



KŪPONO

THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER
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BEVERLY WILLIS

The trailblazing artist and architect shares her art and wisdom with UH [Page 7](#)



Photo by Wanda Bubriski

Mom sets example for six kids

Sheila Estanique had a late start in college after a rough start in life. But this UH West O'ahu and Windward CC graduate has found her stride—and she plans to keep moving.

By UH West O'ahu staff

Sheila Estanique's path to a college degree wasn't smooth by any stretch of the imagination. Many experience potholes and bumps along the way, and Estanique's rough years as a teen and young adult almost shut the door on her journey before it could even start.

She dropped out of high school in what would have been her sophomore year. She battled an affinity for drugs that began at age 15. She had the first of her six children at age 19. She ran away from home. She experienced domestic abuse with past boyfriends. The list goes on.

"It was a very horrifying and dark time for me," said Estanique, who is about to celebrate her 44th birthday. She doesn't sugarcoat her past, and her agonizing tale doesn't obscure her story of redemption in the classroom.

On May 4, Estanique walked with other UH West O'ahu graduates, having earned a BA in social sciences with a concentration in psychology. She plans to pursue a master's degree and sees herself working in an educational setting in the future.

"There were times when I wanted to give up, when life, marriage, parenting and college became overwhelming," said Estanique, who has children ages 9, 12 and 16 at home.



Sheila Estanique at UH West O'ahu's May 4 commencement.

"I would remind myself that my kids are watching me, that I am setting an example of what hard work, determination and perseverance look like."

Scholarships helped pave the way

At age 38, unsure of whether she could do the work, Estanique enrolled in two classes at Windward Community College.

"School is not easy for me," said Estanique, explaining writing papers might take her a week, where other people might finish in a day. "I struggle to get my work done."

Even so, it appears Estanique has found her groove in higher education. Despite self-doubts about her ability as a scholar, Estanique graduated magna cum

laude from Windward CC as a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the largest and most prestigious honor society for two-year college students.

"I really, really progressed there," said Estanique, who also is the recipient of numerous scholarships.

Continuing her journey at UHWO

At UH West O'ahu she continued to do well. Konstantinos Zougris, a UH West O'ahu assistant professor of sociology, said Estanique was an exemplary student, delivering challenging assignments in a timely manner, working well and adapting to others in groups, while demonstrating leadership skills.

"I was really impressed by her diligence and academic work," Zougris said. "She was one of my top students."

Estanique chose to attend UH West O'ahu for a variety of reasons and speaks highly of the faculty. She is thankful for her husband, who she says was a partner in her education by helping out with their three children. She has three older children ages 21, 22 and 24, as well as two granddaughters.

Estanique's already setting her sights on her next educational goal. She plans to apply to the College of Education at UH Mānoa to enter the master's program in educational administration in the fall 2020 semester.

Fighting OPIOID ADDICTION in Hawai'i



In an ongoing effort to help the community confront opioid addiction, the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy will receive funding for the next year to hold educational events and offer alternatives to disposing of unused medications.

Unused medications in households and patient care facilities expose people to potential harm via mistaken ingestion, and they increase the potential for theft and assault.

Nationally, more than 71,000 children are admitted to emergency rooms for unintentional overdoses of prescription and over-the-counter drugs annually.

"Since 2012, Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) has promoted medication return," Dean Carolyn Ma said. "At our 2018 fall health fair in Hilo, we collected 34 pounds of medication with the Hawai'i State Narcotics Enforcement Division (NED) in their take-back program."

Ma said unused drugs in medicine cabinets, especially those with addictive qualities, can lead to accidental overdoses

or intentional misuse by anyone with access.

"How to dispose of unused medications in a responsible manner is a common question. This funding will help us expand our ability to educate our community," she added.

In addition to attendance at health fairs, DKICP student pharmacists will visit senior centers to teach seniors to use their Dispose Rx destruction packets. NED agents will also hold take-back events.

In partnership with Hawai'i Pacific Health, DKICP will provide "Dispose Rx" destruction packets with all opioid prescriptions dispensed from their four hospitals emergency departments, inpatient hospital discharge and physicians' offices. Patients can use the packets at home or in the clinic for unused medications.

"Destruction packets are especially important for our rural families and senior citizens who might be unable to attend take-back events or locate drug return boxes," said Project Coordinator Wesley Sumida, DKICP associate professor.

Sumida said the college hopes to provide data specific to Hawai'i's geographical, rural, fiscal and personnel challenges for future legislation on the effectiveness of these activities.

The program is funded by the AmerisourceBergen Foundation, the charitable giving arm of AmerisourceBergen, and through the foundation's Opioid Resource Grant Program.

