19th Annual Citizen-Scholar Awards
Honoring Forty-Two Public High School Seniors

Wednesday, April 26, 2023
Prince Waikiki
ALOHA

The members of the Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association join me in congratulating the 42 exceptional public high school seniors who are this year’s Citizen-Scholars.

These students excel in the classroom, to be sure. But we honor them for so much more than their academic success alone. Indeed, through their leadership and participation in student government, school activities, athletics, and community service, they embody the virtues we seek and admire in our national and civic leaders. And we are delighted to have this opportunity to recognize and reward them for their roles in the classroom and beyond.

The Citizen-Scholar Awards are in their 19th year, a testament to the support and generosity of our HLTA members in providing the scholarships and this recognition ceremony. We will again be presenting awards of $1,000 to each of the 42 Citizen-Scholars, an additional $2,500 for the top student representing each of our four counties, and $5,000 for the top male and female seniors statewide.

While we salute these students, let me also acknowledge the contributions of our partners during the nearly two decades of the Citizen-Scholar Awards: The Hawai'i Department of Education, which consistently produces outstanding graduates year after year, imparting the knowledge they need to live productive and fulfilling lives, and the Honolulu Star-Advertiser, which has conferred recognition on these young people and showcased the caliber of our public schools and graduates.

We extend our congratulations and best wishes to the Citizen-Scholar Class of 2023.

Mufi Hannemann
President & CEO
PROGRAM

10:30 A.M.  REGISTRATION

10:45 A.M.  DOORS OPEN

11:00 A.M.  PROGRAM AND LUNCH

Masters of Ceremonies
Kelly Simek, KHON2
John Veneri, KHON2

REMARKS

David Kennedy, Chief Revenue Officer
Honolulu Star-Advertiser

Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent
Hawai‘i Department of Education

Mufi Hannemann, President & CEO
Hawai‘i Lodging & Tourism Association

BLESSING

Lehiwa Kahawai-Javonero
Ke Kula Kaipuni ‘OĀnuenue

LUNCH

CITIZEN-SCHOLAR PERFORMANCE

Ella B. Anderson
Kapa‘a High School

CITIZEN-SCHOLAR ADDRESS

Keala Montgomery
Lana‘i High & Elementary School

12:15 P.M.

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

CITIZEN-SCHOLAR CLOSING REMARKS

Maverick Yasuda
Waipahu High School

1:30 P.M.

CONCLUSION
Joss Okutsu
Aina High School
- Principal’s List
- Varsity judo, wrestling, cross-country
- Robotics Club officer
- University of Minnesota

Kailani Ibanez
Baldwin High School
- Environmental Club founder
- Varsity swim captain, water polo
- Marching/pep band drum major
- Seattle University

Joline Law
Campbell High School
- Student council
- LEO Club officer, LEICon, STEM clubs
- Varsity tennis
- University of Hawai‘i at Manoa

Graysen Oumi
Castle High School
- Marching, concert, jazz bands
- National Honor Society
- Hawai‘i Youth Symphony
- University of Hawai‘i at Manoa

Leilani Joy Dela Cruz
Farrington High School
- Honolulu Community College
- Phi Theta Kappa honor society
- LEO Club officer
- Class Council Community Service Committee
- University of Hawai‘i at Manoa

Pristine M. Perry
Hona High & Elementary School
- Project Holomana drug awareness project co-founder
- Volleyball captain, basketball
- Pandemic food relief volunteer
- Grand Canyon University

King James Mangoba
Hilo High School
- Student association president
- Student credit union president
- Filipino Club co-founder, KXWS Media editor
- University of Hawai‘i at Manoa

Kristine Domingo-Peregrino
Honokaa High & Intermediate School
- Student body president
- Jazz band
- Varsity soccer, RVSO assistant coach
- Oregon Institute of Technology

Isabella-Amataupu Akanoa
Kahuku High & Intermediate School
- National Honor Society president
- DOE Windward District student representative
- Varsity volleyball
- Stanford University

Alicia A. Kaita
Kailua High School
- Key Club, National Honor Society officer
- Marching band
- Varsity tennis, soft tennis
- University of Hawai‘i at Manoa

Julian Fojas
Kamehameha High School
- Student government officer
- School Community Council representative
- Inter-Club Council, LEO Club presidents
- University of Hawai‘i at Manoa

Jessica P. Brenes
Kaiser High School
- Student government officer
- National Honor Society
- Church student leader
- University of Hawai‘i at Manoa

Years served as a scholarship sponsor:
- 10+ years
- 6-9 years
- 2-5 years
- 1 year
Gracia Acosta
Lahainaluna High School
• Class president
• Aloha Club student volunteer
• Hawaii Club volunteer
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Keala Montgomery
Lanai High & Elementary School
• Student body president
• LEAD Club president
• Varsity basketball, volleyball, softball
Kapiolani College

Jameel-Carlo Evangelista
Leilehua High School
• National Honor Society
• Varsity tennis
• Dance studio director, choreographer
University of Hawaii at Manoa

