

FALL 2015

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

A MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

POST GRADUATE WORK

From college sports to
state championships—
how it happened

ALL THAT JAZZ

Jazz loving music makers get a
taste of a musician's life

ASK THE EXPERTS

Find out what Hawai'i wants to know



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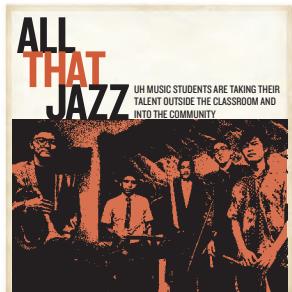
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UH MAGAZINE

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“People say I
look too young
to live at
15 Craigside.”

Sharon Maekawa
15 Craigside resident



“I tell them we’re all young at heart here. I was heartbroken, alone and in poor health after my husband and daughter unexpectedly passed. Not wanting to depend on others for my well-being, I moved into 15 Craigside. Thanks to the care and support of staff and residents, I’m now healthy and happy. Friends helped and inspired me to start the Hawaii Heart Foundation in tribute to my daughter. 15 Craigside changed my life.”



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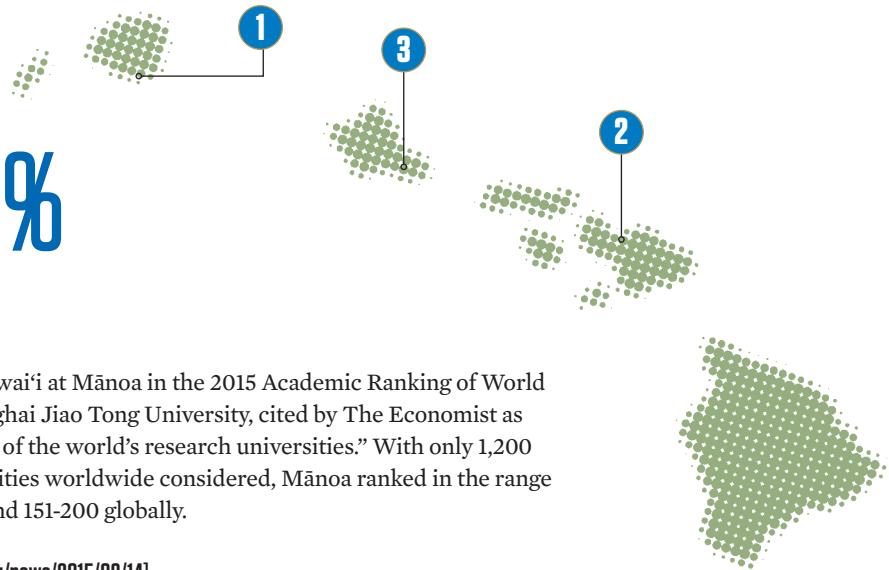
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TOP 1%

Placement of University of Hawai'i at Mānoa in the 2015 Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) by Shanghai Jiao Tong University, cited by The Economist as the “most widely used ranking of the world’s research universities.” With only 1,200 out of 20,000 research universities worldwide considered, Mānoa ranked in the range of 66-78 in the United States and 151-200 globally.

[www.shanghairanking.com; hawaii.edu/news/2015/09/14]



1 KAUAI WONDER BREADFRUIT

One of the original “canoe” plants carried by Polynesian explorers, breadfruit (‘ulu in Hawaiian) has never enjoyed the popularity or commercial success as taro, coconut or sweet potato. Kaua‘i Community College Agriculture Instructor Sharad Marahatta and students aim to change that with the Ulutopia Project, the first scientifically designed field experiment on the potential of ‘ulu as a major field crop for food and reforestation.

“Our students learn hands-on field methodology, real data analysis on the best fertilizers, ground covers, pest control etc. as part of a larger initiative to encourage commercially growing breadfruit,” says the Nepal-born Marahatta (PhD ’11, Mānoa) of Ulutopia’s plantings in December 2014 and spring 2015 on two acres on campus. First harvest is expected in three to five years.

The Project also offers technical support to local farmers starting ‘ulu plantings. Partnerships with National Tropical Botanical Garden on Kaua‘i, University of British Columbia and UH Mānoa enable sharing of technical know-how and first time data observations to help promote sustainable communities. Marahatta says potential ‘ulu food products include gluten-free flour, snack chips and alcoholic beverages.

2 MAUI TACKLING HACKERS AND HEALTH CARE

What do data breaches at Sony, Target and the federal Office of Personnel Management have in common with rapidly evolving health care programs? Both are part of high profile industries in critical need of workers trained to help meet new and never-before-seen challenges.

“Every potential employer will need to address cybersecurity issues, and every community will face the implementation of the Affordable Care Act,” says Georgina Kawamura, program director of TAACCCT (Trade Adjustment Act Community College and Career Training) Round 4 at UH Maui, the lead campus of a seven-campus UH Community Colleges consortium. Since fall 2014, the \$10 million federal grant has enabled Kaua‘i, Leeward, Honolulu, Windward, Kapi‘olani, Maui and Hawai‘i campuses to develop new or retool existing training programs. Each college’s focus on one or both areas will be based on individual program strengths and community needs, says Kawamura.

The goal is to create improved job opportunities, wages and sustainable career paths for students seeking such jobs as information security analyst, IT engineer and network administrator in cybersecurity, and school health aides and community health clinic workers in health.

3 MĀNOA

“We decided we needed more sleep.”

Benjamin J. Fulton, UH Mānoa astronomy graduate student, on creating new software to run a “night-shift” robot for the round-the-clock, more than 10-year search to discover three “super-Earth” planets orbiting a star in a newly found system only 54 light-years from Earth. Part of a team from Hawai‘i, California and Arizona observatories, Fulton, the lead author of the discovery’s paper, will now lead a larger, two-year planet-finding campaign as part of a survey of the 50 most promising nearby stars to our sun.

[Honolulu Star-Advertiser 4/29/15; see paper “Three super-Earths orbiting HD 7924, *Astrophysical Journal*: arxiv.org/abs/1504.06629]

PHOTOS: ODEELO DAYONDON, HAWAII SPACE EXPLORATION ANALOG AND SIMULATION



EARTH TO MARS — Former Web designer Rob Barreca (left), now a North Shore farmer, first got his hands dirty here at UH Waimanalo Research Station through GoFarm Hawai‘i, a UH Agribusiness Incubator program, begun in 2014, to train more local growers to help increase our food

security and sustainability. On Mauna Loa, UH Hilo alumna Sophie Milam (BA physics, BS astronomy, ’10), shown here “exploring Mars” in an MX-C spacesuit, spent eight months earlier this year with five other aspiring astronauts sealed in a crowded dome for the third UH-led NASA-funded

Mars space travel simulation project, Hawai‘i Space Exploration Analog and Simulation (HI-SEAS).

www.gofarmhawaii.org
[“Mars on Mauna Loa”](#)
<http://hilo.hawaii.edu/news/stories/2015/06/04/mars/>

“We have proven...to the scientific community that something people thought was not possible can be done with fighting this virus.”

Axel Lehrer, UH medical school's principal investigator, on the development at JABSOM of an Ebola virus vaccine, in partnership with Hawai'i Biotech, Inc., now ready for human clinical trials—a key milestone in vaccine development—and currently contingent on funding of \$3-5 million. The virus killed more than 10,000 people in West Africa in 2014.

[Interview: Hawaii News Now Sunrise 5/21/15; “UH partnership pursues vaccine against Ebola,” Honolulu Star-Advertiser 5/20/15]



PHOTO: NIXXPHOTOGRAPHY/THINKSTOCK

28.5

Percent of Asia-Pacific languages considered endangered of the world's 7,106 languages, according to the Catalogue of Endangered Languages, UH Department of Linguistics, which created the International Conference on Language Documentation and Conservation, whose fourth conference in February 2015 drew 500 participants representing 150 languages worldwide.

[Interview: ICLDC Co-chair Andrea Berez-Kroeker 7/14/2015; endangeredlanguages.com]

“The colors are incredible... just an incredible visual diversity as you look out.”

