

imua

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ROOTED IN RESILIENCE



**He ‘a‘ali‘i kū makani mai au;
‘a‘ohe makani nāna e kula‘i.**

I am a wind-resisting ‘a‘ali‘i;
no gale can topple me over.

‘ŌLELO NO‘EAU 507

*The ‘a‘ali‘i is known for its remarkable
resilience to high winds and dry spells.
This steadfast native exemplifies
the importance of staying grounded,
enduring and adaptable.*

Resilience of Lahaina

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

As we reflect on the devastating Lahaina wildfires that shook our community in August 2023, the echoes of that tragedy remain in our hearts and minds. Yet amidst the challenges, there is a remarkable resilience that shines through – a resilience embodied by the very fabric of Lahaina, including our cherished Kamehameha Schools Maui alumni, students and staff.



Amidst adversity, our community has demonstrated unwavering strength, deeply rooted in the values of aloha for ‘ohana, ‘āina and kaiāulu. It is this remarkable sense of unity and compassion that takes center stage in this edition of I Mua. Through narratives of courage, compassion and perseverance, we are reminded of the incredible power of community and the indomitable spirit of our people.

Within these pages, you’ll see the steady leadership of Lahaina-raised alumni and the enduring spirit of KS Maui families. From the introduction of our new kahu to updates on our ‘āina efforts, each story paints a vibrant picture of resilience and hope.

Looking ahead, Kamehameha Schools remains steadfast in our commitment to supporting Lahaina’s recovery efforts and standing alongside Lahaina’s ‘ōiwi leaders who are guiding us toward a brighter future. As part of this commitment, we are dedicating our Ku‘ia lands to Lahaina’s recovery, which we will share more about in our next I Mua edition and at ksbe.edu/lahaina. These lands, and the collective resources of others we hope to partner with, will serve as a foundation for restoring ecosystems, increasing water capture, fostering agricultural innovation and providing houses for those whose homes were lost in the fire – our pledge to be a significant contributor to rebuilding the beloved Lahaina community.

As we embark on this journey of healing and renewal, we take with us lessons of resilience and hope shared within these pages. Together, we have the power to shape a brighter tomorrow for Lahaina and our lāhui. Let us continue to keep Lahaina in our prayers and in our hearts, knowing that through unity and aloha, we will emerge stronger than ever before.

Mahalo nui loa for your unwavering support and kōkua.

Me ke aloha nui,

Jack Wong



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Our faith

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informs and inspires
through storytelling that
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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
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Malia Maunakea KSK’99



Punalu‘u stream restoration project



Blane Gaison KSK’76 (center)
in Class News

KS Maui's inaugural kahu, Kalani Wong, retires after 21 years of service

For two decades, Kahu **H. Kalani Wong KSK'74** has bestowed blessings upon faculty, staff, students, and their loved ones. His Christian faith has provided solace to the distressed, optimism to the weary, and jubilation to those who've triumphed. As he was the inaugural kahu at Kamehameha Schools Maui, numerous people came from far and near to attend his formal Service of Release into retirement. Dressed in ceremonial robes and adorned with fragrant lei, Wong was celebrated with cherished recollections and abundant aloha.

Among those deeply impacted by Wong was the first Keiki Kahu of KS Maui, **Awapuhi Dancil KSM'06**. She reflected on not only Wong's faith in Christ but also his unwavering faith in her and others. "Whenever I doubted myself, whether it was my worth, my ability or my purpose, Kahu was always there with his unwavering and constant faith. It's deceptively simple, but we know that faith moves mountains," Dancil said.

Waianuhea "Anu" Dooge Getgen **KSK'04**, KS behavioral health manager, recounted Wong's intimate familiarity with the campus' rich history, describing him as a historical cornerstone of KS Maui. She highlighted his role in fostering a secure environment for all, rooted in



acceptance and affirmation. Getgen recalled their joint efforts in community outreach.

"We've done many home visits together, sat with families on their living room floors, as they've

experienced significant loss, the loss of parents, siblings, of their home. What do you say to children who have experienced such unfathomable loss? And it's in the most vulnerable moments that Kahu was there to provide hope, guidance and prayer with these haumāna and 'ohana when they needed it the most. It's these moments, the quiet moments, the vulnerable and intimate moments that are etched in my heart and the hearts of all who are held by Kahu's aloha," Getgen shared.

Wong's path to becoming kahu started at First Chinese Church of Christ in Honolulu where at the tender age of 13, he started managing Christian education programs. As a young man, he moved to Maui and eventually led Maui County's PALS program, a summer enrichment initiative benefiting thousands of Maui 'ōpio annually. Many of Kamehameha

Maui's current leaders cut their teeth at PALS under Wong's guidance, including Po'ō Kula Scott Parker, Ke Po'ō Māhele Luna Lance Cagasan, and Kamehameha Schools Trustee **Robert Nobriga KSK'91**.

His eventual appointment as Kahu brought not only spiritual leadership but also an invaluable bridge between faith and culture alongside the school's cultural protocol facilitators — first, Luana Kawa'a and later, Ekela Kaniaupi'o-Crozier. This dual perspective served as a vital foundation for essential campus dialogues.

During his tenure, Wong helped create a unified Kamehameha through faith. Notably, his collaboration with former Kahu **Wendell Davis KSK'71** and Kahu **Kordell Kekoa KSK'80** of Kamehameha Schools Kapālama in formalizing KS' Mo'okū'auhau of Christianity and its Ali'i was pivotal. This recognition by the United Church of Christ in 2004 solidified the school's identity as a Christian institution. In 2019, Wong was instrumental in crafting the school's Christian Commitment Statement, reaffirming the school's inclusive values, and emphasizing the love of Christ for all.

With his wife at his side, 'ohana, four mo'opuna, and a long list of home improvement projects, Wong says he has plenty to keep him busy and fulfilled in retirement. He also has his sights set on exciting travel adventures.

Succeeding Wong at KS Maui is Kahu **R. Kanani Kepani Franco KSK'91**. Read more about her faith journey on page 28.



Kahu Kalani Wong's 'ohana from left to right, front row: Kobe, Kazy and Aubree Teshima. Second row: Reed and Kayla Teshima, Avis Teshima-Wong, Kahu Kalani Wong, Ryan and Stacey Teshima and Zoe.



Kahu Kalani Wong joined KS Maui seniors at the 2023 convocation service at Kawaiaha'o Church.

Shared struggles, shared strength: 'Ōpio grapple with identity and outmigration at convention

Addis Belay KSK'25 didn't know what to expect when she attended her first Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs Convention. The convention, usually focused on debates and resolutions by Hawaiian civic clubs delegates, notably included an addition to its agenda: a youth-led workshop titled "Inquiring Minds of Today's Youth."

At this workshop, KS Kapālama students and 'ōpio from the continental United States engaged in a roundtable discussion about Native Hawaiian identity and outmigration. Nearly half of the participants live in California and Oregon. Those 'ōpio shared their struggles and successes in creating and maintaining communities on the continent. Some of the teens expressed how difficult it can be to stay connected to their roots in Hawai'i.

Sitting opposite each other, at first it seemed like the two groups had completely different perspectives on what it means to be Hawaiian — those who get to live in the richness of their culture versus those who must continually seek that connection.

That division quickly disappeared as they started to share their stories. One commonality emerged: They all didn't feel "Hawaiian enough."

During the emotional conversation, Belay revealed that she wasn't in touch with her culture until she got into KS and acknowledged that sometimes she takes living in Hawai'i for granted. Others divulged that even though they dance hula, speak 'ōlelo Hawai'i and attend KS, they didn't feel secure in their Hawaiian identity.

"It is a privilege to be here in our homeland," Belay said. "I think there needs to be more empathy from Hawaiians who live here for those who don't, because that is how we move forward."

Star Woo KSK'25 said it was reassuring to hear other high schoolers talk about their struggles with feeling more confident in their culture. As she plans to go away for college, she was comforted to hear that others are creating



Haumāna from KS Kapālama and Hawaiian civic clubs from California and Oregon gathered for a first-of-its-kind workshop at the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs Convention.

communities abroad that are rooted in the same kanaka 'ōiwi traditions she is used to at home.

The warm embrace by KS haumāna of their continental counterparts did not go unnoticed. Despite their different upbringings, Ashlynn Mengel of Los Alamitos, California, was surprised at their similar experiences.

"Even though we live an ocean apart, we were still able to relate to each other," Mengel said. "It makes you feel less alone."

The workshop's impact stood in stark contrast to the convention's committee meetings, where tensions arose between civic clubs from Hawai'i and those from the mainland.

"There was clashing about what Hawaiians need and the feeling that we are two different groups of Hawaiians, when in actuality, we are stronger together when we are unified," Belay said.

Even though the experiences of those in the diaspora may differ from her own, Woo knows that does not make

their insight any more or less important. She explained further that it is necessary to consider the lived experiences of all Kānaka Maoli when formulating solutions meant to benefit Hawaiians.

"We should be finding solutions that help the whole lāhui, because we are all fighting for the same goal: to perpetuate Native Hawaiian culture and help native people," Woo said.

The workshop's success in fostering understanding and unity among young Hawaiians underlines the significance of bridging the diaspora divide for the betterment of the entire lāhui.

"It is a privilege to be here in our homeland. I think there needs to be more empathy from Hawaiians who live here for those who don't, because that is how we move forward."

Addis Belay KSK'25

KS Maui haumāna wahine gifted glam sessions and luxury lole Hawai‘i for homecoming night

About a dozen KS Maui haumāna wahine impacted by the wildfires were treated to their very own special glam sessions by Manaola Hawai‘i designers on campus. Among them was sophomore Azariah Borrero.

“I was kind of shocked. I actually wasn’t going to get my hair and makeup done because I was just going to do it myself, but I’m happy I did get to go.”

Borrero’s family home in Kula was destroyed in the August 2023 fires.

“The day the fire happened, we didn’t expect it to come toward us,” she said. “I was able to pack up what I wanted, but we lost everything in the fire.”

The loss of old photos and videos of friends and family over the years was the hardest, Borrero said. However, she said her family is doing better, and homecoming night as well as the glam sessions were a welcomed change.

“It was something I was looking forward to for a long time,” she said.

The sessions included personalized stylings by the luxury fashion design brand as well as free Manaola clothing worth up to \$350. Charles Reed Bishop Learning Center librarian Ketra Arcas helped organize the sessions with the help of KS Maui parent Emily Ventura, who coordinated the shipping and steaming of the outfits to be available to

the girls for the dance.

“It was really touching to witness the mothers and daughters gathered at the glam session,” Arcas said. “Manaola provided a beautiful gesture of aloha by pampering the wāhine and making their homecoming memorable.”

High school sisters Makealani and Kahanu Ho’oikaika-Mansanas also expressed excitement for the glam sessions with professional stylists and designers. They lost their Lahaina home in the wildfires and most of their clothes.

“It was kind of emotional,” Kahanu said. “All of the Lahaina girls got together and brought our dresses and took turns getting our hair and makeup done. It was just really nice seeing all of us in one place having that bonding experience, talking and laughing.”

The wāhine ‘ōpio were given their choice of clothes to try on and keep for the homecoming dance and their wardrobe. After picking their outfits, they provided a reference photo for their look to hairstylists, including **Arthur Wilson III KSK’83** who has worked on New York fashion shows and movie sets.

“They did 10 times better than what we showed them,” Makealani said. “The best part was watching the process of everyone getting ready and seeing the reactions to the final reveal.”

“Manaola provided a beautiful gesture of aloha by pampering the wāhine and making their homecoming memorable.”

Ketra Arcas
Charles Reed Bishop Learning Center
librarian

Makealani said their mother might have been even more excited than they were and had the sisters pose for photos throughout the night.

“Our mom watched the whole process and didn’t stop recording until we left,” she said.

Although KS Maui junior Kye Kukahiko did not lose her home, her mother, father and three siblings (including a 1-year-old sister) have been living with their aunt outside of Lahaina. She said the fire was directly in front of their home after they had evacuated.

“I think every auntie I know, every cousin I know lost their house,” she said. “My mom doesn’t want to go back, especially since we have a baby.”

Kukahiko said homecoming night and the glam sessions were a “moment of normalcy” for her and her classmates.

“Makeup and dressing up doesn’t seem like a big thing, but it made us feel normal and nice.” 🧡



Above: Manaola hair stylist Arthur Wilson III KSK’83 volunteered his time to do hair and makeup for KS Maui senior Keakealani Cashman and other wāhine impacted by the wildfires. **Center:** KS Maui haumāna (from left to right): Keakealani Cashman, Kawailani Cashman, Makealani Ho’oikaika-Mansanas, Kahanu Ho’oikaika-Mansanas, and Hauakapukini Dukes. **Right:** KS Maui senior Kealoha Baricuatro and other wāhine impacted by the Maui wildfires received a glam session courtesy of Manaola on campus for homecoming night.



O ke kahua mamua,
mahope ke kūkulu.

*The foundation first, and then the building.**

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* Mary Kawena Pukui, ‘Ōlelo No‘eau #2459

Sailing into Imagination:

Young navigators at Kamehameha Schools Hawai'i Kula Ha'aha'a set sail on their new wa'a-inspired playground. The wa'a presents opportunities for kindergartners and first-graders to connect learning and play from a culturally sustaining perspective.





In this edition of I Ola Nā Keiki, we bring you mana’o from **Waiānuhea “Anu” Dooge** Getgen **KSK’04**, behavioral health manager, Kawaiho’ōla (behavioral health)-Mālama Ola. She’s been with KS for eight years.



Anu: Kawaiho’ōla — “The healing waters” This inoa Hawai’i for our behavioral health department was given to us by kumu Ke’ala Kwan. Wai — the source of life and healing — is the metaphor for the vital work that the kumu Kawaiho’ōla of the Mālama Ola department do as guardians of the safety and well-being of all our haumāna. As compassionate care-takers, they recognize the importance of and kāko’o (support) the whole student. This includes the cultural, spiritual, social, economic, physical, emotional and cognitive dimensions of each haumāna. When haumāna feel safe and confident they can pursue and realize their full potential.

I Mua: How did you begin your career in behavioral health?