The AmerisourceBergen Foundation also provided an in-kind donation of 20,000 destruction packets as part of its Safe Disposal Support Program.

UH Hilo | Scholarship Celebration

UH HILO CAMPUS • APRIL 4



UH Mānoa | Scholarship Celebration

STAN SHERIFF CENTER • APRIL 10

A rainbow-themed evening brought scholarship donors and recipients together. Raphaela Che, a single mother, inspired guests with her moving story of how scholarships and UH have helped her overcome challenges and embrace her full potential. Hers is one of many powerful stories shared that night, a reflection of the enormous impact our donors make in students' lives.



UH Foundation | Investment Seminar

JABSOM • MAY 23

The annual Investment Seminar was held at the John A. Burns School of Medicine, where guests enjoyed learning about the UH Foundation's investment strategy. They also heard how their strategic philanthropy is making a lasting impact on UH programs statewide. UHF manages more than 1,400 endowed gifts totaling more than \$326 million. Working with investment consultant Cambridge Associates LLC, UHF manages a highly-diversified asset allocation endowment portfolio to benefit UH. To learn more about the endowment's performance and impact on UH programs and students, we invite you to read our Endowment Report at uhfoundation.org/news/publications/endowment-report-2018.



UH Maui College Scholarship Event

MAY 7

This year's UH Maui College commencement speaker shared much more than words of wisdom when she graduated with her accounting degree. Because the financial aid office was so helpful to her, Carla-Mae Bailey (left) created a scholarship to help students like her. Jennifer Chrupalyk (right) received the inaugural scholarship at this year's UH Maui College Scholarship Event.

Bailey's scholarship helps students who are going through a difficult life transition to create a new beginning. Hers was one of three new scholarships that donors created this year for UH Maui College students.

See more photos from these & other UH Foundation events:

uhfoundation.org/news/photos

SCHOLARSHIP TRIBUTE TO *lifelong friendship*

By *Valentino E. Tesoro, MD*

I met Ted Saito in our second year at UH Mānoa, in the hallway before the first day of a calculus class. It was the beginning of a friendship that would span decades.

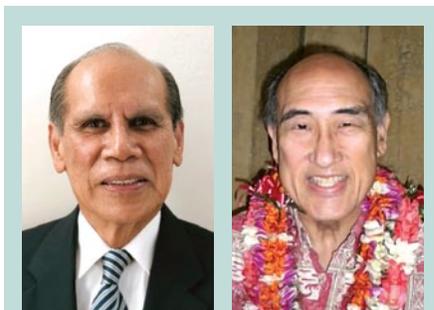
Ted was brilliant—he understood calculus like a fish understands water, but I struggled. Sometimes he would get impatient with me and say, “It’s right there! Can’t you see it?” Thanks to Ted’s help, I passed that course.

My part-time job in the chemistry department gave us access to the laboratories and machines we used for chemistry projects. We spent many evenings in the labs, studying for exams, rather than the crowded library.

Ted and I supported each other the entire time we were at UH Mānoa. When I got discouraged about a project, he always picked me up. We graduated together, and Ted was at my family’s celebration at La Ronde Restaurant. He received a BS in chemistry, and I earned a BA.



Val & Katie Tesoro in Tahiti



Val Tesoro

Ted Saito



Graduation banquet, 1967

I left for Philadelphia the day after graduation, keeping in touch with Ted in Los Angeles. Ted spent Christmas Day in 1971 with my wife Katie, my daughter Sue, and me. We went to my parents’ home in Cypress, California, to celebrate with my family. I have very good memories of that Christmas with Ted, talking story and catching up.

When I went into the Army in 1972, I lost touch with Ted. I often wondered how my friend was doing, but my attempts to locate him were unsuccessful.

In January 1993, at my mother’s memorial service, Ted walked up and said, “Hi.” He’d seen the obituary in the papers. It was one of the happiest moments in my life. He filled me in on the missing years, and I was happy to find out he had a wonderful wife, Cheryl, and a son, Kyle.

We were very relaxed, laughing about the things we got away with in our youth. I don’t think he changed at all in those years. He was the same old Ted.

Katie and I came back to Hawai’i almost every year and met Ted and Cheryl for dinner. Our friendship continued for another 21 years until Ted passed away in 2014.

I received undergrad scholarships from the university. Setting up a scholarship fund is a good way to give back, to establish something in my friend’s memory. I checked with Ted’s wife Cheryl, and she was very happy about my doing this.

The Theodore S. Saito / Valentino E. Tesoro, MD Endowed Scholarship is the lasting expression of a lifelong friendship formed in the hallways of UH Mānoa.

