourself, and pass the baton on well. To choose to give up achievement for people is the hand of God. That is evidence of transformation. He's been with you and really knows what He is doing. You can always trust the sovereign God because He is good.

CP: Yes, I love the message of the show that God has a purpose for every season, and there is beauty in everything. He is with you in the winter and summer; He controls everything and has a purpose for everything. What I love about art is that you can turn something that is painful into something that is beautiful. That is what God does—He is the master artist—He took the cross and turned it into redemption and salvation. His love challenged me to trust and to watch as He revealed all the wonderful things He can do.



Kaimana Award

HBA Honored for School Excellence

By Deren Oshiro '86, HBA Athletic Director

For the 14th consecutive year—and 15th time in 17 years—HBA has won a Kaimana Award for overall school excellence.

Unlike many awards that focus solely on athletic accomplishments, the Kaimana program—sponsored by the Hawai'i Medical Service Association—recognizes overall school excellence based on five criteria: academics, athletics, community service, sportsmanship, and healthy activities. Each school earns points based on its athletic participation (percentage of student body involved in interscholastic sports), athletes' grade point averages, community service hours accrued by the total student body, and healthy activities engaged in by students and school groups. Schools have points deducted in the sportsmanship category if their athletes or coaches are cited for various negative behaviors.

Representing the Interscholastic League of Honolulu (ILH), HBA has now won the Division 1 first place Kaimana Award six consecutive years, following Division 2 first place finishes from 2008 to 2015. HBA is the only ILH school—regardless of division—to be recognized all 16 years of the program. [Although student scholarships were awarded in 2021, school awards took a year's hiatus since sports participation varied by league and only took place in the second half of the school year.]



Over 68 percent of the HBA student body competed in at least one ILH sport in the 2021–2022 school year. Just over 91 percent of the student-athletes had grade point averages of over 2.75.

Over the past year, HBA won the varsity ILH Division 2 championships in boys basketball, girls tennis, boys tennis, and a third consecutive outright ILH championship in boys golf (no classifications at the league level for this sport). HBA also captured a third consecutive HHSAA D2 state championship for girls cross country and another HHSAA

D2 state championship for boys cross country (its fourth overall). Additionally, HBA won the HHSAA D2 state championship in girls basketball (its third overall).

HBA students also participated in numerous community service projects led by grade level advisors, the Interact Club, the Surfrider Club, and the National Honor Society. Among the organizations serviced by HBA groups were our own elementary campus, American Cancer Society, Malulani Hale, Care Center of Honolulu, Kuakini Adult Rehab, Special Olympics, Central Union Adult Day Care, and the Olivet Baptist Church Food Pantry.

For healthy activities, HBA incorporated physical, mental, and social/emotional health focuses in all of the grade level advisory pod meetings and grade level meetings throughout the year. Topics covered were bullying, dangers of drugs and alcohol, growth vs. fixed mindset, sex abuse, conflict management, and building a new community. HBA's Interact Club participated in the Kidney Foundation Walk. HBA's students and faculty collectively gave 42 pints of blood in our school's blood drive. And HBA partnered with Kaiser Permanente to host six COVID-19 vaccination clinics for our school community and the community-at-large.

Athletic Director Deren Oshiro '86 represented HBA to receive the award at the Kaimana Awards luncheon banquet June 11 at the Hawai'i Convention Center. HMSA also presented \$90,000 in awards and scholarships to the winning schools and to the 15 student-athletes representing all five interscholastic leagues from across the state (each student was awarded a \$5,000 scholarship). HBA received a \$1,500 check, a banner, and a crystal trophy for its school award.

Over the 17 years of the Kaimana Awards and Scholarship Program, HMSA has distributed 326 scholarships totaling 1.7 million dollars.



FRONT ROW (Girls, L-R): Coach Nina Kondo '09, Madison Callo, Callie Kubota, Caley Chun, Ashley Kodama, Jordan Davenport, Natali Nomura, Miya Eveland, Christina Toyomura, Coach Shelby Tanaka '11 and Coach Kacie Kwan '20. **BACK ROW** (Boys, L-R): Coach Aaron Kondo '05, Coach Brent Wakuzawa, William Kowal, Dylan Terayama, Codey Chun, Xan Waialeale, Dylan Djou, Chris Wu, Shane Kimura, Jared Crestetto, Daniel Nagao, Coach Ian Doi '07, Coach Thatcher King.

HBA Sweeps Cross Country State Championships

By Deren Oshiro '86, HBA Athletic Director

HBA continues to stand alone atop the state in Division 2 varsity cross country

The Eagles girls and boys swept their respective 2022 Honolulu Marathon/HHSAA Division 2 State Cross Country Championships for the second consecutive year. The 5-kilometer (3.1 miles) races were held October 28 on the campus of Island School in Lihue, Kauai.

This marked our HBA girls team's fourth consecutive state championship (2018, 2019, 2021... no state championships were held in 2020). The Eagles were also state runners-up in 2016 and 2017.

HBA's 29 points outpaced Hawai'i Preparatory Academy's 68 points (and second place finish). Kaua'i High finished third, Kihei Charter finished fourth, and Kamehameha-Hawai'i was fifth. 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 20 schools been scored together in one division, HBA would have finished 3rd behind only D1 champion Punahou and D1 runner-up 'Iolani.

Leading the way for the Eagles was Ashley Kodama '23, whose time of 19:39 was good for 5th place overall. Caley Chun '23 was also a medalist at 13th place (20:21). Other scoring runners were Christina Toyomura '23 (29th, 21:01), Madison Callo '24 (31st, 21:11) and Callie Kubota '24 (52nd, 21:52). Also competing were Jordy Davenport '23 (58th, 22:07) and Natali Nomura '25 (67th, 22:25). The top twenty finishers—regardless of division—were awarded medals.

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

While their girls counterparts entered states as the three-time defending champions, the HBA boys were seeking to defend their 2021 title following a runner-up finish in 2019 and consecutive titles of their own in 2017 and 2018.

HBA's 41 points edged 2021 champion Seabury Hall (45). The other D2 schools posting team scores were, in order, Hanalani School, Kaua'i High, Hawai'i Preparatory Academy, Kihei Charter and Makua Lani. Had all schools been scored together in one division, HBA would have placed 3rd overall out of 21 scoring teams.

Leading the way for the boys was Dylan Djou '25, whose time of 17:23 was good for 18th place overall. Other scoring runners were Jared Crestetto '25 (30th, 17:51), Dylan Terayama '24 (37th, 17:58), Xan Waialeale '25 (39th, 18:00) and Codey Chun '26 (57th, 18:23). Also competing were Chris Wu '23 (67th, 18:31) and Shane Kimura '24 (85th, 18:47).