Anu: I always knew that I wanted to come home to Maui and serve the Native Hawaiian community in some way. My journey in behavioral health started when I was living in California while attending college/graduate school. I started volunteering at a center for youth survivors of child abuse. I began volunteering as a child advocate and found the work so meaningful that I continued my time there throughout undergrad and grad school. Simultaneously I was also doing mental health work with incarcerated teenagers, primarily gang members — all of whom experienced significant trauma as children. Those two experiences

highlighted for me the significant impact that childhood trauma can have on children and adolescents, and the importance of prevention, early intervention and strengthening family systems. That early work helped to solidify within me the passion I have for mental health care for children, teens and their ‘ohana.

I Mua: What made you choose to work for Kamehameha Schools and what made you stay?

Anu: Like most alumni, the forever indebted rings true. I still ‘auamo that kuleana and feel grateful to have the opportunity to do so. I believe in the long-term vision of a thriving lāhui, and over time working here became less about me being able to give back to just the school that cultivated me, but about the role and kuleana I have in supporting our lāhui as a whole.

I Mua: Why is the work you do so important to you?

Anu: Mental health is such an integral part of the overall success of our haumāna. For our students to learn and achieve at their highest potential, nurturing all aspects of their well-being is key, and within behavioral health, we focus specifically on the emotional health and safety of our haumāna. I believe that when our students feel safe and confident in themselves, their homes and the school environment, they are set up for success in their larger endeavors.

I Mua: How is Hawaiian culture represented in the work you and your staff do?

Anu: Often people think of behavioral health as very Western, which it can be, and this often leads to it being viewed as separate from Hawaiian culture-based practices. I don’t think the two worlds have to or should exist separately. I hope that our work is grounded in ‘ike Hawai’i and ‘ike kūpuna, while still being able to align to the high standards of care in the mental health field, all to support the overall health and well-being of our

haumāna and ‘ohana. It’s a process that we will continue to grow in, as we learn and cultivate together what Hawaiian culture-based mental health can and does look like.

I Mua: If you had to choose one aspect of your job that gives you the most satisfaction, what would it be?

Anu: Getting to see students that I or members of my team have worked with after they graduated from Kamehameha. Recently, I bumped into a graduate that I had worked with for quite some time, and it was incredibly rewarding to see him thriving. He gave me a big hug and was so excited to tell me all about the wonderful things he’s accomplished since graduating. It’s those moments that I’d like to just bottle up and keep forever!

I Mua: How does your job foster a healthy, safe learning/playing environment for our haumāna?

Anu: Increased access to and receipt of needed mental health services not only improves academic achievement but more importantly, improves the overall well-being and success of our haumāna. We’ve seen the increase in need as we’ve moved through the COVID pandemic and most recently with the Maui fires, and we’ve expanded our services to meet those needs. Our team has been able to foster a safe and supportive space for our students to process these heavy but vulnerable situations.

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

Anu: Try to incorporate sitting down and having a meal together as a part of your family routine. It doesn’t need to be every day and certainly not every meal. Some weeks you may do better at this than others, and that’s okay. But being intentional about ‘ohana time in this way can have a significant impact on family systems — from our littlest littles to our kūpuna! ❤️



What Does a Growing Native Hawaiian Diaspora Mean?

by Brandon Ledward

Principal Strategist
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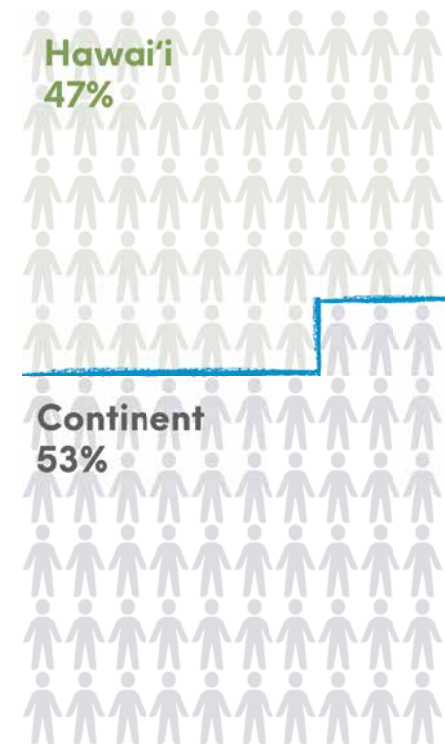
Over the past few months, you’ve probably heard people saying there are more Native Hawaiians living on the U.S. continent than in Hawai’i. It’s true, population data released by the U.S. Census Bureau in September 2023 confirms what researchers had predicted for some time. But what exactly does this mean for Native Hawaiians and Hawai’i?

The census indicates that in 2020, 47 percent of Native Hawaiians lived in Hawai’i, while 53 percent resided on the continent. This is a flip from 2010 when 55 percent of Native Hawaiians lived in Hawai’i and 45 percent resided in other states. This is a historic moment, the first time our Native Hawaiian diaspora (people living outside their homeland) now constitutes the majority of our population.

Census data also show an increase in the Native Hawaiian population both in Hawai’i and on the continent. Between 2010 and 2020, Hawai’i saw an increase of 27,527 Native Hawaiians, bringing the total to 317,497, while on the continent, the population grew by 125,838, reaching a total of 362,945. Over the last decade, the Native Hawaiian diaspora grew five times faster than the Native Hawaiian population in Hawai’i—a trend that will likely accelerate in the future.

Despite these changes, the proportion of Native Hawaiians in Hawai’i remained stable from 2010 to 2020, currently making up 21.8% of the state’s total population. This represents a 0.5 percentage point increase from 2010. So, while we may feel like the ethnic composition is substantially changing, Native Hawaiian representation in Hawai’i has been about the same for the last decade.

Still, the overall Native Hawaiian population is changing. As it does, we celebrate the increase in our numbers and the continued spread of our people and culture beyond Hawai’i pae ‘āina. At the same time, we acknowledge growing concern among Native Hawaiians and others about what a future Hawai’i looks like with potentially fewer Kānaka Maoli.



More Native Hawaiians now live on the continent than in Hawai’i.

In 2020, **47 percent** of Native Hawaiians lived in Hawai’i, while 53 percent resided on the continent, contrasting with 2010 when **55 percent** lived in Hawai’i and 45 percent in other states.

A growing diaspora raises critical questions for Kamehameha Schools and other Native Hawaiian-serving organizations. What new needs and opportunities do we see? Should our focus change? If so, how? Some argue that increasing numbers of Native Hawaiians on the continent demand greater attention and resources. Others suggest this energy is better spent creating conditions that encourage Native Hawaiians to stay or return to Hawai’i.

For Native Peoples, the importance of a homeland is undeniable. I Hawai’i nō nā Hawai’i i ka ‘āina. It is our connection to Hawai’i that makes us Native Hawaiians. Therefore, we must continually honor and strengthen our kulaiwi — our native homeland — as we design innovative ways to synergize and build pilina across a diverse and expanding lāhui.

There are no easy answers, but many exciting questions to explore if we focus on what binds us together as Kānaka Maoli. A growing lāhui—especially one that is unified and determined—can exercise greater political influence in the years ahead. ❤️



Find out more about why Native Hawaiians, and other Hawai’i residents, stay, leave, and return to Hawai’i in our Hawai’i in Motion Study.



Alumna Maunakea weaves

'ike kūpuna and adventure

in tween fantasy novel

Like so many in the Hawaiian diaspora,

Malia Maunakea KSK'99 has struggled to find ways to connect with and perpetuate her Hawaiian culture while living in her adopted home of Colorado.

The journey of writing the tween 'ōiwi-themed fantasy novel "Lei and the Fire Goddess" and landing a two-book deal with a leading publishing house is a highly visible example of how she's tapped into her cultural roots. But Maunakea has also found subtle ways to share 'ike kūpuna, even with non-kānaka.

In early 2023, the Colorado school her keiki attend offered a spring break excursion for the astronomy club to visit the telescopes atop Maunakea on Hawai'i Island. Her own keiki opted for a Florida spring break, but she couldn't get this huaka'i to the mauna out of her head. Listening to her na'au, Maunakea took it upon herself to be a trip chaperone, and in the months leading up to the journey she shared videos of the mauna movement with these haumāna on the continent.

A few months later, in the thin and frigid air, Maunakea and 22 students would find themselves at the summit of Maunakea pondering both astronomy and wahi pana, with the latter all because of her hard work.

"I don't think there are many times in your life that worlds collide quite so beautifully as they did for that trip, and being able to lend those 22 high school seniors my mana'o on how to gently and delicately approach going up on the mountain and understanding that there are different perspectives and there are different ideas of what should and should

not happen on sacred places. And having them actually question if we should even be going up there to begin with. That's when I knew they had gotten it," Maunakea said.

The writing of "Lei and the Fire Goddess" was the culmination of another kind of journey.

Maunakea, like so many Hawaiians living abroad (and in Hawai'i pae 'āina), freely admits she's grappled nearly her entire life with the question — 'Am I Hawaiian enough?'

That theme plays out amidst the fun and adventurous pages of her book. The lead character, Anna (Leilani), lives on the continent but spends her summers with her tūtū in Volcano on Hawai'i Island. The book begins with the 12-year-old arriving on Hawai'i Island full of tween angst over having to leave her friends back in Colorado and sheer boredom and indifference over having to hear tūtū's stories of Hawaiian gods and ancient ways. Her only solace is her good friend and neighbor Kaipo. One day in a fern forest, Lei wants to prove to herself and Kaipo that Hawaiian legends are just that — legends. She plucks an 'ōhi'a, daring the skies to open up. But she gets much more than she bargained for when a giant 'io, grabs Kaipo in its talons, taking him up the mauna.

The rest of the book is full of adventures while Anna (Leilani) endeavors to rescue her friend. There's a magical mo'o, an 'ōpe'ape'a as a sidekick, 'aumakua and even a hōlua race down Maunakea against Tūtū Pele herself.

Amidst this fantastic journey, Anna

slowly embraces her Hawaiian roots, including her inoa Hawai'i, Leilani. One particular passage encapsulates both Leilani and Maunakea's journey of answering the question 'Am I Hawaiian enough?':

"Her roots did run deep. She understood it now — the connection she hadn't felt before. Anna might not live here, she might not even look like she belonged, but that didn't change the truth. That Anna had her tutu's tutu's tutu's blood flowing through her veins, and that was enough. She was enough."

Maunakea's roots run deep too. She is a third-generation KS alum. Her father, **C. Nahua Maunakea KSK'72** shared a fascinating mo'olelo about how the inoa 'ohana of Kamakaimoku transitioned to Maunakea. Oral history passed down through the generations tells of an ancestor with a huge frame and striking white hair who served in the court of one of the Kamehamehas (likely Kamehameha III, Kauikeaouli) as a food taster. A heroic act led to an honor from the king.

"In recognition of the good deed or the loyal service, from Kamakaimoku, the king gave him the name Maunakea as well as land down on the Big Island in Pohoiki/'Opihikao area. And if you talk to old timers down there, they talk about Maunakea Pond and Maunakea homestead," Nahua Maunakea said.

Maunakea's journey to becoming an author is a story in and of itself. An engineer by degree, she had at least two prior successful careers — as a transportation planner and as a real estate agent.



"There is power in knowing our story and that there's a lot of strength in understanding where you come from and who your family is and knowing that we are part of a greater mo'olelo."

Malia Maunakea KSK'99

Previous spread: Author Malia Maunakea atop Pu'u Kalepeamoā on a lower slope of Maunakea. This wahi pana figures prominently in her book 'Lei and the Fire Goddess.'



Her first writing foray was a non-fiction book about backpacking with keiki.

Fantasy writing was unfamiliar territory. While tapping into her creative side, she also relied on her analytical skills to research and successfully land professional mentors, then an agent and eventually a publishing deal.

Through the writing and editing process, Maunakea did painstaking research on ancient mo'olelo regarding the gods and other characters in her book. Despite having very little leverage as a first-time fantasy novelist, she successfully negotiated to have a Kanaka Maoli authenticity reader be part of the review process and having local artists involved as part of her book deal.

In the fall of 2023, just months after her book debuted, two other milestone events happened in Maunakea's journey.

The destructive Maui wildfires left a deep sense of sadness and helplessness in her na'au. However, the miles apart from Colorado to Maui didn't stop her from finding a meaningful way to help. She and a hui put together a weeklong

online auction which raised over \$200,000, some of which went to the KS Ho'ōla Maui fund.

Around that same time, Maunakea got to see the fruits of her labor firsthand when she embarked on a tour of Hawai'i schools that included an emotional return to the Kapālama campus for speaking engagements with several papa at kula ha'aha'a. A third-grade haumāna asked about her biggest success. Maunakea fought back tears as she explained that getting to share mana'o with them was her greatest achievement.

"There is power in knowing our story and that there's a lot of strength in understanding where you come from and who your family is and knowing that we are part of a greater mo'olelo, a greater storyline beyond ourselves and that it's important to preserve these stories and pass them on to the next generation, the keiki."

As her presentation wrapped up, Maunakea was able to give the haumāna a sneak peek of her next endeavor. A sequel titled "Lei and the Invisible Island"

will be published in summer 2024. And while the plot details remain under wraps, you can bet Maunakea will keep pushing forward in her journey to deepen her 'ōiwi roots and sharing this 'ike to a global audience.

"This process has been a big reckoning for me personally. It's me telling myself that I'm okay. And I want my kids to know that they're important and they're enough too." ❤️



Lei and the Fire Goddess is available for purchase at most general bookstores and online at Amazon.

YOUR GIFT. YOUR LEGACY.

From across the continent, Reginald Reinhardt makes a difference for haumāna

When Reginald "Regie" Reinhardt reflects on the importance of giving back and doing what is pono, he stresses education as the ultimate key to success.

"Education redeems us; it can open doors and change lives," Reinhardt says. "I chose to give to the Pauahi Foundation to perpetuate the legacy of Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop in furthering the education of the Hawaiian people. I also felt it was my kuleana to honor my mother and sister — wāhine mana o Hawai'i — with a scholarship on behalf of each. Being Hawaiian and guided by the Aloha Spirit, this is the legacy that I wanted to carry on."

An integral aspect of Reinhardt's legacy revolves around 'ohana and his deep love and respect for his mother and sister, who passed away in 2023 and 2016.

While she did not have a formal education, Reinhardt explains that his mother "was an intelligent woman, filled with common sense. She taught me by experience and example and took great pride in my baccalaureate and master's degrees."

His sister valued higher education as well. She attended the University of Washington, where she played on the women's volleyball team.

"Her integrity and fortitude always inspired me," says Reinhardt. He recalls the time when his sister literally saved his life, dashing out into the waves fronting Nānākuli Beach as he struggled to find the surface and pulled him to safety.

