

imua

PUBLISHED FOR THE KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS 'OHANA

ISSUE 2 • 2025

LAUHOE: DUAL-CAMPUS COLLABORATION BOOSTS LOKO I'A RESTORATION



"KE EA O KA I'A, HE WAI.
KE EA O KE KANAKA, HE MAKANI.
KE EA O KA HONUA, HE KANAKA."

*"The breath of fish is water.
The breath of humans is air.
The breath of the world/land is humanity."*

— excerpt of speech by Davida Kahalemaile
delivered on Lā Ho'ihō'i Ea, 1871.

Aerial view of the Wailuna area of Kaho'olawe,
a stopping point for KS Maui kumu during an ea-filled huaka'i.
Full story on page 16.

Exercising ea on ‘āina

by **Livingston “Jack” Wong**
Chief Executive Officer

**Hānau ka ‘āina, hānau ke ali‘i,
hānau ke kanaka.**

*Born was the land, born were the chiefs, born
were the common people.*

‘Ōlelo No‘eau #466

Reflecting the deep wisdom from many gener-
ations of kūpuna — this ‘ōlelo no‘eau conveys
an understanding that kanaka, ali‘i and ‘āina are
connected by origin, breath and kuleana. It
reminds us that we are not separate from the
land but are born of ‘āina and continue to be
nurtured by ‘āina. Our abundance, both personal
and collective, depends on how well we care for
that relationship.

At Ke Kula ‘o Kamehameha, we are grateful for the abundance that flows from ‘āina,
especially from ‘Āina Pauahi, which we are privileged to steward. Our kuleana is to
ensure that this ‘āina is momona, abundant and fertile and able to feed the next
generations of ‘ōiwi leaders, educators, innovators and aloha ‘āina advocates.

‘Āina is not just the setting for our learning — it is our source. It is where we restore
balance, build resilience and reclaim the agency of our lāhui. When we connect ‘āina,
education and community, we stand firmly in the footsteps of kūpuna while also
stepping forward into new ways of regenerating Hawai‘i.

In this issue of I Mua, you’ll read about haumāna stewarding loko i‘a, reawakening their
kuleana while strengthening their academic skills and curiosity. You’ll learn about how
wahi pana restoration on O‘ahu’s North Shore is shaping the region’s future. And you’ll
see how experiences on Kaho‘olawe have deepened the aloha ‘āina commitment of
Kamehameha Schools Maui staff — bringing that conviction back into our classrooms.

This past summer we concluded our Strategic Map 2025 and reflected on how far
we’ve come on campus, in our communities and through the pae ‘āina. What stands
out most is the collective commitment across our KS ‘ohana, haumāna, ‘ohana, kumu,
limahana, alumni and community partners. With E Ola! as our guiding framework, we
have seen cultural identity, community vitality and ‘ōiwi leadership flourish thanks to
the shared efforts by all.

Now, we step into the next chapter: Strategic Plan 2030. Guided by our faith in
Ke Akua and inspired by previous generations whose remarkable contributions have
brought us to this exciting moment, we will uplift the next generation of ‘ōiwi leaders
who will shape a thriving, self-determined lāhui. In the coming months, we’ll share
more about this bold vision and how each of us can help bring it to life.

Finally, many have heard that our admissions policy is again being targeted, this time
by an organization in Virginia seeking plaintiffs willing to challenge the private will and
royal charge of our beloved Ke Ali‘i Pauahi. With the help of our community, we are
committed to vigorously defending our people, our ‘āina and our ability to empower
our lāhui through education. We ask that you stand with us and join the swelling
chorus rising to defend Ke Ali‘i Pauahi and Ke Kula ‘o Kamehameha. I encourage you to
visit www.ksbe.edu/ola-pauahi to learn how you can kōkua.

Ola Pauahi, ola Hawai‘i! I mua Kamehameha!

Aloha,
Jack Wong



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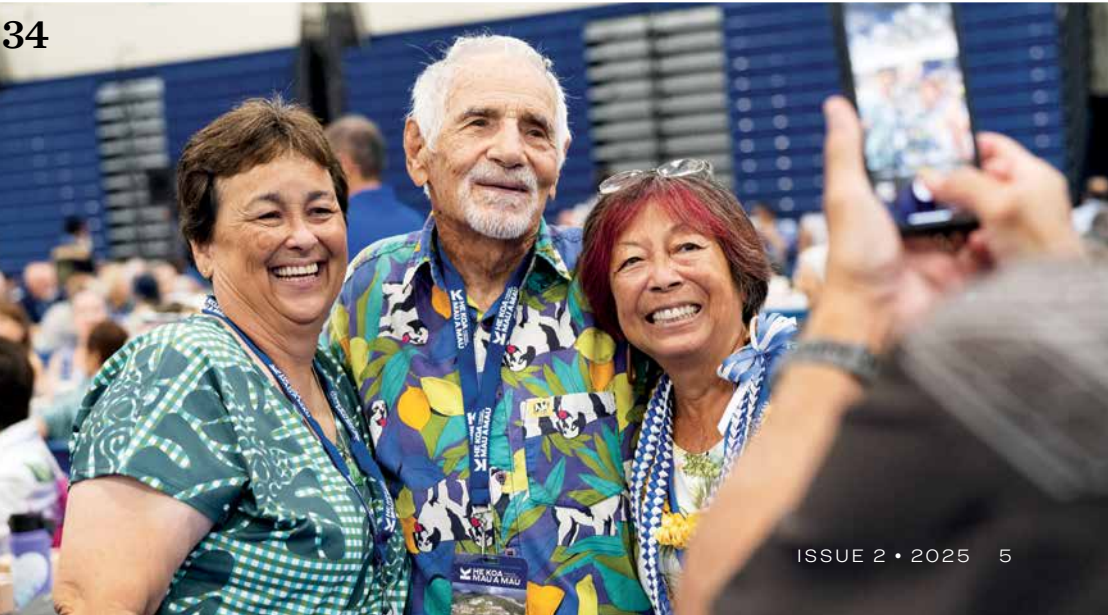
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I Mua
Published for the
Kamehameha Schools
‘ohana.

2025, Issue 2
I Mua is published by the
Kamehameha Schools
Communications
department, 567 S. King St.,
4th floor, Honolulu,
HI 96813.

I Mua magazine connects,
informs and inspires
through storytelling that
engages alumni and other
important members of
the donor community by
framing the breadth and
impact of Kamehameha
Schools and its mission
of strengthening the
capability and well-being
of Ke Ali‘i Pauahi’s people
through education. I Mua
is committed to being a
catalyst in establishing the
thriving lāhui envisioned by
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Removing invasive trees sets Ku‘ia on a new path

Restoring abundance in Lahaina is at the heart of Kamehameha Schools’ efforts, working alongside its ‘ōiwi leaders to steward the former capital of the Hawaiian Kingdom with kuana‘ike Hawai‘i and in partnership with members of the kaiāulu. The ‘Āina Pauahi division has begun removing eucalyptus trees and installing conservation fencing, some of the first steps in rebuilding the native ecosystem that the Ku‘ia ahupua‘a needs to thrive.

Eucalyptus trees had taken over the ‘āina. Brought to Hawai‘i in the 1800s for lumber, the species is considered invasive for various reasons, including its rapid growth. They are an obstacle for teams like Jake Kane’s Lahaina-based company, Kane’s Legacy Tree Service, which is at the forefront of the clearing, having previously spent months removing unhealthy trees in residential areas.

“This work hits close to home,” Kane said. “We want to see healthy forests, and it’s challenging but being up on the mountain and restoring the landscape — it’s revitalizing emotionally, and spiritually too.” Crews will turn the disposed trees into mulch that will suppress invasive weeds and hold moisture in the soil, creating better conditions for incoming native plants to take root.

At the same time, fencing is going up to enclose nearly 1,000 acres, protecting native drought-resistant plantings from deer, pigs and other feral ungulates that can uproot fragile ecosystems.

But this initiative is not just about bringing back native forests; it’s about reconnecting people to ‘āina. KS Maui haumāna and community volunteers have been part of teams bringing native plants back to the area.

“These plants are part of our ‘ohana, but for so many of us, we don’t have the opportunities,” **R. Mililani Browning KSK’02** said. “This project is not only helping us bring back the relationships of those plants to this place, but by bringing in our haumāna and giving new opportunities to be a part of this work, we are helping to restore the relationships between us and those plants.” 💙



This initiative is not just about bringing back native forests; it’s about reconnecting people to ‘āina.

Alum’s weather balloon project opens STEM pathways for KS haumāna

Retiree **Doug Pane’e KSK’75**, who spent 35 years as a science kumu in Utah, is creating new STEM pathways for KS haumāna kaikamahine through a unique weather balloon project.

On a spring Saturday morning, Pane’e and a handful of haumāna from KS Hawai‘i and Kapālama filled a trial weather balloon with helium and set it adrift at the black sand beach at Kalapana, Hawai‘i Island. Aptly named La’amaomao, the goddess of wind, the balloon was equipped with a GPS tracker, allowing the team to follow its journey.

Over the course of just 11 days, La’amaomao traversed over 18,000 miles, soaring to heights of 40,000 feet before touching down in the Tibetan Plateau.

This experiment is just one of a series of test balloons. With support from the North American Native Research and Education Foundation and the Utah NASA Space Grant Consortium, haumāna and researchers eventually want to launch a much larger balloon that travels higher and farther. The goal is to learn whether bacteria can survive in the atmosphere while traversing across continents.

Pane’e says missions like these follow in the footsteps of our wayfaring kūpuna who pushed the boundaries as they traversed Moananuiākea.

“We’re connected to everything around us. For instance, in Europe, early ships would only sail within sight of land, until eventually explorers decided to look beyond. And yet, the Hawaiians were already sailing across the Pacific. The boundary wasn’t a boundary. It was more like a highway for the voyagers,” said Pane’e.

Pane’e’s mentorship is also helping to break a hidden barrier that hinders girls from pursuing STEM careers. Recent data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics finds wāhine account for only 24% of engineering degrees and fill just 16% of engineering positions.

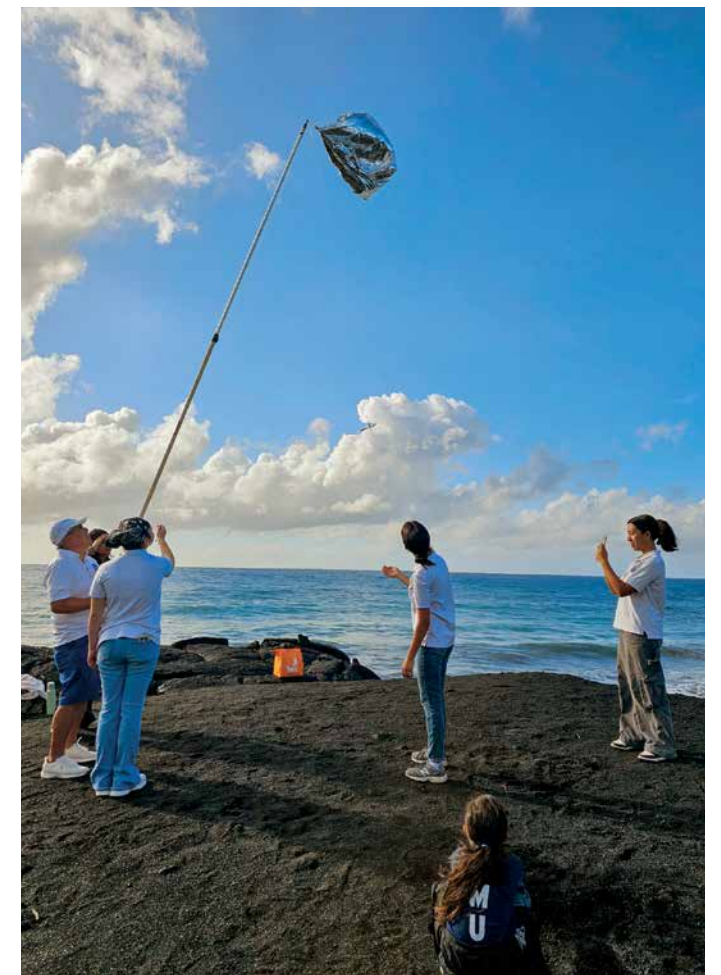
Pane’e’s mentees report that being part of a NASA-affiliated project has helped them with college admissions and scholarship applications, a great sign that this work will reap future rewards. 💙



La’amaomao team (pictured left to right): Emma Erbe KSH’26, Marley Osorio KSH’26, Sarah Lee KSH’26, Kaylin “Mika” Ing KSK’27, Doug Pane’e KSK’75. Not pictured: Sarah Kau KSH’28.



Pane’e and haumāna fill up a trial weather balloon with helium before its launch at Kalapana, Hawai‘i Island.



Named after the goddess of wind, the La’amaomao team’s balloon lived up to its inoa, traversing 18,000 miles, soaring to heights of 40,000 feet over its 11-day journey.

Mālama in action: KS preschoolers take on stream cleanup

Keiki from KS Preschools-Nānākuli got their hands dirty for a good cause, launching genki balls and picking up litter at a neighboring stream to learn what it means to mālama ‘āina.

Guided by their kumu, the pre-schoolers headed to Kalaniana‘ole Beach Park and Nānākuli Stream — known to many as “Stink Pond” — to help restore its health and learn more about the ecosystem in their own backyard. The neglected muliwai is like many in Hawai‘i, bordered by encroaching grasses and teeming with invasive fish and algae.

Genki balls, made from a mix of soil, bran, molasses and effective microorganisms, break down harmful pollutants in water. The mixture is simple enough for even the youngest learners to create, and the results, both environmental and educational, are powerful.