8
Fall 2015

Ruth Gates, director of the UH Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology and expert on corals, who dived with the crew of the Hōkūle'a on its Mālama Honua worldwide journey in Australia's Great Barrier Reef, home to more than 600 corals over 1,600 miles of reef. With corals worldwide susceptible to climate change, Gates has devoted decades to finding hardy species to endure the warmer, acidic seas of the future.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GATES LAB

[UH press release; “Hōkūle'a's crews head underwater to explore the Great Barrier Reef” 6/23/15]

“I'm, like, sitting there chatting with NASA, shooting the breeze.”

Deb Pei, HonCC liberal arts student enrolled in UH Mānoa's mechanical engineering program, on Project Imua, as one of 16 UH (and nationwide the only) community college students (Honolulu, Windward, Kapi'olani and Kaua'i) participating in a national \$500,000 NASA Space grant. Designed by the students to collect and analyze the sun's UV rays, the Project Imua unit was launched in a NASA-funded rocket flight in August.

[“Making their case for space,” Honolulu Star-Advertiser 6/12/15]

\$425M

Total in sponsored funds received by UH in FY2015, an increase of 8.5 percent, the first growth after three years of decline. UH Vice President for Research and Innovation Vassilis Syrmos noted “healthy increases for UH cancer center and UH medical school.” His office facilitates most of UH's larger grants involving interdisciplinary work with faculty teams.

[Hawaii News Now Sunrise interview 8/03/15; Honolulu Star-Advertiser 7/27/15]

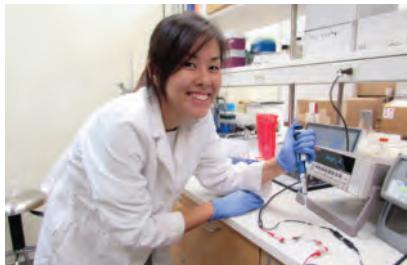
972

Academic Performance Rate average (out of 1,000 points) for a four-year period (2010-2014) matches UH athletics' highest multiyear all-team average for NCAA's academic measuring stick. Beginning in 2003, APR evaluates current academic eligibility, retention and rate of graduation. UH football's score of 966 was the highest in the program's history.

[“UH academic report ties best ever,” Honolulu Star-Advertiser Sports 5/28/15]

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Keeping Food Safe and Tasty

As an undergrad, Food Science alumna Kara Yamada helped develop recipes for UH's Kulanui brand. After internships with Meadow Gold and Hawaiian Host, she did her MS thesis with advisor Soojin Jun on creating a portable biosensor to rapidly detect food-borne pathogens. Winner of awards at the college's Student Research Symposium and the international Institute of Food Technologists competition, Kara helped mentor a high school student who also won at the State Science Fair! Now Kara's a specialist at the Honolulu Cookie Company.

Growing a Business

A Hilo native, alumnus Sean Aukanaii Fong draws on degrees in Tropical Plant and Soil Sciences and Hawaiian Studies to create a company serving the 'āina and the community. His company Hawaiian Turfgrass features grasses requiring less water and fertilizer and grows its sod on compost made of 100% recycled green waste. From only 1/7 acre in 2006, he's expanded to 67.5 acres and employs 8 workers—by age 31! No wonder he won the Young Entrepreneur of the Year award from the Small Business Administration!

Aspiring Vets on the Move

Heard it's tough to get into veterinary school? Not for Animal Sciences graduates Krista Ann Lee and Kyle Peacott-Ricardos! They're not only pursuing DVMs in UC-Davis's highly selective program; together they received almost \$300,000 of funding to do it—including prestigious Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) State of Hawaii Scholarships! But their success isn't so surprising—UHM was recently rated in the Top 10 Pre-Vet Colleges in the U.S. by the Vet Tech Colleges website, primarily for programs in CTAHR!



Passion for Fashion

Fashion Design and Merchandising undergrad Jeremy Divinagracia embraces multiple aspects of the fashion industry. The CTAHR Fashion Show director works at Macy's and as studio tech for the 'Olelo TV show *Hawai'i Fashion Now*. He also joined FDM professor Andy Reilly's study-abroad trip this past summer, taking a course on fashion and society in 20th-century Germany and experiencing the excitement of Berlin's fashion week. There he was "discovered" by Marcin Kleiber, designer and founder of the menswear brand Evidence on Monday, and asked to model in his fashion show!

HortScholar on a Mission

What is the (highly competitive!) HortScholars program? Just ask Horticulture PhD student Emily Teng, who was selected as one of only six from across the country. It offers education, networking opportunities, and professional development experience while increasing students' knowledge, industry awareness, and career enthusiasm. But enthusiasm isn't an issue for Emily, who values her research into poinsettia pigmentation and her job at a local nursery as "hands-on work that makes a difference in people's lives," explaining that her research aims to help local growers.

Protecting the Pulelehua

Colby Maeda, with a BS and now pursuing an MS in Plant and Environmental Protection Sciences, wonders what's eating the caterpillars. The state insect, the Kamehameha butterfly or pulelehua, is in dramatic decline. Colby, with his advisor William Haines, is searching for reasons, such as introduced predators and parasitoids. Much of his research involves hiking in the butterfly's natural habitat, monitoring predation of eggs and larvae, but he's just as good at presenting his findings, winning best poster awards at the college's last two Student Research Symposia.

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Q&A

*Japanese American Citizens League Honolulu
President Jacce Mikulanec (no, he's not Japanese)
on why 2015 is a meaningful year for civil rights,
and why Hawai'i matters*

From Iowa to Hawai'i, from anthropology to advocacy, how did this happen for you?

I grew up surrounded by different kinds of people because my family was involved in social justice issues and public service. My mother helped establish the local food and clothing bank. As kids, my sister and I cleaned the children's play area including the toilets. I learned early on it's about giving back. My 94-year-old grandfather is a big influence, a Methodist minister who lived in Iowa all his life. He's all about inclusiveness, thinking bigger and larger than yourself. Hawai'i with its diversity, off the Mainland out in the Pacific, was a natural for me to pursue my master's degree in anthropology ('04, Mānoa). Studying people, I learned to listen, observe, think critically. While in school, I clerked for Brian Schatz, in the state House and again as lieutenant governor. I discovered the "anthropology of politics." It has its own language, cultural forms and dynamics to change legislation into law.

Why did you decide on Hawai'i as you moved away from academia and toward current civil and political engagement?

Hawai'i is a small place where trust and relationships matter, where having the chance to work on policy issues with a U.S. senator or grassroots community folk is possible. I like people and have a genuine interest in their stories, how they relate to an issue and how this can inform public policy to make things better for a greater number of people. Working "in the system" (also for former City Council member Donovan Dela Cruz and former state House Majority Leader Blake Oshiro), I learned how policy affects different populations. To make policy meaningful, you have to know how the system works to try to make changes.

You stood by President Obama in February when he signed the national monument declaration for World War II Honouliuli Internment Camp. In June the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed marriage equality and the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare). Is 2015 a landmark year for advocacy?

An incredibly meaningful year for social rights. This year also moved some important issues off the table and cleared the way for new things to emerge, and for a deeper look at ongoing concerns. Early childhood education (Question 4) did not pass last year, but we as a state had a conversation we've never had before that engaged partners in business, philanthropy and more, changed a lot of hearts, and needs to



continue. At JACL, the nation's oldest and largest Asian-American civil rights organization, we see more to be done with immigration, transgender rights, access to quality healthcare, discrimination faced by COFA (Compact of Free Association) migrant citizens, etc.

Do you ever get exhausted doing work that can be so contentious and emotionally wrenching?