"Education, whether experiential or academic, has always redeemed our lives, allowing us to rise above our station in life," Reinhardt says. "It is this legacy that my mother and sister would have wished to bestow on others. When my mother passed, it dawned on me that I wanted to honor them in some manner, and scholarships came to mind. I'm a very pro-female spirit and I draw my inspiration from that."

When he was 8 years old, Reinhardt's family moved from Hawai'i to Seattle, he says, "for a



better education as one of the reasons." He earned a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Washington, and when he moved to New York City, he furthered his education by earning a master's degree in liberal studies from New York University.

Reinhardt resides in New York City, where he had a successful career working at only one company for 27 years. Once again, he attributes his success to education, allowing him to transition from being a temporary employee to ultimately working with the company's chairman and his family.

"Education has always proved to be beneficial to me," he says. "My education has helped me to succeed personally and financially, enabling me to establish these scholarship funds."

Reinhardt donated \$50,000 to the Pauahi Foundation to create two \$25,000 endowed scholarship funds: the Elizabeth "Nani" Ling Reinhardt Scholarship Fund in honor of his mother (designated for Native Hawaiian female students pursuing a post-high education) and the Raynani Reinhardt Sports Scholarship Fund in memory of his sister (designated for Native Hawaiian female students who played volleyball or other sports and are pursuing a post-high education).

Kamehameha Schools has always captivated Reinhardt. As a keiki, he was enthralled by his brother's

attendance at a summer program at KS Kapālama. While he did not attend KS, that nostalgic experience, coupled with his love for his mother and sister — and their collective passion for education — motivated Reinhardt to make his generous gift to the Pauahi Foundation.

"Other institutions don't have the same ties and roots that Kamehameha Schools and the Pauahi Foundation do," Reinhardt says. "The focus of these scholarships is that they are granted to Native Hawaiian females. I'm fortunate and thankful that I could do this and find the right channel in which to accomplish it."

Reinhardt recalls, "When my sister moved back to Kona, after having resided in Seattle for 40 years, I thanked her for bringing us back to Hawai'i. The scholarship aspect is about furthering education.

"I also wanted to give back and perpetuate the Hawaiian culture, steeped in the aloha spirit, and that's what guided me to make this gift. My mom and my sister set the example for me about what a legacy of education engenders; that is what they would want me to bestow upon others." ❤️

"Education redeems us; it can open doors and change lives."

By including the Pauahi Foundation in your will or trust and making a planned gift, you establish a legacy that benefits generations to come.

Contact Natalie Arrell at naarrell@ksbe.edu or (808) 534-3966 for information about collaborating with the

Pauahi Foundation. Use your digital device to follow the QR code and give to the Pauahi Foundation!



As whipping winds and impenetrable black smoke engulfed **Jessica Nordstrom Pratt's Lahaina home and neighborhood on Aug. 8, 2023, she hurriedly loaded her keiki and pets into a neighbor's Toyota Tacoma.**

Jessica Nordstrom Pratt KSK'04

Not moving on, but moving forward

Pratt's mom was also top of mind as she made numerous attempts to call her during the frantic evacuation. With downed phone and power lines everywhere, those attempts failed time and again.

Then, suddenly, the call went through in what Pratt describes as the bleakest 15 seconds of her life.

"My mom was at work and didn't know what was happening, so I said, 'Mom, I don't know what's going on, but I love you,'" was all Pratt managed to utter before the call dropped.

That night, thousands of Lahaina residents lost their loved ones and homes. In the months since, all of Hawai'i has come together to support and uplift the many families that were impacted by the devastating fires. As many envision the road to rebuilding and recovering, these KS graduates share how this disaster has brought their families and communities closer together.

Rooted in faith

In Lahaina, everyone knows everyone. It's a place where people know each other's names and multiple generations of families live in the tight-knit town.

Pratt's 'ohana has roots in Lahaina six generations deep. Her grandfather worked on the old plantation when he met her grandmother, who worked in a hotel. Pratt's connection to the Valley Isle remained strong even after she left to attend KS Kapālama, where she was a boarder until her 2004 graduation. After meeting her husband at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and getting pregnant with their daughter, she knew she wanted to move back to Maui.

So when her grandparents retired to Hāna, they passed their Lahaina home on to her. Many of Pratt's longtime friends still lived in the area, so they raised their children together, trading 'ono food with neighbors and creating memories at their special surf spots.

"We love hard in Lahaina," Pratt said.

"People extend a warmth and unconditional love that's hard to put into words."

The devastation of losing not just her home but her entire community was unimaginable.

For Pratt, the most immediate challenge was losing the important documents she needed to go back to work. It took three months to reapply and receive the necessary credentials, but KS' I Mua Maui Fund brought hope for a fresh start. She says the money will enable her 'ohana to purchase a new laptop for work and school. They would also be able to pay for their daily expenses again.

Against the despair, Pratt's 'ohana has grown closer together and stronger in their faith. She says her family would not have made it out of Lahaina if it wasn't for Ke Akua guiding and protecting them. Despite these new hurdles, she is giving it all up to God.

"We lost so much, so fast," Pratt said. "I can't give my burdens to my parents. I can't give my burdens to my

other half. God is the only way."

As a mother of two, Pratt is committed to keeping a strong face for her children. Her eldest, Ilihia, was struggling to adjust to their new life. Seeing that her daughter was not being her usual self, the family headed to Launiupoko Beach Park — their favorite place to surf and find shells near their Lahaina home.

It was emotional seeing her 'ohana enjoy the beach like they did before. Ilihia was finally smiling again, unwilling to let the day end. In reliving a life that they once knew, they felt a sense of hope for what lies ahead.

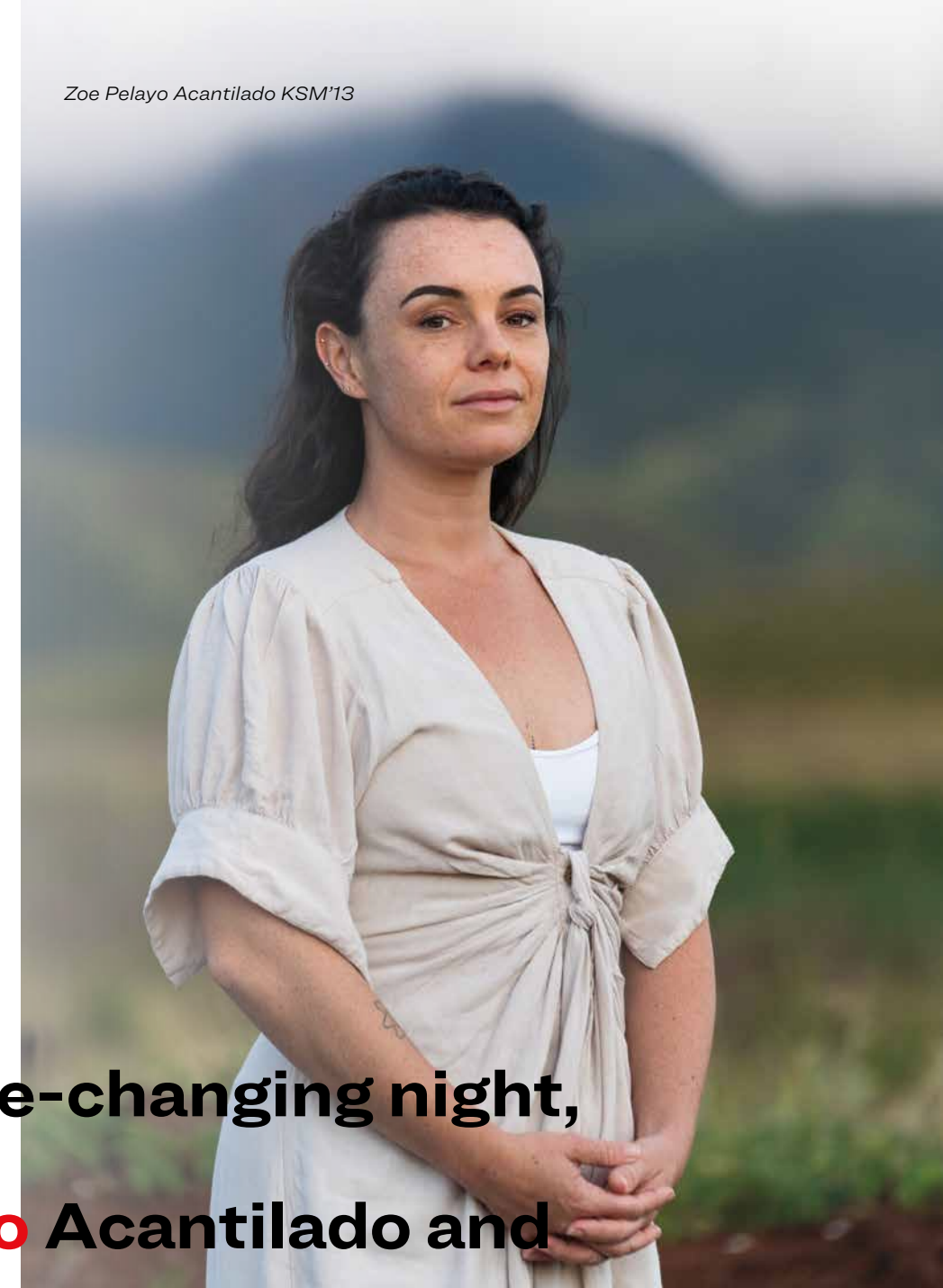
Rooted in kaiāulu

As Pratt made headway in bringing peace back to her family, **Zoe Pelayo Acantilado KSM'13** experienced a parallel struggle after the fires.

On that life-changing night, she and her parents packed up her two sons and their most important papers in less than half an hour. Her husband, Garmen, was working Upcountry for most of the day, and with no way to contact him, she worried about his safety, too.

The fivesome headed to Kahekili

Zoe Pelayo Acantilado KSM'13



**On that life-changing night,
Zoe Pelayo Acantilado and
her parents packed up her
two sons and their most
important papers in less than
half an hour.**



Jessica Nordstrom Pratt KSK'04 and her family at Launiupoko Beach Park, where they went for healing after the fires.

Beach Park, desperate for a way to connect with him. The lot was packed with other displaced families, all in a state of shock about what was happening to their hometown.

Like Pratt, Acantilado held it all together and prayed through the insanity.

“That whole night, I did not shed a single tear just for the sake of my kids,” Acantilado said.

After reuniting with her husband and realizing how catastrophic the fires were, Acantilado was most concerned with their immediate needs, like food, clothing and continuing her children’s education. Her sons attend Sacred Hearts School, where she is also a teacher’s aide. Sadly, most of the school’s buildings were decimated by the fires, and operations were forced to move to another church in Kapalua.

With assistance from KS’ Ho’ōla Maui Fund, Sacred Hearts School financed both of her sons’ tuition along with that of 62 other students and families affected by the fires. For Acantilado, seeing so many

organizations, volunteers and residents come together for their students has been miraculous.

“As a parent and even as a faculty member, it’s such a blessing and I am so grateful because it’s a lot,” Acantilado said.

Since returning to their makeshift campus, the teacher’s aide feels a greater sense of kuleana. As one of the first staffers students see at morning drop-off, Acantilado knows more than ever how important a safe and nurturing learning environment is. She praises her haumāna for being resilient and hopes that through it all, they — and her own children — remember the way communities have come together to support Lahaina families.

“I hope they can say that even though all of this happened, a lot of good came out of this, too,” Acantilado said. “There are good people out there and, like my grandpa said, it’s not to give a handout but to give a hand up.”

The gratitude Acantilado expressed represents a collective sentiment from Lahaina families. In the face of chaos and

uncertainty, these Lahaina residents are not just “moving on,” but moving forward.

Rooted in resilience

At the end of what was an unexpectedly tumultuous year, Pratt and her family celebrated the 2023 Founder’s Day with her son, Kanawai, who attends KS Maui. Though she was careful not to let her children see, tears welled up in her eyes as she watched her kindergartner perform. She was overwhelmed with thankfulness for the resources organizations such as KS have provided.

“Now that I am older and my son is there, I have a deeper appreciation for all that Pauahi has done — her generosity and philanthropy,” Pratt said.

Pratt’s and Acantilado’s journeys stand as compelling testaments to the unwavering spirit of a town that refuses to be defined by tragedy. Rooted in resilience, they display the power of a community charging forward and a love that illuminates even the darkest nights.



Zoe Pelayo Acantilado KSM’13 and her family at Villages of Leialī, where they are residing after evacuating from Lahaina.

Lahaina Kamehameha Schools alumni bonded through loss and hope

**Brandon Fujiwara
KSK’93, Reiko
Neizman-Abrew
KSK’93 and
Monica Lindsey
have shared pilina
that’s far from
ordinary.**

They’re all deeply rooted in Lahaina and have known each other since they were ‘ōpio. All three made their way to the Kapālama campus as classmates and eventually, they all took their own circuitous journeys back home to Lahaina. Now after Aug. 8, 2023, they’re bonded through tragedy and, at the same time, united in their determination to rebuild a better Lahaina despite having lost their homes and much more in the fires.

Fujiwara, a food and beverage manager in Lahaina, rushed home to get

his ‘ohana out of harm’s way. Many in his tight-knit neighborhood were hesitant to leave. There had been plenty of fires ma uka in the past, but none had been this ominous, and never this damaging. Fujiwara got his ‘ohana safely to a cousin’s house. He and his wife borrowed bicycles and pedaled back to their home to gather a few more belongings. It was then that he saw his neighbor in distress and unsure whether she should evacuate. With the fire closing in, Fujiwara not only convinced her to leave but loaned

her a spare family vehicle that she and two tenants used to flee the approaching fire. Everyone made it out safely, but Fujiwara and his neighbor’s homes were destroyed along with nearly every home in his neighborhood.

As Lindsey and her ‘ohana evacuated Lahaina, her son rode toward the fires on his dirtbike looking for his girlfriend, who was making her way out of the fire by car. He couldn’t get in contact with her, but eventually they all got to safety. Fire engulfed the family home hours later.

Neizman-Abrew’s ‘ohana lived in a cluster of homes on Hoapili Street. They all evacuated safely, including her mom, Sylvia, who serves as an anchor of support and ‘ike for their extended family. With their entire neighborhood now gone, tūtū Sylvia has endured months of relative isolation in a government-provided hotel room. Gone are the keiki and kamali’i that used to bring life and joy to her hale, leaving behind a palpable void in her daily routine.

