

HBA Soaring Eagle

Summer 2023

www.hba.net



Hawai'i Baptist Academy brings faith and learning together to join God in the formation of people and the transformation of the world.

News from Hawai'i Baptist Academy

INSIDE:

Senior Send-Off

Journalism Awards

Commencement

Athletic Awards, Track, Golf

School Awards

Faculty Spotlight

Bubble Run



HAWAI'I BAPTIST ACADEMY

Hawai'i Baptist Academy (HBA) is a top Christian school serving students from preschool through high school. HBA's elementary, middle, and high school campuses are located in Nu'uuanu Valley on the island of O'ahu. HBA's first satellite preschool is located in Mililani Mauka in Central O'ahu. Established in 1949 by missionaries of the Southern Baptist Convention, the school is affiliated with the Hawai'i Pacific Baptist Convention.

HBA is a member of the Hawai'i Association of Independent Schools and the Association of Christian Schools International, and accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. HBA is licensed by the Hawai'i Council of Private Schools.

HAWAI'I BAPTIST ACADEMY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair: Ken Hensarling, Jr.

Vice Chair: Terrance Arashiro

Secretary: Dominic Dumlao

Treasurer: Jensen Kono

Walt Agena, Past Chair

Dr. Kent Davenport

Lorna Hu

Leighton Miyachi '84

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Dr. Glenn Young

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Ronald Shiira '75

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George Honzaki, Middle School Principal

Elton Kinoshita, High School Principal

Stephen Arita, Dir. of Human Resources

Billie Takaki Lueder '94,

Dir. of Institutional Advancement

Tammy Mori Brownfield,

Dir. of Communications & Public Relations

Mike Martin, Dir. of Finance

Amy Vorderbruegge, Dir. of Strategic Planning

MISSION STATEMENT

Hawai'i Baptist Academy is a Christian college preparatory school that equips students spiritually, intellectually, physically, socially, and emotionally, so that they bring honor to God.

Soaring Eagle is a publication for alumni, parents, friends, and supporters of Hawai'i Baptist Academy. It is produced with aloha by the Communications Department and Office of Institutional Advancement.

An online version of this newsletter is available at www.hba.net.

Please send address changes to:
development@hba.net or call (808) 533-7094



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www.youtube.com/HBAEaglesTV

A Message from the President



Aloha HBA 'Ohana,

As one school year comes to a close and we are on the cusp of a new one, we thank God for His protection, provision, and blessings. This year marks 73 years that HBA has been able to serve our community and bring faith and learning together. We are so thankful for this privilege and opportunity. I read to our 2023 graduates John 6:37 where Jesus says: "All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away."

These are the words Jesus spoke shortly after He performed the miracle of feeding a crowd of five thousand after a boy shared his two fish and five barley loaves with Him. This verse is a reminder and invitation that anyone who comes to the Lord, and chooses to receive Him as their Savior, will get to spend eternity with Him.

I share this because the prayer of my heart is that HBA has not only prepared our students for college but for the rest of their lives— and for eternity. I pray that the seeds planted at our school, and at home, will continue to bloom in the hearts of our graduates and all our students.

I would also like to congratulate our first class of graduates from our HBA Preschool at GracePoint, our sixth grade class that will be moving up to the middle school, and ALL of our students. We are so proud and celebrate their hard work, growth, opportunities, and challenges that they have worked through this year.

We pray that the things our students learned this year, the friendships that they have made, and the love shared by our teachers and staff will be forever imprinted in their hearts.

Thank you again for being a special part of our HBA 'ohana. We are so thankful to be on this journey with each of you.

In Christ,

Ron Shiira '75
PRESIDENT

Eagle Eye staff expose their inner goof while advisor Eunice Sim (back row, far right) joins in the fun.
See journalism awards stories, pages 20–21.





HBA Soaring Eagle

SUMMER 2023



NEWS FROM
HAWAII'I BAPTIST ACADEMY

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Hawai'i Baptist Academy

JOIN OUR HBA OHANA

STARTING
IN JUNIOR
KINDERGARTEN



Save on kindergarten when you enroll for junior kindergarten!

- 10-month school year (August–May)
- Five school shirts
- All meals (breakfast, morning snack, lunch and afternoon snack)
- After School Enrichment Program until 5:30 p.m.
- One week of fall intersession and afternoon childcare
- One week of spring intersession and afternoon childcare
- Comprehensive fee
- Book fee
- Tech fee



Learn more at HBA.net

HBA serves more than 1,100 students from junior kindergarten through high school on three campuses in Nu'uano. It also opened its first satellite preschool, HBA Preschool at GracePoint, in Mililani Mauka.