The HBA boys have now won four of the past five D2 state titles and have a state-leading five D2 crowns overall.

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

Unlike most other schools, HBA's assistant coaches help both girls and boys programs while their focus remains on a single gender. The assistant coaches this past season were Brent Wakuzawa '13, Ian Doi '07, Nina (Cheong) Kondo '09, Lindsey Jaeger '21, Kacie Kwan '20, HBA admissions secretary, 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 BOYS AND GIRLS WIN ILH BASKETBALL TITLES



For the first time in school history, the HBA boys and girls varsity basketball teams both won league championships in the same season.

The boys team lost their season opener, but went on to win 11 of their final 12 games to finish 11-2 in Interscholastic League of Honolulu Division 2 play (one game ahead of league runner-up University Lab School). The title was the program's second consecutive and ninth overall.

In the HHSAA Division 2 State Championships, the Eagles edged Maui Interscholastic League (MIL) Champion Seabury Hall, 63-62, in their quarter-final. Eli Shibuya '24 led the team with 30 points on 10-15 shooting from the field (2-4 on 3pt FG) and 8-11 from the free throw line.

HBA lost in the semi-finals to eventual state champion Kohala and finished fourth overall for the fourth time in four trips to states.

Shibuya was later named ILH D2 Co-Player of the Year, Honolulu Star-Advertiser All-State Fab 15 Honorable Mention, and Scoring Live Division 2 First Team All-State. Jordon Qin '23 was named to the ILH First Team, while Matthew Shigetani '25 was named to the ILH Second Team. Second-year head coach Kellen Kaneshiro '00 was named the ILH D2 Coach of the Year.

Other boys team members were seniors Elijah Wong, Trent Mitchell, Jackson Lincoln, Connor Takemoto and Sam

Cheng, juniors Preston Gonzalez and Nainoa Nakamura, sophomores Reo Furuta, Connor Wong, Colton Wong, Sam Lim and Kai Toyofuku.

The team was coached by Kaneshiro '00, HBA parent Leighton Mitchell, Bryce Zukemura and Ty Minatoya '17.

While the boys were front runners most of their season, the girls team took the most difficult and unlikely path to their title. They sat at 5-2 with four games remaining. The final two were on the road

at Sacred Hearts and at Hanalani, both of whom were 8–1 with two games left.

HBA won its final four games, including 48–43 and 40–35 victories at Sacred Hearts and Hanalani, respectively, on both schools' Senior Nights. This forced a playoff with Hanalani for the championship and HBA won that as well, 36–28.



The Eagles' title was their first since 2019 and 13th overall.

At the HHSAA Division 2 State Championships, HBA won its opener against Big Island Interscholastic League (BIIF) runner-up Hawaii Prep 44–42. Trislyn Maeda '23 led the team with 23 points, including 4 three-pointers.

In the semi-finals, HBA lost to Kamehameha-Hawaii and, like the HBA boys, ended up finishing fourth overall. The Eagles were attempting to defend their 2022 HHSAA State Championship.

For her performance and impact in games, Joey Lin '23 was named the ILH D2 Player of the Year.

She was also Scoring Live Division 2 Second Team All-State, along with Trislyn Maeda '23. Maeda earned ILH First Team honors and she was also named Honolulu Star-Advertiser All-State Feb 15 Honorable Mention. Careah Baitlon '23 made the ILH Second Team. Head coach Robin Yamaguchi '77 was named the ILH D2 Coach of the Year.

Other girls team members were juniors Kaitlyn Maruya, Terra Kawamoto and Hannah Morse, sophomores Marisa Nakata, Katelynn Albano, Sierra Ramos, Ally Ann Low and Lydia Holcomb, and freshmen Lauren Okuda and Sienna Lamblack.

The girls team was coached by Yamaguchi '77, Isaac Hayashi '09, HBA parent Candice Chun, and Arjay Gruspe.

Congratulations to all of our players and coaches on outstanding seasons!



Interview: Noelani Okawara

Building a Strong Foundation for Social-Emotional Learning

By HBA's Communications Department



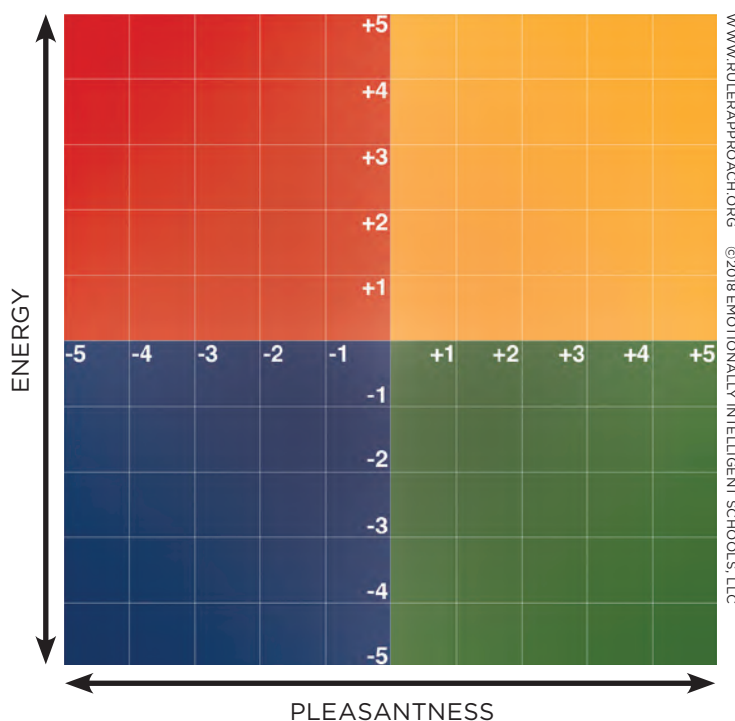
Hawai'i Baptist Academy initiated the YALE Ruler Program about four years ago to enhance its social-emotional learning (SEL) curriculum and to keep the methodology and terminology consistent throughout all grade levels. Students as young as junior kindergarten through 12th grade have been learning how to better understand and express their emotions in healthy ways.

"It was really God's perfect timing for us to launch this program with our faculty in 2018 and with our students in 2019, just before the pandemic," said Danford Chang, HBA's director of counseling. "It laid the foundation needed for our students, teachers, and staff to have tools throughout the pandemic to support our social-emotional learning and needs."

"Social-emotional learning is important because studies show that when you are learning and growing in your social-emotional skills, then behavioral problems go down. Students have more confidence, tend to get better grades, and experience more positive peer relationships," said Noelani Okawara, an HBA elementary counselor. "This is part of building the well-being of the entire person, not just academically, but spiritually, emotionally, and socially."

THE MOOD METER

How are you feeling?