But as daunting as things have been, these three alums have made the choice to face forward. “My ‘ohana is rooted in Lahaina; I don’t want to leave,” Fujiwara said.

All three are engaged and active in imagining a better Lahaina, which includes taking a long, hard look at tourism’s role going forward.

“We need to hold government accountable,” Lindsey said. “While I work in the tourism industry, we need to diversify our economy so we don’t have to depend on tourists. Our community is grounded in generational families. When we rebuild, we want our community restored to what it was when we were growing up.”

“Just bringing back more a sense of community,” Neizman-Abrew said. “We know that tourism will always probably be one of our main driving forces. But, you know, all these illegal vacation rentals everywhere in residential neighborhoods. Tourism should be kept in an area where it’s zoned.”

Lindsey added that reining in tourism will help bring back the feel of old Lahaina. “Where our kids and grandkids can walk to Ota Stand to buy mango seed and feel safe in their own kaiāulu.”

There are also complex issues surrounding water and bringing back native plants and crops that all but disappeared when sugarcane and large-scale



Reiko Neizman-Abrew KSK'93 (from left), Brandon Fujiwara KSK'93, and Monica Lindsey have shared pilina that's far from ordinary.

development took root. All three favor restorative efforts.

"You need trees. When you cut the trees, there's no rain. Restoring them will help with the dry brush," Fujiwara said.

"I think it was a shock to know how little water is actually coming into the community and how much is going elsewhere," Neizman-Abrew said.

As these three ponder the future, they also want to recognize efforts by the extended Kamehameha Schools alumni 'ohana to help with critical necessities right after the fires. From practical assistance like bus services and produce boxes to thoughtful gestures like gift cards and a replacement laptop, the aloha spirit demonstrated by the Kamehameha community has left a lasting impression.

"Classmates we haven't seen or spoken to in years reached out and made sure we were OK," Neizman-Abrew said. "That meant a lot to us, especially early on when we were still trying to figure out what to do next. This support system became a crucial lifeline during those challenging times."

With basic needs being met, these three classmates say now it's crucial for the Kamehameha 'ohana to play an active and engaged role in shaping Lahaina's future.

"We have so many Kamehameha alumni from our islands that can provide their expertise to help rebuild the Lahaina our keiki and kūpuna deserve," Fujiwara said. "From planners and contractors to agriculture and infrastructure, this call for alumni involvement extends beyond monetary aid — they can actively contribute to the restoration of Lahaina."

Though all three classmates are living elsewhere on Maui for now, their hearts remain centered on seeing Lahaina restored. And they want to make sure their neighbors don't give up on that vision either. Fearful of new legislation that could uproot them from Lahaina, Lindsey stressed, "For anybody who owns homes in Lahaina, we want everybody to know, we're staying in Lahaina. We don't want to get driven out. We don't want to get taken over." ❤️

It's crucial for the Kamehameha 'ohana to play an active and engaged role in shaping Lahaina's future.

Mahalo for your support

Your gift to the KS I Mua Maui Fund helped raise more than \$300,000, and those crucial funds are being distributed to help KS Maui and KS Preschools students, families and staff affected by the fires on Maui. KS also contributed \$150,000 through a matching gift to amplify the collective generosity of over 205 donors locally, nationally, and internationally.

Please watch this "mahalo" video featuring members of the Maui community expressing their gratitude for your support. As Maui rebuilds, we thank you again for your commitment and



dedication to helping surround this resilient community with hope and aloha.

KANANI FRANCO

SERVES AS NEW KAHU AT

KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS MAUI

R. KANANI KEPANI Franco KSK'91 began her official first day as kahu of Kamehameha Schools Maui on a quiet Sunday, Aug. 6, 2023. No one could predict the destruction and heartache that would occur just two days later. Wind-whipped wildfires destroyed 19 homes upcountry and ravaged historic Lahaina. More than 100 souls perished.

Dozens of KS haumāna, kumu and extended 'ohana were affected by the fire, and the entire pae 'āina was plunged into deep mourning and shock. Kahu Franco became a source of comfort and spiritual leadership in the days of uncertainty that followed. But she also had much help and found solace in scripture and the notes she had written the day before her official start date.

"Zechariah 4 tells of the prophet Zerubbabel being given the kuleana by God to rebuild the temple of Jerusalem. Ke Akua tells him in Verse 10,

**'NOT BY MIGHT NOR BY POWER,
BUT BY MY SPIRIT.'**

I wrote in my commentary that it's only through God's spirit that anything of lasting value is accomplished. As you live for God, determine not to trust in your own strength or abilities. Instead, depend

on God and work in the power of the Spirit."

The verse and notes brought her courage and reassurance in the following days.

Following the fires, Franco worked tirelessly with campus counselors, behavioral health specialists and the leadership team. All worked in unison to address immediate needs, as well as look at other ways to provide support and communicate with families whose students had not yet returned. The work helped ensure that KS Maui is a pu'uhonua that brings peace and tranquility to students and kumu during this time. Franco says she's now focused on listening and being observant of the needs of its campus haumāna, families and staff and what they are seeking when it comes to spirituality. She plans to adapt and be mākaukau to provide for the community while raising KS Maui to God's light.

"We are truly blessed to have Kahu Kanani Franco serve as the chaplain of our school and KS Maui 'ohana," said Scott Parker, KS Maui po'o kula. "We all know and love her for her vivacious personality and faithfulness to God, but she continually inspires us with her profound commitment to our keiki, and perpetuation of 'ōlelo Hawai'i. As a

GROUP OF ISLANDS,
ARCHIPELAGO

ZECHARIAH 4
VERSE 10

PLACE OF REFUGE





longtime kumu on our campus, we are grateful kahu Kanani will continue to serve our haumāna, and we are excited to see where her new role will lead our school.”

As Franco grew up in Ha‘ikū, Maui, her grandmother, the Rev. Elizabeth Kepani, was a significant influence on her. She grew up in her family church, Ekalesia o Kupaianaha Ho‘omana o Ke Akua Ola. It was grounded in Hawaiian culture with God at the center. “Everything was in ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i. Listening to our ‘ōlelo and my grandmother piqued my interest, and her love for Ke Akua just grew and naturally resided in me,” Franco said.

While her heart was set on being an educator, it wasn’t until she became a Christian education instructor at KS Maui that she realized she wanted to dig deeper into theology and study it. She discovered she loved it. Though her ‘i‘ini for Ke Akua started in her church, she believes God prepared her to pursue her academic study of the word.

Franco began as an ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i kumu at Pūnana Leo O Maui. Her love for teaching expanded as a community-based early childhood advocate for The Institute for the Native Pacific Education and Culture before she became a Christian education instructor at KS Maui.

As an alumna, Franco says

Kamehameha Schools instilled in her an eagerness to kūlia i ka nu‘u and holomua, to strive and move forward and consistently grow and never stop. She references her learning from the Statement of Appreciation: To strive to meet our responsibilities, to progress to the best of our ability, to carry ourselves with dignity and pride.

Franco received her Bachelor of Arts in early childhood education from Pacific Oaks College, then earned two Master of Arts degrees – one in Christian education and theology from Trinity Bible College and Theological Seminary and one in theology and Christian leadership from Grand Canyon University. When she’s not ministering to others, she can be found enjoying time with her ‘ohana.

As the journey for healing and recovery continues for the Maui community, Franco is reminded of her favorite verse, Psalms 46:1,

“GOD IS OUR REFUGE AND STRENGTH, AN EVER-PRESENT HELP IN TROUBLE.”

She says, “I don’t see this as a time of trouble but of challenge and transition. God is my protector, shelter and provider. I always remember and can say, but look who my God is, who is with me. Ke Akua will help us move forward. Everything in God’s timing.” 🍀

DESIRE

PSALMS 46:1

“GOD IS MY PROTECTOR, SHELTER AND PROVIDER...

KE AKUA WILL HELP US MOVE FORWARD.”

R. KANANI KEPANI FRANCO KSK’91

ALUMNI BECOME VOICES
AROUND THE
'INNOVATIVE' PUNALU'U STREAM
RESTORATION PROJECT

PROJECT DESIGNED TO RESTORE
THE NATURAL VALLEY FLOODPLAIN
AND MITIGATE FLOODING

AS A CHILD GROWING UP

in Punalu'u, **Margaret Kau'i Mattoon Weiss KSK'80** hiked the valley to pick 'awapuhi buds and plumeria to make lei and gathered limu at the shoreline with her grandma.

"Punalu'u has been described as a 'place of abundance' — he 'āina momona," Weiss said.

Weiss now finds herself continuing to carry on the kuleana of her late parents, **Creighton** and **Cathleen Oberle Mattoon KSK'50**, both of whom were well-known community leaders who advocated around the efforts of mālama 'āina.

"Punalu'u translates as 'diving spring,' implying a spring of fresh water," Weiss said. "My mother suggested that it was the cool spring water that you can feel oozing up through your toes at the shoreline."

Like Weiss, the family of **Racine Hee KSK'89** has been living in Punalu'u for generations, and she has fond memories of fishing with her kupuna kāne.

"My grandfather was an avid fisherman who was known in the community for his fishing skills. He used topography in Punalu'u to mark special fishing spots — knowledge which he passed down to my brother and that continues to be used by my family today," said Hee. "Fishing has

provided food for my family for several generations, as well as other families in the community."

Auntie **Kapua Ka'apu Sproat Fonoimoana KSK'56** grew up in a hale pili built by her father, a home surrounded by kalo fed by the stream's waters. She recounted how her father built an entire Hawaiian village — or kauhale — on their two-acre 'ohana parcel that shares a boundary with Kamehameha Schools. They would practice traditional ways, including pounding their own poi, and her father was often seen in the community wearing his red malo. "We ate entirely off the land," Fonoimoana said.

Surrounded by coconut trees her father planted in the 1920s, their family kauhale was such a remarkable place that, according to news accounts, U.S. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt stopped by during a visit to Hawai'i in the 1930s.

Fonoimoana remembers walking across Punalu'u as a child to get to other places along the coast, including all the way to Sacred Falls.

"We worked the taro patches," she said. "There was a lot of water running. This was our playground. We inhabited these mountains — we thought they were our mountains."

As members of the Punalu'u Community Association, these three leaders — and their predecessors, such as the Mattoons — spent years providing a community voice to Kamehameha Schools around the Punalu'u Stream Restoration Project, which was designed and completed by Kamehameha Schools to use traditional ahupua'a management strategies to provide flood control and restore natural ecology to the stream. Kamehameha Schools is a major landowner in Punalu'u, owning approximately 3,600 acres or 60 percent of lands in Punalu'u.

As alums, the three women also see that their kuleana goes deeper, not only as community members but as Native Hawaiians. "As an alum, it gave me a sense that you have to care for our resources where I live. I felt a connection to the project being an alumni," said Hee, who is the president of the Punalu'u Community Association.

Weiss and Fonoimoana were on hand to give remarks on behalf of the community during an event celebrating the completion of the Punalu'u Stream Restoration project on Oct. 7, 2023.

"The community is optimistic about the future of agriculture in

"PUNALU'U TRANSLATES AS 'DIVING SPRING,'

IMPLYING A SPRING OF FRESH WATER.

MY MOTHER SUGGESTED THAT IT WAS THE COOL SPRING WATER

THAT YOU CAN FEEL OOZING UP

THROUGH YOUR TOES AT THE SHORELINE."

— MARGARET KAU'I MATTOON WEISS KSK'80



Punalu'u and the continued preservation of the 'āina that we come from," Weiss told the crowd of about 100. "That is our collective kuleana and we look forward to this shared venture."

The goals of the Punalu'u Stream Restoration Project were as follows:

- Restore stream and floodplain processes
- Mitigate flood impacts
- Protect cultural and natural resources
- Increase community engagement
- Conduct 'āina-based learning

"Community safety is a prime focus of this project, and it is our hope that through stewardship of these lands, we can also improve agricultural sustainability, stimulate learning opportunities, and nurture a healthy and vibrant community while perpetuating its rural character," said **Jason Jeremiah KSK'OO**, Kamehameha Schools' lead on this project.

Punalu'u Stream is located on O'ahu within the moku-puni of Ko'olauloa and the ahupua'a of Punalu'u. In the 15th century, Kalamakua, the ruling chief of O'ahu, is credited with establishing numerous 'auwai (irrigation ditches) and agricultural terraces throughout the island. In Ko'olauloa, the creation of these irrigation systems sustained a sizeable population for many generations.

In Punalu'u, the earliest accounts

of the area note that an extensive lo'i kalo and 'auwai system existed and that significant amounts of kalo were cultivated there. Kahana and Punalu'u were known as the bread baskets of Ko'olauloa.

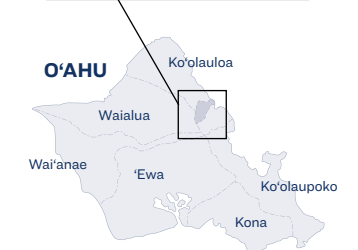
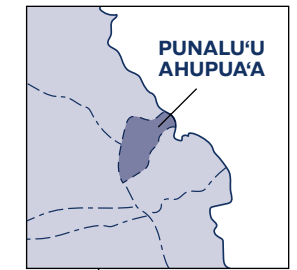
The Punalu'u ahupua'a has been affected by a range of historical impacts, including water diversions; invasion by non-native aquatic, plant and animal life; stream channelization; unprotected stream crossings; land grading and alteration of natural drainage patterns; tillage; livestock grazing; aquaculture; and residential development.

Over 50 acres of the lower Punalu'u Valley have flooded annually. Flooding caused economic hardship and appeared to worsen, possibly due to sedimentation within the stream. Flooding on July 19, 2014, damaged roads, properties, fields and crops.

KS identified the lower Punalu'u Stream Valley as an opportunity to implement a project incorporating its ahupua'a management strategy to provide flood mitigation and restore natural ecological form and process.

The project design restored the natural valley floodplain and terraces, relocated farmers from flood-prone lands to elevated terraces, and reconnected Punalu'u Stream with its floodplain, enhancing the ecosystem's health and resilience against chronic flooding.

Jesse Frey, Kamehameha Schools senior capital



PUNALU'U STREAM RESTORATION PROJECT was designed to use ahupua'a management strategies to provide flood control and restore natural ecology to the stream.