Kumu **M. Hau Matsushima** Kaalouahi **KSK’97** introduced the project to her haumāna after hearing one of the preschool ‘ohana share about previously making them and how important it was for ‘āina. The activity quickly became a way to integrate science, culture and kuleana into her classroom.

“Our ancestors were the best scientists who used their senses to navigate through life,” said Kaalouahi. “Learning about mālama ‘āina through hands-on learning experiences such as planting, cleaning and restoring natural areas helps our younger generation understand and appreciate their heritage and community values.”

Before heading to the muliwai, keiki explored how waterways affect the health of native plants, animals and people. They studied pollution, recycling and the importance of sustainable habits, while also using math and science skills to measure and mix their genki balls.

“It’s a great hands-on activity that directly impacts the environment and our connection to ‘āina,” Kaalouahi said. “Teaching keiki to protect these resources is important for maintaining this connection and ensuring a sustainable future.” ❤️



Keiki from KS Preschools-Nānākuli went to Kalaniana‘ole Beach Park and Nānākuli Stream to launch genki balls and pick up litter to learn what it means to mālama ‘āina.

Land asset manager Keli‘i Kapali KSK’02 shares mana‘o on ‘āina resiliency, safety and keiki well-being

In this edition of I Ola Nā Keiki, we kūkākūkā with **Keli‘i Kapali KSK’02**, who is a land asset manager with the ‘Āina Pauahi Group. Based on Hawai‘i Island, Kapali’s kuleana involves oversight of more than 65,000 acres of agriculture, conservation and commercial lands in Kohala, Hāmākua and parts of Hilo, as well as on Kaua‘i. In general, asset managers are responsible for minimizing risk and increasing the value of lands, including overseeing all real estate activities and transactions for the assigned portfolio to fund Kamehameha Schools’ mission.

Originally from Kaua‘i, Kapali came to Kapālama as a boarder in seventh grade and afterward graduated from the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree with a major in marketing. She later earned a doctorate in architecture, also at UH Mānoa. Her dissertation focused on indigenizing urban spaces in Hawai‘i.

I Mua: How did you begin your career in ‘āina management?

Keli‘i: I didn’t know it at the time, but it all started when my mom introduced me to a job around resource and waste management when I was 16 years old, working at the County of Kaua‘i recycling center diverting waste from our landfills and learning about composting. While I may not have been on ‘āina or directly managing it, I certainly saw what can happen to ‘āina if we don’t implement systems and programs to change the way we consume and make waste.

I would say that I formally started my career in ‘āina management working at PBR Hawai‘i & Associates as a land planner consulting on entitlement projects, regional plans and feasibility studies. However, it wasn’t until participating in KS’ First Nations Futures Program in 2014-2015 where my cultural identity and the problems of our time collided and planning for land shifted toward planning for ‘āina (that which feeds) and those who mālama ‘āina.

I Mua: What drew you to work for Kamehameha Schools, and what makes you stay?

Keli‘i: Working as a planning and design



The “he ali‘i ka ‘āina” worldview of our kūpuna reminds me of the pivotal role we play in trying to improve and maintain the health of ‘āina as we fund the mission.

consultant to landowners in the past, my role was advisory and my connection to those lands typically ended when my contract expired. I wanted to be a part of managing places and ‘āina on a long-term basis. I was inspired by what Uncle Neil Hannahs (KSK’69) and Auntie Kapu DeSilva Smith (KSK’75) had achieved in their careers at KS. They were trail-blazers that shepherded a period of transformational change for KS and its portfolio of lands and empowered others to move the needle. I want to build on the foundation that they set and hopefully carry that momentum forward.

I Mua: How does your work connect to the safety and wellbeing of our haumāna and the greater lāhui?

Keli‘i: Resilient landscapes, especially in this period of climate crisis, are fundamental to the safety of community and our haumāna. The ‘Āina Pauahi Group

as a whole works diligently towards assessing the resiliency of our landscapes and improving conditions to ensure that we are responsible neighbors and stewards. We also work very closely with our tenants and collaborators to implement safety protocols for being on ‘āina, and when hosting haumāna and visitors. Creating safe places for learning and experiencing ‘āina contributes to the overall well-being, health and growth of our haumāna and the greater lāhui.

I Mua: How does Hawaiian culture inform the work you and your hoa hana do?

Keli‘i: The “he ali‘i ka ‘āina” worldview of our kūpuna reminds me of the pivotal role we play in trying to improve and maintain the health of ‘āina as we fund the mission. These lands are our place of existence and have made life possible for generations.

I Mua: How does the work you do contribute to a world-class experience for haumāna and ‘ohana?

Keli‘i: I am essentially responsible for a 65,000-acre outdoor classroom and living laboratory, some of which are intact ahupua‘a. These are among the most unique places of learning that offer connection to ‘āina, our ancestral infrastructure and Hawaiian ways of knowing through KS collaborations and programs. Managing these lands for both educational opportunities and revenue generation that funds these world-class experiences is my kuleana and a privilege.

I Mua: What’s a quote you try to live by?

Keli‘i: I just came across this quote recently and it resonated with me. “If you don’t have time to do it right, when will you have time to do it over?”

I Mua: What is one safety tip you can offer to our readers, appropriate for all ages?

Keli‘i: Practice kilo (observation) every day no matter where you are. Be observant and aware of your surroundings, the elements, your relationship to the resources and the communities around you. Be observant and mindful of your own actions and engagement with and towards ‘āina and others. ❤️



Matthew Kawika Ortiz KSK'02 and Roxanne Ortiz (not pictured), the husband-and-wife artists who collaborate under the name Wooden Wave, bring mo'olelo to life in a vibrant new mural to Mō'ili'ili, O'ahu. Fronting Hālau 'Īnana (2438 S. Beretania St.) in Kapa'akea, the artwork reflects the rich layers of identity, education and community that make this area a place where Hawaiian culture lives and thrives for all to see.



RESTORATION KŪPOPOLO HEIAU TO STAND TALL ONCE AGAIN

Mea kākau: Justin Barfield
Mea pa'i kī'i: Jacob Chinn, Justin Barfield

Ke Kula 'o Kamehameha has shepherded the painstaking restoration of Kūpopolo Heiau on O'ahu's North Shore. The kāna-ka-led effort to bring the one-acre site back from the brink serves as a lama kuhi-kuhi — a bright beacon — demonstrating how breathing life into 'āina helps breathe life into our lāhui.

Located on 'Āina Pauahi just 300 yards from Waimea Bay, mo'olelo vary as to why this wahi kūpuna was built. One mo'olelo tells of it being constructed in the 18th century to serve as a thought portal to the island of Kaua'i for the powerful O'ahu kahuna nui and seer, Ka'ōpūlupulu. Another mana, or branch, of this mo'olelo suggests Menehune built it much earlier and even brought in pōhaku from Mokulē'ia, several miles away.

Jon Tulchin, a cultural resources manager with Kamehameha Schools' 'Āina Pauahi Group, says there's evidence to support both mo'olelo.

"The archeology is interesting. Radiocarbon dating of the heiau's wall construction shows certain areas are much older and other sections that are from the time of Ka'ōpūlupulu, suggesting

the ancient site may have been repurposed in the 1700s," Tulchin said.

There's far less intrigue in what happens next to the site once colonial forces took root in the islands. Grazing cattle trampled many of the rock walls, and runoff from a privately-owned plantation ma uka buried the heiau in 300 tons of lepo 'ula'ula. That's the equivalent of a fully loaded 747 commercial plane sitting on top of the structure. Somehow Kūpopolo endured.

"This speaks to the ingenuity and the strength of design of our kūpuna. The fact that this structure can support 300 tons of weight for 100-200 years," Tulchin said.

While the site may have fallen victim to man-made forces, having it become part of the 'Āina Pauahi portfolio through nā ali'i in the late 19th century prevented further degradation and desecration.

Starting in 2010, Kamehameha Schools began mapping the site. Restoration work went into high gear in the fall of 2023.

The removal of over 300 tons of lepo 'ula'ula was delicate and painstaking. No excavators, just hand tools and buckets. Contractor Pacific Legacy engineered an ingenious portable zipline pulley system that allowed workers to load the lepo into buckets and send it ma kai to a stockpile area without disturbing the rockwall structures. Well over 20 thousand bucketloads have been filled and emptied using this method.

In 2024, with much of the soil removed, a group of uhauhumu pōhaku — stone masons — with on-site consultation from legendary builder Francis Palani Sinenci, began restoring the rockwall structure.

"Touching stones that were hundreds of years old. Touching stones that have been lifted by kūpuna. Just imagine. This is direct contact to the past," said Sinenci, who in the 1990s was instrumental in bringing back the lost art of traditional kūkulu hale and uhauhumu pōhaku.

In the years that followed, kumu Sinenci helped create Hawai'i's Indigenous

Architecture Building Code and founded Hālau Hale Kuhikuhi, ensuring this Indigenous knowledge will be passed on down through the generations.

"I believe I have created about three or four masters carrying on the tradition. I believe I helped them along. Now I know I can make and I got guys that can do it," Sinenci said.

Sinenci is now well into his 80s, and his impact on Hawaiian hale building and heiau restoration is akin to those alaka'i who brought back Hawaiian wayfinding.

At Kūpopolo, kumu Sinenci led the masons each work day in oli and hemū — a declaration of intent lest their presence anger spirits there.

"Every heiau, every fishpond, every hale we build, we always do the same protocol. Quiet the mind with the hemū and ask for 'ike from above with the oli 'E Hō Mai,'" Sinenci said.

The longer the masons spent unearthing and placing pōhaku, the deeper their connection grew.

"You can hear the birds, you can

hear the makani as it blows through the trees. You hear the pounding of the surf. Sometimes the surf is so big, it looks like we're in fog because the ocean spray is so thick. You're not just on a job site. It's very different here," said Kainoa Holt, a stone mason and protege of Sinenci.

"We feel like our kūpuna on the other side of the veil must have had a hand in bringing us to this space and allowing us to do this work," said Kalawai'a Moore, an alaka'i mason, who also holds a Ph.D. and serves as director of Hawaiian studies at Windward Community College.

Under Sinenci's tutelage, the masons knew to look out for an ingenious building method of our kūpuna. Pōhaku niho — triangular shaped stones placed vertically — helped them find the ancient blueprint and borders of the structure. Just like one does when starting a complex jigsaw puzzle.

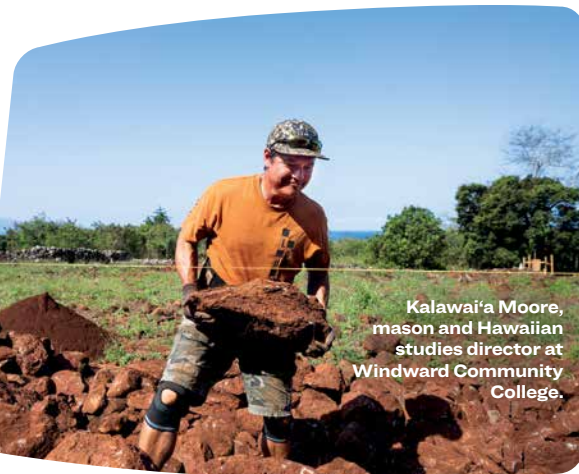
"We're peeling back the layers and we're seeing, wow, this line actually goes this way. Or look at this channel ... this

must have been used for something. When you're putting your hands on the site itself, you really get to experience what was built here. It has been incredible," Holt said.

One unique feature crews unearthed on the site is two large sunken circular indentations on opposite ends of the structure directly overlooking Waimea Bay. The leading theory is that they functioned as outposts for kia'i.

This and a good many more secrets remain in the pōhaku of Kūpopolo Heiau, waiting for future generations to ask the right questions. With restoration now complete, Ke Kula 'o Kamehameha is exploring cultural and educational opportunities for kaiāulu to experience, connect and breathe life anew into this wahi kūpuna.

"We might not know what the future use will be, but if the site is still here 200 years from now, that's enough. The next generation will know," Tulchin said. 🌱



Kalawai'a Moore, mason and Hawaiian studies director at Windward Community College.



Kainoa Holt, mason.



Jon Tulchin (left) KS cultural resources manager and Francis Palani Sinenci, master stone mason and hale builder.





MAUI KUMU
EXPERIENCE EA
ON
KAHO'OLawe

Mea Kākau: Ku'ualoha Kauanoë-Luda
Mea pa'i ki'i: Chris Sugidono

When a group of Kamehameha Schools kumu set foot on the red, wind-swept island of Kaho’olawe, they came for team building but left transformed: grounded in ‘āina and reawakened in purpose.

Part of a new course designed by Ke Kula ‘o Kamehameha Maui kumu and cultural practitioner **Kuiokalani Gapero KSK’02**, the professional development trip was an immersion into the sacred, storied and scarred landscape of Kaho’olawe that challenged the staffers to deepen their understanding of ‘ike Hawai’i.

“When you see the scars of Kaho’olawe, you see what happens when you don’t take care of this place,” Gapero said. “We remember what’s important — food, water, shelter — and that we have to take care of the things that protect and provide for us, our community, ‘ohana and ‘āina.”

The cohort began their days planting native flora for dune restoration and ended their nights in deep talk-story sessions prompted by mo’olelo. Instead of a single person, the ‘āina itself was the kumu.

“I just let the island do all the talking,” Gapero said. “We advocate for ‘āina-based instruction because that’s the best way to learn — seeing it for yourself... and just going for it.”

For many of them, the experience was indescribable and nothing short of life-changing. Language arts teacher Erin Levassaur found meaning in every moment, from studying native plants to crafting a personal kīhei to take home as a reminder of the journey.

“I’ve done a lot of listening this trip,” Levassaur said. “It’s been incredible, learning about the restoration and realizing that even after destruction, there’s so much life. We can come back from that.”





A curriculum of connection

The program invites educators to engage in cultural protocol, restoration work and place-based learning that helps them model curiosity, kuleana and collaboration for their haumāna.