On the front cover:
Jak Kim with his paternal grandmother Alice Kim.

On the back cover:
Scenes from the Class of 2023 Senior Send-Off at the high school campus.



a journey Like no other

How the Class of 2023 embraced an abnormal high school experience

Excerpts from the *Eagle Eye*
By Marissa Watanabe '23



THE JOURNEY BEGAN ON AUGUST 1, 2019, the first day of an atypical four years of high school. Like many freshman classes before them, the Class of 2023 was awkward, scrawny, and at a loss when it came to finding unity and identity as a group. When their first high school Spirit Week came around in January of 2020, they struggled to find cohesion and spirit and, as a result, ended the week behind the eighth graders and finished in fifth place. However, like every freshman class before them, they looked forward to having the next few years to improve their school spirit and bond together to become one unified class. Unfortunately, things just didn't go their way.

A few months following Spirit Week 2020, the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic upset the routines and lives of people worldwide in unprecedented ways. For the Class of 2023, their final freshman quarter became their first experience of online school. They went on to spend their sophomore year divided into Alpha-Omega groups and lost staple high school experiences like their sophomore and junior camps, athletic competitions, and Spirit Weeks.

Come August 1, 2022, the Class of 2023 found themselves at the start of their senior year, faced with the challenge of leading a new generation of underclassmen through a school year without COVID-19 restrictions.

When Spirit Week 2023 rolled around, the seniors were an unproven class; no one could say for certain if they could muster enough unity and spirit to serve as adequate role models for the underclassmen. However, to the surprise of many, the absence of Spirit Week activities from the past two years did not suppress the senior class's school spirit but stimulated it. Reflecting on her class's first place win at this past January's Spirit Week, senior class vice president Trislyn Maeda stated, "This year, our class really understood that this was our last year, and that we had an opportunity to introduce Spirit Week to the other classes and say, 'This is how we do Spirit Week; this is how you be seniors; this is how you have fun at school.'"

For senior Azure Wasson, one factor that helped the seniors win the Mana Cup was their newfound appreciation for a "normal" senior year. He believes that the pandemic taught his class not to take in-person interactions for granted. Wasson is an extrovert and struggled with adapting to online school as the isolation from his peers adversely affected his grades. "I just could not get myself determined to do anything," he said. "But, coming back from that, I've learned to appreciate things a lot more. [The pandemic] gave me a lot of time to actually think about other people and how I wanted to present myself to other people. Although it was really difficult while it was happening, I learned a lot from it, and it improved my character later on."



Senior class photo



Senior class, Spirit Week 2023.

Another defining moment for the class, according to advisor Ryan Frontiera, was their sophomore end-of-the-year social. It was the first time the class was allowed back on campus all together. Although it was a simple, scaled-down social with small group activities like Spike Ball and s'mores roasting, Frontiera remembers the event as a "therapeutic" moment for him and his fellow advisors. "Seeing that visual of [the students] together and laughing was just so nice to go back to," he said. "I feel like they, as a class, know how to enjoy each other as well."

Maeda also holds a special place in her heart for that first in-person sophomore social, referring to it as one of the council's "biggest successes." However, she credits a big part of her class's growth to the senior advisors. "We have the best group of advisors, and I think all of our class agrees with that," she said. According to her, the advisors are an experienced group of teachers and counselors, who "understand what it takes to create a great class and make the officers' jobs so much easier." The senior class vice president also appreciates how the advisors have given her and her fellow officers opportunities to lead while also providing them with lots of coaching and support. Instead of giving up on class activities during the pandemic, the advisors took the time and effort to organize them and set up "a foundation for [the officers] to be involved and make an impact on the class."

One piece of advice from the advisors that has stuck with Maeda is this: "It's really easy to get mad when things don't go right or

when the class isn't really responding in the way that you planned. Instead of getting on them or talking as if you're an authority [figure], you have to speak to them as if they're your peers and lead in a positive way [so that] they can respond well to it," she shared. Maeda hopes that future council members will remember this insight when it is their turn to lead.

Senior advisor Sean Shiroma will also look back fondly on his time with the Class of 2023. He believes that the seniors have made an impact on HBA in their efforts to interact with and develop friendships with other grades.