GOALS

- Restore stream and floodplain processes
- Mitigate flood impacts
- Protect cultural and natural resources
- Increase community engagement
- Conduct 'āina-based learning

TIMELINE

Project initiation – 2007
Project plan finalized – 2010
Project completion – 2023

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
www.ksbe.edu/aina/punaluu/stream-restoration

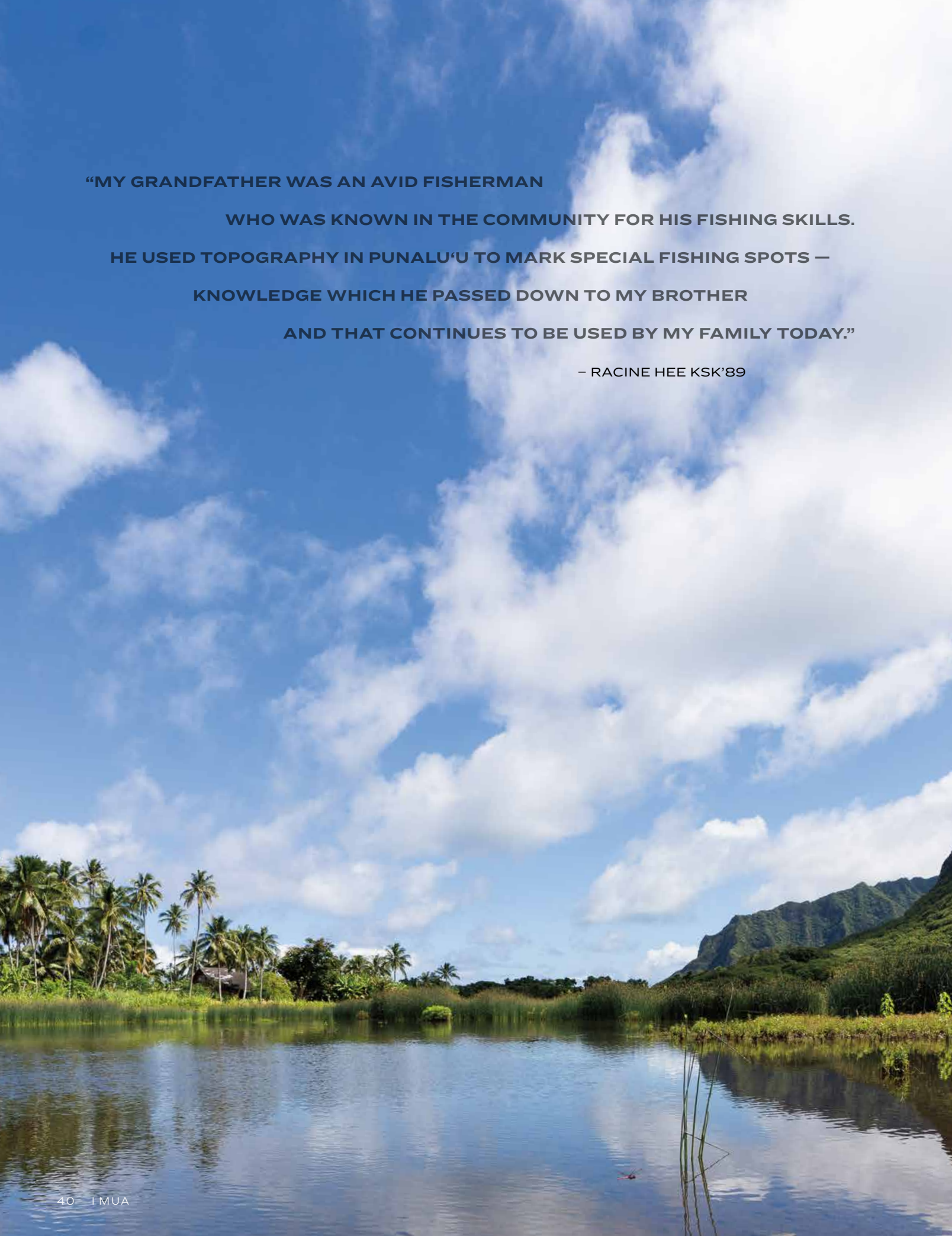
LEFT

Community gatherings marked the start and conclusion of the Punalu'u Stream Restoration Project. These events included traditional Hawaiian protocol, walking tours, plantings and mana'o shared by community leaders.

“WE WORKED THE TARO PATCHES. THERE WAS A LOT OF WATER RUNNING.
THIS WAS OUR PLAYGROUND.
WE INHABITED THESE MOUNTAINS —
WE THOUGHT THEY WERE OUR MOUNTAINS.”

— KAPUA KA'APU SPROAT FONOIMOANA KSK'56





“MY GRANDFATHER WAS AN AVID FISHERMAN
WHO WAS KNOWN IN THE COMMUNITY FOR HIS FISHING SKILLS.
HE USED TOPOGRAPHY IN PUNALU‘U TO MARK SPECIAL FISHING SPOTS —
KNOWLEDGE WHICH HE PASSED DOWN TO MY BROTHER
AND THAT CONTINUES TO BE USED BY MY FAMILY TODAY.”

– RACINE HEE KSK’89

project manager, said this project is unprecedented.

“The beautiful part about this project was that there was no road map for this. No one had ever done a restoration project of this magnitude ever in Hawai‘i,” Frey said. “We’re *not* building a development here — we’re restoring the land, and that process was innovative.”

Jerry Morgan, a project manager with contractor Goodfellow Brothers, said that the area was packed with trees and brush when they started.

“When we first came to this site, we couldn’t really see anything. It was just all completely full of cane grass and we had all different kinds of plants, invasive plants, so we had to kind of make our way through all the grass and try to find where the stream was at,” Morgan said. “You’ve got peek-a-boo spots of the stream, but you never really got a full range of magnitude of what the site would look like.”

Cultural and environmental monitors were also on site to ensure the protection of sensitive areas.

The work reduced the probability of flooding problems and soil erosion.

“Basically, we recreated the dynamics of the floodplain and made sure that if the stream does come up, it comes up in the floodplain and leaves the farmers’ fields so they won’t be moved or disturbed from their hard work,” Morgan said.

“We had to clear 100 acres of invasive species. When we first came on, you couldn’t see across the valley. Once we opened that up, we had community members say it was the first time they felt the breeze in generations,” Frey said.

The restoration project also included planting 50,000 native plants in the project area, and the work is already attracting native water birds and other species back to the area.

“It’s creating habitat for endangered birds, and we have nesting birds creating little babies that are cruising around,” said Matt Schirman, co-founder along with **Rick Barboza KSK’93** of Hui Kū Maoli Ola. This contractor provided oversight of the

plantings that helped to create a riparian ecosystem.

Fonoimoana recalls how the stream fed and sustained the limu ‘ele‘ele along the coastline and was integral to the ecosystem of the valley and the shoreline.

In 2007, KS initiated community consultation on the Punalu‘u Ahupua‘a Plan, which included stream stewardship and flood mitigation planning concepts. The plan was finalized in 2010. Since then, KS has sought to obtain various federal, state and city permits and approvals with the final approvals received in 2022.

Hee said that being part of the outreach throughout the construction process allowed the community to stay informed.

“It really did help to stop rumors,” she said. “The information was very straightforward.”

Hee said that she likes to think that kūpuna like the Mattoons, would be pleased with the work.

“I think they would be very happy it was completed,” Hee said. 🇺🇸

nā ki'i o ko ke kula 'o kamehameha

ks snapshots



The 'Onipa'a Peace March on Jan. 17, 2024, commemorated the 131st anniversary of the illegal overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy. Every year, the Queen's Court leads the march, carrying the portrait of Queen Lili'uokalani, the last Hawaiian monarch.

nā ki'i o ko ke kula 'o kamehameha
ks snapshots









ka nūhou o nā papa

class news

■ Ho‘omaika‘i to Interscholastic League of Hawai‘i Executive Director **Blane Gaison KSK’76**, who was inducted into the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association Hall of Fame at the National Athletic Directors Conference in Nashville, and honored as the first administrator from Hawai‘i to be inducted. Also in attendance was his wife, **Donnalei Biondine Gaison KSK’75**.

■ Members of the Class of 1979 gathered in Waimanalo in June 2023 along with ‘ohana and **Julie Perkins Hugo KSK’49**. The Classes of 1979 and 1949 will celebrate together this coming reunion in June 2024.

1980s

■ The Hawai‘i Red Cross and the Pacific Islands Region of the American Red

Cross (headquartered in Honolulu) announced in August the appointment of its new regional disaster officer, **Renise Haili Bayne KSK’84**. Bayne is a seasoned disaster manager, most recently serving as plans and operations officer for the City and County of Honolulu Department of Emergency Management. For over 13 years, Bayne has served as a disaster volunteer for the region, with key roles such as Pacific Region direct services lead (covering Hawai‘i, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands and American Samoa) to oversee all client-facing activities (i.e., sheltering, distribution of emergency supplies, feeding, health, mental health, spiritual care, disability integration and client casework). Bayne has deployed numerous times, in Hawai‘i — during the 2018 Kīlauea eruptions — to the continental U.S. and throughout the Pacific. She has served

as an Advanced Instructor for Disaster Response Services (“Train the Trainer”) and as a Community Disaster Education Presenter. Bayne is a graduate of Wayland Baptist University.

■ Ho‘omaika‘i to **Debra Lukela Suyat KSK’87**. Suyat was honored as the 2023 Spectrum OC 16 Outstanding Sports Volunteer. This award is presented to the outstanding sports volunteer who has made a significant contribution in support of officials throughout youth or prep-level sports. The award is presented to a scorekeeper, timer, statistician or administrator. For the past 25-plus years, Suyat has been a scorekeeper/timer at Kamehameha, Mid-Pacific, HPU, Chaminade, Interscholastic League of Honolulu and Hawaii High School Athletic Association competitions in basketball, volleyball and canoe paddling.

In attendance supporting her were her ‘ohana — husband **Paul Suyat KSK’89** and daughter **Tiana Lukela (KSK’09)** — and colleagues **Pono Ma‘a KSK’82** and **Blane Gaison KSK’76**. Debra Suyat recently celebrated 30 years of service at Kamehameha Schools.

1990s

■ **F. Mahina Paishon Duarte KSK’94** was named as vice chair of the Hawai‘i Tourism Authority Board of Directors in July 2023. Paishon Duarte joined the HTA board in July 2022. Paishon Duarte co-founded Waiwai Collective in 2016, and previously served as Kanu o ka ‘Āina’s head of school for the secondary level and Hālau Kū Māna. She is also co-author of the ‘Āina Aloha Economic Futures declaration.

2000s



Adam Tanga KSK’06

■ The Biden-Harris Administration appointed **Adam Tanga KSK’06** as a senior adviser at the U.S. Office of Personnel Management. OPM is the chief human resources agency and personnel policy manager for the federal government’s workforce of 2.2 million employees. OPM administers the world’s largest employer-sponsored group health insurance program, as well as federal retirement benefits, and oversees merit-based and inclusive hiring into the federal civil service. Prior to Tanga joining OPM, the Biden-Harris Administration appointed him to serve as policy adviser at the U.S. General Services Administration. Before serving in the Biden-Harris Administration, Tanga managed a wide range of legislative and policy portfolios for U.S. Senators **Daniel Akaka KSK’42** and Mazie Hirono, and was legislative director and senior



Front Row L-R: **Donald Meinel KSK’68**, **Dee “Butch” Tenn KSK’63**, **Steven Robello KSK’77**, **Keith Kahoano KSK’68**, **Al Apo KSK’60**, **W. Ben Lovell KSK’64**, **Kerry Yen KSK’71**, Kneeling: **Richard “Rick” Meinel KSK’67**. Back Row L-R: **Lynol Kaawaloa KSK’78**, **Edward “Eddie” Han KSK’72**, **William Andrade KSK’68**, **Ivan Loughmiller KSK’77**, **James “Kimo” Perkins KSK’77**, **Richard Wai KSK’77**, **Vernon “Vern” Ramie KSK’76**. Not Pictured: **Joy Aipoalani KSK’70**

Kamehameha Schools alumni win championship game in special Honolulu Makua Ali‘i Softball League game

The 23 team Honolulu Makua Ali‘i Softball League played a special event on Aug. 24-25, 2023. After returning from the 47th annual Hawai‘i State Senior Softball Tournament on Maui, league players came together to compete by high school alumni teams at Central O‘ahu Regional Park, Waipahu, Hawai‘i. The Kamehameha alumni team had a winning record of 4-0 over the two day tournament and won the championship game against the Farrington alumni team.



Above: Blane Gaison KSK’76 (second from left)

Right: Members of the Class of 1979 gathered in Waimānalo in June 2023 along with ‘ohana and Julie Perkins Hugo KSK’49



Above: From left—Pono Ma‘a KSK’82, Debbie Suyat KSK’87 and Blane Gaison KSK’76

Right: Debbie Suyat KSK’87 (center) with ‘ohana



Renise Haili Bayne KSK’84

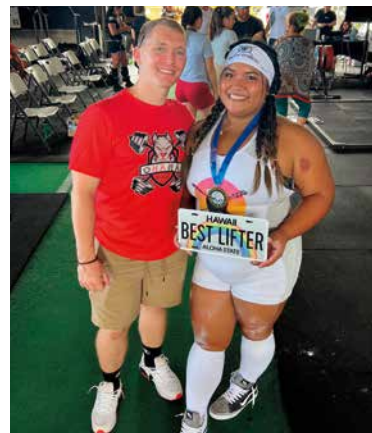


Left: Aaron Kai KSH'07 with kumu and haumāna from KSH campus, Mrs. Keola Ma'a Hewitt, Career Liaison and Kumu Carl Pao, Art

Above: Haumāna from KSH campus painting mural at Mauna Loa Macadamia Nut Visitor Center



Megan Kakimoto KSK'11 debut story collection was published in August 2023.



Above: Gayla Ha-Cabebe Hunt KSH'14 earned Best Lifter award at the Kauwela Showdown. Above right: Waiākea High School Iron Warriors powerlifting club co-founded by Gayla.



adviser to Rep. Gregorio Sablan during his chairmanship of the Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education Subcommittee of the U.S. House of Representatives.