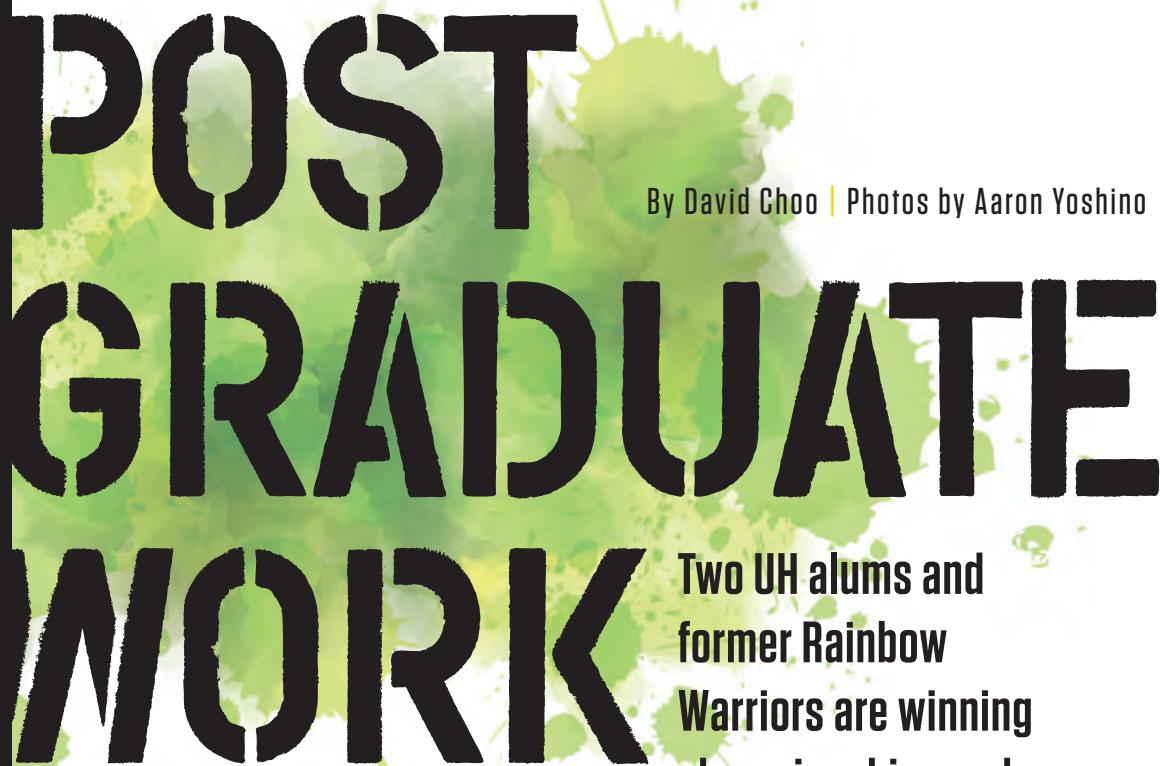
I'll never forget working with Blake on the civil unions bill (eventually passed in 2011), when it first failed to move on the House floor. Two young people in the gallery yelled out, "Shame on you. We are your sons and daughters." Winning is great, but process is so important and it can take decades. I had to learn to step back, keep perspective, respect and earn the respect of "the other side," and go on with the day-to-day work. When you get a win, you have a responsibility to then reinvest yourself. I believe that once you stand, you are committed to walk. I feel fortunate to live in a critical time for civil rights. If I don't help do it, will it get done?

Mikulanec currently works in government relations for Hawaii Medical Service Association.

— GAIL MIYASAKI

A photograph of two coaches standing on concrete bleachers. The coach on the left is wearing a dark blue polo shirt with 'CAMPBELL Baseball' and a Nike swoosh logo, paired with blue jeans and grey athletic shoes. He has his arms crossed. The coach on the right is wearing a dark blue hoodie with yellow stripes on the sleeves and a graphic that includes the word 'CHAMPS', dark blue shorts, and white athletic shoes with orange laces. He also has his arms crossed. Both are wearing baseball caps. In the background, other people are visible on the bleachers.

Rory Pico,
Campbell High
School baseball
head coach,
Rod York,
Mililani High
School football
head coach



POST GRADUATE WORK

By David Choo | Photos by Aaron Yoshino

Two UH alums and
former Rainbow
Warriors are winning
championships and
changing lives.

Great athletes don't necessarily make good coaches. But good coaches do inspire greatness in their players and pride in their communities. Meet two 2014-2015 state championship coaches, who both gained their higher education in academic and athletic rigor and competition at the University of Hawai'i. Find out why they were "ready" to inspire young local talent to become champions and, in doing so, to give new meaning to "giving back" by raising the bar in athletic excellence in two growing Central and West O'ahu communities.

THE SURVIVOR

You might say that Rory Pico's University of Hawai'i baseball career began under adverse circumstances. With bases loaded in the eighth inning against No. 1-ranked University of Miami with only one out in a 1997 game, Pico, a freshman from 'Ewa Beach, was summoned to put an end to the Hurricanes' rally. But Pico was a shortstop, not a pitcher.

The Rainbows' pitching staff was exhausted beating the Hurricanes in extra innings the night before. A desperate Coach Les Murakami asked if someone had a good curve ball. A player pointed at Pico.

"I thought, 'Is this a joke?'" says Pico. "Then, the next thing I know, I'm on the mound against the No. 1 team in the country."

Pico's first two pitches were in the dirt, but eventually he was able to escape the inning, giving up just two runs. In his next inning, Pico struck out two Hurricanes, but not before giving up a three-run bomb of historic proportions.

"The batter just golfed my curve ball over the centerfield fence, and it almost hit the security guard shack at the back gate. My teammates said that it was the farthest they'd ever seen a ball hit," says Pico. "I'm just glad the game was on the radio and not TV or more people might be saying the same thing."

Today, Pico can laugh about his baptism by fire in a spectacular loss, knowing now that Coach Murakami knew that his young shortstop wouldn't be traumatized by the experience. How players deal with adversity, says Pico, is the key to baseball, sports or even life.

Pico (BA '00, Mānoa) returned to his high school alma mater after graduation and was named head coach of Campbell's baseball team in 2004. In recent years, the state's largest high school, consistently producing one of the top baseball programs under his guidance, has been a heartbreak-ing also-ran, finishing runner-up in the Hawai'i



Rory Pico,
Campbell High School
baseball head coach

High School Athletic Association State Championships in 2013 and 2014. But last season, for the first time since 1978, Campbell won it all in a thrilling extra-inning 3-2 win against Mid-Pacific Institute.

Pico, named 2015 All-State Baseball Coach of the Year, may have to get used to being a perennial

Rod York,
Mililani High School
football head coach



top contender, with a growing pool of talented West O'ahu youth from young families attracted to one of West O'ahu's fastest growing communities surrounding the high school.

Pico's own UH baseball career, filled with challenges and adversity, prepped him for the long road to the championship. While chronic injuries limited playing time during his sophomore and junior years, he played most of his senior season, starting nearly every conference game. But on the last road trip of the year, a serious knee injury not only ended his season but also any hopes of ever playing baseball again.

Says Pico, "I knew I'd have to do other things to stay involved in the game."

Spending a lot of bench time disabled in the dugout enabled him to develop a deep appreciation and understanding of baseball. He kept statistics on pitchers and studied pitch sequences. He observed the chess matches between opposing coaches, between pitcher and batter, even between catcher and batter. From his dugout "classroom," Pico began to understand why baseball is considered a thinking person's game.

One of the first things Pico did after taking the head job at Campbell was to contact Les Nakama, his former UH infield coach, who drew up a detailed plan for his program and offered the young coach thoughtful, Yoda-like advice. Now it's Pico who sounds like a sage.