At the same time, the class has gained some notoriety from their antics such as fishing tilapia out of the Nu'uano stream. "As much as it sometimes rubs me the wrong way, I do appreciate them just wanting to lighten the mood.... They make every day a unique day," Shiroma said.

As they depart from HBA and enter adulthood, Frontiera hopes the Class of 2023 does not lose their distinct spunk and positivity that they've kept since their freshman year. "When you go to your different colleges and communities, make a point to build community and gather people around you," he advised. "Don't just hole up in your dorm room and play infinite hours of video games or make your small group of friends. Try new things and explore. And still keep some of that joy, optimism, and enthusiasm that you guys have always had."





The Class of 2023 join President Shiira '75 for a photo in front of the Wyllie House following the President's Lunch.

PRESIDENT'S LUNCH

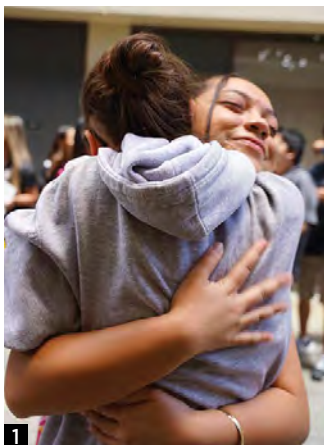
President Shiira '75 hosted the traditional senior luncheon at the Wyllie House. Under the shade of the historic monkeypod tree, students enjoyed food grilled by our HBA Board of Directors as well as our food service provider, FLIK. It was a wonderful time of fellowship for the class of 2023 with HBA teachers, staff, administrators and alumni.



Left: Walt Agena, longtime member of HBA Board of Directors, grilled hamburger patties for our seniors.

Lower Left: Stephen Arita (far left), Director of Human Resources, with daughter, Hailey Arita '23.





1



2

1. Priscilla Pamatigan '23 hugs friends along her route during Senior Send-Off. 2. Seniors Seniors Kylie Chock '23 and Dilan Chock-Makiya '23 start their route around campus. 3. HBA students lined the breezeway and held banners along the Senior Send-Off route.



3



Sarah Honzaki '35 presents a lei to a senior just before Senior Send-Off at the high school campus.

Senior Send-Off

HBA students, staff and teachers bid a warm aloha to the Class of 2023 during the beloved tradition of Senior Send-Off. Seniors ran around campus reflecting on their HBA journey and remembering their HBA community.

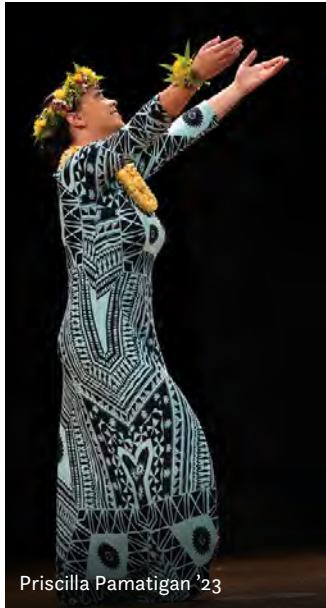


Seniors gather under the senior pavilion and other classmates look on as they officially pass the torch to the junior class.

WELCOME



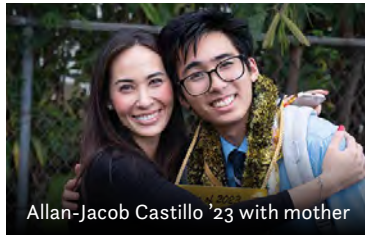
Final worship service for the Class of 2023 held before graduation.



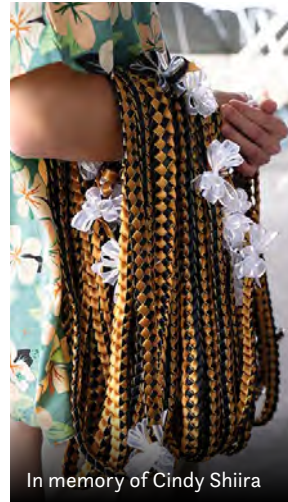
Priscilla Pamatigan '23



Samantha Cerda '23 (left) and Dilan Chock-Makiya '23



Allan-Jacob Castillo '23 with mother



In memory of Cindy Shiira



L-R: Jared Cruz '23, Caleb Nishimura '23, Matthew Mokon '23, and Kaeden Miyoi '23