*Train up a child
in the way he should go:
and when he is old,
he will not depart from it.*

Proverbs 22:6 (KJV)

At the elementary campus, HBA counselors run a guidance class that every grade level participates in each year, along with P.E., Art, STEM, Music, Library, and other extracurricular programs called “Specials.” In Guidance, students learn things like emotional and conflict management, problem-solving, friendships and relationships, building a growth mindset, goal setting, and empathy and kindness.

In addition to participating in guidance class, students have the opportunity to meet with counselors one-on-one for additional support. Mrs. Okawara also hosts a “lunch bunch” every day where different groups of students can participate in an informal setting to work out conflicts, concerns, and struggles that they may be experiencing within their friend groups. The “lunch bunches” are also a time when students can build connections and friendships with others in their grade level.

For 5th and 6th grade students, Mrs. Okawara runs a banana split group—a support group for kids with separated and divorced parents. It is a way to support kids and provide a safe place for them to share concerns or struggles with others who may be going through something similar—and is a program that continues through HBA’s middle school campus as well. The group was instigated by a student looking for a way to help others with what he was going through.

“We hope that teaching our students the many aspects of social-emotional learning in their early years will help support them, build a strong foundation, and give them the tools they need to be healthy, balanced, and successful young adults in the future,” said Mrs. Okawara.



One of the things Mrs. Okawara has noticed in our “post COVID” world is that some children’s social skills can be a bit behind because of limited interactions with other kids during the pandemic. She has noticed that some children can have increased anxiety with friends or may shy away and not know how to initiate friendships. For older kids, Mrs. Okawara says many students got used to communicating with one another via social media

platforms, but now need to sharpen their skills for face-to-face conversations. Along with co-guidance teacher, Kammie Ann Nishimiya, they are helping to coach students who may be struggling in this area.

“I’m so thankful to work at a place where I am able to share God’s love with the kids and to work alongside teachers and staff that genuinely care about the kids inside and outside of school,” Okawara explained. “We are all so invested and want to provide all the resources and support needed to help our kids succeed.”



When Noelani Okawara is not at school, she is busy raising her three children and doing ministry work. **Above** is one of the food distributions that her church, LIFE Christian Church, hosts each month at various DOE schools.

Faith Matters

Excerpts by John Yamamoto '23, Eagle Eye writer

Hawai'i Baptist Academy's motto is "Christ for Every Nation," and its mission as a Christian college-preparatory school is to "equip students spiritually, intellectually, physically, socially, and emotionally, so that they bring honor to God." However, HBA accepts students from all backgrounds, and according to the school's website, half of its students are from non-Christian families. As a result, while students may be in a faith-focused environment with required Bible classes, weekly chapels and Christian-like characteristics, they may not all share the same point of view when it comes to religion and spirituality.

For those who identify as Christians, the importance of spirituality is a given. Senior **Azure Wasson** believes that his faith plays a crucial role in his life. "I think that it's something that's a great tool to live my life by," he said. Wasson sees the Bible as something that "can serve...as a guideline." He added that Christian principles have helped him think through moral issues. Though both of Wasson's parents are agnostic, after being introduced to Christianity through a former school, Wasson decided to become a Christian.

Senior **Arielle Cook** shares a similar sentiment and describes her religion as the foundation for her life. Cook said, "I think for Christianity, if you believe in it, your whole life centers around it, and your goal is to glorify God rather than yourself or anything else." One way that Cook lives out her faith is in her relationships: She shared that her beliefs encourage her to be kind to her neighbors. Cook's faith stems from what her family believes as well as her own experiences of seeing God work around her.

Junior **Ryan Wong**, whose parents are pastors, believes that Christianity helps people live healthy and responsible lives. His faith helps him in decision-making and is based on having seen God work in his life through miracles and healings. Senior **Ethan Nakata's** spirituality also influences the choices he makes.

He said, "I guess I know that God's always watching, so it makes me wary of what I am doing. I don't want to make bad decisions." Nakata's faith is influenced by his family, as they go to church and pray together.

For non-Christian students, the importance of spirituality varies. Senior **Kira Baker** is open minded about religion but does not believe in one. She said, "Personally, other than school



One of our newest bible teachers, Aaron Brock. Bible classes are among the required courses that HBA students take in middle and high school.

and required Bible classes, [spirituality] does not play a big role in my life at the moment."

Sophomore **Nicholas Niwa** describes himself as an agnostic and does not believe in God's existence. While he thinks that spirituality brings balance to people's lives, he sees it as a beneficial add-on rather than a necessity. Niwa said he looks at the world through a scientific lens, which can lead him to be more analytical, skeptical, and pessimistic. Niwa cites his family's non-religious perspective as part of the source of his agnostic beliefs. Because

of the high importance he places on empirical evidence, Niwa said he's not able to wrap his head around the concept of believing in something he can't see.

Freshman **Bryce Minishima**, who doesn't consider himself very religious but believes in God, said, "I don't think about [spirituality] necessarily when I wake up, but once a while I will think about it." His spirituality doesn't affect his life much besides being a part of the school he goes to. Minishima stated that HBA is the source of his beliefs on spirituality.



Charles Poore, High School Campus ministry coordinator

The Christian Ministries team at HBA approaches their work knowing that their audience comes from a variety of spiritual backgrounds. High School Campus Ministry Coordinator Charles Poore said that he tries to "[say] something to everybody, and [challenge] everybody—Christians and non-Christians—in [chapels.]" Poore referred to a recent chapel where he spoke on how to prepare for the hills and valleys in one's life. The sermon reminded Christians on how to live out their faith in tough times, but was also "[couched] in the terms of 'this is only really gonna work for Christians.'"

Tony Traugher, a Bible teacher and the director of faith integration, also takes an intentional approach to the mixed faith background of students in Bible class. He said, "You're trying to equip Christians, and you're trying to show non-Christians, 'Hey, there's some real meat to this. There's some real reason behind it. We hope to be planting seeds for the future.'"