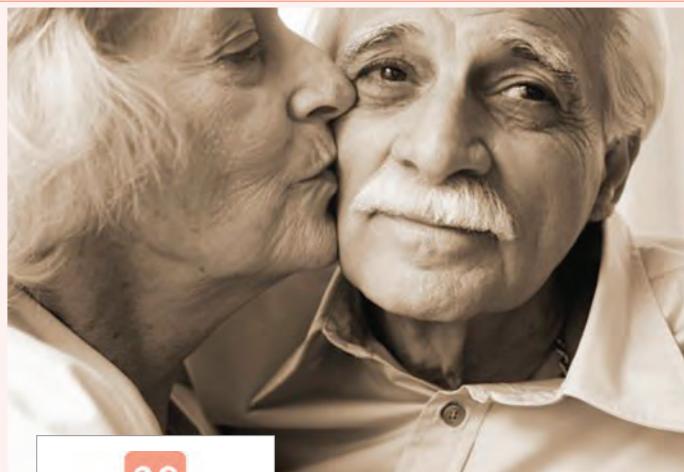
"In baseball, like in any sport, you fail. You don't make the pitch or you strike out with the bases loaded," says Pico. "I want my guys to play the game the right way and do the right thing—on the field and everywhere else. When you do the right thing, more likely than not, you'll be OK."

THE GRINDER

After the Mililani Trojans won the 2014 Hawai'i High School Athletic Association State Football Championship, beating Punahoa School in a 53-45 shootout, Rod York's friends gave him a hard time, saying that the head coach didn't look very happy on the sidelines. After all, it was the first state football championship for O'ahu's first master-planned community's only public high school, and it came

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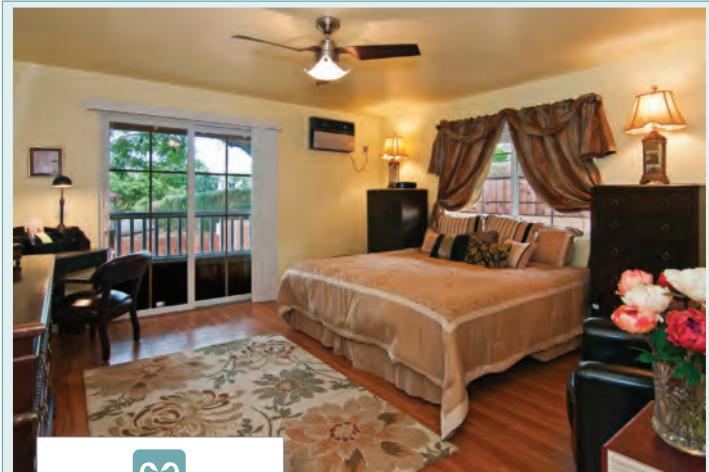


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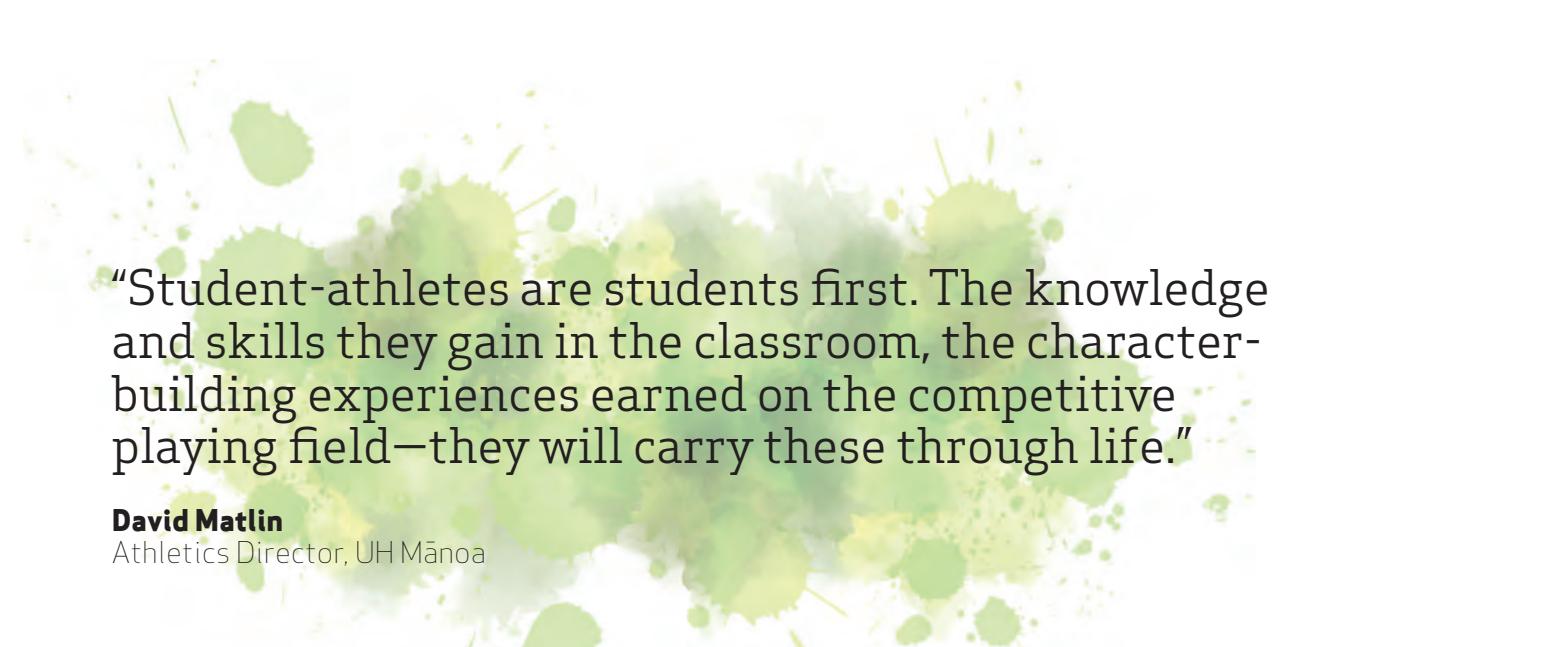


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"Student-athletes are students first. The knowledge and skills they gain in the classroom, the character-building experiences earned on the competitive playing field—they will carry these through life."

David Matlin

Athletics Director, UH Mānoa

after a tough second place finish the year before—another close game against Punahoa.

"I told them that football is an everyday grind and that was just another day," York says without sarcasm at a preseason practice for this fall's season after the big win. "I can honestly say that we came to the practice field this season with the same attitude we had last season. Winning or losing the state title made no difference."

York is a grinder, who tries to instill a "humble but hungry" attitude with his team, even his star players, who this year include the state's top prep stand-outs for college recruiters at quarterback, receiver and running back. A 1991 'Iolani School graduate, York was a walk-on defensive lineman for the Rainbow Warriors, wearing the yellow practice jersey of a non-scholarship player.

"When you're a walk-on, you're sixth, seventh, maybe eighth string," says York. "For two years, I tried to get bigger, faster and stronger and for two years they kept giving me the yellow jersey. The day I got my green jersey [the color of the defensive team] was one of the happiest days of my life. I thank [Head] Coach [Bob] Wagner and my D-line Coach [Kanani] Souza for giving me the opportunity to play and get the education that I use today."

A starter on the defensive line for the Rainbow Warriors' 1994 and 1995 seasons, York never forgot how tough and humbling it was to battle for a spot on the team every day at every practice, memories he carries with him to this day.

Coaching football was not on York's mind after graduation when he got a job teaching at Leilehua High School in 2003. Approached by the head coach to join the staff, York decided to give it a try. He was hooked after the first day.

Seeking out coaching positions at several O'ahu high schools but turned down for his lack of experience, York, instead of being discouraged, did what he does best, put his nose to the grindstone. At the urging of former UH teammate, Denver Bronco defensive end and Mililani star athlete Maa Tanuvasa, York joined the Mililani football staff in 2008. Two years later, he was named head coach when Darnell Arceneaux left to take over the head coaching job at St. Louis School.

"Coaching for me was never about winning championships and, of course, it's not about making money," says York (BA '97, Mānoa). "It's always been about making an impact on kids' lives."

Under York, the state's fourth largest high school, established in 1973, has been transformed from perpetual also-ran to perennial power, notching in 2010 a best nine-win season for the school and improving on that number in 2012 and 2013. And then, of course, there was the first in 40 years 2014 undefeated championship run long-awaited by this Central O'ahu community of 50,000. But for York, the 2014 All State Football Coach of the Year, all that talk of past accolades is a waste of time. He's focused on the task at hand—the daily grind. After all, Mililani was ranked #1 in pre-season by the Honolulu Star-Advertiser to repeat as state football champs.