“Your classroom isn’t only within four walls — it’s ‘āina,” Gapero said. “If we’re going to teach future leaders, we have to understand the needs of the communities they’ll return to.”

That message resonated with kumu like Tina Roback, a first-grade teacher who had long yearned for an experience like this. She returned with a renewed commitment to center aloha ‘āina in her daily teaching.

For Gapero, the course is personal. A former boarding student at Kapālama and kumu within kaiaupuni, he saw firsthand how important place-based learning and ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i are to strengthening students’ identity. That realization sparked not only the development of an immersion pathway on campus for students but also other immersive experiences like this one for kumu. Its impact is already visible.

“One of my students, who I’ve had since sixth grade, broke down crying on Kaho‘olawe. She said, ‘I never felt Hawaiian enough at Kamehameha Schools until now,’” Gapero recalled. “Now she wants to keep doing this. She wants to live there!”

Ea is essential

Beyond restoration and curriculum, Kaho‘olawe surfaced something deeper: a collective reckoning with the meaning of ea, not just as sovereignty but as the life force of identity and connection.

“Kaho‘olawe is this big icon of those conflicts — military use, protests, aloha ‘āina standing for access,” Gapero said. “They sued and they won. That in itself is uplifting.”

For him, ea is elemental: “Ea is the thing that is really essential for another to exist,” Gapero said. “So the ea of Kaho‘olawe: it’s us. It’s the kānaka to care for that place and we need it too. It’s reciprocal.”

Standing atop Pu‘u Moa‘ulanui, Kaho‘olawe’s highest point, kumu gazed back toward their home island. Guided by stories of Pele and the legendary mo‘o that stretch across the channels, they saw their identities reflected in the landscapes, interconnected and alive.

“You gotta go to these places and feel the same wind, see the same things our kūpuna saw,” Gapero said. “That’s where the connection is made.”

From pilina to practice

Since its launch, the course has welcomed cohorts of kumu, haumāna and, soon, operations staff, each leaving with a strengthened kuleana to return.

“We tell them: This isn’t the last time you’ll be here. You’ve done the work. You put your hands in the ground. Now you have a responsibility to come back. Bring your grandchildren and show them what you did and why it matters,” Gapero said.

As the group boarded their boat, quietly offering thanks to the land, it wasn’t goodbye. When ‘āina becomes the kumu, learning doesn’t end at departure. It takes root, grows and calls you back. ❤️



Scan to watch an award-winning student-made video honoring the island’s history and the ongoing movement to protect it: The Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana’s Fight for Kohemalamalama O Kanaloa’s Rights by Kalamakūokana‘auao Crabbe from Kamehameha Schools Kapālama.



**LAUHOE:
DUAL-CAMPUS
COLLABORATION
BOOSTS
LOKO I'A
RESTORATION**

MEA KĀKAU: JUSTIN BARFIELD

MEA PA'I KI'I: JACOB CHINN

“THIS PLACE
GROUNDS THEM
AND GIVES
THEM PURPOSE.

THAT’S WAIWAI.”

The mana’o above, from **Honu‘āina Nichols KSK’18**, refers to the transformative work taking place at Mālama Loko Ea in the Kawaihoa ahupua’a on O’ahu’s North Shore. As an education coordinator there, Nichols is one of the connection points in a special loko i’a collaboration involving haumāna and kumu from Ke Kula ‘o Kamehameha Hawai’i and Ke Kula ‘o Kamehameha Kapālama.

The collab’s mission? Exercising ea — breathing life — into loko i’a and haumāna through the blending of ‘ike kūpuna and modern science.

Kumuola: A source of science, culture and ea

The origin of this two-campus collaboration started on Hawai’i Island. For several years, haumāna from Ke Kula ‘o Kamehameha Hawai’i have enjoyed a world-class science and cultural learning experience at Kumuola Marine Science Education Center. Located on ‘Āina Pauahi in the moku of Hilo, Kumuola consists of three loko i’a that are in various phases of restoration.

Kumu **Trisha Leilani Soares** Olayon **KSK’04** is a project-based researcher

at Kumuola. Over the course of seven years, she’s been part of the kākou effort to transform the loko i’a, once unrecognizable and choked out by invasive grass, into a thriving cultural, ecological and educational space. Kuana’ike Hawai’i fuels her passion for restoration.

“So traditionally, you could tell how a community was doing based on the kuapā of their loko i’a. If the rock wall was standing and in good order, that meant they had resources — kānaka — to keep it standing and functioning. If a community was at war or was in disarray, that kuapā would not look orderly because they simply didn’t have the resources to put into these types of spaces.”

Colonialism and climate change have made loko i’a restoration even harder. Invasive species brought in post-contact are muscling out native i’a. AP Biology haumāna at KS Hawai’i began attacking this modern problem with modern technology. Using specialized DNA testing equipment, they provide invaluable insight into the ratio of native to invasive mullet coming into the loko i’a through its mākāhā (gate). In the pua stage, native ‘ama’ama and invasive kanda (Australian mullet) look identical

to the naked eye. Once adults, the kanda eat far more than ‘ama’ama, disrupting the ecological balance.

“We’ve now successfully sampled our sixth year of genetics and we’re starting to see trends in recruitment — when native fish come in, when invasives spike, and how it ties to the moon,” said Olayon.

A new kind of learning at Kapālama

The scientific rigor — and more importantly the results — of the DNA project also caught the eye of kumu at KS Kapālama. That included **Tisha Louis KSK’88**, who built out the curriculum to teach Kapālama’s first-ever marine science class, Ka ‘Oihana Lawai’a: Fisheries Management in Hawai’i, in the 2024-2025 school year.

“Many of our haumāna fish and dive on the weekends, and we started thinking about how to build upon the ‘ike from their ‘ohana and communities to open up possible future career paths in a hands-on environment,” Louis said.

To help fill out her lesson plans, she spent time learning at Kumuola and also connecting with and learning from kahu





“TRUE SOVEREIGNTY

**IS BEING ABLE
TO TAKE CARE OF
YOUR PEOPLE.”**

of loko i’a on O’ahu, including at Mālama Loko Ea. Through these exchanges and pilina-building, she learned that Mālama Loko Ea had a need for DNA testing too, and that served as the springboard for the special collaboration between KS Hawai’i and KS Kapālama.

**From Kea’au to Kapālama,
with aloha**

In January 2025, haumāna and kumu from KS Hawai’i and Kumuola made the trek to kumu Louis’ marine fisheries class at Kapālama. For the first time, haumāna there got to do their own DNA testing — all thanks to the expertise of their counterparts on Hawai’i Island.

“Our AP Biology students at Kea’au have had a lot of time with this. They’re really confident. So kumu Tisha and I thought, ‘What if we bring them up to help you guys do your sampling?’” Olayon said.

The PCR technology used on i’a is the same tech that we all experienced during the days of COVID-19 testing.

“It was a cool experience to understand that you can take DNA from the fins of the fish, and you can tell the difference between ‘ama’ama and kanda,”

said Keanu Souza, a KS Kapālama marine fisheries haumāna.

The results of testing are quite bleak. At Kumuola, the ratio of invasive to native mullet is 10-to-1. But that’s actually far better than the near-shore waters, where invasive mullet outnumber natives 20-to-1. But this testing is crucial in establishing the baseline needed to then begin working on solutions.

Building on a legacy

Not to be lost in this is the fact that both Mālama Loko Ea and Kumuola are on ‘Āina Pauahi. Ke Ali’i Pauahi’s foresight to protect ‘āina and educate Hawaiian keiki allows these wahi pana to not just exist but thrive.

“If it weren’t for this being Kamehameha Schools’ land, this pond (Mālama Loko Ea) would likely not still be here. Sadly, the typical story of loko i’a is that they get filled up and turned into a baseball field and then a parking lot. That’s the story of Mokuhinia in Lahaina. So we’re very fortunate to be able to continue to steward this ‘āina and reveal her. She was never gone,” Nichols said.

In the second year of the marine fisheries science class, KS Kapālama

haumāna plan to expand their newly acquired DNA testing skills at Mālama Loko Ea and possibly other loko i’a on O’ahu. And at Kumuola, traditional and modern science will continue to breathe life into the community.

“Food sustainability is the ultimate goal. That’s absolutely the light at the end of the tunnel. But on the way there, you can feed a person’s maui. You can provide them with space to grow mea kanu, to learn traditional practices,” Olayon said.

“At the end of the day, it’s sovereignty. It’s independence. And for us, that’s food. It’s feeding people. True sovereignty is being able to take care of your people,” Nichols said. ❤️



**Scan the QR code to
take a closer look at the
important haumāna-
driven research work
taking place at Kumuola
Marine Science Education Center on
Hawai’i Island.**

KE KULA ‘O KAMEHAMEHA KAPĀLAMA

Cooking competition challenges students
to eat local

Mea kākau: Ku‘ualoha Kauanoë-Luda

Mea pa‘i ki‘i: Kawena Carvalho-Mattos Apao KSK’10

A sizzling competition, a taste of home and a lesson in leadership.

Kamehameha Schools Kapālama’s Residential Life haumāna turned up the heat at their first-ever cook-off. With the coveted ihe and bragging rights on the line, haumāna wove storytelling, ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i and ingenuity into every dish.

In collaboration with KS’ Āina Pauahi division and their efforts to strengthen local food systems, ‘ōpio teams battled for culinary glory, creating dishes with mystery ingredient boxes filled with locally grown products. Each dormitory team was led by a haumāna alaka‘i, guiding their dormmates through chopping, seasoning and plating their signature creations. From locally made tagliatelle pasta and fresh pesto to Wai‘anae-made sausages and fragrant Waialua basil, the pantry was stocked with Hawai‘i’s finest ingredients — leaving haumāna to infuse their own identities, family traditions and culinary skills into the final course.

For eighth grader Minei Francisco, one of the youngest competitors in a field of mostly high schoolers, the competition was a step toward her dream. Inspired by her uncle, a chef back home on Kaua‘i, Francisco’s team crafted a pasta bowl and bruschetta that spoke to both her love for cooking and her aspirations for the future.

“I really enjoy cooking and baking,” Francisco said. “I want to have my own business, like a restaurant and bakery, when I am older.”

For many boarders, food is a tie to home. While meals are provided on campus, the cook-off gave students the chance to honor their families far away and bond with their housemates.

The night’s top honors went to Khloe Frasco and Mele Waiha‘i-Kelly of Lunalilo Hale, whose course — a pasta with pork ragu, panzanella and lemon sorbetto — paid homage to the global connections of the Hawaiian Kingdom. Drawing inspiration from King Kalākaua’s diplomatic travels to Italy, their dish was a



Residential Life haumāna prepared their dishes in the dorm kitchens before presenting them to judges at ‘Akahi Dining Hall.

flavorful nod to Hawai‘i’s enduring ties to the world.

“Our hale has been through a lot this year, so this is a nice turning point for us,” Waiha‘i-Kelly said. “We’re so excited to bring this back to the girls.”

Beyond the kitchen, the cook-off reflects the unique experience of Kamehameha’s residential haumāna, where self-determination, leadership and collaboration are ingrained every day. Further, they are gaining a deeper appreciation for where their food comes from and the role they play in Hawai‘i’s food future.

“Mea ‘ai is at the heart of our culture and communities,” En Young, KS’ director of Sustainable Industry Development, said. “Through this challenge, our haumāna connect to our local mahi‘ai, taking on the kuleana of championing their products by creating dishes that reflect the unique identity of our ‘āina and people.”

As the competition ended, the dishes may have been cleared, but the lessons remained. Through food, haumāna explored their Hawaiian heritage, honored the hands that grow Hawai‘i’s crops and strengthened the close-knit culture of their campus. The challenge was a clear reminder that the choices they make — on their plates and beyond — have an impact on Hawai‘i’s future. 💙



KS Kapālama Residential Life haumāna learned more about local food systems during the first-ever cook-off competition.

KE KULA ‘O KAMEHAMEHA MAUI

Haumāna pilot drones in native plant
mapping project at ‘A‘apueo

Mea kākau/pa‘i ki‘i: Chris Sugidono

Kamehameha Schools Maui 11th graders Keanu Reyes and Kolt Kaho‘ohanohano pictured they would simply set out some native plants around campus as part of their environmental science class this past school year.

Instead, the haumāna found themselves flying a drone hundreds of feet in the air to photograph and record native and canoe plants, while also mapping their locations using geographic information systems to build the beginnings of an online database for kumu and limahana.

“At first, Keanu and I thought we were going to just plant some plants like everyone else in class,” Kaho‘ohanohano said. “After talking with our kumu, it opened our mind at what else we could do with the project, and the drone really opened us up to bettering our school, not just by planting but also giving out information that would be useful. As we went on, my perspective really shifted from that one simple idea to what we finally came up with toward the end of the project.”

The idea for their project evolved from early discussions with their kumu Duane Iwamura and Lisa Correa, who lead the school’s Hōkūnohoaupuni – Digital Learning Program. Those meetings expanded to include additional staff: Chris Sugidono, program director of Communications and Campus Relations, to train the haumāna on piloting a drone, and Jared Taylor, senior land information business analyst, to train them on using GIS software.

The collaboration resulted in an ArcGIS map of the school’s campus with points identifying the location of various native and canoe plants such as kī, kukui and ‘ōhi‘a lehua. Each point provides traits and characteristics of the plants, including its cultural significance, disease/threats, medicinal significance and ideal planting environment.

While the new map currently covers a small portion of the grade 9-12 campus, the group hopes it will expand across the K-12 campus and serve as a resource for students and staff for inventory management and outplanting operations.

“This was one of the biggest projects I’ve ever done before because it had so many different factors,” Reyes said. “I think it’s really cool to see how we kept adding to the project.”