Maiyah Wong '23 (left) and Careah Baitlon '23



President Ron Shiira '75



(L-R): Senior boys Marcus Garcés, Caleb Lau, Noah Uyehara, Evan Chang, Jak Kim, Joel Tanoue, Elijah Wong, Shane Kawakami-Williams



Michela "Ella" Lim '23 (left) and Sarah Kirimitsu '23

Mr. & Miss HBA

Timothy Shimizu and Caley Chun Elected Mr. & Miss HBA 2023



Seniors Timothy Shimizu and Caley Chun have been elected the 2023 Mr. and Miss HBA. The award, which is the school's highest honor, recognizes one male and one female senior who typify the best in HBA students, including their contributions to school life through leadership, extracurricular activities, and their character. The award was established in 1955 and has continued to be a cherished tradition, with the winners being elected by their peers.

Timothy Shimizu was recognized for his curiosity, one of HBA's core values. He is described as possessing a deep sense of wonderment that fuels his near limitless curiosity and desire to know and do more in every aspect of his life, from his academics and extracurriculars to his relationships and faith.

"There is hardly a corner of our HBA community that Tim hasn't positively contributed to in some way and the luckiest of us are the ones that can call him a friend," said Claire Mitchell, HBA Science Department Chair. "Whether serving others through his membership and leadership in organizations such as the Student Council, NHS, Interact, or simply offering a listening ear to someone in need, Tim is a light to many."

Caley Chun was recognized for her faith and what it looks like when one whole-heartedly commits to following Christ. She is also described as someone who exemplifies one of HBA's core values of humility.



L-R: Cory Chun (father), Caley '23, Codey '26 (brother), and Candice Chun (mother).



L-R: Jason Oshiro (youth pastor), Hisaaki Shimizu (father), Jian Shimizu (mother), Timothy '23, Emma '31 (sister), and Michael Muschal (grandfather).

"While she is still growing in her faith and will be the first to admit that she doesn't have it all figured out, she is a reminder that God doesn't need us to come to Him as finished products; He meets us where we are and does good work through us if we trust in His calling," describes Aaron Kondo, HBA math teacher and cross country coach. "All of her academic and athletic accomplishments aside, Miss HBA has stepped out of her comfort zone to share her faith with others. As a member of the chapel worship team and Soldiers of Light, she uses her voice to glorify the Lord. Although soft-spoken, her actions speak loudly, and she will never hesitate to help someone in need, pray for them, and let them know that they are loved."

Congratulations again to Timothy and Caley for your hard work, achievements, and the way in which you reflect HBA's core values of humility, curiosity, love, and commitment.

2023 Graduation Recap

THE CLASS OF 2023 celebrated their achievements together with friends and family at HBA's 70th Commencement Ceremony on June 3 at the Hawai'i Convention Center in Honolulu. It was a heartfelt celebration that reflected the culmination of years of hard work and commitment from these students and years of sacrifice and dedication from their families.

Thirty-four students were recognized as Sons and Daughters of HBA, for attending the school since kindergarten. Another 27 students were recognized as alumni Legacy Graduates.

Fifty-one students graduated with highest honors and

17 with honors. This year's valedictorians and salutatorians are listed as follows:

VALEDICTORIANS



Megan Lee

Megan Lee is the daughter of Francis and Jenny Lee. Megan will attend the University of Southern California where she will major in Engineering.

Cameron Pien is the daughter of Ethan and Joyce Pien.



Cameron Pien

Cameron will attend Cornell University where she will major in Information Science.

SALUTATORIAN



Sarah Kirimitsu

Sarah Kirimitsu is the daughter of Mark and Lisa Kirimitsu. Sarah will attend the University of Hawai'i at Manoa where she will major in Business Administration.

H.P. & MARY MCCORMICK DISTINGUISHED FOUNDERS AWARD



Miya Yukumoto

Miya Yukumoto was awarded the H.P. & Mary McCormick Distinguished Founders Award for consistently exemplifying Christian character

during her years at HBA. She is described to have typified the

pioneer Christian spirit of the McCormicks, who dared to be bold, reflecting a commitment to Christ in the face of obstacles, struggles, and discouragements.