Alex T. Nguyen
Maui High School
• Interact president
• Robotics Team, Cyber Patriot captain
• National Honor Society officer
University of Washington

Kiana Lovie K. Hung
McKinley High School
• Student government officer
• Key Club president
• National Honor Society officer
• Varsity volleyball, soccer
Occidental College

Emma Olsson
Millesoli High School
• Student body president
• PTSA student representative
• Inter-Club Council, Interact Club officer
Lafayette College

Matthew W. Terry
Moanalua High School
• Music Department president
• Marching band drum major
• Jazz band, orchestra, wind ensemble
University of Texas, Austin

Sage-Marie Yamashita
Mokuaikaua High School
• Varsity soccer
• LEAD, Art clubs
• Cheer and Dance Team captain
San Diego State University

David Kalili
Naalehu High & Intermediate School
• Student council
• Varsity football, paddling captains, track and field
• National Honor Society, Robotics club
California Lutheran University

Luche Angelina Mardie Canot
Pahoa High & Intermediate School
• National Honor Society officer
• Future Farmers of America, yearbook chief editor
• School math tutor
University of Hawaii at Hilo

Eliana E. Mafi
Pearl City High School
• Senior class president
• Center for Tomorrow’s Leaders Ambassador
• Spirit, homecoming, winterball chair
Oregon State University

Alayah N. Wilder
Radford High School
• Students Advocating Justice and Equality president
• Varsity track and field
• HOSA, Serenets, Interact clubs
Mississippi State University

YEARS SERVED AS A SCHOLARSHIP SPONSOR: ****** FOUNDING SPONSOR ****** 10+ YEARS ****** 6-9 YEARS ****** 2-5 YEARS ****** 1 YEAR
Erin L. Nakamura
Roosevelt High School
- Between the Lines service club founder
- National Honor Society officer
- Band, varsity volleyball
Seattle University

Taarini Godbole
Waiakea High School
- Senior class president
- Band officer
- Varsity cross-country captain
Brown University

Zoe Bryan
Waiakea High & Intermediate School
- Robotics Team captain
- Varsity softball
- National Honor Society officer
California Polytechnic State University

Haylee K. Silva
Waiakea High School
- 4-H Youth president
- SPAM!oser Productions social media manager
- Varsity soccer
University of Hawaii at West O’ahu

Brielle Lo
Waimea High School
- SCVTS officer
- Health Occupation Students of America
- Air rifle
Chaminade University of Honolulu

Maverick Yasuda
Waipahu High School
- Board of Education student member
- Leeward Community College
- Phi Theta Kappa honor society
- Varsity volleyball captain
Harvard University

The HLTA
The Hawai‘i Lodging & Tourism Association is the state’s largest private sector tourism organization, comprised of more than 700 lodging properties and businesses. HLTA represents its membership through education, advocacy, and philanthropy.

The Hawaii Hotel Industry Foundation is a nonprofit organization that serves as the philanthropic arm of the HLTA. Through the HHIF, the association perpetuates its longstanding tradition of giving by supporting numerous charitable causes throughout the year.

www.hawaiilodging.org
MAHALO

- Alaska Airlines
- ‘Alohilani Resort Waikiki Beach
- Aqua-Aston Hospitality
- Big Island Candies
- Blue Hawaiian
- Castle Hospitality Group
- Courtyard by Marriott Oahu North Shore
- Domino’s Hawaii
- Embassy Suites Waikiki Beach Walk
- Enterprise Rent-A-Car
- First Hawaiian Bank
- First Onsite
- Grand Hyatt Kauai Resort & Spa
- Halekulani Corporation
- Hawai‘i Gas
- Hawaiian Airlines
- Hawaiian Electric
- HILTA-Hawai‘i Island Chapter
- Honolulu Star-Advertiser
- Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort & Spa
- International Market Place
- Island Movers
- The Kahala Hotel & Resort
- Kaimana Beach Hotel Waikiki
- KTA Super Stores
- Marriott Vacation Club:
  Marriott’s Maui Ocean Club
- Maui Hotel & Lodging Association
- Mauna Kea Resort
- Moana Surfrider
- Prince Waikiki
- Pūlama Lāna‘i
- Outrigger Hospitality Group
- The Ritz-Carlton Residences Waikiki Beach
- Roberts Hawaii
- The Royal Hawaiian
- The Royal Sonesta Kaua‘i Resort
- Sheraton Maui Resort & Spa
- Sheraton Princess Kaiulani
- Sheraton Waikiki
- Springboard Hospitality
- Trump International Hotel Waikiki
- Waikiki Resort Hotel
- Wailea Beach Resort Maui
- Wyndham Destinations Bali Hai Villas

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

- Dennis Francis, President and Publisher Honolulu Star-Advertiser
- Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent Hawai‘i Department of Education
- Tiffany Frias, Educational Specialist Hawai‘i Department of Education
- Joshua Hargrove, General Manager Prince Waikiki
- Sukit Kanaprach, President The Orchid Lei Company
- Kelly Simek KHON2
- John Veneri KHON2

HAWAII LODGING & TOURISM ASSOCIATION