Christian Emphasis Week:

Doing Life **BIG** with God

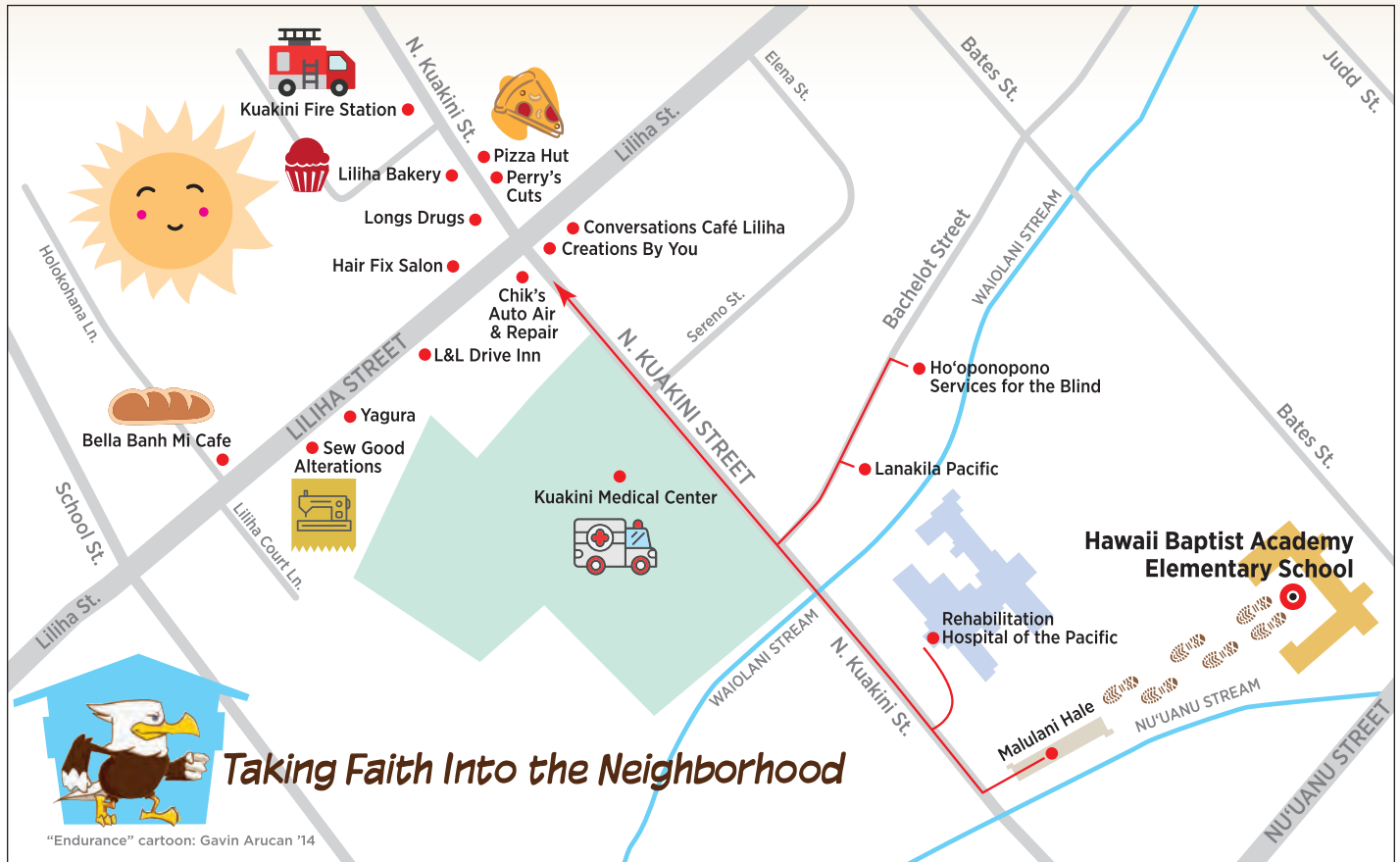


Christian Emphasis Week (CEW) is a beloved tradition at HBA that has been going on since nearly its inception. While it used to be called Religious Emphasis Week (REW), the purpose has remained the same, a time dedicated to learning more about God and demonstrating His love.

Because CEW Week looked a bit different during the height of the pandemic (at a time when we needed to do things in smaller groups), it was such a blessing to celebrate it across all our campuses this year! And this year... we did it **BIG**!

ON OUR ELEMENTARY CAMPUS, the students started each day with chapel and, when they returned to class, they got to dive deeper in “chapel chats” within their own classroom family. The students also had the chance to learn special songs, dances, and work on art projects. Then, on the last day, they went out into our greater community and shared the music, dance, art projects, and gifts with our neighbors and friends!





"One of the things we want our students to understand is who lives around us, and what our neighbors and community helpers are doing during the day," said Cindy Gaskins, elementary campus minister. "So going out into the community on a Friday is a great way for us to think about what is happening at the REHAB Hospital or who lives at Malulani Hale. Then for our students to be able to go out and say, 'We're glad you're in our neighborhood, we hope we can be a blessing to you.' That's what community is all about."

Gaskins adds, "The children also learned during the week that God takes small things and makes them big. We don't have to do things by ourselves; we can do it with Him and with one another. That communicates His love for people. CEW is a great week for students to focus for long hours on who God is and how much He loves them, and we hope they take that home to their families."



Pictured on this page are moments from CEW Week on our upper campuses and members of our Christian Ministries team with students, including Charles Poore (top left), Rob Lockridge (left), and Raelene (Wong) Hinkel '15 (top left and above).

ON OUR UPPER CAMPUSES (middle and high school), our students had the chance to play games, do activities, and worship together. They also were able to select breakout seminars such as a Christian rap led by Sean Breau (middle school math teacher), a dating seminar led by Alexandra Taylor (high school English teacher), “Worshipping through Art” by Juri Yamashita (art teacher), and “Being a Good Friend through Bad Times” led by Arjay Gruspe (pastor).

“CEW is a nice way to pull back from some of the academics and make more space to focus on God. The students had the opportunity to hear their teachers speak about their faith in different ways,” said Tony Traughber, director of faith integration.

A moment that really stood out to many students, staff, and faculty was towards the end of the week when students were asked at the end of chapel if they wanted prayer, or if they were interested in committing or recommitting their lives to God. The response was overwhelming.

“We had just finished up chapel for the middle school students and we asked anyone if they wanted prayer,” recalls Charles Poore, Christian ministries director. “When nearly the entire middle school student body started heading towards the back of the gym, I thought they might be leaving. But they were walking toward their teachers for prayer. There were not many dry eyes in the gym that day.”

“There was a lot of genuine prayer that happened throughout the week. God was truly working and touching lives from the students to the teachers,” added Rob Lockridge, middle school campus minister. “After COVID, we now have the opportunity to revisit the way we do FOCUS week. We are already starting to plan it for next year and to make sure that everything we do is with our school’s mission in mind—and that everything ultimately points to Jesus.”



Alumni Chronicles

Cheri Teranishi-Hashimoto '93

By Maurine King

“Softball is my life! I can’t do without it,” the 1993 yearbook, *The Light*, quoted Cheri Teranishi as saying.

Ironically, Dr. Cheri Teranishi-Hashimoto, now Therapy Director at the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific, found her calling “by accident”—that is, because of her own sports injuries. In her years at Hawai‘i Baptist (1987–1993) Cheri played volleyball and basketball as well as softball. Physical therapists helped heal her torn knee ligaments and other injuries.