Miya experienced a loss that would challenge anyone's faith in Christ. Instead, she pursued her faith even more passionately and deeply, putting her hope and trust in Jesus, all the while, encouraging her classmates and friends to do the same by attending church with her. Miya will be attending Biola University, where she will be studying Psychology and desires to use her degree to serve others.

Thank you to our students for pursuing your God-given gifts and talents and reflecting HBA's core values of humility, curiosity, love, and commitment.



Megan Lee '23 and family



Sarah Kirimitsu '23



Cameron Pien '23 and family



Miya Yukumoto '23 and parents

HBA'S 70th Commencement Ceremony

Saturday, June 3, 2023
Hawai'i Convention Center



President Shiira welcomes families to the 2023 Commencement Ceremony.



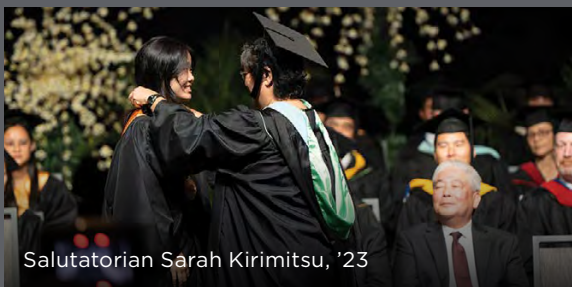
Students sang their class song, "I Lived," by One Republic.



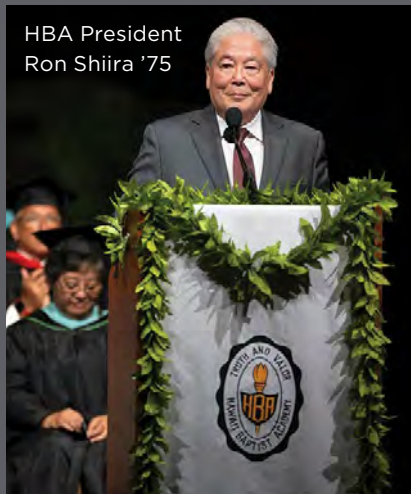
Senior class advisors (L-R): Elena Yoo, Sean Shiroma, Lynne Nakano, Ryan Frontiera, Sean Malinger, Stan Herder, and Aaron Kondo '05.



Friends (L-R): Ryan Fukui, Noah Camacho, Wyatt Donayri, and Evan Chang.



Salutatorian Sarah Kirimitsu, '23



HBA President
Ron Shiira '75



Christina Toyomura '23

"Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit,
because apart from me you can do nothing."

John 15:5

70th Commencement

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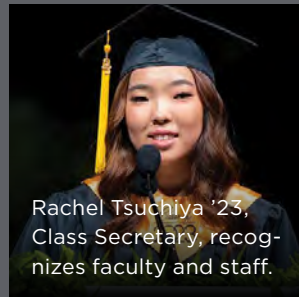
Miya Yukumoto '23 was presented with the H.P. Mary McCormick Distinguished Founders Award by President Shiira.



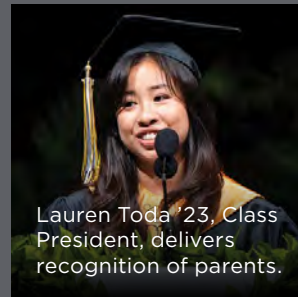
Salutatorian Sarah Kirimitsu '23



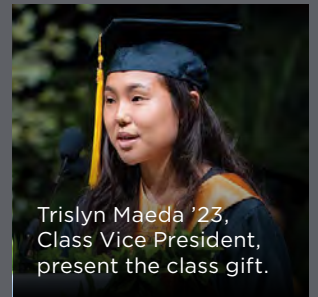
Valedictorians Megan Lee '23 (Left) and Cameron Pien '23



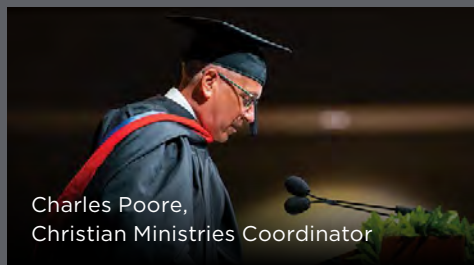
Rachel Tsuchiya '23, Class Secretary, recognizes faculty and staff.



