

IMUIA

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Exploring Kahuwai

Meet Dee Jay Mailer • Illustrating Kamehameha
Teaching from a Hawaiian Perspective



KAMEHAMEHA
SCHOOLS

My Journey Home to Kamehameha

by **Dee Jay Mailer**
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When I left Hawai'i five years ago, I knew in my heart that I would find a way to return home. Little did I know that my journey would lead me back to Kamehameha Schools, an institution I hold near and dear to my heart.

While working for the Global Fund in Geneva, Switzerland, some friends of ours from Kailua came for a visit. As we were catching up with each other, they filled me in about the CEO search at Kamehameha Schools. After much thought and consultation with my family and friends, I decided to apply for the position. As the saying goes, "the rest is history," and I am so happy to be home!

It's been a whirlwind ever since and I can't tell you how appreciative I am of the warm welcome Don and I have received. Since my first day on the job in January, I have reconnected with many of my KS 'ohana and business associates. Your kindness and generosity is overwhelming and means so much to us.

On a recent visit to our Kea'au campus, we stopped at Laehala on the Hilo coast to visit with Aunty Ulunui Garmon, one of the daughters of the late Edith Kanaka'ole and a founder of the Edith Kanaka'ole Foundation.

Aunty Ulu is the *kahu* for Laehala, a demonstration site for marine life observation, marine resource management and *mālama kai* that is located on land owned by Kamehameha Schools.

During our "talk story" session with Aunty Ulu, she reminded us about the importance of knowing where we came from so people can establish trust between one another. According to Aunty, it is only through the establishment of trust that true collaboration can take place.

I then learned that we shared a place in common... Ka'ū, where my father's family lived for many years. It truly is a very small world.

As a KS alumnus, I am humbled and honored to have this opportunity to give back to an institution that provided me with the skills, and most importantly, the Hawaiian values that make me who I am today.

As Kamehameha's new CEO, I can assure you that I will work hard, with other members of our passionate Kamehameha 'ohana, to insure that Pauahi's gift of education reaches more Hawaiians.

I mua Kamehameha!

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I Mua exists to inform alumni, parents, students, staff and friends of Kamehameha Schools of current educational and endowment programs, to generate interest in and support for those programs, and to help alumni maintain close ties to the institution and to each other.

Change of Address

Kamehameha Schools alumni who have a change of address, please notify the Alumni Relations office at 1887 Makuakāne Street, Honolulu, HI, 96817-1887, e-mail: alumnikapalama@ksbe.edu, fax 1-808-841-5293 or call 1-808-842-8680.

Submissions

If you have a story idea or a comment for us, please write to: *I Mua* Editor, Kamehameha Schools, 1887 Makuakāne Street, Honolulu, HI, 96817-1887 or e-mail imua@ksbe.edu.

For more information on Kamehameha Schools, visit our Web site at www.ksbe.edu.

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Opening Day

Members of the Kamehameha Schools Concert Glee Club entertain in Senate chambers during Jan. 21 Opening Day Session ceremonies at the 2004 state Legislature. The Kapālama Campus students, led by choral director **Tim Ho '91**, sang "Hawai'i Pono'i," "Ku'i Ka Lono" and "I mua Kamehameha."