"I'm the walk-on who got to be a starter, the dishwasher who ended up becoming the general manager. It was always about doing the little things," says York. "I stress to my kids to respect their parents, respect their teachers and get to practice on time. They do what they need to do, and we'll make sure that they leave Mililani a much better person than when they came."



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Fall 2015

Hawai‘i Wants to Know

Six UH experts, among many more from its 10 campuses, offer answers to questions you'd like to know, ought to know or you're pleased to know

COMPILED BY: GAIL MIYASAKI | PHOTOS BY: ODEELO DAYONDON

You've seen them on TV, heard them on the radio, read their comments in the newspaper and maybe listened to one or two on a topical forum. They're experts from the University of Hawai'i tapped to provide our community with a diverse range of information, expertise and, oh yes, opinion. From government agencies and nonprofits to banks, utilities and hotels as well as small businesses, art and environmental groups, community activists and more, they offer data-based research, and educated and experienced insight to inform, guide, influence, and sometimes to warn and sometimes to calm.

They can help us make better decisions for a better community by offering informed analyses and thoughts on: How did we get here? What is happening? Where are we going?

Joy Ann Nagaue

Professor, Fashion Technology

Honolulu Community College

Can Hawai'i develop and sustain a fashion industry in the Pacific?

Forty-six years have gone by since I sold my first mu'umu'u design. The year was 1969. Hawai'i was different then and our fashion industry was robust and so creative. For various reasons, the industry is now lagging but I am hopeful that we can turn it around. I know firsthand, through teaching at Honolulu Community College for the last 36 years, that Hawai'i has the capabilities and the talent. The industry is still around; it just needs to change its collective mindset. Our customers are different. They are technologically savvy and informed. They want the latest now. We need to re-invent a better mu'umu'u. One that is globally desirable and available. We CAN and must do it soon.



Colin Moore

Assistant Professor, Political Science

UH Mānoa

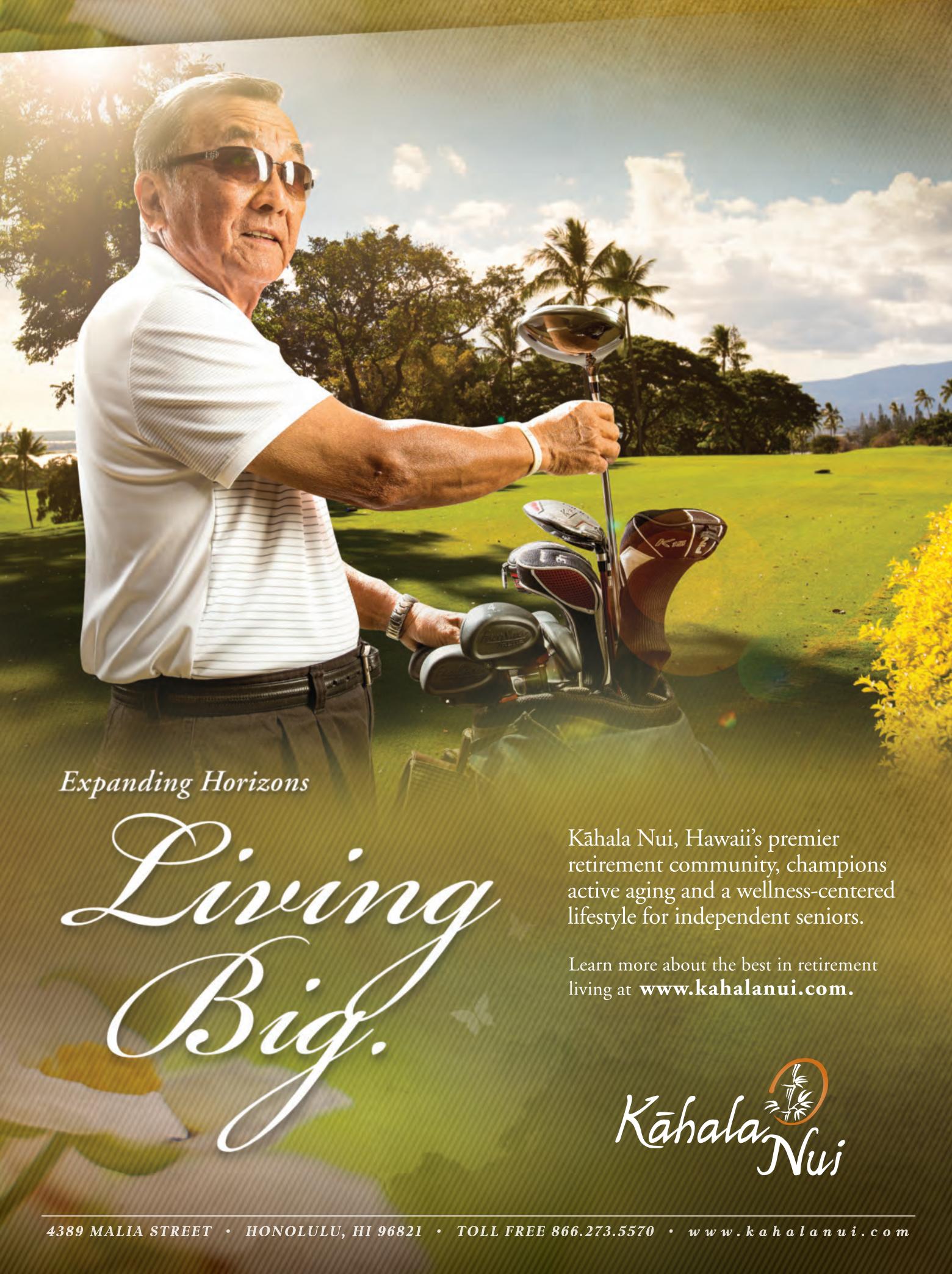
Political Analyst, Hawaii News Now

Will the Democratic Party continue to dominate Hawai'i politics?

Yes—and for three reasons: 1) History. Hawai'i is among the most Democratic states in the country, giving the Party a significant advantage in any election—even before the campaigning begins. Most young people join the political party of their parents, so this edge in voter registration is unlikely to change soon. 2) Labor Union Strength. Hawai'i has one of the highest rates of union affiliation in the United States. These unions provide campaign contributions to Democratic candidates and mobilize voters. 3) Hawai'i's Asian-American Majority. Asian-Americans in Hawai'i and throughout the nation overwhelmingly favor the Democratic Party.

For more from Moore on Hawai'i politics: http://www.staradvertiser.com/editorialspremium/20150524_Ignoring_inequality_yet_again.html





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Kāhala Nui



Maria Gallo

Dean and Director for Research and Cooperative Extension
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources

UH Mānoa

Can Hawai'i support long term food sustainability in an island community?

As we are in the International Year of Soils in 2015, declared by the UN General Assembly, I bring your attention to our soils as the medium for growing food, feed, fiber, fuel and medicinal plants to sustain life. It is a filter that holds and cleans water, and a sponge that absorbs greenhouse gasses. It is a habitat for billions of microorganisms and invertebrates that make up a quarter of our world's biodiversity. Hawai'i has most of the soil types found on Earth in a climate that allows year-round cultivation. Explore our soils using the Hawai'i Soil Atlas (see below) and collaborate with our scientists to increase its agricultural value. Never forget that the future of long term food sustainability in Hawai'i depends on the stewardship of our soils. Mālama ka 'āina.