■ Artist **Aaron Kai KSH'07** Nā Olonā, in collaboration with Mauna Loa, invited Kamehameha Schools Hawai'i haumāna to kōkua with his mural at the Mauna Loa Visitor Center in Kea'au for National Macadamia Nut Day! Mahalo nui to Aaron for your #alumnipresence mentorship!

2010s

■ **Megan Kamalei Kakimoto KSK'11** debut story collection, "Every Drop is a Man's Nightmare," was published in August 2023. Her stories follow a cast of mixed Native Hawaiian and Japanese women through a contemporary

landscape thick with inherited wisdom and the ghosts of colonization.

■ Ho'omaika'i to **Gayla Ha-Cabebe Hunt KSH'14**, who competed at the Kauwela Showdown full power competition and earned the women's Best Lifter award and first place in her division. She ended the day with a 336 lb squat, a 248 lb bench press, and 407 lb deadlift for a whopping total of 991 lbs! Gayla and her 'ohana also opened the first-ever powerlifting club last year at Waiākea High School (Iron Warriors), where she works as an educational assistant. Their club earned four world records and eight state records. They were also able to bring back a powerlifting delegation to East Hawai'i for the Special Olympics for the first time since 2011.

■ The 2023 Cohort of Native Hawaiian Health Scholarship Awardees was


announced in October 2023. Of the seven awardees, five are Kamehameha graduates: **Tynell Ornellas KSM'15**, **Pōmaika'i Murakami KSK'15**, **Kai'olu DeFries KSK'15**, **Kamalei Davis KSK'18**, and **Deshaynee Iseri-Carvalho KSK'18**. The Native Hawaiian Health Scholarship Program administered by Papa Ola Lōkahi recruits and nurtures professionals-in-training for primary and mental health care disciplines most needed. They are prepared to deliver quality, culturally competent health services. This merit-based program covers tuition, books and other related expenses. Since 1991, more than 330 scholarships across 20 disciplines have been awarded to eligible individuals. Upon matriculation, each is placed in service to a medically underserved area in Hawai'i. **Sheri-Ann Daniels KSK'92** has been CEO of Papa Ola Lōkahi since 2016.

Kamehameha Alumni come together to Ho'ōla Maui

Manu Goodness KSK'60 and multi-Grammy Award winner **George Kahumoku KSK'69** were part of the initial core of island field representatives that included aunty Maile Akim Seu of Hilo, kumu hula Rachael Kamakana of Moloka'i, Genevieve Reeves Ka'anoi and John Spencer of O'ahu, and Paula Wong of Kaua'i. These persons were dispatched throughout the state through a "seed" federally funded Native Hawaiian project eventually morphing into Alu Like "Working Together." Their group performed at the Wailea Shopping Complex courtyard in support of "Lahaina Strong" and "Maui Strong," and as part of George and his wife Nancy's aloha as they plan to move from Maui.



From left: **Sean Kapela Goodness KSK'02**, **F. Manu Goodness KSK'60**, and **George Kahumoku KSK'69**.



Stay connected.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram @kamehamehaalumni to stay connected with fellow Warriors and alumni events across the pae 'āina and beyond!

kamehamehaalumni Proud to be a Warrior ❤️

#imuakamehameha #kamehamehaalumni

ka nūhou o nā papa

class news

■ **Kyler Wilson KSK'15** recently received his doctorate of physical therapy from the University of St. Augustine in health sciences.

■ Ho'omaika'i to **Daylan-Blake Makoa Kala'i KSH'17** Kauluwena alum and NYU Tisch School of the Arts Class of 2022, who will make his debut with the national tour of "Mamma Mia!" this year.

■ **Justin Desaki KSK'17** and **Dylan Blane KSK'18** started as friends in Kamehameha Schools Kapālama video production classes taught by kumu **Leah Kihara KSK'92**. They both graduated from Portland State University and then started their own production company in the Pacific Northwest — Reel Native Films. Their top three clients are the Seattle Seahawks, SportOregon and Portland State University. Follow them on Instagram: @ReelNativeFilms.

■ **Kaha'i Bustillos KSM'18** graduated as a Hawai'i state firefighter on Sept.

8, 2023, along with 29 other state and federal firefighters. The ceremony was held at the Tradewinds Ballroom on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawai'i. This class successfully completed 26 weeks of extensive and rigorous drills and training, including EMT, hazmat, fire response, airport rescue and wildland training. Bustillos will be stationed at Kahului Airport on Maui.

2020s

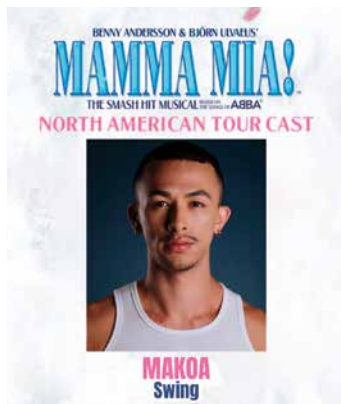
■ **Josias Piliñamakaika'oa'i'o Ka'upu Fronda KSK'20**, pursuing a bachelor's degree in music with an emphasis in percussion performance from Grand Canyon University, is fulfilling his dream, joining the U.S. tour of "Mrs. Doubtfire" as a drummer. The tour will hit 29 cities, starting in Manhattan in August 2023 and ending in California in August 2024. Fronda is a K-12 lifer and was active in the KS band (as a drummer) as well as his class' coed Song Contest director

(whose class won as freshmen in 2017).

■ **Bethany Correia Okamoto KSH'21** is the first second-generation scholar in the Keaholoa STEM Scholars Program at the University of Hawai'i, Hilo, following in the footsteps of her mother, Michelle Correia, KSH kumu, who was in the program 20 years ago. Ho'omaika'i to Okamoto on also being awarded the College of Arts & Sciences Anthropology Department Scholarship for the 2023-24 school year. The mother-daughter team hosted a panel discussion in summer 2023, at the annual Islands of Opportunity Alliance-Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation Program conference, speaking to the year's theme of bridging generations. Their stories of resilience and overcoming were incredibly inspiring to the group.



Kyler Wilson KSK'15



Daylan-Blake Makoa Kala'i KSH'17



Kaha'i Bustillos KSM'18



Pili Fronda KSK'20



Michelle Correia (L) and Bethany Correia Okamoto KSH'21



Justin Desaki KSK'17 and Dylan Blane KSK'18 (left photo) on the sidelines at Lumen Field, home of the Seattle Seahawks, Washington; and (right photo) on Lambeau Field, home of the Green Bay Packers, Wisconsin.



Photos by K. Mahina Choy-Ellis KSK'13

Kamehameha Schools Kapālama Class of 2013 celebrates 10-year reunion

Kamehameha Schools Kapālama **Class of 2013** celebrated their 10-year reunion on June 9, 2023, at 604 Ballroom on Schofield. They enjoyed food, drinks, live music and games. They are very grateful to their many donors and all the hands that helped make the event possible. Follow them on Instagram: @kamehameha2013 for more updates.

KSAA Regions

Celebrations and updates

KSAA Intermountain Region

KSAA Intermountain Region (at right) celebrated Founder's Day on Nov. 24, 2023, in Las Vegas.

Pictured at right: Back Row, standing left of portrait: Noelani Kaleohano Paselio KSK'90, Jodi Wai KSK'89, Leina'ala Ah Loo KSK'89, Garrett Carpio KSK'99. Back Row, standing right of portrait: Ali'i Kauhi-Choy Foo KSK'96, Owen Wong KSK'61, Sonny Recca KSK'06, Todd Wong KSK'88, Lance Okamura KSK'88, Kelsie Chong KSM'12. Kneeling: Gregory Ahuna KSK'63, Lehua Kalima Alvarez KSK'84, Laura Choi Soares KSK'88, Irene Ah Loo Mayan KSK'88, Noelani Crail-Naluai KSK'96.



KSAA Maui Region

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association Maui Region elected a new president, Clayton Tom KSK'80, retired Maui Police deputy chief. KSAA Maui board members include vice president Charlene Kauhane KSK'85; secretary Ivy Jean Bagio Sanchez KSK'79; treasurer Sienna Yoshida KSK'86; and directors Wendy "Mopsie" Ferreira Tuivaioe KSK'80 and Tiare Wright Martin KSK'95.

HE KOA MAU A MAU FOREVER A WARRIOR

Registration opens on April 1, 2024. Learn more at ksbe.edu/alumnireunion

Save the date and celebrate with fellow Warriors across the pae 'āina this summer at our annual Alumni Reunion Celebration!

I MUA KAMEHAMEHA!

KS MAUI May 31

KS HAWAII'Ī June 1

KS KAPĀLAMA June 1-8

Gareth Gomez KSK'09 and Chelsea Souza Gomez KSK'11 celebrated their wedding on June 11, 2023.

On Sept. 14, 2023, the Lord sent the most blessed day for the marriage ceremony of Errol Keali'ika'apuni Kane III KSK'15 and Madison Dezma Holland at Kualoa Regional Park. The bride and groom were honored to have associate pastor Edwin Hoku Sproat KSK'61 officiate the wedding. Keali'i, son of Lanamalie Villegas and Errol Kane II KSK'96; grandson of Ken Alagan KSK'76 and Leslie "Nani" Wright Alagan KSK'76; Don and Harriet Villegas, Sr. and Errol Kane KSK'68 and Theodora Kane, Sr.; and great-grandson of Jack and Edna Like Wright KSK'53, Sr., was full of smiles from ear to ear; the bride was beautiful and beaming with joy. Holland's hānai mom, Aunt Pamela Sweden, and her sisters, Brynn Pamela Bolden and Kristen Chase Landrum, were able to join in viewing the wedding via FaceTime from Georgia.

Mamo Inaba Apisaloma KSK'60 married Pierre Apisaloma KSK'60 on Sept. 10, 2022. They held their reception at Pearl Country Club.

Catherine Coleman Wolfe KSK'14 married Shayne Wolfe KSK'14 on Nov. 11, 2023 in Aotearoa. Sharing in their celebration were friends and family Kiersten Kauffman, J. Kalā Burkett KSK'14, Taylor Burnett KSK'14, Joseph Williams Soloman, Sarah Davis KSK'14, Jonathan Honda KSK'14, Savannah Wolfe KSK'09, Haku Durant KSK'14, Elizabeth Coleman KSK'17, Noa Kinimaka KSK'14, Jessica Sullivan Pine KSK'14, M. Aukai Pennington KSK'14, Shyann Moriguchi KSK'14 and Zachery Thomas KSK'14.

Vanessa M. Kēhaunani Ballena Rodrigues KSK'98 and Chris M. Keola Rodrigues KSK'99 met in intermediate school at the Kamehameha Schools Kapālama campus in 1993. They recently married after 30 years of aloha and friendship on Nov. 13th, 2023 in Ha'ikū Gardens in Kāne'ohe, surrounded by their 'ohana.



Gareth Gomez KSK'09 and Chelsea Souza Gomez KSK'11



Errol Keali'ika'apuni Kane III KSK'15 and Madison Dezma Holland



Mamo Inaba Apisaloma KSK'60 married Pierre Apisaloma KSK'60



Vanessa KSK'98 and Chris Rodrigues KSK'99 with their daughter Shylynn



Wolfe wedding (L-R, Kiersten Kauffman, J. Kalā Burkett KSK'14, Taylor Burnett KSK'14, Joseph Williams Soloman, Sarah Davis KSK'14, Jonathan Honda KSK'14, Savannah Wolfe KSK'09, Shayne Wolfe KSK'14, Catherine Coleman Wolfe KSK'14, Haku Durant KSK'14, Elizabeth Coleman KSK'17, Noa Kinimaka KSK'14, Jessica Sullivan Pine KSK'14, M. Aukai Pennington KSK'14, Shyann Moriguchi KSK'14 and Zachery Thomas KSK'14.

■ **Eric James Douglas Crabbe KSK’46**, 95, beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother and uncle passed away peacefully, surrounded by family and loved ones on Oct. 20, 2023. Eric was born June 5, 1928 in Honolulu to Clarence Edward and Ilan Akamu Crabbe. He was the fourth of seven children. He attended Fern School and graduated from his beloved Kamehameha High School. He witnessed the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1941 from his dorm on the hill. Upon graduation, he joined the Army and served in Japan. He was honorably discharged in 1947. Utilizing the G.I. Bill (formally known as the Servicemen’s Readjustment Act of 1944), he continued his education at Emporia State University in Kansas, where he played quarterback on the school football team. Eric completed his college education at St. Louis University in Missouri. He graduated in 1953 with a Bachelor of Science in physical therapy. Upon his return to Hawai‘i, he secured a job at the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific, which recently celebrated its 70th anniversary, and was the first physical therapist to serve at this facility. He continued his career as a physical therapist at Maluhia Hospital, Beverly Manor, and Kaiser Permanente Hospital, retiring from both Maluhia and Kaiser Permanente Hawai‘i. In 1960, he married Janet Ho, whom he met at Maluhia. He was a loving family man and a strong believer in his Catholic faith. His first love was Jesus and he was active in many church activities for more than 61 years at St. Elizabeth Church in ‘Aiea. He served as an usher, an RCIA Sponsor, an active prayer warrior in the prayer chain ministry, served in the hospital ministry at Kaiser Permanente, and was a member of both the Holy Name Society and the This Man Is You organization. He coached soccer in the 1970s and umpired little league games. He supported all UH Warrior games. He even completed the Honolulu Marathon in 1978. Being civic-minded, he ran for Honolulu City Council in the 1970s. A loving and committed husband, he will be missed by all who crossed his path. Eric is survived by his beloved wife, Janet, and their four children, **Verdene Crabbe Allen KSK’79** (Scott), **Kimberly Crabbe Winn KSK’80**, **Brenda Crabbe-Jones KSK’83** (Michael), and **Douglas Crabbe KSK’86** (Kris). Grandchildren include Nicholas and Spencer Allen, Ace and Sydney Winn, Noah, **Isaiah Crabbe**

KSK’23, and Chloe Crabbe KSK’26, and his sister Malvaina Leimomi Magdalin Crabbe.

■ **Frances Kealanohea “Chingie” Ching Crowell KSK’46**, 95, of Honolulu passed away on Apr. 24, 2023. Frances was born in Honolulu. She was laid to rest at The National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific–Punchbowl. Frances is survived by sons Robert (Adrienne), **Guy KSK’74** (Susie) and **G. Kaipo KSK’79** (Peggy), grand-children and great-grandchildren.