Taylor, who guided the two haumāna in building the online map and inputting the data, said he enjoyed the opportunity to bring his expertise in geospatial technology to the student-led project. At KS, Taylor develops GIS solutions, mobile apps and mapping workflows that enhance field operations, improve data-driven decision-making, and empower staff and students across the pae ‘āina.

“I appreciated the opportunity to share my ‘ike and na‘au, and to inspire the next generation through a field I’m passionate about,” he said. “Engaging directly with students in this way allows them to see real-world applications and possibilities. It’s experiences like these that help open their eyes to the many paths available to them.”

Correa, who helped coordinate the meetings and project timeline, said she was grateful for the support from staff and industry experts who work outside of campus. She hopes to



Kamehameha Schools Maui 11th graders Keanu Reyes and Kolt Kaho‘ohanohano mapping plants on the KSM campus.

“This partnership was more than a project — it was a bold step forward in our shared commitment to student success. These efforts are sparking curiosity, nurturing creativity and equipping students with real-world skills.”

Lisa Correa
Hōkūnohoaupuni – Digital Learning Program

continue to provide these opportunities to students and launch the school’s first drone program in the near future.

“This partnership was more than a project — it was a bold step forward in our shared commitment to student success,” Correa said. “By embracing innovation and taking brave risks together, we’re transforming experiential learning through technology. These efforts are sparking curiosity, nurturing creativity and equipping students with real-world skills.”

As Kaho‘ohanohano and Reyes gear up for football season and their senior year, they were grateful for the mentorship from their kumu and the experience developing the unique project.

“The project was definitely hard,” Kaho‘ohanohano said.

“The endless research we had to do and learning the ArcGIS software. It definitely helped shift my perspective on how many people you need for a project like this.”

Kaho‘ohanohano said he has always thought about a career in engineering and hopes to leverage this experience toward that goal.

“We got to sit down, learn and connect with all these people because they’re experts in the field,” he said. “I’m thinking maybe this project can be a good shift in my career path.”

Reyes said he hopes to obtain a drone certificate from the Federal Aviation Administration and attend the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo to study agriculture and business. His ‘ohana also owns farmland in Waikapū, which he plans to support with his newfound knowledge in drones and GIS software.

“This connects to my life because when my Papa passes away, I want to take care of the farm, and possibly pass it down to my kids,” Reyes said. “Being able to map out our farm and have data on every type of plant, kalo, sweet potato — it’s a really exciting thing for me to think about.” 💙

KE KULA ‘O KAMEHAMEHA HAWAI‘I
Journey of school redesign is
captured through E Ulu

Kamehameha Hawai‘i alaka‘i and kumu capture and document their research process and learnings in an academic anthology, E Ulu.

Mea kākau/pa‘i ki‘i: Shaun Chillingworth KSK’99

Kamehameha Schools Hawai‘i is committed to reclaiming and collectively advancing a narrative of Native Hawaiians thriving. KSH believes that its campus identity, ‘Ōiwi Edge — a strong ancestral foundation that shapes a student’s agency, adaptability and well-being — will give haumāna a competitive advantage to fulfill their unique purpose and kuleana. But how the school develops and refines the experiences that will grow that identity in each haumāna requires a different, culturally grounded approach to education and school redesign.

E Ulu was created as the inaugural Kamehameha Schools Hawai‘i action research compendium, designed to feature the work of educators from kindergarten to grade 12. Volumes are designed to allow a reader to start anywhere and read according to one’s interests, needs or curiosities. While the contents are organized in sections according to KSH’s ‘Ōiwi Edge for E Ola! Learning & Teaching Expectations as the pillars anchoring each scholarly work, individual kumu mo‘olelo reflect a collective body of work that highlights creativity, rigor and risk-taking. These works establish a solid foundation for further inquiry or wonderings that will serve the school’s kauhale commitment and realization of ‘Ōiwi Edge for E Ola!.

“As educators and lifetime scholars, we are passionate about pushing ourselves in the pursuit of rigorous learning,” Hālau Kupukupu Research and Development head **Joy Hau‘oli Motta KSK’87** shared.

“E Ulu is our growing compilation of ‘Ōiwi Edge scholarship, featuring genuine examples of promising practices for the well-being of our haumāna, kauhale and lāhui.”

Each contribution demonstrates the campus’ commitment to the core elements of the redesign process: personalized

learning, critical consciousness through social justice and issues-based learning, and social-emotional learning.

“There is a sense of urgency, more than ever before, for our school and our people to adapt to the constantly shifting external conditions of the world,” Po‘o Kula **M. Kāhealani Nae‘ole-Wong KSK’87** said. “If we don’t reach for this culturally conscious adaptive edge, then we risk the opportunity to inspire new generations of kānaka whose vision and courage is needed to catalyze the world in ways that only each and every one of them is capable of.”

Themes covered in the first five volumes include:

- Volume 1 – Pursuing Pilina for ‘Ōiwi Edge Learning & Teaching
- Volume 2 – Journey of Self, Curriculum, Instruction & Pedagogy for School Redesign
- Volume 3 – Building a Learning Ecosystem at the Kamehameha Schools Hawai‘i Campus
- Volume 4 – Responsible Disruption
- Volume 5 – Affirming Our Theory of Change

Recent research has highlighted the data-driven work behind KSH’s redesign of its counseling supports to focus on post-secondary success and the related outcomes to lead to a thriving lāhui, efforts to challenge the status quo of traditional pedagogy and define ‘Ōiwi Arts at the middle school, and professional learnings from personalizing instruction and curricula within an ‘Ōiwi Edge pedagogy.

“This work represents the work of dozens of kumu that have gone through our Innovations Pathway to deepen their understanding of ‘Ōiwi Edge, to test and build ideas, which is work they do in addition to their normal work, and they chose to take part in,” Hope Po‘o Kula Scott De Sa shared. “We honor and celebrate their commitment through these publications.”

E Ulu provides readily available and transparent access to the ‘Ōiwi Edge for E Ola! Experiences developed by kumu and school leaders and records the school’s growth, promising practice, and areas of focus centered on the well-being of haumāna and the larger lāhui. Volumes 1 through 5 are available online at alaukawai.ksbe.edu/e-ulu. ❤️



Contributing authors gather at the Naniloa Hotel in Hilo to celebrate the official release of E Ulu Volume 3.



KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS PRESCHOOLS
Rooted in aloha ‘āina:
Yearlong kalo project cultivates growth at
Kailua-Kona preschool

Mea kākau/pa‘i ki‘i: Alice Malepeai Silbanuz

At KS Preschools Kailua-Kona, a yearlong kalo planting project grew into a living, learning journey of cultural connection and ‘ohana engagement, deepening aloha ‘āina for the 3- and 4-year-old haumāna and their ‘ohana. Launched in collaboration with Kona-based community partner Laupa‘i Ke Ola, the project began from the ground up — literally. ‘Ohana helped build the māla, lay down cardboard, shovel dirt and plant huli with their keiki. “They helped get the māla ready for planting our kalo. And then the day came when we planted,” kumu Lehua Rowland-Sugse shared. “When we harvested, it was amazing to see the keiki and ‘ohana’s amazement on how the ‘ohā grew.”

The kalo project extended in the classroom too. Keiki were immersed in the world of kalo through multiple learning modalities. They sang mele about Hāloa, learned mo‘olelo that shared the significance of kalo in Hawaiian genealogy, and created artwork inspired by the plant’s many parts. They learned the names and functions of each element of the kalo plant — from the huli and lau to the ‘ohā — integrating vocabulary into daily conversation and building their understanding of ‘ike kūpuna.

“They would come in every morning, water their plant, say a little pule, and then count the leaves — ‘I have three leaves. I have four leaves,’” kumu Lehua said. “We were even hitting our Work Sampling System checkpoints while staying rooted in culture.”

For the Wakefield ‘ohana, whose daughters Hopoe and Wililei participated, the experience was equally enriching. “We got to help build the beds, feel the soil, put down the cardboard. That was one of my favorite experiences,” Riann Wakefield said. “It’s not just feeding us, literally — it’s feeding our souls and our minds.”

The keiki planted three kalo varieties: ‘ele‘ele makoko, mana ‘ulu, and mana ‘ōpelu. For kumu Kanani Frederick, who grew up around lo‘i in Ke‘anae, Maui, the project still brought new insights. “‘Ele‘ele makoko is normally grown ma uka, so we were kind of experimenting to see how it would grow closer to ma kai,” she explained. “Surprisingly, it did well. I had to learn more about its characteristics — like when you cut it, there’s this red sap, like blood. That was new to me.”

The kalo project brought the E Ola! framework to life in real, tangible ways. Keiki practiced kuleana and mālama ‘āina daily. They formed deep pilina with the ‘āina. They engaged in critical thinking and kilo as they measured growth and made comparisons. And most importantly, they made meaningful cultural connections through authentic experiences that honored their Hawaiian identity.

“E Ola! really catapulted this project,” kumu Lehua emphasized. “It set the foundation for the whole thing — connecting keiki to ‘āina, to kūpuna and to each other.”

In the final weeks of school, the preschool community celebrated with an exciting harvest day, followed by a hands-on pa‘i ‘ai kalo-pounding activity at the end-of-year Ho‘omau Nā Keiki celebration. All the kalo the keiki had planted and nurtured was



The Wakefield ‘ohana (left to right): Davis, Wililei, and Riann, on harvest day at Kailua-Kona Preschool.

prepared, pounded and shared — transforming their yearlong journey into nourishment for each ‘ohana to enjoy.

For kumu Kanani, one moment stood out above all: “Just seeing ‘ohana and keiki in the māla, working side by side, and being able to guide them — that was my favorite part.”

From huli to Ho‘omau Nā Keiki, the KS Preschools Kailua-Kona kalo project exemplifies the power of Hawaiian culture-based education: cultivating an ancestral staple, as well as building identity, pilina and lifelong love for learning. ❤️

The kalo project brought the
E Ola! framework to life in real,
tangible ways. Keiki practiced
kuleana and mālama ‘āina daily.
They formed deep pilina with
the ‘āina.



Putting the **ea** in Kanaka Maoli Research

by Brandon Ledward
*Principal Strategist
Strategy and Experience Group
Kamehameha Schools*

When it comes to research, “not everything that can be measured matters, and not everything that matters can be measured.” This saying forces researchers to think critically not only about *what* we are studying, but *why* and *how* we are studying it. Much of the research we do at Ke Kula ‘o Kamehameha is aimed at understanding and improving well-being among Kānaka Maoli. We promote Kanaka Maoli perspectives, tools and practices because ea Hawai‘i matters.

Our Kūkulu Kumuhana journey
Kamehameha is not alone in our desire to advance Kanaka Maoli research and ea. Back in 2017, a call to create new, radical knowledge about Native Hawaiian well-being was issued by Lili‘uokalani Trust, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, the Consuelo Foundation and Kamehameha Schools. Kūkulu Kumuhanaⁱ, the name chosen for this effort, references pooling collective strengths to achieve a shared purpose. As the planners explain, “The desire to improve Native Hawaiian well-being is our unifying force. It brings

“The desire to improve Native Hawaiian well-being is our unifying force. It brings communities together, merges missions of organizations, and bridges professional fields.”

communities together, merges missions of organizations, and bridges professional fields.”
Since its first convening, Kūkulu Kumuhana has brought together hundreds of researchers, clinicians, cultural practitioners, artists, activists, musicians and community leaders to identify research needs and opportunities. The group developed a model of Kanaka Maoli well-being, also referred to as Kūkulu Kumuhana, with six interconnected dimensions: Ea, ‘Āina Momona, Pilina, Waiwai, ‘Ōiwi and Ke Akua Mana. Broadly described as self-determination and agency, ea is foundational to Kanaka Maoli well-being.

What does ea look like today?
We know ea is a mindset and process that includes personal and collective actions grounded in pilina between kānaka and ‘āina. When Hawai‘i residents were asked how often they experience ea in their lives, 64 percent of Kānaka Maoli said often or almost always, compared with 57 percent of non-Kānaka Maoli.ⁱⁱ

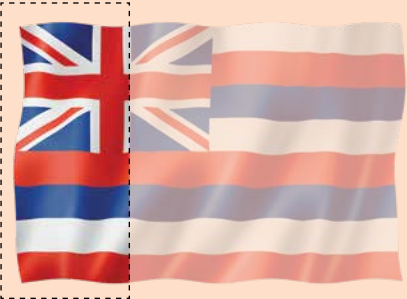
For ea to be fully realized, it must be nurtured within individuals and across communities. When asked how often they lead efforts that increase the ea of their community, 28 percent of Hawai‘i’s people said often or almost always. Kānaka Maoli say they do so more frequently than non-Kānaka Maoli (30 percent compared with 25 percent, respectively).ⁱⁱⁱ

These results demonstrate that ea is something we experience now and are striving toward. They also remind us that ea may be felt and expressed differently across groups. The Kūkulu Kumuhana framework of well-being challenges us to study what matters most to us, even if it seems impossible to measure. Given our kuleana to Kamehameha and our lāhui, we are determined to put the **ea** in Kanaka Maoli research. ❤️

ⁱAccess the full suite of Kūkulu Kumuhana resources at <https://onipaa.org/kukulu-kumuhana>

64%

of Kanaka Maoli residents said they experience ea in their lives often or almost always, compared to 57% of non-Kānaka Maoli.



Over a quarter of Hawai‘i’s residents said they often or almost always lead efforts that increase the ea of their community.



Ola Pauahi, Ola Hawai‘i

Living and protecting the charge of Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop

Na kua e pale, me ka ihe — In battle we will defend, with weapons of sharp intellect

In this moment of challenge to our admissions policy, we stand ready to defend what is dear to our people, our lands and our keiki, and our ability to steward and raise them for a thriving lāhui and pae ‘āina. We will rise up as pū‘ali koa, battalions of koa ready to defend Kamehameha and Ke Ali‘i Pauahi.