Her first career choice was veterinary medicine, but another athletic injury at Purdue University made her calling even more evident. Again, physical therapists helped her to heal and inspired her to change to their field. While at Purdue, she earned dual Bachelor of Arts degrees in 1997—one in Movement and Sports Science, and another in Exercise and Fitness—and a Master of Science in Exercise Physiology in 2000. These were followed by a Master of Science in Physical Therapy in 2002 and a Doctor of Physical Therapy in 2003, both from Des Moines University. She brings the same enthusiasm to physical therapy she once had for softball.

For her tireless commitment, Dr. Teranishi-Hashimoto was recognized as a Hawai‘i Healthcare Hero in 2017 by the Healthcare Association of Hawai‘i. She has been counted as a member of several prominent, industry-related organizations for many years, including the American College of Sports Medicine, the American Physical Therapy Association, and the Hawai‘i



Cheri Teranishi-Hashimoto '93 is the therapy director of REHAB Hospital of the Pacific, providing important physical rehabilitative care for our community.



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Society of Clinical Oncology and the Association of Community Cancer Centers.

Except for seven years at Kaiser Permanente, Cheri has spent her career at the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific. Even after 20 years in her field she says, “I am very grateful and thankful that I can say I love what I do. It’s not ‘work.’ Not everyone can say that about their careers.”

Asked what makes PT such an attractive field, Cheri says “It is being able to walk alongside someone on their journey from injury through healing to recovery that makes it a worthwhile career.” It also can be done in a variety of settings and has a variety of specialties.

One of those specialties is the Cancer Rehabilitation Program Cheri has developed and currently oversees. Cancer and its treatments can cause side effects and treatment for these is not generally covered by insurance. Presently some of the cost is being offset by a study, but when that ends, patients have the option to join a cash pay based group program. Cheri is hoping more local institutions will see the value in this program and help to sustain it through funding.

How does one become a physical therapist? Cheri recommends a bachelor’s degree in kinesiology, biology, or another science, then a graduate school program generally lasting three years which results in a Doctorate of Physical Therapy (DPT) degree. Many schools are offering this degree, including Hawai‘i Pacific University locally. “Hands on” experience in various therapy settings is required as part of your application process, so start early.

When I went to interview Cheri for this article, I got to meet Micah Abe '20, who is getting that sort of experience as a “rehabilitation tech.” We were joined by Lynne Nohara Kido '92, whose experience was different. After teaching Hawaiian and Asian history at HBA for many years, she was accepted at the University of the Pacific for their DPT program. She has worked at the Rehab Hospital for 15 years.



Alumni Spotlight

Shane Tanigawa '94

University Avenue Baptist Church has a new senior pastor who graduated from Hawai'i Baptist Academy in 1994. Shane Tanigawa fondly remembers his time at HBA with Christian Ministries coordinators like Ted Goslen and Ed Mills. While he was still a student learning about God and about how to put his faith into action, at that time, he wasn't thinking about ministry as a career.



Shane Tanigawa, Senior Pastor of University Avenue Baptist Church

Instead, Shane describes his call to vocational ministry as a gradual experience. "It wasn't until 2001 when I was provided an opportunity to serve on Maui with the UH-Mānoa Baptist Collegiate Ministries (BCM), that I became open to serving in ministry leadership. That experience during a spring break mission trip impacted my desire to be obedient to the Lord and trust and depend on Him."

Shane's first opportunity to follow God's calling came from former HBA Bible teacher Sean Lathrop who asked him to join the UH Mānoa

BCM staff upon graduating from college. As a part of BCM, he was able to minister to college students, but he was also given the opportunity to travel throughout Hawai'i, where he observed and experienced the state of local Southern Baptist churches. This led him to commit to his pursuit of a theological education and training that would help him prepare properly for a lifetime of ministry leadership.

After two and a half years with BCM, Shane attended Gateway Seminary (formerly known as Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary) in Northern California for his theological education (MDiv), and he began working for the Seminary in 2004. While there, he served in a number of positions before arriving at University Avenue Baptist Church in July 2022.

He says what's most gratifying about his work is being able to shepherd people and being on the journey with them while watching them grow in their faith and lives. One of many memories that helped him stay motivated was when he met Ikaika Higa, who participated in ministry with him. While in California,

they often spent time discussing how to engage Christian ministry in the Hawaiian culture. Ikaika, who returned to Hawai'i first, has been serving the community of Kahalu'u under the umbrella of University Avenue Baptist Church.

This is what eventually led Shane home to Hawai'i and once again collaborate with Ikaika. Now, Shane says seeing the work of God turning "what could be" into "what is" is a true reflection of God's goodness and grace, and he is proud to be a part of doing God's work.



Pastor Shane Tanigawa and his family following his installation service at University Avenue Baptist Church. Shane with wife Maela and sons Justice and Preston.

July 2022

Alumni Celebration



Clockwise from upper left: Ho'olaule'a at the Dan Kong Middle School, Da Braddah's at the Ho'olaule'a, networking lunch at Tiny Pyramid with guest speaker Kelvin Espiritu '89, annual volleyball tournament at the Dan Liu Gymnasium, and the Schlaises (L-R), Jessica '92, Amelia, Zoey, 'Aukai, and Greg '94.

A month-long Alumni Celebration was planned in 2022 after two years of being online due to the pandemic. The turnout for all four planned events was overwhelming!

To kick off the month we honored our multi-generational HBA families with yard games and interactive activities at our Alumni Legacy Dinner at the Dan Kong Middle School campus. Over 125 people were in attendance representing 33 alumni legacy families. On July 8, the HBA Alumni Association organized the annual alumni volleyball tournament. Eagles from far and near gathered together in the Dan Liu Gymnasium for a friendly tournament with 60 players, 45 of them being alumni, and over 100 people in total in attendance. Alumni players represented 18 graduating classes.

The HBA Alumni Association hosted a Networking Lunch on July 14 at Tiny Pyramid. Twenty-one alumni from 13 graduating classes, 1986 to 2016, listened as our guest speakers, Kelvin Espiritu '89 and Keoni Wasano '03, shared about their time at HBA and how it prepared them to navigate through school, family, and their careers.

The month concluded with an in-person Ho'olaule'a hosted by guest alumni emcees Dana Sato '00 and Brent Vargas '14,

Hawaiian music entertainment from Naluhoe, and non-stop laughter and prize giveaways from Da Braddah's (James Roache '85). And we can't forget about the delicious Hawaiian food from Keneke's and yummy ice cream treats from Double Fat Ice Cream (Brandon Lee '06). In celebration of their 25th reunion the class of 1997 presented a class gift to President Shiira to benefit the Carole Kitahara Scholarship Endowment. The event was live streamed for those unable to attend. Throughout the month of July we also showcased Alumni Video Spotlights featuring 16 alum. These videos can be found at www.hba.net.