■ **Gladys Dorothy Chambers Harding KSK’48**, 93, of ‘Aiea, died in ‘Aiea on Apr. 13, 2023. She was born in Honolulu. She is survived by her daughter, Sharon Silva; her sons, William and James Harding; her grandsons, Jason and Mark Silva; great-granddaughter Skye Silva; and her nieces, Leslie and Nanea. She was inurned at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific–Punchbowl.

■ **Leilani Virginia Warinner Oliveira KSK’48**, passed away on Apr. 21, 2023, at the age of 92. She was preceded in death by her husband, Francis Emory “Buddy” Oliveira. They are survived by their three children: Brig. Gen. **Bruce Emory Oliveira KSK’72** (**Jeanne Miyamoto Oliveira KSK’78**), **Kay Haunani Oliveira Lipps KSK’74** (Dan), and **Brian Francis Oliveira KSK’76** (Celeste). They are remembered by their eight grandchildren **Natasha Teves Martens KSK’93** (Carey), Brittany Nikolic (David), **Trixe Tsuji Detrich KSK’06** (Chris), Bronson Oliveira, Captain Cean Oliveira (Lacey), Liko Oliveira (Alyssa), C’era Oliveira-Norris (Darian), and **Taylor Tsuji KSK’10**, as well as their 10 great-grandchildren. Both Lei and Buddy were graduates of the University of Hawai‘i — Lei earned a bachelor of education and a professional certificate in elementary education.

Lei was a counselor for the Girl Scouts of America as well as teacher at ‘Aiea Elementary, Alvah A. Scott Elementary, Lāna‘i Elementary and Kapālama Elementary in addition to various roles at Pālama Settlement Day Camp, Bernice P. Bishop Museum, the Department of Education’s Hawaiian Studies Program, Holt Rinehart and Winston Publishing company, Delta Kappa Gamma, Noe Noe Golf Club, Ka‘ahumanu Society, and the University of Hawai‘i. Upon retirement, Lei and Buddy enjoyed a life filled with golf and gardening while living in Volcano, Hawai‘i for 20 years, and eventually back to Honolulu.

■ **Marvis Beryl Leimomi Chun Peralta KSK’48**, of Nu‘uanu died in Kapolei in August 2023. She was born in Waialua. She is survived by daughter **Beryl Peralta Tyau KSK’73** and son **Raynard Peralta KSK’68**.

■ **Marie Makaiwakukahakai Loa Kelson KSK’54**, 87, of Hilo, died on June 15, 2023, at home. She was born on Feb. 16, 1936, in Hilo. She graduated from Kamehameha Schools Kapālama, then joined the Marine Corps. She worked at Naniloa Hotel as a bartender, front desk clerk and account clerk; and later for Gumapac Company. She attended Malia Puka O Kalani Catholic Church in Keaukaha and St. Joseph Catholic Church in Hilo. Her hobbies and interests were family, cooking, sewing, reading and sudoku.

■ **William George Mehewaole Kauahikaua KSK’57**, 84, of Hawai‘i Kai, passed away on Feb. 24, 2023. He was born on Jan. 17, 1939 in Waialua to William Kauahikaua Jr. and Lydia Kaleionalani Cox. William was a retired State of Hawai‘i Airport Crash and Rescue firefighter of 32 years. Over the course of his lifetime, William served on many community and sports organizations and boards, including the Hawai‘i Fire Fighters Association, Kamehameha Schools Class Representatives, Hawai‘i Jaycees and O‘ahu Pop Warner Junior League, and served many years as a coach for Hawai‘i Kai Bobby Sox and Kamehameha Schools Intermediate softball. He was a man who served his community and loved his family. He will be greatly missed.

■ **Carmelita “Dutchie” Kina‘u Kapu Saffery KSK’57**, 83, of Mountain View died Feb. 3, 2023, at her residence. Born in Honolulu on Apr. 5, 1939, she was

a retired florist and former executive secretary to the late Sen. Hiram Fong. Survived by her daughter, Kimberly (Hoturoa) Barclay-Kerr of Hamilton, New Zealand; brother, **Samuel Kapu, Jr. KSK’62** (Marsha) of Kapahulu; five grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

■ **Charles Edward Stone III KSK’57**, 85, passed away on Aug. 31, 2023.

■ **Ellen Jane Kuikalono Thomas White KSK’57**, 84, of Kāne‘ohe, died Mar. 23, 2023.

■ Former Capt. **Gordon Yee Piianaia KSK’58**, 83, an instrumental crew member of the Hōkūle‘a dating back to 1976, passed away on July 4, 2023. Piianaia was part of the crew’s maiden voyage in 1976 sailing on the return leg from Tahiti to Hawai‘i. Piianaia was a man of the sea as a retired naval officer and Hōkūle‘a captain on many voyages. While in high school he enlisted in the Navy, and two weeks after graduating he was at sea on a Navy transport ship. After some time at sea, his captain suggested that he would do well as an officer, so he finished his active duty while attending the California Maritime Academy. He sailed around the world on the school’s ship, the Golden Bear, and finished his undergraduate studies with a degree in nautical science. Shortly after completing his studies, he returned to Hawai‘i and received his commission as an officer in the Navy Reserve, where he would retire after 20 years of service as lieutenant commander. He also spent time at Kamehameha Schools as the director of its Hawaiian Studies Institute. In 1976, his dear friend and classmate at Cal Maritime, Dave Lyman, called Gordon from Tahiti and asked him to fly to Papeete to help bring the Polynesian voyaging canoe Hōkūle‘a home to Hawai‘i.

■ **Patricia Mapuana Wilson Clifton KSK’61**, 80, of Bellingham, Wash., passed away on July 23, 2023.

■ **Keani Rogerlene Kehaulani Waiolama Kahauolopua Lum Taylor KSK’61**, passed away peacefully on June 30, 2023, at her place of residence in Nu‘uanu, where she lived with her youngest daughter, **Tiare Ku‘uipo Lum KSK’91**. She is survived also by her daughter **Dorene Kamakani Lum KSK’81**, and brother **Eben Kahauolopua, Jr. KSK’63**.

■ **Robert Lawrence Puali‘i Tong KSK’62**, 78, passed away on July 30, 2023.

■ **Viola Leialoha Naone Cashman KSK’63**, 77, passed away on March 19, 2023, in ‘Ewa surrounded by her family. Viola grew up in Hane‘o, Hāna, Maui. She attended Hāna school from grades K to 6 and later attended Kamehameha Schools in Kapālama. It was at Kamehameha Schools where she met the love of her life, Edward C. Cashman. She and Edward were married in 1965 and they raised their family in ‘Ewa Beach. Viola worked at a number of places throughout her life — Honolulu Federal Savings and Loan, Wackenhut, Hilton Hawaiian Village, Hawai‘i Legislature, Kamehameha Schools and the Department of Education. She went back to college later in life and earned an undergraduate degree in English, teacher certification, and a master’s degree in educational foundations from the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. In 1995, Viola returned to Hāna to work as a teacher and student-services coordinator at Hāna School. She also developed Ha‘aheo o Hāna no nā Keiki, a community-based enrichment program for the children of Hāna and worked with the Maui Food Bank. Viola enjoyed reading, traveling, lauhala weaving, canoe paddling, quilt making, painting, pā‘ū riding and most of all, spending time with her family. She is survived by her husband of 57 years, **Edward Chung Cashman KSK’63**; sons **Edward Cashman Jr. KSK’84** (Pikake) and Kimo (Tammy Ann); daughter Mahealani “Sis” Finau (Toni); sisters **Julei Naone Ka‘iwi KSK’61** and Miriam “Lou” Perreira; brother **Lyons K. Naone III KSK’62**; uncle Edgar (Lynn) Okada; aunt Angela (Shogo) Kai; grand-children and great-grandchildren.

■ **Paul Michael Friel KSK’68**, passed on Aug. 16, 2023, at The Queen’s Hospital, Honolulu.

■ **Danette Haunani Koa Victorino KSK’68**, 72, of Mililani died in ‘Aiea on June 14, 2023. She was born in Honolulu.

■ **Jill Debra Paresa Rogoff KSK’70** passed away on July 19, 2023.

■ **Jonathan Wesley Kaponookalani Spencer KSK’72** passed on April 25, 2023.

■ **Kekoa E. Burns KSK’76**, 64, of Wahiawā Heights, passed away

Frederick “Fred” Ku Kamaka, Sr. KSK’44 (1925-2023)

Frederick “Fred” Ku Kamaka, Sr. KSK’44, a

notable ‘ukulele maker in Hawai‘i, died July 23, 2023. He was 98. Fred was the son of Samuel Kamaka Sr., founder of Kamaka Hawai‘i — a family-owned ‘ukulele company that has been the ‘ukulele crafter of choice for artists around the world. He was also the brother and business partner of Sam Kamaka, Jr. They led the company for decades after their father patented the first pineapple-shaped ‘ukulele in the 1920s.

In his early years, Kamaka was a lieutenant colonel in the Army who served in three wars: World War II and the Korean and Vietnam wars. He earned a Silver Star for gallantry in 1953 while serving as an infantry officer in the Korean War. In 1971, he joined Kamaka ‘Ukulele as the company’s business manager and VP through 1995. Kamaka became the company president after his



brother’s passing in March 2022. During Kamaka Hawai‘i’s 100th-year celebration in 2016, when asked how the small company survived for so many years, he responded, “When we had hard times, we never gave up on the ‘ukulele. You have to stay true to who you are.” Through his later years up to the ripe age of 96, Kamaka regaled countless visitors during daily tours of the factory, delighting them with his childhood memories of his father’s ‘ukulele shop on King Street and the rich history of Hawaiian ‘ukulele craftsmanship. He was inducted into the ‘Ukulele Hall of Fame Museum in 2012 alongside his brother. He is survived by his children **Martina Kamaka Froning KSK’78** (Donald), and **Heidi Kamaka Kamanā KSK’79** (Carter), **Frederick Kamaka Jr. KSK’82** (Kitty); grandchildren **Lia Kamanā KSK’11**, Timothy Kamanā, Noa Kamanā, Carter Kamanā, **Kaleialoha Froning KSK’20**, **Kekoa Froning KSK’23**, Elisabeth Kamaka, May Kamaka, Louise Kamaka, Frederick Kamaka III; and great-grandchild Cannon Kamanā.

peacefully on July 3, 2023, with his wife, Tricia; his puppy, Aukai; family and friends by his side. Born on Oct. 23, 1958, and raised in Nānākuli, he was the oldest of four children of **Paul Kekoa Burns Jr. KSK’54** and **Genevieve Kanoelani Nahulu Burns KSK’54**. He was a waterman who loved his local foods, family and friends. He retired from United Airlines ramp service and McCabe, Hamilton, Renny, Ltd. He will be missed by his wife Tricia Donahue Burns, Aukai, stepdaughter DeAnna Beasley (Randy), stepson Darren Nichols, eight stepgrandchildren, siblings **Jan Burns KSK’79**, **Kahikina Burns KSK’81** (Maria) and **Kunane Burns KSK’86** (Kari) and many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

■ **Elaine Haunani Goodrich KSK’76**, 65, passed away on Aug. 1, 2023. Elaine was born in Honolulu.

■ **Philip Kekoa Kamoku, Jr. KSK’76**, of Captain Cook, Hawai‘i, died May 18, 2023, at Hilo Medical Center. Born in Honolulu on May 5, 1958, he was a manager for Mrs. Fields Cookies and a member of Kahikolu Congregational Church and Kuakini Hawaiian Civic Club. He is survived by his hānai son, Justin Lopaka (Brittney) Peters of Holualoa; sisters **Philleys Kamoku Peters KSK’73** (Jared, Sr.), Char Pule and Junie-Ann Kamoku, all of Captain Cook; brothers Paul (Leeann) Kamoku Sr. of Kailua-Kona and John Kamoku Sr. of Captain Cook; several aunts and uncles; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

■ **Clyde Takao Kitagawa KSK’76** passed away peacefully at home on Mar. 30, 2023. He was born Apr. 19, 1958, the third child and only son to George and Mildred Kitagawa. He attended the University of Portland, where he

received his bachelor’s degree in business administration. He went to work at Far West Federal Bank in Portland as a computer operator and moved up to become a production control supervisor. He returned to Hawai‘i in 1988 with his wife and son. He worked for his father at G.T. Kitagawa Painting. His father taught him all the tricks of the trade and Clyde eventually got his contractor’s license and took over the business. Clyde loved sports, especially baseball, as he played in Little League and Makule League. He also loved to coach his three sons in baseball and soccer. Many trips to the neighbor islands, New York and Japan were due to baseball. He also enjoyed golfing, fishing and traveling to Las Vegas with family and friends. He will always be remembered for his generosity, loyalty, kindness and warm smile. He is survived by his wife, Maleen; sons Duke (Chanel), Lyle (Nicole) and Grant; mother, Mildred;

sisters **Gail Kitagawa Ohta KSK’72** (Clyde), **Lynn Kitagawa Kodama KSK’74** (Irv) and **Kris Kitagawa Neville KSK’87** (Raymond); and grandsons.

■ **Brian Kealoha Manoa KSK’76**, 65, of Wai‘anae passed away on July 17, 2023. He was born on March 27, 1958, in Honolulu. He is survived by wife Valerie-Mae Haunanikawailani Manoa; sons Brian Kealoha Manoa Jr. (Amanda), Jorell Ahunakalimaokaahanui Kenji Manoa (Leilani); daughters, **Ariana Asako Uhiwai Manoa Smith KSK’01** (Nake‘u) and **Jerica Haunanikawailani Manoa KSK’06** (Jared); mother Norma Dorothy Parina; and 11 grandchildren.

■ **William Kaunoa Ah Chan KSK’78**, age 63, passed away in his beloved home of Kū‘au, on Feb. 3, 2023, while the Akua moon illuminated the Maui sky. Ah Chan was the eldest son of William Ka‘uhane Ah Chan and Mary Ann Kenui Ah Chan of Maui, born Jan. 7, 1960. He was a proud alumnus of Kamehameha Schools Kapālama; an extremely gifted and talented musician and composer; a highly skilled airplane and drone pilot as owner of UAS Maui (a Native Hawaiian culturally sensitive, FAA-certified unmanned airborne service); a naturally trained mechanic for Maui Lani Golf Course and Royal Hawaiian Rentals; and a charismatic, energetic and spirited Hawaiian and Island cultural certified guide for Akamai Tours on O‘ahu and Haleakalā Eco Tours (2017-23). Conscious and inspirational words, melodies and harmonies were his soulful expression that resonated in and through everyone he loved, knew and met, kama‘āina and malihini alike. In pursuit of his talent, education and desire to share his knowledge through music, he piloted his band of brothers called Lawai‘a. Lawai‘a, an extremely popular musical group originating on O‘ahu in the early ‘90s, was famous for original compositions such as “Country Fire,” “Sailin’” “Crazy Without You” and “Between the Sea and the Sky”.