E kūlike kākou! Stand with us!



Ke Kula ‘o Kamehameha

ALUMNI REUNION 2025

Ke Kula 'o Kamehameha Hawai'i

Saturday, May 31, 2025
Ke Kula 'o Kamehameha Hawai'i
Hā'aemahi Dining Hall, Kula Waena

Dozens of proud alums gathered for the annual Hawai'i Island Alumni Lū'au. The event featured a special shout-out to the class of '68, most of whom have reached the milestone age of 75 years young. They donned orange shirts to celebrate their decades of friendship.



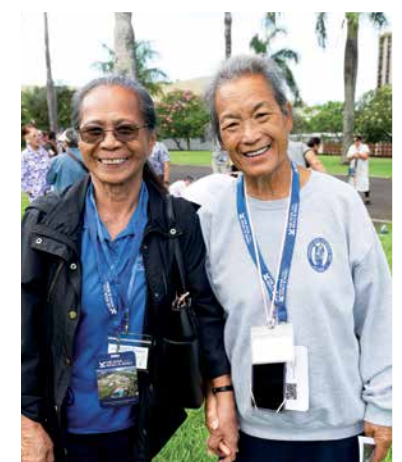
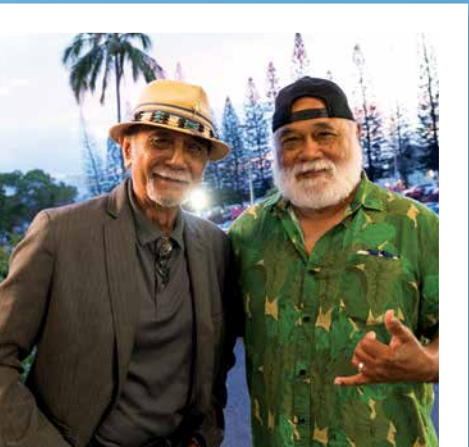
ALUMNI REUNION 2025

Ke Kula 'o Kamehameha Kapālana

June 2-7, 2025
Various Locations

Reunion week on O'ahu kicked off with a memorable welina event in which haumāna from all three campuses shared heartfelt mana'o with alums about their most memorable experiences from the past school year. Other events included a visit to Mauna'ala (page 37, bottom, center), which saw a large contingent of alumni offering ho'okupu to our beloved ali'i. At Kūpuna Pā'ina (this page, middle row, left), executive leadership and trustees served and celebrated our living treasures, including members from the classes of '45 and '46. The week was a great time to reflect on past memories while making new ones at the same time.

Left: Kūpuna pictured, front row, L-R: **Pilialoha Hopkins** Oliver KSK'45, **Julie Stewart** Williams KSK'46, **Betty Yim** Shodahl KSK'46, **Henry Rogers III** KSK'45.



ALUMNI REUNION 2025

Ke Kula 'o Kamehameha Maui

Saturday, June 13, 2025
University of Hawai'i
Maui College, Pā'ina Dining Room

Former Maui radio personality **Alaka'i Paleka KSK'74** emceed the Alumni Reunion on Maui, making for a lively pā'ina filled with laughter and plenty pilina. Hosted by the KS Maui Campus Po'o Kula and KSAA Maui Region, the lū'au was held at Maui College and was very well attended by both Kapālama and Maui graduates spanning from the mid-1960s through to the mid-2010s.



Alumni business owner makes room for giving

Mea kākau: Kyle Galdeira KSK’03, Mea pa’a ki’i: Kala’i Pomroy KSH’17

As a successful business owner, **Kamuela Ku Potter KSK’82** embraces her kuleana to give back to the next generation of Native Hawaiian learners who are poised to become tomorrow’s ‘ōiwi leaders.

Potter is a Kamehameha Schools “lifer,” completing the 13-year journey from kindergarten through 12th grade before going on to study engineering at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. She eventually realized that engineering was not the right fit and pivoted to the field of communications while working for local clothing giant Crazy Shirts.

“I started as a stock person, and 20-something years later, after working a variety of positions, I ended up as regional manager,” Potter says. “It was a fabulous company, but when ownership changed, I moved on and found myself wondering what I was going to do. A friend suggested that I help her remodel her house and look into closet organizers.”

Potter agreed, and from there, she formulated the concept for what would become Inspired Closets Hawai‘i and continues to run the business more than two decades later with her husband Brent. The Potters also make it a priority to give back to their community and are generous donors to the Pauahi Foundation. They recently contributed to the Mānowai Scholarship Fund, an innovative giving opportunity that helps solve the ever-increasing need for post-secondary educational support.

“When I started the business, we started as Organized Hawai‘i and I worked with a manufacturer in Michigan – and I’m still with the same manufacturer!” Potter says. “The business has been continuous, and we love what we do. When I started out, what I enjoyed doing was helping people with their homes. Hawai‘i’s homes are very small, and so are the closets, so you have ‘x’ amount



“Going to Kamehameha Schools made a really big impact on me. In hindsight, you look back and understand the legacy once you’ve gone through it, especially after moving on to run a business. It’s an honor to give back and I’m humbled by it.”

Kamuela Ku Potter KSK’82

of space, so our business helps people maximize what space they have. It’s been a lot of fun over the years.”

Potter recalls her early days with the company as the lead salesperson and installer with one helper. Fast forward to today, and Inspired Closets Hawai‘i has grown to include 20 employees, while serving all major islands across the state.

“We all have the same level of commitment to helping people, and just

looking around the showroom, there are options for everybody,” Potter says. “All walks of life, all members of the family and diverse types of people is what we’re going for as far as who we serve. We can work with any size home as we help someone imagine and bring their dream closet to reality.”

At the Inspired Closets Hawai‘i showroom on the second floor of the ‘Ewa-makai building of SALT at Our Kaka’ako on ‘Āina Pauahi, existing clients and potential customers are transported to a world of possibilities when it comes to storage – from elaborate walk-in closets to innovative kitchen spaces and space-saving garage and hobby nooks.

“The whole purpose of the showroom is for people who walk in the front door to imagine something beyond what they may actually be able to in their house or apartment,” Potter explains. “It inspires people.”

Inspired Closets Hawai‘i showcases everything from Murphy beds, which are space savers and allow a room to be

used for two purposes, to closets that are more practical in size. There are also reimagined garage units and transforming furniture, including sofas and desk units.

“We sell quite a bit of these transformational furniture elements to people who are in studios, such as those in Kaka’ako,” Potter says. “A lot of the buildings have smaller footprints, so they can have multiple uses in a single room. It’s fun, and when people come through, they can see ideas come to life versus just looking at it on paper. They can feel and see features and find out what they enjoy.”

Potter adds that what she enjoys most about the business is “helping people realize what they could do in their house. A lot of times, they can’t do it all at once, but they can start and go from there. We’ve had clients that started with

us 20 years ago, and now I’m doing their second homes, meaning they’ve upgraded. For some, I’m doing their children’s homes!”

As a Native Hawaiian business owner, Potter makes it a priority to maintain her connection to the local community and give back to support others.

“Going to Kamehameha Schools made a really big impact on me,” Potter says. “In hindsight, you look back and understand the legacy once you’ve gone through it, especially after moving on to run a business. It’s an honor to give back and I’m humbled by it. I come from a place where when you give, you don’t talk about it and do it for the right reason. Ke Ali’i Pauahi wanted us to be industrious, so it’s truly a gift to be able to give back.”

While there are many worthy local charitable foundations and causes throughout Hawai‘i, Potter says that the

choice to give to the Pauahi Foundation was an easy one.

“The Pauahi Foundation is the continuing legacy of Ke Ali’i Pauahi and generations of Hawaiians who have gone to Kamehameha Schools,” Potter says. “All the memories from the time you’re a small child, to this day, you don’t take for granted the excellent education you receive. Understanding your culture and her beliefs, that instills character in students. So, when I was asked to consider giving, I always wanted to and I’m glad the Pauahi Foundation asked. I should have done it sooner!”

Potter explains that she has made it a priority to include giving in her future business plans.

“There’s sincerity behind everyone who’s involved with the Pauahi Foundation,” she says. “As the business grows, we will give more. The student beneficiaries of the scholarships are important and I’m glad I was asked to give.”

Potter consistently goes back to Ke Ali’i Pauahi’s wish for her estate to uplift generations of “good and industrious” members of the community.

“That perspective of inspiring leaders, I think it’s really important,” Potter says. “It’s important to give back to your community. As a business owner, I know that I contribute not just to the 20 people that work for me, but also their families and beyond. What we do as a business makes an impact, and our reputation is everything, so I really take that to heart.

“For leaders in the community, if you establish yourself and you are giving back to your community with a purpose – whether you’re a business owner, or a doctor or a teacher. Whatever you believe in, you deliver on that with your integrity that comes with being part of our overall lāhui and Ke Ali’i Pauahi’s legacy.” 💙



Kamuela Ku Potter KSK’82 (front row, far right) along with husband and business partner Brent (back row, far right) and members of the Inspired Closets Hawai‘i team at their Kaka’ako showroom.

Keeping it Pono

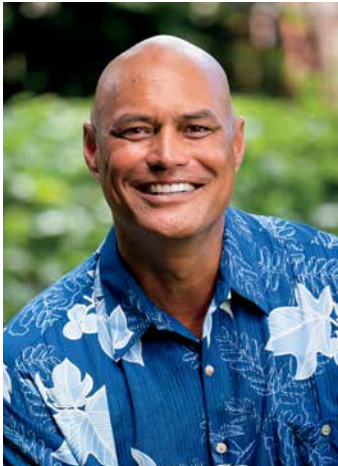
by **Pono Ma'a KSK'82**

Director of Advancement and
Executive Director of the Pauahi Foundation

Aloha mai e nā koa o Kamehameha,

As we embrace our kuleana to uplift our people through education, I'm excited to share the inspiring stories in this issue of I Mua, including highlights of E Ola! in action across 'Āina Pauahi.

Please enjoy the amazing images from our Alumni Reunion Celebration 2025, including the popular Kūpuna Pā'ina, in this issue's "Snapshots" photo gallery starting on page 34. Seeing these images, and recalling the memories and stories shared by KS Alumni, I'm reminded of the tremendous legacy and vision of Ke Ali'i Pauahi — and why it is important to be grateful and honor her generosity!



Our team was honored to work with and celebrate the classes ending in 5s and Os during the Alumni Reunion Celebration, and we look forward to planning the next series of gatherings for those representing classes ending in 1s and 6s. We continue to create opportunities to engage with and honor our alumni across the pae 'āina and on the continent through various reunion celebrations and special gatherings.

As we continue to share stories of our generous donors through the "Your gift. Your legacy." feature on page 40, I'm reminded that Ke Ali'i Pauahi doesn't walk alone because of you, our donors! **Kamuela Kū Potter KSK'82** is an excellent example of an alumni donor who gives back through the Pauahi Foundation's Corporate Giving Program, all while growing her business, Inspired Closets Hawai'i.

We aim to serve even more E Ola! learners in the upcoming scholarship application and award cycle and support early learning, K-12 education, college and 'āina community programming. Help us end the year on a high note by joining us with a gift at Pauahi.org, or follow the QR code below with your digital device.

Stay tuned to our monthly Kahiau e-newsletter for the latest news and updates, and engage with us on our KS Alumni (@kamehamehaalumni) and Pauahi Foundation (@pauahifoundation) social media channels for opportunities to give your time, talent and/or treasure. Please stay safe and take good care of yourselves and one another, and I look forward to seeing you soon!

Me ka ha'a'ha'a,
Pono Ma'a



Use your digital
device to follow
this QR code and
support the Pauahi
Foundation!

1960s

■ **KSK KAFFEEKLATSCH: Kamehameha Kapālama '64** classmates gathered for a mini-reunion/brunch on July 1, 2025, in Kahului. If anyone would like to join them, they plan to reconvene at 10 a.m. the first Tuesday of every odd month (i.e., 9/2/25 and 11/4/25) at McDonald's, Pu'unēnē Avenue. All are invited, and spouses are welcome!



KSK 1964 classmates: (clockwise from left) **Carlton Richards**, **Charles Rapozo**, **C. Kekoa Kekoa Enomoto**, **J. Māhealani Leong Beyer**, **Joe Novit**, and **E. Niolopā Kahanu** Raiser.

■ On Sept. 7, 2024, 60 members of the Class of 1967 celebrated their 75th birthday at the home of **Scott Haililani Mahoney KSK'67** at Pu'ukapu, Waimea, on Hawai'i Island. During the event, a special recognition of six classmates was made for their unselfish leadership and contributions to their class, but also the lāhui: **Haunani Kay Trask KSK'67**, **Pete Thompson KSK'67**, **Dana Naone Hall KSK'67**, **Leighton Laakea Suganuma KSK'67**, **Leonelle Anderson**, and **Robert Uluwehi Cazimero KSK'67**. This recognition was called Nā Pōhai Ali'i. Lei maker and classmate **Emerald Wainee Winchester KSK'67** crafted and gifted beautiful brown, half-shell kukui nut lei in honor of each of the six classmates, signifying the enlightenment they gave to the class. Classmates were moved to tears recalling wonderful memories of these extraordinary Hawaiians as their accomplishments were read aloud.

1970s

■ **Melfred "Mel" Sylvester Manokalanipo Garcia KSK'74** retired from the federal service as a Department of the Army civilian at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash. Mel's wife, Lori, and their children, **Samuel Michael Manokalanipo Garcia KSK'O1**, **Benjamin**

Bradford Kaonohiokala Garcia KSK'O3, and **Alison Poliahu Garcia** Punohu **KSK'O5** were in attendance at the ceremony.