L-R: Lauren Murai '97, Darren Sanden '97, Jennifer Oyer '97, and President Ron Shiira '75.

Class Reunions

Class of 1972

THE CLASS OF 1972 celebrated their 50th class reunion July 8–10, 2022. Just about half of the class was present for the events. Their reunion weekend began with a meet and greet on the Stan Sagert High School campus facilitated by retired Principal Marsha Hirae '72, followed by food, more fellowship, and a visit with Ms. Maurine King. Classmates were impressed with the “new campus” and all that it provided current students.



Meet and greet at the Stan Sagert High School campus.

Saturday morning, the class met at Ala Moana Beach Park, and spent several hours talking about the socials and good times from their high school days. That evening, the class had a very special gathering organized by Geoff Pang at Natsunoya Tea House. A beautiful dinner was served, followed by a Trivial Pursuit game



Dinner at Natsunoya Tea House.

of high school memories. The evening continued with a time where class members stood individually and shared personal updates as well as more HBA memories, both humorous and touching. The final class activity on Sunday was a sunset cruise on the Manu Kai Catamaran off the beach in Waikiki.

“Our strong bond continues after all these years between the Class of 1972 with classmates who were able to join us in person and those you were unable to physically be there. We are friends for life,” shares Barbara (Buckmaster) Soel '72

With warm aloha the class of 1972 remembers their classmates: Peter Lyon, Scott Skinner, Ritchie Hanabusa, Jon Palmer, Terry Harlan, Kathy Hostettler, and Dean Chu.

Class of 2011

ONCE UPON A TIME, 110 Eagles graduated from Hawai'i Baptist Academy, spread their wings, and took off into the world. Eleven years later, they came back together to celebrate their Class of 2011 reunion over the span of two days, December 16 and 17, 2022, that included a beach picnic, a friendly round of golf and reunion dinner event.



Top Row (L–R): Micah (Nakamura) Uyehara, Tyler Gibo, Caleb Wilford, Lynne Nakano, Brandon Arakawa, Brandon Drake, Jon Kim, Hillary Kim.
Bottom Row (L–R): Justin Saito, Nicole Dumlao, Rachel Lau, Caitlin Chong, Aimee Uyehara.



Row 1 (L–R): Abelle Tajeda, Ashley (Haruki) Bolosan, Kallen Hosaka, Brandon Arakawa, Brandon Drake, Caitlin Chong, Keri (Ogoshi) Wong, Micah (Nakamura) Uyehara, Kim Ing, Kalsi Kwan, Tariya Mukai. **Row 2:** Aimee Uyehara, Alice Choi, Jamie (Grumling) Tanoue, Jordin Ramos, Becca (Dang) Tajeda, Kayla Custino, Torri Kon, Chalson Baitlon, Reeann Minatoya, Matt Wong, Connor McKenzie, Travin Nagasawa, Jeremy Aberilla, George Honzaki. **Row 3:** Tyler Gibo, Justin Saito, Nicole Dumlao, Kale Kwak, Tyson Nam, Matt Shaw, Caleb Wilford, Brennan Lee, Sage Benn, Micah Robinson, Ryan Leonardo, Wayden Chu, Jon Kim, Hillary Kim, Anthony Hopkins, Colby Anama.





Opposite: High school student hosts. **Above:** Panoramic view of the MAC accompanied by their student hosts. **Top right:** Students greet Judy Sechrist with bubbles at the middle school campus. **Right:** Middle School dance performance (L–R) Ryleigh Sakai, Reese Lueder, Sadie Shiroma.





Connie and Jack Hook visiting a Kindergarten class during MAC Week.

Forty-three mainland friends attended the 47th annual Mainland Advisory Council (MAC) meeting, which took place on February 21-24. This year's devotional speaker was Pastor Deron Spoo of First Baptist Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

This year our MAC enjoyed a Tuesday welcome that included presentations by our campus principals and the Hawai'i Baptist Foundation. But the biggest treat was a special Hawaiiana presentation of song, dance, and mana'o shared by the fourth grade class that ended with prayer time with the students and MAC.

On Wednesday, our guests were welcomed to the Richard Bento Elementary campus with a rockstar welcome from the elementary students. Our Parent Teacher Fellowship (PTF) organized a bountiful potluck lunch that our MAC could not stop raving about! That same evening, they gathered at Olivet Baptist Church for service.

Students welcomed the MAC to the Stan Sagert High School campus on Thursday where they engaged with our ninth grade

advisory groups, worshiped during all-school chapel, and heard testimonials from students, faculty, and alumni.

To close out the week, the MAC received a warm aloha welcome from the students of the Dan Kong Middle School campus that included bubbles, festive music, flowers, and lei. The day included presentations by HBA and MAC leadership, and student capstone presentations and testimonials.

We are forever grateful to our special friends who believe in the mission of HBA through their faithful prayers and generous giving.



Pastor Deron Spoo encourages a student with a fist bump.



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1. Donna Stanford with students in the Innovation Station.
2. Middle School student hosts.
3. Fourth grade class Hawaiiana presentation.
4. Seven-twelfth grade all-school MAC chapel.
5. MAC Chair George Gorham greeting elementary students.
6. Jim and Judy Sechrist visiting with fifth graders.
7. Pastor Deron Spoo sharing a message with middle and high schoolers.
8. Students perform at the Richard Bento Elementary School chapel.



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HBA Legacy night honors outstanding, dedicated and generous servants to God and HBA



L–R: Director of Institutional Advancement Billie Takaki Lueder '94, Darren '87 and Candi (Han) Wada '88, Marsha (Ishida) Hirae '72, Kathy (Ching) Lee '69, Leah Goslen, Richard Bento, Donna Stanford, Irene Yamashita, Wanda Wong, Courtney (Glaza) Naso '89, and President Ron Shiira '75.

Legacy Night honors the individuals who have been integral to HBA's success within and beyond our campuses. This year, we honored several individuals for Distinguished Service to the Community, Distinguished Service to HBA, and Distinguished Service to God. In addition, we also recognized our Distinguished Alumni and Lifetime Legacy awardees at a wonderful event held in person at the Hilton Hawaiian Village ballrooms.

More than 250 were in attendance to honor those who have given so much to serve God and HBA during their lives. Guests were also treated to amazing performances by approximately 90 HBA students who are a part of the Concert Choir, Soldiers of Light, Hālau Hula 'o Kalama 'Ula, the HBA wind ensemble, and Ho'omana.

The first award of the night, presented for Distinguished Service to the Community, was to Darren '87 and Candice "Candi" Wada '88.