It will support students in chemistry or biochemistry, just as two young chemistry majors once supported each other, in scholarship and in life.

I would like recipients of this scholarship to know that Ted thought academics were important, that you needed an education to get ahead for whatever career you might select.

Ted was sensitive, caring about people’s interests and problems. He was easy to talk to, and always there to help others.

I will be forever grateful for my good and loyal friend. I miss him greatly and wish I could have spent more time with him.

Willis designs artistic legacy at UH Mānoa

Architect and artist Beverly Willis (BFA '54 Mānoa) arrived at UH Mānoa for her junior year as a self-taught watercolorist from San Francisco. Her earlier studies had been in aeronautical engineering at Oregon State University, where she took advantage of her World War II flying experience.

Willis left OSU to figure out her real career interest: art.

She came to UH Mānoa to study under Gustav Ecke, who was curator of Asian art at the Honolulu Museum of Art (then known as Honolulu Academy of Arts), and famed painter Jean Charlot.

"I am indebted to Jean Charlot for teaching me three things: the value of history, how to paint frescos, and the organic connection between design and nature. He became my mentor and sponsor," Willis says.

Willis is known for developing new technologies in architecture, urban planning and public policy, and for advocating on behalf of women architects. Yet her path did not go through formal architectural studies.

"The school's architecture department didn't exist then," Willis recalls. "I owe my architectural education solely to the art department. The singular experience and inspiration of my two teachers provided me with the knowledge upon which I built my career."



Beverly Willis at work on her Memorial Mural—The First Three Generations of Chinese Immigrants in Hawai'i in the United Chinese Society Hall in Honolulu, 1955. Photo courtesy of the Beverly Willis Archive.

Her work with the artists led to commissions in Waikīkī hotels and a distinguished architectural career. Among her best-known projects are the Union Street Stores in San Francisco and the San Francisco Ballet Building.

In recent years, Willis has led the charge to acknowledge women's contributions to architecture. She directed "Unknown New York," a documentary about the hundreds of skyscrapers, bridges, gardens and houses designed and built by women in New York City.

She established the Beverly Willis Architecture Foundation, which advocates for the rights of women in the building industry to respect, dignity and employment free from sexual misconduct.

Willis is now strengthening her connection with UH Mānoa by bequeathing a collection of her paintings to the John Young Museum of Art. The museum will also receive a portion of her estate and name one of its galleries the Beverly A. Willis Gallery.

"This artwork, all done in Honolulu while developing my career in art and design, stems from the same period when the university itself was developing its campus and identity," says Willis.

"Legacy is about recognizing the past as a path for future generations," she says. "My contribution to UH is in honor of my teachers and in recognition of the education UH provided me."

If you would like more information about including the UH Foundation in your will, trust or other gift plan to benefit the University of Hawai'i, please contact us!

Office of Estate & Gift Planning

808-376-7800 • giftplanning@uhfoundation.org

www.UHLegacyGift.org

Supporting energy & sustainability education

Building on its efforts to grow new leaders in sustainability, Johnson Controls Foundation has donated \$200,000 to the University of Hawai'i to support statewide education efforts. This grant will fund:

- Salaries for UH students to work on research projects addressing heating, ventilation, air conditioning, energy, water and security.
- The Johnson Controls Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (RAC) Technology scholarship for students in the RAC Technology program at Honolulu CC.

"This new award from Johnson Controls grows an impressive history of support for sustainability-related initiatives at UH," said John Morton, UH VP for community colleges. "Key to nurturing future leaders in sustainability is hands-on learning for developing energy- and water-saving solutions."

In 2015, Hawai'i became the first state in the country to commit to 100 percent renewable energy by 2045. Concurrently, UH and the Hawai'i Legislature set a goal for the university system to be "net-zero" by Jan. 1, 2035, meaning the system will produce as much renewable energy as it consumes across its campuses. Many partners, including Johnson Controls, are supporting UH's sustainability initiatives.

UH Maui College is on track to make its campus among the first in the nation to generate 100 percent of its energy from on-site solar photovoltaic



systems and battery storage. This ambitious project is part of a partnership with Johnson Controls and Pacific Current that is also helping four UH community college campuses on O'ahu significantly reduce their fossil fuel consumption.

"At Johnson Controls, sustainability is an integral part of our vision and values. Through philanthropic grants in support of sustainability education at UH, we strengthen the communities we call home," said Grady L. Crosby, Johnson Controls VP of public affairs & chief diversity officer, and Johnson Controls Foundation president.

"The future is being built today," Crosby said. "We hope this grant will contribute to making that future securer, more productive and more sustainable."