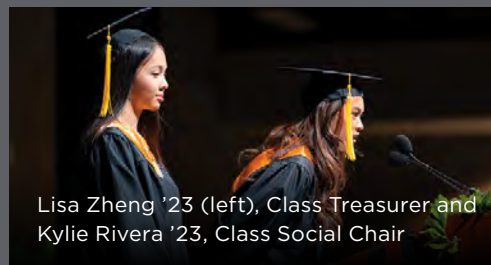
Lauren Toda '23, Class President, delivers recognition of parents.



Trislyn Maeda '23, Class Vice President, present the class gift.



Charles Poore, Christian Ministries Coordinator



Lisa Zheng '23 (left), Class Treasurer and Kylie Rivera '23, Class Social Chair



Marsha Hirae '72, retired high school principal



Kyle Kumasaka '23 with family



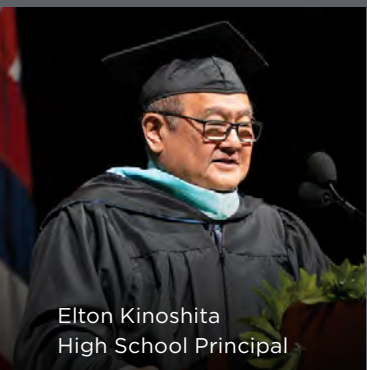
Arielle Cook '23 with family



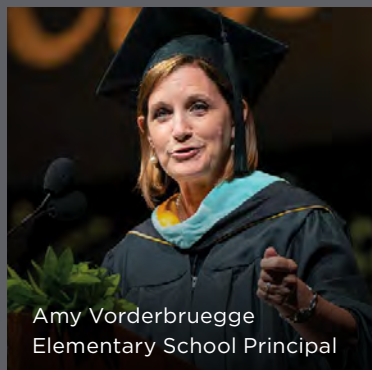
Skylar Takeuchi '23 with family

"I am the way, and the truth, and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through me."

John 14:6



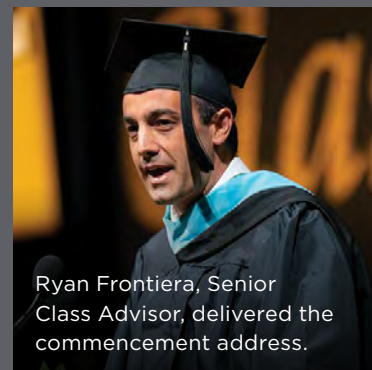
Elton Kinoshita
High School Principal



Amy Vorderbruegge
Elementary School Principal



George Honzaki
Middle School Principal



Ryan Frontiera, Senior
Class Advisor, delivered the
commencement address.



Dwaine Woo, Band Director, leads members of the
Eagle Band as they played music when graduates
walked into the Hawaii Convention Center.



Jordan Qin '23



Dawson Coover '23 with family



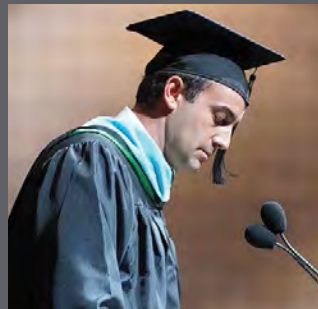
Noah Uyehara '23 with family



Kaitlyn Furuta '23 with family

Commencement Address

Ryan Frontiera, Senior Class Advisor
(excerpt from his speech below)



...we are called
to life with grace...

The Parable of the Sower

Matthew 13:3-9

...“A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. Whoever has ears, let them hear.”

“At HBA we’ve adopted a set of Expected Schoolwide Learning Results (ESLRs) of humility, curiosity, love, and commitment. These core values capture what we want HBA students to embody through their education here. I want to reread the way we chose to articulate the value of love:

*Love is our response to all people in light of God’s love for us.
With grace, we live, learn, and play together in community,
realizing that God designed us to be mutually dependent.*

This captures the messy, inconvenient, but totally generative and life giving nature of how we are called to interact with the world around us, and especially with each other. While life would be easier and simpler if we didn’t have to “deal with” other people, that’s not how we were created to exist. Instead we are called to life with *grace*—the undeserved and freely given mercy we share with others, because we have first received God’s grace. And the more you pour in, the greater the harvest you will receive.

I pray that as you leave HBA, you go and choose to see and love the world for what it is, and that you add to the communities that you encounter. May what you pour into your life lead to a vastly greater harvest and output than you could explain or expect.”