The two knew each other in high school and connected through their love of basketball. They have centered their lives around commitment to God, love for their family, and the joy of giving back to the community. They founded Hoops 4 Christ Hawai'i (H4C Hawai'i) as an outreach to kids based out of the First Chinese Church of Christ in Honolulu. The ministry has expanded and impacted the lives of thousands. Their newest project is to build a gym for H4C. In a leap of faith, Darren and Candi started Quality Design Build, Inc., in 2000. With a background in construction, they help people design and build their dream homes. As successful entrepreneurs, they are able to continue the H4C Hawai'i ministry and also volunteer at HBA through the Athletic Booster Club and coaching. Darren is in his tenth year of coaching intermediate girls and assisting with the varsity girls basketball team. The three Wada daughters, Riley, Ally and Emi, have excelled academically and athletically and are now in college.

Katherine "Kathy" (Ching) Lee '69 and Marsha (Ishida) Hirae '72 were honored for their Distinguished Service to HBA. These long-time friends have been co-workers for a combined 60-plus years. Kathy's brother Andrew '66 inspired her to attend HBA, but their parents, immigrants from China, couldn't afford to send her until he graduated. At the time, tuition was \$400 and she received \$200 in assistance. This kindness touched Kathy and her family and began her journey to discover Christ. After UH, Kathy returned to HBA to teach math, followed by three years in California where her husband Ron finished another degree. Kathy returned again as Admissions Director. But administrators wore several hats and she continued to teach, to advise the yearbook and sponsor the student council. Kathy attributes her success in admissions to support from her administrative assistants. After 37 years, she now calls herself an "Uber grandma" as she ferries her grandchildren to school and practices. She is also active in her church and community charities.

Marsha also followed a brother, Clyde '67. She and Mark Hirae were one of several Mr. & Miss HBA couples who later married. Both were student body and class presidents. Marsha was so determined to work at HBA that she sped through Baylor in three years and returned to teach P.E. and social studies in '75, our first year on the "new" Sagert campus. But her first love was counseling and she worked in that department until '95, when she became vice principal for a year and then principal



[1] Former HBA President Dick Bento (center) with HBA kindergarten teacher, Rhona Halmos (left), and HBA preschool teacher, Taryn Halmos (right). [2] Donna Stanford and her late husband, John, were bestowed the Lifetime Legacy Award. [3] Wanda and Nicholas Wong, wife and son of Dennis Wong, walk up to the stage to accept the Distinguished Alumni Award on behalf of Dennis Wong '71. [4] HR Director Steve Arita (left) with his cousin Leah Goslen (right). Leah accepted the Distinguished Service to God Award on behalf of her husband Theodore "Ted" Goslen.

for a record-setting tenure. Her retirement has been a process, as she has taken on special assignments, such as substituting in admissions. She hopes eventually to have time for her many hobbies. The Hirae children, Michael and Hannah, are also HBA grads and Hannah teaches at the elementary.

For Distinguished Service to God, Theodore "Ted" Goslen and Henry and Irene Yamashita were honored. Ted was our Christian Activities Director from '86-'91. The students who hung out in his office affectionately referred to him as "Gos." His love for God shone through his youthful antics as he directed grade level camps, organized chapels and Christian Emphasis Weeks, chaperoned East Coast trips, counseled, and talked about North Carolina. Ted had graduated from Wingate College (now University) and Southern Baptist Seminary, where he heard about HBA. After HBA, he had two lengthy pastorates: at Waimea on Hawaii Island (where he and Leah Boggs married), and in Richmond, California. The family ministry expanded with two sons, Thaddeus and Caleb. The boys accompanied Leah to receive Ted's posthumous award.

Irene Yamashita accepted the award on behalf of Henry and herself, accompanied by their son Grant '89. Henry and Irene were among the first host couples for MAC members. In 1990 they were founding members of The Aloha Council (TAC). TAC was created to be a local council of HBA families and supporters similar to the MAC. Two Yamashita children and two granddaughters are HBA alumni, with two more still in the elementary. Grant's wife, Juri, teaches art in the high school. Besides his career maintaining planes for the US Air Force, Henry volunteered in many roles at Nu'uaniu Baptist Church, including cleaning the preschool floors long after retirement. He also held a weekly service for residents of the Maluhia nursing home and served as president of the Board of Directors of Friends of Maluhia. Irene worked for an insurance company, family court, and for the Lieutenant Governor. Her many roles at Nu'uaniu Baptist included 50 years as the church clerk.

Distinguished Alumni Awards were presented to Courtney (Glaza) Naso '89 and Dennis Wong '71 (posthumously). Courtney, who is presently a District Family Court Judge in the First Circuit, aims to maintain a balance of service to God and HBA. Entering as an eighth grader, she balanced many activities while maintaining stellar grades. After graduating from Michigan State University, she spent a year as Miss Hawaii, then used her scholarship money to attend Regent University School of Law. Courtney practiced law in California for several years before moving back to Hawaii, where she tapped into the Mock Trial network to find a job with a local legal firm. She has generously volunteered her time to speak at and emcee HBA events, to coach Mock Trial, and to serve on the Fun Fair committee and on the Alumni Association. She also mentors Miss Hawaii contestants. Courtney and Paul Naso (General Counsel for HEMIC) have a daughter, Zoe, who is now a freshman.

Dennis Wong has been described as the "glue" who held the especially close-knit Class of '71 together. His friends and family also remember his quick wit, patience, kindness, resilience and optimism. When he was diagnosed with lymphoma, he continued to be optimistic, believing that God had guided his entire life. Wanda and Dennis met and married when they were both working for China Airlines. (Wanda and their son, Nicholas, received the posthumous award on his behalf.) After 21 years with the airline, the Wongs opened Petals & Beans, a unique business featuring flowers, coffees, gift Baskets, and upscale desserts. The longest longs at the HBA Fun Fairs would be for Petals & Beans concoctions, which were sorely missed when the Wongs moved to the Seattle area to be near Nicholas and friends from the Class of '71. There they opened Baskets Beyond Hawaii, sharing Hawaiian snacks with the Pacific Northwest.

Legacy Awards were given to Donna and John (posthumously) Stanford and to Richard "Dick" Bento. John and Donna, MAC members for 39 years, have shared HBA's mission and heart widely. The Stanfords were especially supportive of the Leeward campus (although short-lived), the purchase of the elementary and middle school campuses, upgrades to the high school, and the addition of the Arts and Sciences Building. Beyond HBA, the Stanfords served their own community and church, impacted children's lives through philanthropy, and guided their own sons, Shane and Matthew, to live with compassion. Wherever they have gone, including mission trips to Romania, Germany, Guatemala, and Haiti, John and Donna have been giving, teaching and making friends.