<http://gis.ctahr.hawaii.edu/SoilAtlas#map>

Carl S. Bonham

Professor, Economics
Executive Director, UHERO (University of Hawai'i Economic Research Organization)

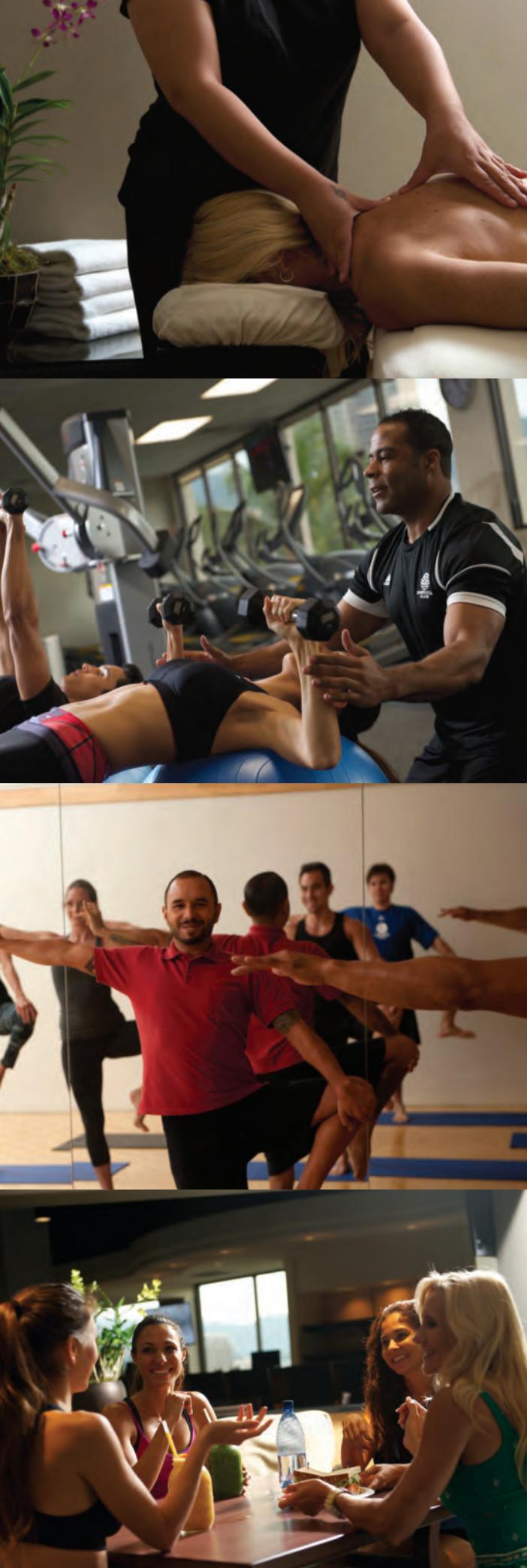
UH Mānoa

Are we in the 9th inning yet?

Hawai'i is in its fifth year of economic growth, and with a little luck there are still several innings left in this game. The expansion remains delicate with key drivers such as tourism and federal spending unlikely to contribute much growth. Signs of the potential for continued expansion include the significant need for residential housing statewide, along with modest increases in median resale prices and the continued growth in Hawai'i's labor force. Barring potential disruptions that typically originate offshore in the form of recessions, policy mistakes, or natural disasters, Hawai'i's economic expansion should continue, slowly spreading and benefiting more of Hawai'i's citizens. Like any economic forecast, take with several grains of salt.

www.uhero.hawaii.edu





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Karl Kim

Professor, Urban and Regional Planning

UH Mānoa

Director, Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance Program – Executive Director, National Disaster Preparedness Training Center

Are Hawai‘i’s cities prepared to survive hurricanes and other disasters?

Increasing the resilience of our cities to natural hazards is the focus of our FEMA-funded National Disaster Preparedness Training Center. Hurricane wind damage is a primary concern, but for Hawai‘i and island communities, damage from inland flooding and storm surges along coastlines can also threaten life and property. Our training courses for architects, engineers, planners and developers integrate science and research to design, site and protect buildings (and their contents and occupants) from wind, water and debris hazards. Quick recovery from disasters is an important aspect of resilience. Here nature gives us valuable lessons. We should use locally available materials and indigenous building practices to design energy efficient, naturally lighted and ventilated buildings and systems able to function after loss of power. In this way, resilience and sustainability are mutually supporting community goals.

Check out: ndptc.hawaii.edu; ndpc.us
See also: <http://youtu.be/nooIpodGdM8>

Sarah Yuan

Associate Specialist, Center on the Family
Lead Author, *Homeless Service Utilization Reports*

UH Mānoa

Who are our homeless?

Homelessness is a complex housing, health and social issue. Hawai‘i’s homeless can come from all walks of life and their obstacles in obtaining stable housing may vary. Understanding these people is therefore a critical first step in creating an effective and sustainable solution to end homelessness in our community. Our Center’s most recent Report revealed that, of the 14,300 people who received homeless assistance per year: 47 percent were in families, with 53 percent of them children; 30 percent recently homeless and accessing services for the first time; 23 percent of adults chronically homeless and suffering from a disabling health condition; and 16 percent of adults lived in Hawai‘i for less than three years prior to accessing homeless services.

For more information: *Annual Homeless Service Utilization Report and its Statistical Supplement* <http://uhfamily.hawaii.edu/publications/list.aspx>



ALL THAT JAZZ

BY TIFFANY HILL
PHOTOS BY ODEELO DAYONDON



UH MUSIC STUDENTS ARE TAKING THEIR TALENT OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM AND INTO THE COMMUNITY



HARMONIC ODYSSEY: L-R Daniel Sananikone, Frederick Mariano (filling in for Sean Mitchell), Antonio Burruso, Grant Carvalho, Bronson Nishikida.

On a Tuesday afternoon in a small, upstairs classroom in the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Music Department, four guys are unpacking their brass, woodwind and string instruments, and laying out the cords for the accompanying higher-tech keyboards they recently added to their repertoire. They get together each week, but it's not for class or to rehearse

for an upcoming recital at the Orvis Auditorium on campus. They've been jamming in the classroom for roughly one year, when they started their own jazz band, Harmonic Odyssey.

Harmonic Odyssey comprises UH music students Daniel Sananikone and Grant Carvalho, on trumpet and piano respectively; bassist Antonio Burruso; Bronson Nishikida on saxophone and Sean Mitchell on drums.

The band's establishment was kismet. Sananikone heard about Carvalho's talent behind the bench and the two started talking. It just so happened that Carvalho's former piano instructor, Carolyn Stanton, and her husband Tim had opened Medici's in April 2014, a cozy jazz club nestled on the second floor of the Mānoa Marketplace. (During the day, it doubles as the Mānoa School of Art and Music where Carolyn teaches). In addition to booking professional performers at the club, including local favorites Honolulu Jazz Quartet and national headliner Dana Hall, the Stantons wanted Medici's to be a venue that supported and showcased nearby UH music students. Sananikone brought on the other three. They chose a band name, found a practice space and have since been playing the first Thursday each month at Medici's.

Each of the guys is classically trained; they've been playing their particular instrument since they were kids. (Sananikone is getting his bachelor's degree in trumpet performance; Carvalho, his master's in piano performance). In coming together, they realized they were looking to shake up their musical routines, and increase their opportunity to play in front of an audience. But more than anything, Harmonic Odyssey is about jazz.

"We all love small group jazz," says Carvalho. "It's the one thing that UH doesn't offer us as students...so we took things into our own hands."

"Jazz is malleable," adds Nishikida. "Everything is influenced by jazz."

Their arrangement with Medici's struck a chord with the band, club owners and audience alike. On a recent Thursday, they played soulful renditions of Herbie Hancock's "Butterfly" and George Gershwin's "Summertime." Sananikone even sang and played an original solo piece. The group performs standards, including Duke Ellington, Thelonious Monk and modern jazz greats, such as Roy Hargrove. The audience



Frederick Mariano, Bronson Nishikida, Daniel Sananikone and Antonio Burruso.

jazz guitarist Gilbert Batangan. Nishikida does sound engineering and Mitchell plays with a local Latin band.

The band's exposure is also helping them learn the less-fun, but necessary business side of being musicians. As a band, they organize their schedule and are learning to negotiate performance fees, says Sananikone.

"We treat them like professionals," adds Tim Stanton. "We advertise them and pay them. They represent the future of jazz and blues."