2023 Graduation Lei Ceremony



"Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Joshua 1:9

CLASS OF

2023

SENIOR PORTRAIT GALLERY



Kacie Akena



Bryson Akagi



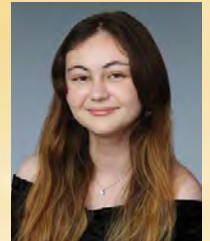
Hailey Arita



Brilynn Au Yuen



Careah Baitlon



Kira Baker



Minori Batara



Noah Camacho



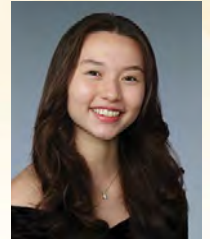
Eugene Caruso



Allan-Jacob
Castillo



Dylan Cayetano



Samantha Cerda



Evan Chang



Jasmine Chang



Lauren Chee



Katie Chen



Samuel Cheng



Rachel Cheung



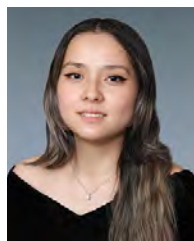
Kylie Chock



Dilan
Chock-Makiya



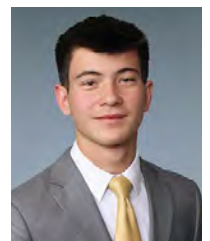
Caley Chun



Ashlee Cole



Arielle Cook



Dawson Coover

*“He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.
Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall;
but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.”*

Isaiah 40:29-31 (NIV)



Jared Cruz



Jordan Davenport



Sarah Davenport



Hannah Angela
Dela Cruz



Wyatt Donayri



Ashley Freitas



Kalysta Fujihana



Braeden Fukuda



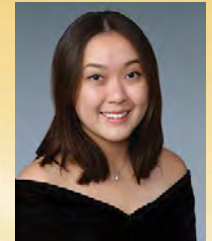
Ryan Fukui



Kaitlyn Furuta



Marcus Garces



Sera Gavin



Keira Guerri



Sydney Hankey



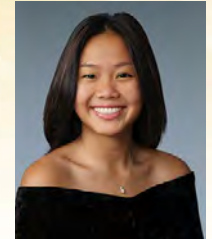
Noah Hu



Ha'eha'e Kahana



Reise Kameoka



Elyse Kaneshiro



Shane
Kawakami-Williams



Nicholas Kidd



Jak Kim



Sarah Kirimitsu



Kailey Kiyuna



Ashley Kodama



Cadi Komenaka



Ian Kubo



Kyle Kumasaka



Joshua Kusuda



Judah Lapastora



Caleb Lau

*“You who are young, be happy while you are young,
and let your heart give you joy in the days of your youth.
Follow the ways of your heart and whatever your eyes see,
but know that for all these things God will bring you into judgment.”*

Ecclesiastes 11:9 (NIV)



Lily Leano



Damon Lee



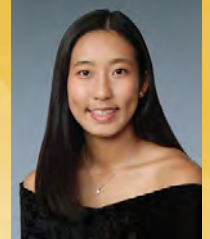
Maxwell Lee



Megan Lee



Michela Lim



Joey Lin



Jackson Lincoln



Elisha Lum



Trislyn Maeda



Alexander
Marutani-Cole



Lyndsy Mashino



Cori Matsumoto



Jasmine
Matsumoto



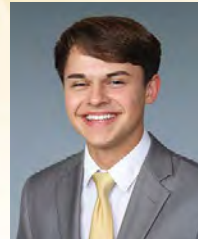
Kulia McKeague



Trent Mitchell



Kaeden Miyoi



Matthew Moka



Aaron Murai



Trey Muranaka



Noelle Nagaishi



Mari Nakashima



Ethan Nakata



Abigail Ng



Caleb Patrick
Nishimura



Jake Nitta



Zachary Oka



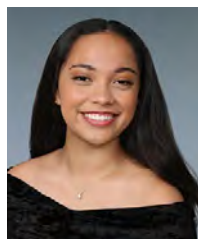
Ayda Okano



Isabella Oliveira



Landen Otaka



Priscilla Pamatigan



Cameron Pien



Jordan Qin



Kylie-Shyne
Rivera-Kaaanui



Jacie Sakaino



Brooke Sarahina



Jeremiah Seng



Ilana Shiira



Timothy Shimizu



Sean Skaaning



Abigail Sumida



Justin Sumiye



Kelly Tada



Tyler Tagami



Caylie Takahashi



Connor Takemoto



Skylar Takeuchi



Joel Tanoue



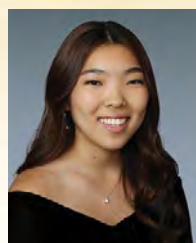
Lauren Toda



Kaiya Tom



Christina Toyomura



Rachel Tsuchiya



Noah Uyehara



Azure Wasson



Marissa Watanabe



Elijah Wong



Jolie Wong



Maiyah Wong



Blu Wong-Ogata



Chris Wu



John Yamamoto



Haylee Yokoyama



Miya Yukumoto



Lisa Zheng

“Jesus said to him, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’”