1990s

■ **Timmy Wailehua KSK'96**, **James K. Moniz KSK'97**, and **Jason Martinson KSK'93** attended the Mortgage Bankers Association of Hawai'i annual conference in June 2025 and support the association as members. The MBAH advocates within the real estate finance industry in Hawai'i, providing a voice for legislative issues. Jason Martinson is vice president of Hawaii State FCU's Consumer Loan Division, James Moniz is Bank of Hawai'i's executive VP of Mortgage Banking, and Timmy Wailehua is Essent Guaranty Mortgage Insurance branch manager and senior underwriter.

2000s

■ The Nakupuna Foundation adopted a lo'i at Kāko'o 'Ōiwi in He'eia, holding bi-weekly workdays with employees and their 'ohana. **Jason Jeremiah KSK'00** joined Nakupuna in their workday, while **Cariann Ah Loo KSK'91**, **Lindsay Ah Loo KSK'00**, **David Wood KSK'00**, **A. Napua Harbottle KSK'81** and **Daphne Pe'a Fox KSK'05** proudly represented Nakupuna.

■ **Alyssa Navares Myers KSK'05** has for the past 10 years been teaching journalism and video production at Sacred Hearts Academy. She also serves as the English department chair for the upper school and teaches grade 9 English. Beyond the classroom, she advises the school's student news publication, Ka Leo, which was recently named the top high school newspaper in the state for the third consecutive year. Their award was highlighted in a feature published by the University of Hawai'i, and in a Honolulu Star-Advertiser article. Her passion for student journalism began at Kamehameha Kapālama, where she served as features editor for Ka Mō'i, and continued at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, where she was features editor and later managing editor for Ka Leo. It has been incredibly meaningful to now help the next generation of student journalists grow and succeed, thanks in part to her Ka Mō'i adviser Lionel Barona.



Melfred Garcia KSK'74 retirement, photo at left (left to right): Alison Punohu, Samuel Garcia, Mel Garcia holding Alison's daughter Jovie Poliahu Punohu, Lori Garcia, Benjamin Garcia. Photo at right: Mel Garcia with I Corps Commander Lieutenant General McFarlane (left) and Command Sergeant Major Durgin (right).



From left to right: Timmy Wailehua KSK'96, James Moniz KSK'97, and Jason Martinson KSK'93.



Back row, left to right: David Wood KSK'00, Jason Jeremiah KSK'00, Lindsay Ah Loo KSK'91, Napua Harbottle KSK'81. Front row, left to right: Daphne Fox KSK'05, Cariann Ah Loo KSK'91.



Alyssa Myers KSK'05 with her students at Sacred Hearts Academy.

■ **Austin Nakatsuka KSK’06** and Kandon Kamae (fellow John A. Burns School of Medicine graduate) performed hula for the World Glaucoma Congress on June 25, 2025, at the Hawai’i Convention Center. Nakatsuka felt it was important to do in terms of representation and diversity in their profession — they may be the only two Native Hawaiian glaucoma surgeons in the world (and two of only four Native Hawaiian ophthalmologists/eye surgeons in the world). By sharing their Native Hawaiian culture, the pair could demonstrate the joy and beauty of diversity in their field, and hopefully encourage others to do the same. Nakatsuka is a K-12 graduate, and Kamae grew up in Japan.

■ **Colton Collins KSH’08** recently completed a Ph.D. in forest ecology at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore.

■ **Kolten Wong KSH’08** was inducted into the University of Hawai’i Athletics Circle of Honor. The ceremony took place at the UH Green and White Celebration on May 18, 2025, at the Royal Hawaiian Hotel. Wong announced his retirement earlier this summer. He was drafted by the St. Louis Cardinals in the first round (22nd overall) of the 2011 MLB draft. He played 11 MLB seasons with the Cardinals, Milwaukee Brewers, Seattle Mariners and Los Angeles Dodgers, and won National League Gold Glove awards in 2019 and 2020.

2010s

Hulō! Hulō! Ten new Native Hawaiian physicians graduated from the University of Hawai’i John A. Burns School of Medicine on May 18, 2025. The graduates will be going into nine different specialties, and eight are Pua a Pauahi. Dr. **Makoa Mau KSK’16** matched

orthopedic surgery at the University of Utah, Dr. **Ashley Lee KSK’16** matched obstetrics and gynecology at Baylor University Medical Center, Dr. **Elliott Markell KSK’17** matched general surgery at Dignity East Valley Arizona, Dr. **F. ‘Ānela Johnson KSK’17** matched family medicine at the University of Hawai’i, Dr. **Brooke Kawamura KSK’17** matched pediatrics at the University of Hawai’i, Dr. **Carly Coleman KSK’14** matched psychiatry at the University of Hawai’i, Dr. **Andie Conching KSK’14** matched neurosurgery at the University of California Davis, and Dr. **‘Awapuhi “Hailey” Lee KSK’11** matched psychiatry at the University of Hawai’i.

■ Dr. **Holeka Goro Inaba KSK’12** was appointed chair of the Hawai’i County Council for the current council term (2024-26), representing his hometown district of North Kona. He also serves as assistant project director of



Native Hawaiian eye surgeons dance hula for World Glaucoma Congress 2025. Left photo: Austin Nakatsuka KSK’06 (left), Kandon Kamae (right). Right photo: Kandon Kamae (left), Austin Nakatsuka (right).



Kolten Wong KSH’08 and wife Alissa Wong, and their children.

PHOTO CREDIT: JAY METZGER/UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII ATHLETICS



Kamehameha JABSOM 2025 graduates Match Day: (top row, left to right) Dr. Kaitlyn Takata, Dr. **Makoa Mau KSK’16**, Dr. **Ashley Lee KSK’16**, Dr. Vanessa Freitas, Dr. **Elliott Markell KSK’17**, Dr. **F. ‘Ānela Johnson KSK’17**, Dr. Dee-Ann Carpenter. Bottom row, left to right: Dr. **Brooke Kawamura KSK’17**, Dr. **Carly Coleman KSK’14**, Dr. **Andie Conching KSK’14**, and Dr. **‘Awapuhi “Hailey” Lee KSK’11**.



Akiona 2013 graduation: (from left to right) Mother-in-law Lauren, wife Lindsey, Kawena Akiona KSK’13 holding daughter ‘Ānela Rei, Gay Murakami, and Kawai Akiona.

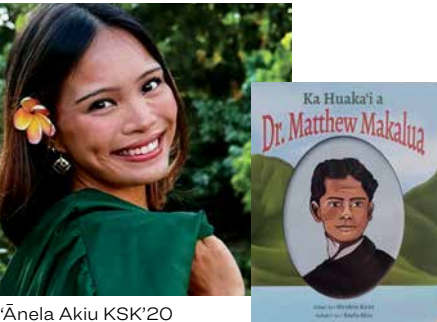
La’i’ōpua 2020’s enrichment program, supporting keiki and ‘ohana in the Kona community. He previously served as vice chair of the council from 2022 to 2024, and was first elected to the Hawai’i County Council in August 2020 (2020-22). Inaba remains grounded in his Kamehameha Schools foundation as he leads with aloha, kuleana and service to Hawai’i Island.

■ Dr. **Charles “Kawena” Akiona KSK’13** completed his anesthesia residency in June 2025 at UCLA, and will head home to Honolulu, where he will work at Hawai’i Pacific Health Straub Hospital. Brother **G. Kawai Akiona Jr. KSK’09** and his mother, **Gay Murakami KSK’83**, were there to celebrate with Kawena, along with his mother-in-law, wife and daughter.

■ **Sydney Kilinahe Story KSK’17** graduated in 2025 from the William S. Richardson School of Law.

2020s

■ The ‘ohana of **‘Ānela Akiu KSK’20** has two reasons to celebrate. Akiu graduated in May 2025 from the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa with bachelor’s degrees in Hawaiian studies and sociology. Akiu is also an accomplished artist. She’s the illustrator for the newly published ‘ōlelo Hawai’i children’s book “Ka Huaka’i a Dr. Matthew Makalua.”



‘Ānela Akiu KSK’20 illustrated the newly published ‘ōlelo Hawai’i children’s book “Ka Huaka’i a Dr. Matthew Makalua.”

■ **Danielle Ann Sachiko Kanoelani Heneralau Bonilla KSK’21** graduated magna cum laude from Vanderbilt University with her Bachelor of Science in child development and medicine on May 9, 2025. She will attend Einstein Medical College.

■ Congratulations to **Parker Chang KSK’21**, who graduated summa cum



Dr. Holeka Goro Inaba KSK’12



Sydney Kilinahe Story KSK’17



Danielle Ann Sachiko Kanoelani Heneralau Bonilla KSK’21



James Holt KSK’22 (center) with his brother, **David Holt KSK’13**, (left) and sister-in-law **Mary Yamamoto Holt KSK’11** (right).

laude from Yale in the spring of 2025 with a Bachelor of Science, double majoring in environmental studies (with distinction) and molecular, cellular and developmental biology (with distinction). He also earned an Advanced Language Certificate in Mandarin. His academic achievements include being inducted into Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society and being awarded the prestigious Gaylord Donnelley Prize in environmental studies. He studied abroad through a Harvard summer school program held at National Taiwan University in Taipei, where he immersed himself in both the language and culture. Beyond academics, Chang was actively involved in Yale’s music and performance scene. He played in the Yale Precision Marching Band, D-Pops Orchestra, Hand Bell Ensemble, and Marimba Band. He also co-hosted a podcast focused on humorously reviewing bad movies.

■ **Shaye Nohea Story KSK’21** graduated in 2025 with her Bachelor of Arts in political science, with honors, from Stanford University. She was also awarded the 2025 Robert M. Golden Medal for Excellence in the Humanities and Creative Arts from Stanford.

■ **James Holt KSK’22** graduated in May 2025 from Chapman University with his Bachelor of Science in computer engineering and a minor in math.

BIRTHS

Colten Ryu Kaimipono Ing was born on June 11, 2024 (Kamehameha Day), to Alyssa and **Ricky Ing KSK’12**. His sisters are Haylee (Class of 2036) and Rylee; cousins Brody Delovio (Class of 2029) and Brayden Delovio (Class of 2030); aunts **Dana Ing KSK’06** and **Robyn Ing Pruett KSK’09**; and proud grandpa **Clayton Ing KSK’76**.



WEDDINGS

Dr. **Marshall Kamuela Kaaua Schroeder KSK’10** and Kasey Elizabeth Martinelli were married on Sept. 28, 2024, in Honolulu at Cafe Julia. Many Kamehameha Schools alumni and ‘ohana were in attendance. The couple resides in New Mexico with their golden retrievers.



■ **Jesse C. Tom KSK’48**, a proud veteran, community activist and loving patriarch, passed away peacefully on April 18, 2025, at Heritage Springs in Muncy, Pa., surrounded by the cherished embrace of his family. At 95 years of age, Tom (known as “Mickey” to his family in Hawai‘i) leaves behind a legacy defined by resilience, service, and a deep commitment to his roots and aloha. Born in Honolulu, Jesse was the son of the late Yau Kan Tom and Julia (Hipa) Tom, and the last surviving of 12 children. Tom grew up in the mountains above Waikīkī in the Pu‘unui neighborhood, and his childhood was transformed in an instant on that fateful day in 1941 when Pearl Harbor was attacked. Tom’s formative years were interwoven with profound loss and strength. After losing his father at the age of 12 and his mother at 18, he was raised by his older sisters. He enlisted in the Army, serving with the elite 11th Airborne Division during the Korean War. After his honorable military service, Tom returned to Hawai‘i, but he was not one to sit still for long and wanted adventure. Destiny brought him together with the love of his life, Ethel Mae Levan Tom. The two married in 1953, sharing a deep and enduring bond that lasted until Ethel’s passing in 2005. In 1959, Jesse and Ethel moved to the mainland to support Ethel’s mother in the aftermath of her stepfather’s tragic mining accident. They eventually put down roots in Weatherly and later Beaver Meadows, creating a home filled with love, cherished traditions and a strong sense of ‘ohana.

Deeply devoted to his community, Tom worked as a tradesman instructor at the former White Haven Center. He was one of the founding members of the Weatherly Knee-Hi Football program and the Weatherly High School football program, and had a self-defense academy teaching methods now known as MMA. His years in the martial arts field were passed on to his son Paul “Sumo” Tom, who has maintained a career in it, owning his own academy in Utah. A talented ‘ukulele and guitar player, Jesse often stepped on stage with his hānai nephew, Don Ho, whenever he returned home. His love for music carried through to his children, as all were members of the former Highlanders Junior Drum & Bugle Corps, as well as other bands, corps and groups. Son Kuana continues to carry the entertainment and music torch, obtaining a degree in audio production. Jesse was

also adventurous in the equestrian field, having owned many horses over the years, and competing alongside his children in numerous trail rides and competitions. His daughter Sharlene continues in that tradition, having horses of her own and spending much time riding.

Driven by his deep commitment to scouting and youth development, Tom served as a scout leader and 4-H advisor, instilling in others a profound appreciation for community, cultural pride and the enduring power of shared stories. His unwavering integrity and steadfast Mormon faith — rooted in the belief that “we are all sons and daughters of God, with the potential to grow in this life and beyond to become like our Heavenly Father” — left an indelible mark on countless lives.

In his retirement, Tom found joy in the energy of volleyball. His passion for coaching was passed on to his son, Ku‘uipo. Jesse mentored Ku‘uipo in coaching and taught him football and volleyball. Jesse became a fixture in the stands at Susquehanna University, where Ku‘uipo served as head women’s volleyball coach for over two decades after retiring from a 25-year career with the Pennsylvania State Police. His booming voice — calling out “bam!” just as a spike was about to occur — became a signature sound in the gym.