Dick Bento's tenure of 22 years was the longest of any HBA President. Always humble, he gives credit to the Lord, to the wisdom and guidance of his predecessors, and to the support of his wife, Alice. But his own business acumen and contacts helped HBA to acquire the elementary campus from the Sisters of the Sacred Heart, the middle school campus from the State, and additional land. He headed the \$17 million capital campaign to expand the high school, including the Arts and Sciences Building, Senior Pavilion, and renovated Learning Resource Center. He also directed the entire school to achieve accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI).

Long before he became "President Bento," Dick chaired what is now called the Board of Directors, joined the Properties Development Committee, and served as Vice President of Development. In the latter position he enjoyed cultivating relations with the MAC and local supporters. Dick's mission was to ensure the longevity of HBA as an academically excellent, faith and mission-focused, and fiscally sound institution. It is fitting that the elementary campus has been named for Richard Bento.

In Memoriam

Cynthia “Cyndi” Ho Shiira (1955–2022)

“I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life. And this is the confidence that we have toward Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, he hears us.”

1 John 5:13-14 NIV



For the past six years, Cyndi Shiira made a lei for each graduating HBA student. She would share a special message with the students as the lei were distributed to the seniors just prior to the baccalaureate ceremony.

For the Class of 2022, Cyndi had completed approximately 75 lei prior to her passing. Her sister and nieces finished the remaining 50 lei for her, so that each student could still receive a lei prior to graduation.

On her behalf, President Shiira presented a special message and the heartfelt lei were distributed to the graduates. “Life can be unpredictable and sometimes very difficult, but God’s love is steadfast and He has a purpose and plan for each of you,” Shiira shared.

While God called Cyndi home sooner than anyone could have imagined, the Shiira’s take comfort knowing that Cyndi is now whole and free. The family is thankful for the memories they can cherish and share with one another as they continue to honor her life and legacy. This year, honoring her sister’s memory, Cyndi’s sister and niece offered to make the lei for the HBA Class of 2023.



President Ron Shiira and the entire family would like to thank everyone who joined them in prayer, attended Cyndi’s services, donated towards her scholarship fund, and shared love and support with the family from near and far.

Cyndi was passionate about her love for Jesus. She was an active member of OlaNui! from 2006, and Nu’uanu Baptist Church from 1979 to 2006. Cyndi was also a beloved teacher for more than 42 years. She taught at Pali Preschool, Kapālama Elementary School (DOE), and Nu’uanu Baptist Church Preschool. In her early years, Cyndi was also employed at the Kalihi YMCA where she worked as a Gray-Y and Summer Program Leader. In November

2020, Cyndi took an early retirement and enjoyed gardening, lei-making, watching sporting events, and spending time with family and friends.

She attended Kapālama Elementary School, Kalākaua Intermediate School, and received a high school diploma from Farrington High School. She received an associate degree in early childhood education from Honolulu Community College. While Cyndi was a proud alumna of her alma mater, the Farrington Governors, she became a faithful supporter and fan of the Hawai’i Baptist Academy Eagles, University of Hawai’i Bows, and the San Francisco Forty-niners.

Cyndi was preceded in death by her loving parents and brothers. Winfred “Tabash” and Jean Ono Ho, and Kalfred “Kal” (Jamie) and Stanford “Stan” Ho.

She is survived by her husband, Ronald “Ron” Shiira, daughter, Julia Shiira (David) Easterling, son, Andrew Shiira ’05, and grandson, Elijah Shiira. Other survivors include her sister, Sharon Miyasato, brothers Wilfred “Bobo” (Patricia) Ho, Winfred “Junnie” (Cheryl) Ho Jr., sister-in-law Jamie (Kal) Ho, many nieces, nephews, and cousins.



Posthumous Legacy Award Honorees



John Stanford
MAC member, 1983–2023
MAC Chair, 1995–1996 &
2016–2017)



Dennis Wong '71
Petals & Beans and Baskets
Beyond Hawaii



Ted Goslen
Former HBA Christian
Activities Coordinator,
1986–1991



Henry Yamashita
Founding member of
The Aloha Council, 1990

ALUMNI

Dennis Wong, 68, class of 1971, passed away on February 10, 2022, in Everett, Washington.

Scott Alan Harada, 61, class of 1979, passed away on March 25, 2022, in Honolulu, Hawai'i.

Richard "Dickie" Uyehara, 81, class of 1959, passed away on May 2, 2022, in Honolulu, Hawai'i.

Michael Masumi Chang, 22, class of 2018, passed away on September 15, 2022, in Portland, Oregon.

Dean Chu, 69, class of 1972, passed away on October 12, 2022.

Margaret Y. Wong, 70, class of 1970, passed away on February 17, 2023 in Honolulu, Hawai'i.

FORMER FACULTY & STAFF

Phyllis Kimie Kamaga Cano, 84, passed away on February 16, 2022, in Honolulu, Hawai'i.

Theodore Henry "Ted" Goslen, 61, passed away on October 16, 2022, in Hercules, California.

Linda Kalama, 74, passed away on January 29, 2022, in Burbank, California.

Kathryn Anita Ridings, 92, passed away on January 11, 2022, in Huntsville, Alabama.

MAINLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL

Linda Tyler Overall Bell, 94, passed away on February 11, 2022, in Frankfort, Kentucky.

Dr. Betty Jean Chatham, 96, passed away on September 28, 2022, in Shelbyville, Kentucky.

Betty Jean (Myers) Ellerd, 96, passed away on June 18, 2022, in Canyon, Texas.

Ralph Williamson "Bo" McCann Jr., 89, passed away on March 30, 2022, in Dallas, Texas.

J.B. Roberts, 93, passed away on October 14, 2022, in Plainview, Texas.

Jarene Caffey Robison, 94, passed away on November 7, 2022, in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

John David Stanford, 76, passed away on October 10, 2022, in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Donald Thomas Wells, 91, passed away on May 22, 2022, in Richardson, Texas.

Louie W. Daugherty, 96, passed away on December 9, 2022, in Seal Beach, California.

Louise C. Daugherty, 94, passed away on January 29, 2023, in Seal Beach, California.

Jim Klee Hawkins, 77, passed away on December 24, 2022, in Yukon, Oklahoma.

Vernetta J. Ellerd, 74, passed away on February 12, 2023, in Tulia, Texas.

Ernestine Moody, 91, passed away on March 28, 2023, in Texarkana, Arkansas.

THE ALOHA COUNCIL

Donna Farr, 90, passed away on February 26, 2022, in Fort Worth, Texas.

Beverly Leilani Yukino Matsuo, 88, passed away on December 21, 2022, in Honolulu, Hawai'i.

Henry Taira Yamashita, 91, passed away on July 12, 2022, in Honolulu, Hawai'i.

*His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant:
thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will set thee over many things;
enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.*

Matthew 25:23 ASV



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