All of this out-of-class experience has been enlightening. While each says that Honolulu is a musician-friendly city, most have a Plan B if they can't quite cut it full-time. "I believe every person (in

the band) can survive as a professional musician," says Sananikone, looking at his fellow members. "We have a lot of talent. But we have our own back-ups." After graduation from the music department, he's seriously considering law school. Burruso is currently studying massage therapy, Mitchell is studying to be counselor and Nishikida already works as a sound engineer.

For now, though, it's all about the music. "We're taking this opportunity as a group to experiment with music," says Sananikone. "We're starting to write originals and doing modern stuff that is little more complex. It's been fun."



Grant Carvalho on piano at Medici's.

bobbed their heads and tapped their feet along—even if several of the biggest fans were parents.

The steady Medici's gig has led to additional performances for Harmonic Odyssey, including performing at UH department graduation parties and as background music at events. "This gives us the opportunity to perform frequently on a regular basis," says Carvalho, "It's valuable to us to get the experience in front of people."

They also have their own side projects. Carvalho plays piano at Signature Steakhouse. Burruso has played with

Honored: Laura Smith | 2015 YWCA of O'ahu LeaderLuncheon

Career Navigator

Compassion and caring came naturally for Goodwill Industries of Hawaii President/CEO Laura Smith, one of four outstanding women leaders recognized by YWCA of O'ahu. "I've always had a passion for helping people," says the Kailua High School graduate who took a social work class at Honolulu Community College. That introduction later solidified as her career calling through the UH social work program's opportunity to do community work helping real people in need. As Smith journeyed from social worker to CEO, Goodwill also transformed into Hawai'i's fifth largest nonprofit, ranking 166 among Hawai'i's 2015 Top 250 companies and with services expanding from serving 300 to 15,000 annually.

"Skills training aren't the only things to help those in need go to work," says Smith about the changes at Goodwill, which she joined in 1982, the same year she earned her BA in social work at Mānoa. Over time, Goodwill developed career pathway options that responded to new ways of learning and new needs of the job market. Instead of running its own job skills programs, Goodwill formed partnerships to offer community college and online courses. Expanding its workshops and counseling added "soft skills" requested by employers for workers able to communicate, think critically, and get along with others to serve customers. "We call ourselves today Career Navigators," says Smith.

When offered Goodwill's top job in 1994, Smith said, "Sure, why not?" but admits she wondered if she could do it. Goodwill's strong executive training and leadership network helped build her business management skills and confidence. She had to discover how to embrace both the financial reality of running a business and the idealism of serving others. Under her watch, the used clothing retailer has launched recycling, salvage, tax prep, janitorial services (often giving its clients their first job resume listing). Its annual fashion fundraiser GLAM! attracts 3,000, and the nonprofit recently purchased its Beretania Street location to expand services.

"What's awesome is meeting someone helped by Goodwill 10 years ago now successful in mid-career," says Smith, whose entrepreneurial mind still beats with a social worker's heart.

— GAIL MIYASAKI



PHOTO: ODEELO DAYONDON

AWARDED

Nainoa Thompson (BA '86, Mānoa), captain of the legendary voyaging canoe Hōkūle'a and Polynesian Voyaging Society president, the 2015 Peter Benchley Ocean Award, considered the world's preeminent ocean honors, for Excellence in Exploration for his contributions to marine conservation and exploration as the first Hawaiian in seven

centuries to successfully practice the ancient Polynesian art of "way-finding," long-distance non-instrument navigation.



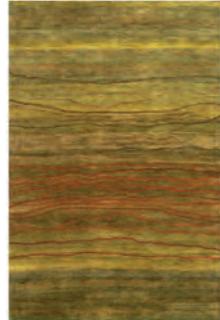
AWARDED

No Mākou ka Mana: Liberating the Nation by **Kamanamaikalani Beamer**, UH Mānoa Hawaiian Studies

assistant professor recently named director of Kohala Center, the Samuel M. Kamakau Award for Book of the Year at the Hawai'i Book Publishers Association 2015 Ka Palapala Po'okela Awards. The unanimous top winner among 12 category winners draws on Hawaiian language sources to explore how 19th century ali'i blended traditional native governance with foreign influences and ideas. (Kamehameha Publishing 2014).



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Honored: Omar Sultan

2015 20 for the Next 20 & 40 Under 40

ATTN: Alumni. Got a business idea? Need training, mentoring and business planning know-how to make it work? Consider XLR8UH, Hawai'i's first proof-of-concept center to help commercialize UH faculty, student and (yes!) alumni work. You'll be in good hands with Cofounder and Managing Director Omar Sultan, recognized by both Hawaii Business (20 for the Next 20) and Pacific Business News (40 Under 40) as one of our rising movers-and-shakers.

At 39, but with 15 years of experience in IT, business and life sciences, Sultan knows a thing or two about entrepreneurship, having left a Boston medical IT startup to join brother Tarik in Hawai'i to start Sultan Ventures, a venture-capital firm. "I like challenges," says the 2010 Shidler MBA graduate, who also embraces his parents' values emphasizing education and achievement.

Consulting for UH made Sultan "realize there was a pent-up demand for an earlier stage of developing entrepreneurs." The now 100 percent-funded Center announced its fourth cohort this fall. XLR8UH is one of three Hawai'i winners among 80 nationwide of the 2015 U.S. Small Business Administration's National Growth Accelerator Awards. Sultan receives best-practices inquiries on what is believed to be a one-of-a-kind program with a public university nationwide. "We're most proud that UH, the state's largest research institution is doing it!"

www.xlr8uh.com; sultanventures.com



PHOTO COURTESY OF OMAR SULTAN

APPOINTED

Ronn Nozoe (BA '93, MED '95, Mānoa), to deputy assistant secretary for policy and programs, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, U.S. Department of Education by President Obama. As state Department of Education's former deputy superintendent, Hawai'i's chief academic officer, Nozoe oversaw the \$75 million Race to the Top federal grant that helped raised student achievement in public schools.



ALOHA 'OE

Pete Thompson

(1949-2015),

brilliant,

charismatic leader,
orator and financial

wizard, helped develop the first Native Hawaiian curriculum in Mānoa's ethnic studies program, and lead community movements that prevented the original H-3 freeway route through Moanalua Valley and the eviction of rural Waiahole-Waikane residents. Respected for his knowledge of political and economic

power in Hawai'i, he served on Hawai'i People's Fund and Hawaii Institute for Public Affairs boards, and once ranked 51st among top 100 investment brokers nationwide.

ALOHA 'OE

Ron Bright (1933-2015), Hilo-born inspiring and beloved drama teacher, artistic and theatrical director, helped establish the Castle Performing Arts Center, the model for public schools' academies to expand career choices, at Castle High School, where the UH alumnus (BED '56, PD '57, MED '73, Mānoa) taught for 36 years. Mr. B mentored many Broadway-bound island performers and directed highly praised musicals at Windward CC's Palikū Theatre.



ALOHA 'OE

Dorothy "Dolly" Ching

(1924-2015), accomplished businesswoman, community leader and women's advocate, attended UH and was the first woman executive at Bank of Hawaii where she worked

for 37 years. Appointed interim state senator, she also chaired the Hawai'i Judicial Selection Commission, and served on the East-West Center, Girl Scouts and Bishop Museum boards. Mary Bitterman, encouraged by Ching to become the first woman on the BOH Board of Directors, said Ching's "legacy—helping a generation of younger people in Hawai'i realize their potential and supporting many community organizations—will be remembered as both generous and influential." Ching established a UH scholarship fund for Kaua'i students.

ALOHA 'OE

Nelson Doi

(1922-2015), Pahoa-born state senator, circuit court judge, lieutenant governor, political maverick and fearless advocate of the economically underprivileged, was one of the founders of Hawai'i statehood willing to challenge his own Democratic party leaders to stay true to its ideals of serving the people. An eloquent speaker, Doi served as ASUH president (1944-'45).