Surviving are Jesse and Ethel’s children, Jesse Kuana Tom and his wife, Melanie Hansen, of Enterprise, Utah; John Ku‘uipo Tom and his wife, Lou Ann Miller, of Montoursville, Pa.; Paul Moana “Sumo” Tom of Cedar Hills, Utah; and Sharlene Puanani Wishwanick and her husband, Walter, of Dillsburg, Pa. While raising their biological children, Jesse and Ethel also brought into their home four hānai children, Theresa K. Majors (deceased), Sargent K. Majors of Wyoming, Jayme L. Majors of Wyoming and Anthony K. Majors and his wife, Suzanne Masyado, of Riverside, Pa. Their legacy spans 34 grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren, and 12 great-great-grandchildren as well as many nieces and nephews.

■ **Donald Scott Bowman III KSK’52**, known as “Scotty,” was born in Kohala, Hawai‘i Island, in 1934 and raised in Kailua, O‘ahu. He enjoyed a 32-year career at Hawaiian Telephone Company and devoted 50 years of service to the Hawaiian Financial Credit Union. Growing

up steps from Kailua Beach, Bowman reveled in swimming, sailing and scuba diving. In retirement, he enjoyed skiing and photographing his travels while volunteering for national parks, state parks and wildlife refuges across the United States. In his last years, he enjoyed billiards and cribbage, entering tournaments in his final hometown, Durango, Colo., where he peacefully passed away on May 6, 2025, at the age of 91. Predeceased by daughters Diane (Poochie) and Donnelle (Donnie) and son Donald (Kaha). He is survived by wife **Lynnette Apo KSK’64**, sister **Elizabeth Ann Bowman McBirmie KSK’54**, son Kalei Bowman and daughter Dale Bowman.

■ **Danette “Dani” Kuuleimomi Mahi Hanohano KSK’55**, 87, of Honolulu died in Honolulu on Dec. 12, 2024. She was born in Pearl City.

■ **Kalani Robert Bruce Graham KSK’57** passed away on Nov. 26, 2024.

■ **Caroldean Nalani Tollefsen Fischer KSK’57**, 86, died in Kāne‘ohe on Feb. 10, 2025. She was born in Honolulu. She was a retired school teacher at Kamehameha Schools Kapālana.

■ **Linda Ku‘ualoha Akana Sproat KSK’58**, was born in Waimea on March 16, 1940, to William J. “Boy” Akana of Kalihiwai and **Frances Chang Akana KSK’32** of Waimea. She spent her early years in Kalihiwai, fishing and farming with her ‘ohana, until she moved to O‘ahu to board at Kamehameha Schools. She earned her teaching degree at California State University, Northridge before moving back to O‘ahu, where she connected with her loving husband, **David Keola Sproat KSK’63**. Linda and David were married in 1968 and returned home to Kalihiwai permanently in 1970. Following in the footsteps of her mother and grandmothers, Sproat was a career school teacher at Kīlauea Elementary, where she is remembered by generations for welcoming them to kindergarten. Her passion was helping young people to read, and inspiring them to be inquisitive, creative and self-directed lifelong learners. She was well-loved by myriad Kīlauea School administrators and alumni, and was a favorite teacher for many. Sproat was a fixture on the North Shore and an outspoken advocate for Native Hawaiians and preserving the quality of life in local communities, especially in the face of increasing development. She

was a brilliant organizer and strategist, testifying at community or other board meetings even when it was politically unpopular. Kaua‘i’s North Shore would look very different today without her tireless efforts. Sproat helped to found and/or was deeply engaged with a multitude of organizations, including the Kīlauea Community Outreach Program, Kīlauea Neighborhood Association, Nā Ala Hele and Waipā Foundation. While leading, she always invested in and co-powered the next generation of kupa and kia‘i. Sproat was also active in her church community and was the last living founding member of Christ Memorial Episcopal Church in Kīlauea. She represented her church at the state, national and international levels and was especially active with the Anglican Indigenous Peoples’ Committee. Linda passed to the realm of her ancestors on Jan. 6, 2025, after a long battle with Alzheimer’s. She was preceded in death by her parents and brother **John F. “Johnny” Akana KSK’64**. She is survived by her loving husband, David; her daughters **Stacy Sproat-Beck KSK’88**, **D. Kapua‘ala Sproat KSK’91** (Kala Hoe), and Nanea N. Sproat-Armitage (Nelson Armitage Jr.), and grandchildren Mahie and Melela‘i Beck, Olamaunapuaokalahui and Uluponoikamakanikewaiakelilia Sproat-Hoe, and Ka‘onohi, Keaolewa and Keawa‘ihi Armitage. She also cultivated a large extended ‘ohana.

■ **Richard Elliott “Dickie” Akana KSK’60**, 84, of Kawaihae died April 15, 2025, at The Queen’s Medical Center in Honolulu. He was a U.S. Air Force veteran. Survived by his wife, Aulani Akana of Kawaihae; sons Joey Schutte (Pier) and Zanga Schutte (Kim) of Waimea; daughters Aulani Jeffery (Richard) and Bonnie Sanchez (Rich) of Waimea; brothers Don Akana (Shirley) of Kona and Nohea Akana of Waimea; nine grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

■ **Pierre Charles Apisaloma KSK’60**, 83, died in ‘Aiea on June 13, 2025. He was born in Honolulu.

■ **Wayne Hinano Brumaghim KSK’60** passed away on April 9, 2025. He was a graduate of the University of Maine, where he earned a BA in mathematics/engineering. He served in the U.S. Air Force and lived on the continent until 1984, when he returned to O‘ahu to care for his mother. He retired from the Sheraton Waikīkī in 2005 and returned

to school at U.H. Mānoa, earning both a B.A. in 2009 and an M.A. in 2011 in Hawaiian studies while in his 60s. He is predeceased by his brother **Malcolm Brumaghim KSK’64** and survived by brothers **Myron Brumaghim KSK’62** and **Carlton K. Fellezs KSK’71**; sister **R. Puanani Fellezs KSK’76**; nephew **Colin-James K. Fellezs KSK’14** and nieces **Carla Jean K. Fellezs KSK’98** and **Tiffanie Brumaghim KSK’03**.

■ **George Keoki Manu KSK’62** passed away on Jan. 9, 2025.

■ **Michael “Buddy” Kau Chun Aki KSK’63**, 79, passed away on Feb. 11, 2025. He was a veteran of the United States Navy and a retired fire inspector for the Honolulu Fire Department. He is survived by his wife, Audrey; his children **Michelle Aki KSK’90** (Jesse), **Michael Darin Aki KSK’94** and **Tiffany Aki KSK’02**; his siblings Sidney (Alana) Aki, **Danielle “Ipo” Gora KSK’73**, and **Guy M. Gora KSK’74** (Sky); his aunt Juliette “Tootsie” Goo; and his many nephews, nieces, cousins and friends.

■ **Nathan Eugene Vaughn Hering KSK’63**, age 79, of Las Vegas, passed away on April 4, 2025. Hering was born on June 14, 1945, in Hilo, Hawai‘i.

■ **Warren Kaleialoha Asing KSK’64**, of ‘Aiea died on April 11, 2025. He was surrounded by his family and passed away peacefully with his loved ones by his side. Born in Kalihi and raised in Pālolo, Papakōlea, Moanalua and Kailua on O‘ahu, Asing had a tough start growing up. But he persevered and overcame each of the obstacles put in front of him. He, with his loving family supporting him, eventually lived out a successful 40-year business career with Fernandez Entertainment. He truly loved what he did and said it often. He started at an entry-level position fixing machines and worked his way to eventually become the Executive VP Chief Operating Officer. He was recognized as a leader in his career and received numerous awards and recognition, including being an honoree at the 2015 ‘Ō‘ō Awards, which are given to Native Hawaiian business leaders who demonstrate courage, resilience and dedication to the people of Hawai‘i. He was a shining bright star in the ethers and will continue to guide and influence the many lives he touched during his time on this earth. He is predeceased by his mother, Maile Asing Semitekol, and his stepfather,

Robert D. Semitekol. He is survived by his sister, Pua Chin; four nephews; his wife, Pamela; sons Kaumaka (Elvie), Kalei (Colena) and **Warner Kahele Asing KSK’96** (Taira); 12 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. Truly the brightest star from this planet, Warren will be missed immensely by this entire world. We love you, Husband, Brother, Dad and Papa!

■ **William John “Bill John” Kauakea Medeiros KSK’65**, of Waiehu passed away on Oct. 25, 2024, at Maui Memorial Medical Center, surrounded by loved ones. He was born on Feb. 3, 1947, on the island of Lāna‘i, to Leslie Clyde Kauakea Medeiros Sr. and Josephine Kauakea Roback Medeiros. In his senior year at Kamehameha (1965), he and Clayton Chun won the boys doubles state tennis title. No Kamehameha boys duo won the event again until 2011. After graduating, Medeiros enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and served honorably as an aerospace munitions specialist supervisor and was stationed in Italy, where he also played tennis for the Air Force. After serving in the military, Medeiros returned home to Hāna, where he resided and commuted for 6 years to Lahaina, Wailuku and Pā‘ia to work as a Maui County firefighter. He then commenced his 25 years of service as a district administrator for the Maui County Department of Public Works Highways Division for East Maui. Medeiros moved to Wailuku in 1985, where he continued his career as Public Works Highways Division Supervisor for West Maui. Medeiros earned his associate’s in hotel management from the University of Hawai‘i, Maui Community College as well as a bachelor’s in business administration from the University of Phoenix. He later acquired his certification as a substitute teacher with the Hawai‘i Department of Education. In 2006, he was elected and served for two consecutive terms as a county councilmember for the East Maui seat. Medeiros retired from the County of Maui and public service in 2012 and continued to serve as an executive assistant under Mayor Alan Arakawa and Mayor Mike Victorino as the East Maui liaison.

Medeiros dedicated over 35 years as an involved member of the Maui community, serving as vice president of the Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association, and member of the Hāna Citizens Advisory Committee, Hāna

Community General Plan Committee, Hāna Community Center Task Force, Hāna Community Association, Hāna Schools Parent Teacher Association, Maui Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce, and the Royal Order of Kamehameha Kahekili Maui chapter. While in office, Councilmember Medeiros served as the council’s representative on the Council on Aging, the council’s alternate member to the Hawai‘i State Association of Counties, and member of the Commission on Naming Streets, Parks and Facilities. Medeiros recognized the importance of athletics from keiki to kūpuna, volunteering as a coach, referee and league official for youth soccer, baseball and softball, and distinguishing himself as a valued player, coach and official for the United States Slow Pitch Softball Association, the Amateur Softball Association, the Senior Citizen Softball League, and the United States Tennis Association. After being elected to the council in 2006, Medeiros was chosen by his colleagues to co-chair the Public Works and Facilities Committee, and during his second term on the council, was chosen by his colleagues to chair the Infrastructure Management Committee. During his tenure in office, Medeiros was a valued member of numerous committees, including the Budget and Finance Committee, Committee of the Whole, Planning Committee, Water Resources Committee, Public Services Committee, and the Land Use Committee. Medeiros endeavored to improve infrastructure and promote jobs and affordable housing by strongly advocating for the building of Hāna affordable housing projects for seniors and the community and expanding Paani Mai Park. Councilmember Medeiros consistently advocated for the protection of the environment and Native Hawaiian cultural rights by guiding and directing the discussion that led to the ban of Genetic Modified Organism taro in Maui County, helping to secure funding for an additional fire truck in the Hāna district, and working diligently to help lessen the suffering of those in need by establishing a dialysis service center in Hāna. His many achievements could not have occurred without the support of his ‘ohana.

Medeiros was predeceased by his wife, **Williet “Poni” Cockett** Medeiros **KSK’68**, who he was happily married to for 30 years, son Christian and grandson

Bryson Pagaduan. He is survived by his sister Ulu Helekahi of Hāna and brother Leslie Medeiros Jr. of Waiehu; children Billye-Mae Martin, **BJ Medeiros KSK’93**, Joshua Medeiros, Nicole Pagan and Mahie Ismail; grandchildren Leialoha Medeiros, Ryan Torino, ‘Olena Medeiros, Kaimipono Pagaduan, Justin Martin, Sofia, Ava and Kaia Salvatierra, Nikko Pagan, Salah, Yaminah, Nuru, Deen Ismail, and Christian Jr., Jonah, and Shaina Johnson; and great-grandchildren Reyna-Lei Torino, and Jenna and Jace Pagaduan-Ibuos.

■ It is with a heavy heart that we announce the Feb. 1, 2025, passing of **Adam Kaanohiokala Koch KSK’65**, a longtime resident of Camarillo, Calif. He was born July 12, 1946, and raised on the island of O‘ahu. He attended Kamehameha Schools from kindergarten through 12th grade. Adam is survived by his wife of 55 years, Holly; sons Christian (wife Jenny) and Mitchell (wife Ashley); and four grandchildren, Kenzie, Spencer, River and Forest. Koch was always a very involved father. He coached youth sports and served as commissioner for the Camarillo Dons and Roadrunners. He was “Papa” to his grandchildren. He was always thinking about how he could make life fun for them. Koch had a successful 50-year career with Beckman Coulter, working in hospital laboratory service, sales and design. He loved to travel and was fond of learning about other countries. His ‘ohana was very important to him, and twice a year he would visit family and friends in Hawai‘i. Koch’s legacy is characterized by his love for his family and his kindness and generosity toward others.

■ **Robert Kaiwiahuala Lindsey KSK’66** passed away on May 30, 2025. Robert retired from Kamehameha Schools in 2004, having been a land asset manager, Hawai‘i Island; assistant land asset manager and assistant to the president (M. Chun). He is survived by his wife, Kathy.

■ **Colleen Kaliko May Silva** Kahaku **KSK’68** passed on July 3, 2024. She is survived by her husband, Leroy Kahaku, sons, **Christopher Kahaku KSK’04**, and sister **Lee Silva Ciacci KSK’70**.