■ **Darrell Thomas Hon Wah Young KSK’81**, 60, of Waialeale ascended into position on the heavenly worship team on July 5, 2023, surrounded by his family and friends. Young was born on Apr. 1, 1963, to Donald and Marjorie Young and attended Moanalua Elementary. He went on to obtain his bachelor’s degree in management information systems from the University of Notre Dame in 1985.

Pedro “Pete” Velasco Jr. KSK’55 (1937-2023)

Pedro “Pete” Velasco Jr. KSK’55, 85, died at home in Pāhoa on March 21, 2023. Born April 6, 1937, in Papakōlea, he was a starting player on the U.S. Men’s Olympic Volleyball team in Tokyo in 1964 and Mexico City in 1968. He first appeared on the U.S. volleyball scene at the U.S. Volleyball Championships in Seattle in 1956 as a freshman at the University of Denver. Velasco returned to Hawai‘i the following year, eventually joining the Outrigger Canoe Club’s volleyball team. He led Outrigger to All-America Team honors in 1962, beginning a 10-year run. He was named the national tournament’s MVP in 1965. Velasco joined the U.S. national team competing in the Pan American Games in Sao Paulo, Brazil, in 1963, and in Winnipeg, Canada, in 1967, where the U.S. took the gold medal. Volleyball was recognized for the first time at the 1964 Olympics in Tokyo, and Velasco led the very first U.S. Olympic Volleyball team as its captain. Velasco also competed for the U.S. at the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico City. Velasco, by then a family man in his early 30s, returned to Hawai‘i afterward and finished his collegiate career in the 1969 and 1970 seasons at Church College of Hawai‘i, which is now Brigham Young University-Hawai‘i. Velasco earned NAIA



All-America status both years and was named the Outstanding College Athlete of America in 1970. He was named to the NAIA Hall of Fame in 1980 and was inducted into the U.S. Volleyball Hall of Fame in 1997 and the Hawai‘i Sports Hall of Fame in 1999. Considered by many the best men’s volleyball player in Hawai‘i history, he stood at just 5-foot-10, the shortest player on the team, but he more than made up for it with an astonishing vertical jump of more than two feet that got him waist-high over the net. Velasco was also exceptionally quick. He was a setter but could have played any position and was able to spike with both his left and right hands. After receiving his bachelor’s degree, Velasco went to BYU in Provo, Utah, where he earned a master’s. He and former teammate Eddie Kalima started a club volleyball team, Lōkahi Volleyball Club, which became a longtime fixture in both the men’s and women’s divisions at the Haili Invitational Volleyball Tournament in Hilo. Velasco became a teacher of at-risk students at Hilo High and later retired from the state Department of Education. He is survived by his wife, Adelaide Velasco; children Pedro (Paulette) Velasco, Powell (Joey) Velasco, Prenda (Lee) Moe, Prandi (Joseph) Guerreiro, Pattie (Darren) Chur, Philip (Bridgette) Velasco and Philton Velasco; in addition to 17 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

From a young age, he was a member of the Boy Scouts of America and earned the rank of Eagle Scout. He also learned to play guitar and shared his talent by playing at St. Philomena Church as a teen. Young was a results-driven and team-oriented professional serving in state, city, private and community positions. With his easy-going and humble personality, he was adept at building relationships and gaining consensus to move general government and public policy

issues, programs and projects forward. He was affectionately called “MacGyver” because he could take a seemingly impossible task and work it out for the good. Working for Honolulu City Council Member Nestor Garcia as senior advisor, serving as deputy director for the Department of Hawaiian Homelands and later the Department of Transportation, Harbors Division have been Young’s most challenging, yet rewarding positions. Most recently, he served as the

Mogul Kaleiokalanakila Francis Kalawaia Crabbe KSK’48 (1930-2023)

Mogul Kaleiokalanakila Francis Kalawaia Crabbe KSK’48 passed on Aug. 11, 2023. Born on Sept. 23, 1930, in the ahupua‘a of Kahauiki, Kalihi, he was the fifth child and son of Clarence Edward Kalawaia Crabbe of Kaka‘ako and Ilan Ailani Akamu Kainaliu. With his passing, Crabbe reunites with his beloved wife, **Rose Na‘auao “Maka” Pelayo Crabbe KSK’52**; his parents and siblings: Clarence Kaneali‘i (Katie), William Dodge (Ida), Vollmar Keonaona Joseph (Bonnie), Sturmar Puahaulani



Felix (Henrietta) Crabbe. He is survived by older brother Eric James Douglas (Janet) and younger sister Malvaina Leimomi Magdalin Crabbe; sons **Michael Kaleiokalanakila Alexander Crabbe KSK’75**, **Moses Kaho‘okele Raphael Crabbe KSK’77**, **Mark Napu‘unooa Crabbe KSK’80**, **Matthew Kamana‘opono Crabbe KSK’82**, and **Maurice Maka‘ala Crabbe KSK’83** (Satomi); daughters **Catherine Elizabeth Puamana Crabbe KSK’74** and **Monica Leihuanani Crabbe KSK’78**; grandchildren **Brianne Rose Pulamakailialoha Crabbe Cook KSK’06** (Jonathan), Jazminn Lee, Kauluponookaleihua Marren Lu‘uwai (Spencer), Mogul Kamana‘opono Lu‘uwai, Kawaikaunu Lu‘uwai, **Kawaikaunu Lu‘uwai KSK’16**, **Mahie Kaleimailani Aya Crabbe KSK’20**, **Maurice Kahuaokana‘auao Kengo Crabbe KSK’22**, Kalamakahi Aiko “Kachan” Crabbe KSK’24, Kalamakuokana‘auao Emalia Kalawaia Crabbe, and great grandson Ayden A‘ukoakamoanapilime Kanekauilaniuimakehaokalani Cook. Crabbe was a proud graduate and alumnus of the Kamehameha Schools.

He was an avid boxer growing up in Kalihi, and post-high school he enlisted in the Air Force during the Korean War. Upon his return to Honolulu, he married Rose on Sept. 24, 1955, at Sacred Heart Church. He is most known for his career as a captain with the Honolulu Fire Department for 32 years. Prior to his official service with HFD, in 1963 he was one of 25 founding charter members of the International Association of Fire Fighters, Uniformed Firefighters Association, Local No. 1463 of Hawai‘i, later known as the Hawai‘i Fire Fighters Association. He also was a popular doorman for the Hilton Hawaiian Village in the 1990s. In 1998, he and Rose moved to Kona’s La‘iopua Hawaiian Homestead. He lived out his final years as he returned to his childhood neighborhood of Kalihi, at an elderly care home. “Pau ka ‘oe hana, pio ka ‘oe ahi, pala ka ‘oe ‘ahui. Ho‘i ko kino wailua i ka po o na kupuna.” “Your work is done, your fire is extinguished, your banana bunch has ripened. May your spirit return safely to the resting place of our ancestors.”



City and County of Honolulu’s program administrator for the Department of Community Services, Community Based Development Division, where he fought to help individuals experiencing homelessness. Young lived a life of selflessness and unconditional love, and always made sure to give back to the community and those in need. Never wanting the spotlight himself, he helped numerous local politicians pursue public office, where they could positively impact the community. He was an active member of his community. In addition to serving on numerous community boards, he was a board member of the Waikele Community Association since 1994 and served as president for the last 13 years. A man of strong faith, he used his musical talents to serve God as a worship leader at Grace Honolulu Church, where he felt it was important to share his gifts and talents God had given him. It was also important to him to continually find opportunities to tell others about God’s goodness. Young was affectionately known as “The Mochi Man” because he always shared delicious mochi with friends and family for various occasions, especially at New Year’s gatherings. He loved to play music and enjoyed good food (specifically pizza and Hawaiian food) and spending time with family and friends. Young is survived by his wife, Jamie, with whom he had just celebrated their 33rd wedding anniversary; sons **Carson Young KSK’12** and **Zachary Young KSK’20**; his mother, Marjorie; brother **Kevin Young KSK’85** (Carolyn); and fat cat Poof.

■ **Lance H.K. Kenui Leong KSK’83**, 58, of Honolulu passed away on July 21, 2023. He was born on March 12, 1965, in Honolulu. He is survived by his wife, **Andrea Hussey-Leong KSK’83**; daughters **Lauren Kanoelani Leong KSK’12**, **Lindsey Mahealani Leong KSK’13** and Leiana Uilani Leong; mother Elizabeth Ching Ferguson; brothers **Lester Leong KSK’84** (Debra) and Lesley (Prada) Leong; stepsiblings, Patrick, James, Valle and Regina Ferguson; and nieces and nephews.

■ **Virginia Kealoha Nary KSK’84**, passed away peacefully on June 19, 2023, at Maui Memorial Medical Center with her family at her side. Also known by many as “Gin,” she was born on Aug. 5, 1966, in Honolulu. She was

David Earl Kaleoikaika Cooper KSK’59 (1941-2023)

Brig. Gen. (USA, retired)
David Earl Kaleoikaika Cooper KSK’59, 81,



passed away peacefully on May 17, 2023, in Alexandria, Virginia. General Cooper was the son of Robert and Lucy Kamaka Cooper, born Aug. 12, 1941, in Waikāne, Hawai‘i. He was a graduate of Kamehameha Schools and a 1963 graduate of the University of Hawai‘i, where he received his commission as a second lieutenant in the Army. Cooper served two tours of combat in Vietnam with the 173rd Airborne Brigade and the 25th Infantry Division. He retired as a brigadier general in 1993, receiving the Distinguished Service Medal, the Silver Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Legion of Merit with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Bronze Star with “V” device and two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Bronze Star with three Oak Leaf Clusters, and the Purple Heart with two Oak Leaf Clusters. Cooper and his family lived in 10 states and Europe during his military career. Some

his proudest assignments included serving as associate professor of Plebe English at West Point Military Academy, as a member of the Council on Foreign Relations in New York City, and as 2nd Brigade commander, 25th Infantry, Hawai‘i.

After 30 years of distinguished service, Cooper dedicated his remaining years to help Native Hawaiians and Pacific Americans. He is the founder of the Pacific American Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and Hui O Hana Pono, a Hawai‘i non-profit Native Hawaiian Organization, both of which he founded expressly for improving the lives of Native Hawaiians. Both organizations continue his legacy of serving the people of the Pacific. While Cooper’s life was devoted to his country, his heart always remained with his family and community in his ancestral home of Waikāne. Cooper is survived by his devoted wife of sixty years, Katherine Sachie Cooper, their three sons and their wives, nieces, nephews and four grandchildren, who were the light of his life. Cooper will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery.

raised in Kailua and was a proud graduate of Kamehameha Schools Kapālama.

■ **Cheyenne Keli‘i Chong Tim Jr. KSK’03**, 37, of Wai‘anae, died in Honolulu on May 14, 2023. He was born in Honolulu.

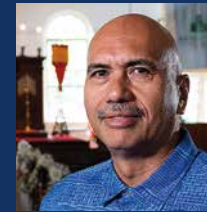
■ **Bryson Stephen Luke KSK’05** passed away on Aug. 14, 2023, just after his 36th birthday. A proud graduate of Kamehameha Schools, he received his Bachelor of Science degree in natural resource management from the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, College of Tropical Agriculture. As a true keiki o ka ‘āina, he melded his career as a biologist and his Hawaiian cultural identity and became a conservationist. He supported native habitat

restoration, reclaiming and restoring places in Hawai‘i to become sustainable again. Through his art, Bryson created his company, WAO Camouflage, with the vision of supporting pono hunting and native habitat restoration. His design featured native plants of the wao nahele (Hawaiian dry lowland forest) of which the beautiful and resilient wiliwili tree was prominent. As a beneficiary of Ke Ali‘i Pauahi’s gift of education, Bryson was able to fully embody aloha ‘āina in his life. He is survived by his parents and sister **Jasmine Luke KSK’08**.

■ Firefighter **Tre’ Puuwailaa Evans-Dumaran KSM’16** passed on Feb. 4, 2023.

‘Ōiwi Leadership: Alumni Presence

by Kahu **Brian “Kaunaloa” Boshard KSK’77**
Kamehameha Schools Hawai‘i



The Kamehameha Schools have been preparing nā alaka‘i lawelawe for over 136 faithful years. During my chaplaincy, I have had the honor of mentoring ‘ōiwi leaders to acknowledge their faith, their identity and their potential to strengthen their ‘ohana, their communities and beyond. I have also worked with blessed alumni who exemplify the goodness and grace of Ke Ali‘i Pauahi.

One such ‘ōiwi leader is **Micah Alameda**, a graduate of Kamehameha Schools Hawai‘i Ka Papa Nā Hiapo Class of 2006. Micah has emerged as a diligent community leader whose governance experience includes work as a political strategist, marketing manager and local producer, as well as various volunteer work. This brilliant young Kanaka Maoli has established himself as a vibrant and dependable organizer and supporter of community events that have benefitted the well-being of our local people. Micah shares this inspirational mana‘o: “As a husband and father raising ‘ōiwi leaders, there is no time more than now that I feel Kamehameha Schools and my Pauahi lens are genuinely helping me reach my most important goal of uplifting and preparing my ‘ohana to serve our lāhui.”

Although Micah gives credit for his success to his ‘ohana, local mentors, proven leaders and nā kumu from Kamehameha Schools, he explains why he is a thankful alumnus:

“The one thing that remains constant is our faith in Ke Akua and our love for each other. As a community, as a lāhui, our faith reminds us that we are not without hope.”

I Peter 2:9 highlights our calling to excellence: “But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.” Becoming a thriving lāhui is the hopeful call to all ‘Ōiwi Leaders, I mua Kamehameha e!



Ka ‘ohana Alameda: Micah, wife Charlee Reucia KSH’08, daughter Kaeha and son Micah Jr.

“The one thing that remains constant is our faith in Ke Akua and our love for each other. As a community, as a lāhui, our faith reminds us that we are not without hope.”

Micah Alameda KSH’06



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