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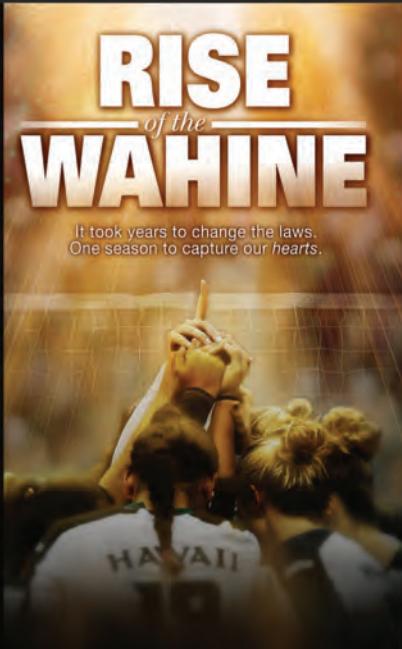


The 2015 Distinguished Alumni Honorees

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Austin Aslan



Lauren Esaki



David Gorman



Gerald Hew



Kehealani Nae'ole-Wong



Angela "Anela" Pia



Eric Yeaman



Jacy L. Youn

Austin Aslan (MS '13, Hilo), whose debut novel *The Islands at the End of the World* is set on Hawai'i Island, has published a sequel, *The Girl at the Center of the World* (Random House 2014), also set on the Big Island, which has been named a "Best Book of 2014" by Kirkus Reviews.

Reg Baker (BBA '86, Mānoa), a partner at CPA firm PKF Pacific Hawaii, was appointed chair of the Region IX Regulatory Fairness Board of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), and is the first person from Hawai'i to be named to the SBA Western region board, which represents Arizona, California, Hawai'i, Nevada, Guam and American Samoa.

Roslyn Chun, AIA (BA '86, Mānoa) has joined Group 70 International as project architect. The Hawai'i native, a licensed architect in Hawai'i and California, brings 28 years experience in hospitality, education, retail, high-rise residential and office projects.

Lauren Esaki (MURP '14, Mānoa), a recent graduate of UH's Urban and Regional Planning program, joins G70's planning division focusing on state environmental compliance, and cultural

and natural resource management plans. She also volunteers for Kahana Kilo Kai, a Kahana Bay outreach program on its marine resources management.

David Gorman (BA '01, Mānoa) is promoted to director of sales overseeing all business development efforts for RevoluSun, a Hawai'i-based leading provider of solar and smart home technology. Most recently, he led the sales and operations teams for RevoluSun's Smart Home suite of curated home improvement products, and had been instrumental in its Mainland expansion efforts.

Gerald Hew (BA '87, Mānoa), formerly with University Health Alliance, has been named chief financial officer of Helping Hands Hawai'i, a nonprofit that connects those in need with goods and services to improve their lives. He will oversee the agency's financial operations and contractual compliances.

Elliot Kalauawa, MD (MD '79, Mānoa), chief medical officer of Waikiki Health, has been honored as Pacific Business News 2015 Healthcare Heroes Physician winner. The John A. Burns School of Medicine graduate with 29 years of practice

experience oversees clinical services at six Waikiki Health clinics and a mobile unit that served 10,000 patients in 2014, 60 percent of whom live below federal poverty level. He was selected by State Department of Health Director Dr. Virginia Pressler and UH JABSOM Dean Jerris Hedges.

Kahealani Nae'ole-Wong (BA '91, PD '93, Hilo; MEDs '00, '02, Mānoa) has been appointed po'o kula (head of school) for Kamehameha Schools Hawai'i. With UH masters degrees in secondary education and K-12 education administration, the former assistant head of school led the Hawai'i island K-12 campus' curricular development, including integration of Kula Hawai'i (Hawaiian School) and 21st century skills.

Carrie Okinaga (1985-'86, Mānoa), former First Hawaiian Bank general counsel and former board member of HART (Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation), was appointed UH vice president for legal affairs and university general counsel. She has also served as City & County of Honolulu's corporation counsel.

Angela "Anela" Pia (BED '00, MED '04, Mānoa), with 15 years of public education experience, was named principal of Sunset Beach Elementary with 445 students on O'ahu's North Shore. This is the first principalship for the Kaiser High School graduate, who previously served as vice principal at Wai'anae Intermediate.

Eric Yeaman (BBA '89, Mānoa) has been named president and chief operating officer of First Hawaiian Bank, and also joins the board of directors of the state's largest bank. The Konawaena High School graduate and Shidler accounting graduate served as former president and CEO of Hawaiian Telcom, and has also held executive positions at Hawaiian Electric and Kamehameha Schools.

Jacy L. Youn (JD '10, Mānoa) was named Kaua'i executive director of the Boys & Girls Club of Hawaii, the Garden Isle's largest youth organization, which serves 1,000 kids annually. The Kapa'a High School graduate has worked in communications, banking and journalism.



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ALUMNI GATHERINGS



UHSAAA NAMED UH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CHAPTER OF THE YEAR

UH School of Architecture Alumni Association was honored as Chapter of the Year at its June annual meeting at Kapi'olani Community College. Exhibits by architecture graduate students, refreshments provided by donors and KCC Culinary Arts students highlighted the event.



MĀNOA CHANCELLOR MEETS UHAA-JAPAN ALUMNI

More than 60 alumni and guests from all over Japan greeted Mānoa Chancellor Robert Bley-Vroman and relived a Hawaiian-style lu'au and entertainment in Tokyo's Roppongi district.

COEAA HONORS 2015 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI ANN MAHI

Ann Mahi (BEd '76; PD '81; MEds '85, '97, Mānoa), whose 34-year public education career includes classroom teacher, principal, and state Department of Education officer, was honored by the College of Education Alumni Association in June.



SHIDLER'S MAUI ALUMNI GOLF EVENT SUPPORTS STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Shidler College of Business alumni golfed and networked to support Maui Alumni Business Scholarship at its 2015 Annual Golf Tournament at scenic Wailea Golf Club's Emerald Course.

October 24

Kapi'olani CC Alumni and Friends Association 10th Anniversary Celebration
‘Ohia Cafeteria, KCC Honolulu

October 23

Sunday in the Park with George (Opening night)
Kennedy Theatre, Mānoa Honolulu

November 7

Hawai'i CC Alumni and Friends Scholarship Fundraiser Dinner and 75th Anniversary Celebration
Sodexo Dining Room, UH Hilo Hilo

University of Nevada Las Vegas Road Game

Warrior Tailgate
Las Vegas, NV

December 5

UH Hilo 5K Holiday Lava Run/Walk
Campus Center Plaza, UH Hilo Hilo

January 16

UH Hilo Ho'olaule'a Alumni Zone
Main Campus Parking Lot, UH Hilo Hilo

February 25

Honolulu CC Distinguished Alumni Awards
Pōmaika'i Ballrooms, Dole Cannery Honolulu

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Fall 2015

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ALUMNI AND UH EVENTS
go online at
UHalumni.org/events
hawaii.edu/calendar/uh/2015

PARTING SHOT

Watch the fingers

Photographer: Aaron Yoshino



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Fall 2015

→ Alan Wong's Honolulu Restaurant's Chef de Cuisine **Miya Nishimura**, shown with **Christian Duldulao**, a 2015 graduate of Leeward Community College's Culinary Arts Program, mentors UH culinary students from prep to plating and implementing nightly specials at Wong's flagship fine dining restaurant. In July for a special one-night-only showcase, Duldulao was one of 12 students and alumni from Leeward, Kapi'olani, Kaua'i and Maui culinary programs to take over the kitchen to create the Next Generation Dinner, a seven-course prix fixe menu for diners under the watchful eyes of Chef Wong, Nishimura and Pastry Chef Brian Sun.



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**Kelsey
Kawaguchi**
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BS '15 Mānoa



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Kapi'olani – EMT Student



Dr. Van Luu
BA '00, MD '05 Mānoa



Thomas Kim
Windward –
Vet Tech Student

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Errol Lee
AS '95 Honolulu;
BSW '13, MSW '15
Mānoa



Selina Lutau
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