■ **Clarence Jun Dart Ching KSK’68** passed away peacefully in his home on March 26, 2025, after a long and courageous fight against pancreatic cancer. He was born in Honolulu on Aug.

14, 1950, to John Chew Lun Ching and Yuk Tong Au Ching. He was part of a very large Hawaiian family, which included five siblings and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews. Clarence Ching lived and worked for a time on Kaua‘i before moving to Silverdale, Wash., where he married his love, Margaret “Cookie” Plumb Morris, on Dec. 21, 1991. After retirement, they downsized and moved to McCormick Woods, Port Orchard, Wash., and also enjoyed living half-year during the winter months at their second home in Honolulu. Over the years on Kaua‘i, Ching enjoyed spectacular views at Kaua‘i’s Waimea Canyon. Kōke‘e State Park’s awe-inspiring lookout of Kalalau Valley was truly his favorite location on the Nā Pali Coast, and where he often found time to return. Ching attended St. Patrick Elementary School kindergarten to eighth grade before joining Kamehameha Schools in the ninth grade. He graduated from the University of Hawai‘i with a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering in 1976, while also serving in the National Guard. He earned a master’s from the University of Illinois in 1996. Ching worked several jobs for tuition through his college years. He began working at Pearl Harbor as a radiation control technician in October 1977. He was an electrical engineer at the MK30 Target Shop at NUWES Detachment on Kaua‘i from October 1978 to March 1991. Clarence received another promotion and moved to Keyport, Wash., and worked as MK30 Target Depot manager and then MK30 Target program manager to 2005. He was a special projects engineer for the Department of Test and Evaluation Projects from 2005 to 2013. Ching retired after a rewarding career on Mar. 13, 2013, with 35 years of service.

Ching was preceded in death by his parents; stepmother Shiu Chee Ching; sisters Blanche K.Q. Hee (Clifford) and Cynthia K.H. Won (Willie). He is survived by his sister **Constance Ching** Cheung **KSK’67** and brother **Anthony Ching KSK’71** (Dawn); step-daughter Jennifer Koop (Martin) and step-son Jeffrey Morris; granddaughter Hannah Pintar (McCaffrey); grandsons Aaron Koop and Jordan Koop; great-grandchildren Jackson Wells Pintar and Laurel Ruth Pintar; and his closest cousin Keala Cupp (Don) and family.

Ching was a competent achiever in all areas of his life, and always highly valued

closeness with his entire family. If Ching brought you into his inner circle ... you felt beyond special!! He also had great appreciation for Pacific islander’s delicious “local style” meals, and he could create the best family-favorite spam musubi. During their 34-year marriage, Ching always enjoyed reading and researching on his computer, but he never missed his chance to go downhill skiing, snorkeling, watching sunsets, fishing, traveling, cruising, cycling and working on cars, and he especially loved family gatherings. He also appreciated his lifelong best friend Jimmy Richardson’s expertise finding cruise deals, talking story and sharing delicious meals.

■ **Jerry Edward Rother KSK’68**, 74, of Hau‘ula, died in Kailua on Apr. 1, 2025. He was born in Honolulu.

■ **Michael J. Forsythe KSK’68**, 75, of Kāne‘ohe, died in Kailua on May 17, 2025. He was born in Honolulu.

■ **Cary Isami Ho‘opi‘i KSK’70**, also known as Unko Isami, was born in Hilo on June 23, 1952. He peacefully passed away on Feb. 6, 2025. He was a retired bus driver for The Bus in Honolulu and Jack’s Tours. Ho‘opi‘i is survived by wife Charlene; son **Ikaika Ho‘opi‘i KSK’92** (Charnalle) of Rolling Meadows, Ill.; daughters Hau‘oli Ho‘opi‘i of Kāne‘ohe and **Noelani Ho‘opi‘i Shurill KSK’05** (Jarrad) of Suisun City, Calif.; beloved grandchildren Kainoa, Kalehua, Skye, Ikaika Boy, Lear and Aleah-Paige; brothers Merasol “Rusty” Ho‘opi‘i Jr. and Arrke Ho‘opi‘i; sisters Sandra Masaoka, Mercel Tallet, Cindy Miller, Jamie Kailiawa, Robin Ho‘opi‘i and Joylyne Doll; and many nieces and nephews.

■ **Joseph K. Brown Jr. KSK’70** passed away on Feb. 12, 2025.

■ **Joyce Lani Emiko Ka‘aihue KSK’70** of Honolulu, passed away on March 30, 2025. Born June 17, 1952, to Edwin and Winifred Ka‘aihue. She graduated from the University of Hawai‘i in Hawaiian studies. Her professional career included banking and pharmaceutical sales. Ka‘aihue was a tireless supporter of St. Elizabeth’s Church. She is survived by her husband of 48 years, Gregg Ambrosius; brothers **Dennis Ka‘aihue KSK’72** (Kimmy), **Wayne Ka‘aihue KSK’76** (Jeanine); nieces Pikake Ka‘aihue and **Nicole Ka‘aihue KSK’14**; nephews **Joshua Ka‘aihue KSK’10**, **Matthew Ka‘aihue KSK’07** and Daniel

Ka‘aihue; and many cousins. She was predeceased by brother Allen Ka‘aihue.

■ With deep aloha, we announce the passing of **Abraham Kainapau Lota, III KSK’71**, a devoted husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, uncle, coach and friend. In the early morning hours of June 23, 2025, Lota returned peacefully to Ke Akua and his kūpuna, surrounded in spirit by the love of his ‘ohana. He was born July 10, 1953, in Honolulu. He is survived by his high school sweetheart, **Norgaard “Ulu” Watson Lota KSK’71**. He was proud father to Elizabeth I.N. “Namahana” Lota (Shane K. Oliveira) and **Alexandra T.K. “Kaina” Lota KSK’98**. He is preceded in death by his cherished daughter, Tiffany U. Lota Akee (Jeramie-Scott). He was a loving papa to grandchildren **Analee I.K. Viena-Lota KSK’07**, **Blake R.A.K. Viena KSK’09** (Giovanny Oliveros), **Blaze-Scott A. Akee-Lota KSK’16** (Kaylin Luangrath); Madee-Elizabeth U.L. Akee; and a proud great-papa to Uraiah-Scott K.L. Akee-Lota and Kaliyah-Mari K. Akee-Lota. Lota was deeply respected and coached basketball. He was a corrections officer at Hālawā Correctional Facility. His steadfast presence, gentle heart and quiet strength left a lasting impression on all who knew him. His dedication to family, his years as a coach and mentor, and his unwavering aloha defined a life well-lived.

■ It is with heavy hearts and deep aloha that we share the passing of **Caesar Kuuleikailialohaopiilaniwailauokekoa-ulumahiehiekealaonaonaopiikea Paishon IV KSK’74**, affectionately known as “Champ,” who died at home on Oct. 21, 2024. Born on March 8, 1956, in Honolulu to Caesar Paishon III and Harriet Haleaka Aki Paishon, Paishon IV was the oldest of four boys. A proud graduate of Kamehameha Schools, he carried with him the values of aloha, kuleana and laulima throughout his life. Paishon married his high school sweetheart and life companion, Hope, with whom he shared a beautiful journey of 55 years. Together they raised two children who carry forward his strength, compassion and wit: daughter **Bianca Ponialoha Paishon KSK’01** and son **Bronson Aliiohoku Paishon KSK’03** (Gail). He was a proud Papa to his favorite grandson Liloa Kalamakuikeao Paishon-Torres and favorite granddaughter Kailani Kaiolohiaopiikea Miyoko Paishon, who lit up his world. He is survived by his brothers **Kyle Bowdie**

Paishon KSK’76 and **Chadd Cody Paishon KSK’81**, and cherished niece **Faylene Mahina Paishon KSK’94**; he was preceded in death by brother Todd. He leaves behind a wide circle of extended ‘ohana and lifelong friends whose lives he touched with his warm spirit and generous heart.

Champ will be remembered for his steady presence, his deep devotion to family, his love for music, and the way he made everyone feel like they belonged. As Hope lovingly shares, “You’re still the one.”

■ With broken hearts we lament the loss of our treasured daughter, sister, mother, wife and friend **Lauren Hokulani Apiki Ellsworth KSK’76**, who said her final aloha to her ‘ohana here on earth to join her ‘ohana in the beyond on Oct. 31, 2024. Born on Aug. 29, 1958, to parents Walter and Carol Apiki, Ellsworth grew up on Windward O‘ahu with her younger sisters, Karen and **Renee Apiki Awana KSK’84**. She forged lifetime bonds with her Kamehameha Schools classmates and carried with her throughout her life the foundations of her Native Hawaiian heritage. She later graduated from Utah State University and went on to a successful career as a creative director at The Advertising Works, working alongside her mother and sister. Ellsworth later founded and ran The LET Academy, a nonprofit dedicated to integrating technology into local school curricula. With the help of a grant from Apple Computers, Ellsworth held workshops for teachers statewide to illustrate how computers could be used in the classroom. She also worked directly with students in two public Leeward elementary charter schools to collaborate on environmental issues and publish their findings on class-created websites, with DLNR extending grants to the schools for further environmental initiatives. Ellsworth was happiest spending time with her family. While in her 20s, she cared for hānai daughter Tanya Lei, who grew up as a member of the Apiki household. Later, Ellsworth raised daughter Leihoku alongside husband J and as “bonus mom” to Morgan and Kellar, designing and building their beautiful family home in Mānoa. Many of her favorite treasured memories were made there, in their tradition-filled holiday celebrations, her afternoons landscaping and caring for her incredible hillside garden, or creating handmade blankets and quilts in her sewing room. With the birth of her

grandchildren, Orion and Jove (Morgan), and Hokeo (Leihoku), they became the center of her world. Lauren spent most of her last days doing what she loved most — reading books to Hokeo and spending time with ‘ohana. Ellsworth is survived by husband J; daughter Leihoku (Matthew); hānai daughter Tanya Lei (Nate); “bonus sons” Morgan (Whitney) and Kellar; mother Carol; sisters Karen (Lott) and Renee; grandchildren Hokeo (Leihoku), Orion and Jove (Morgan), Grey, Pryce, and Nixon (Tanya-Lei); nieces Kara and Katie; nephews Dane and Dylan; and grandnieces Arielle and Dakota.

■ **Thomas Young KSK’76** passed on Jan. 28, 2025.

■ **Daniel Kekoa Kaohimaunu KSK’84**, 58, of New York City died at home on Dec. 18, 2024. He was born in Kāne‘ohe and was a massage therapist. He is survived by his mother and stepfather; Sandra (Warren) Tamaye of Kamuela; brothers John Kaohimaunu (Kim) of Whittier, Calif., Ernest Kaohimaunu (Georgia) of Kamuela, Alan Kaohimaunu (Karleen) of Honoka‘a, Thomas Kaohimaunu of Kamuela, Kalani Kaohimaunu of Kamuela, and Keoni Kaohimaunu of Kamuela; sisters Lori Kaohimaunu of San Francisco, **Sandra Kaohimaunu Flowers KSK’81** (Larry) of Massachusetts, and Debra Antonio (Brian) of Kamuela; numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.

■ **Moana Ah Yuen Wheelon KSK’89**, 54, of Kāne‘ohe passed away on March 4, 2025. She was born Feb. 9, 1971, in Honolulu. Moana was a proud alumna of Kamehameha Schools and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in aeronautics from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Honolulu campus in 2003. She was a Hawaiian Airlines flight attendant for 25 years. Moana is survived by her father, Patrick Ah Yuen; son Brewer Wheelon; brothers **Keith Ah Yuen KSK’78** and **Arnold Ah Yuen KSK’83** (Kim); and sister Nahe Pohina (Isaac).

■ **Hī‘ilani Kurie McShane KSK’00**, 43, of Nānākuli died in Honolulu on March 30, 2025. She was born in Honolulu on Feb. 9, 1982.

Cultivation and care

by Kahu **Manu Nae‘ole KSK’96**
Kamehameha Schools Kapālāma



Upon high school graduation, Kamehameha was the only school I knew. At the time, I incorrectly assumed every school was like Kamehameha. Upon returning to Kamehameha, it dawned on me that as a student my most significant responsibility was to get to class, and the school took care of everything else. Teachers taught, bus drivers drove, coaches coached, others cleaned, some maintained and many more worked. The faculty, staff and support staff were caretakers and cultivators of my education.

The working hands of Kamehameha Schools lived out the first mandate in scripture on my behalf. “Then the Lord God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it” (Genesis 2:15). Later in scripture, Jesus grounds our actions in love. “By this all men will know you are my disciples, if you have love for one another” (John 13:35). Cultivation and care work must be rooted in love: love for Ke Akua, love for one another, and love for creation. We are caretakers and cultivators, and our call is to cultivate and care with aloha.

E mahi a e mālama i nā mea a pau. So let us cultivate and care for all things. E kanu mai i ke kalo a e pule aku i ke Akua. Plant taro and pray to God. E ho‘oma‘ema‘e i nā wai a e hīmeni i ka lani. Clean the waters and sing to the heavens. E ‘ohi pono i ka ‘ulu a e ho‘ohau‘oli i nā pōmaika‘i a pau mai ke Akua mai. Carefully pick the breadfruit and rejoice in the blessings from God. E aloha i kekahi i kekahi. Love one another. Na lēhova e ho‘opōmaika‘i mau iā kākou i kā kākou hana pau. May ke Akua continue to bless us in all our work. ‘Āmene.



E mahi a e mālama i nā mea a pau.

Let us cultivate and care for all things.



Ke Kula 'o Kamehameha

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As we carry this kuleana forward through Strategic Plan 2030, Ke Kula 'o Kamehameha remains



focused on nurturing haumāna, cultivating 'āina momona, and uplifting our lāhui — now and for generations to come.