Matthew 22:37 (NIV)

CLASS OF 2023

Legacy Graduates

Legacy graduates are students whose parents are HBA alumni. To celebrate our Legacy families, both the student and parent are recognized with a special pin that they wear at the commencement ceremony. Here are the Class of 2022 Legacy Graduates:



Sheryl (Lau) Cruz
'83



Jared Cruz



Kris Masaki '96



Kaitlyn Furuta



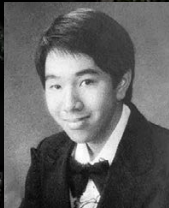
Reid Kameoka '93



Reise Kameoka



Joanna (Lau)
Kameoka '94



Von Kenric
Kaneshiro '83



Elyse Kaneshiro



Ryan Kusuda '91



Joshua Kusuda



Julianne
(Nakasone)
Kusuda '91



Brian R. Lim '92



Michela Lim



Kerilee L. (Ching)
Lim '93



Enoch L. Lum '94



Elisha Lum



Shawn Y.
Matsumoto '86



Cori Matsumoto



Lisa R. (Hirahara)
Mitchell '86



Trent Mitchell



Kathi E.
(Morinaka)
Nakata '92



Ethan Nakata



Mark T. Shiira '79



Ilana Shiira



Lorrie Ann Y.
(Luke) Takemoto
'85



Connor Takemoto

Class of 2023

Special Recognitions at Commencement Ceremony

National Honor Society

Kacie Agena
Jasmine Chang
Caley Chun
Arielle Cook
Hannah Angela Dela Cruz
Ryan Fukui
Sydney Hankey
Noah Hu
Lily Leño
Megan Lee
Michela Lim
Lyndsy Mashino
Noelle Nagaishi
Cameron Pien
Jacie Sakaino
Timothy Shimizu
Abigail Sumida
Kelly Tada
Caylie Takahashi
Lauren Toda
Christina Toyomura
Rachel Tsuchiya
Jolie Wong
John Yamamoto
Miya Yukumoto
Lisa Zheng

Sons & Daughters of Hawaii Baptist Academy

(Attended HBA since kindergarten)

Hailey Arita
Careah Baitlon
Evan Chang
Lauren Chee
Ashlee Cole
Jordan Davenport
Sarah Davenport
Wyatt Donayri
Braeden Fukuda
Marcus Garces
Sera Gavin
Keira Guerri
Elyse Kaneshiro
Shane Kawakami-Williams

Kyle Kumasaka
Maxwell Lee
Megan Lee
Alexander Marutani-Cole
Cori Matsumoto
Trent Mitchell
Kaeden Miyoi
Abigail Ng
Zachary Oka
Isabella Oliveira
Cameron Pien
Ilana Shiira
Sean Skaaning
Kelly Tada
Caylie Takahashi
Lauren Toda
Noah Uyehara
Jolie Wong
Haylee Yokoyama
Miya Yukumoto

Graduating with Honors

Bryson Akagi
Minori Batara
Allan-Jacob Castillo
Sydney Hankey
Reise Kameoka
Shane Kawakami-Williams
Nicholas Kidd
Jak Kim
Cadi Komenaka
Joshua Kusuda
Alexander Marutani-Cole
Mari Nakashima
Ayda Okano
Jordon Qin
Joel Tanoue
Noah Uyehara
Maiyah Wong

Graduating with Highest Honors

Kacie Agena
Brilynn Au Yuen
Kira Baker
Jasmine Chang

Lauren Chee
Katie Chen
Rachel Cheung
Caley Chun
Arielle Cook
Jared Cruz
Jordan Davenport
Sarah Davenport
Hannah Angela Dela Cruz
Ashley Freitas
Kalysta Fujihana
Ryan Fukui
Sera Gavin
Keira Guerri
Noah Hu
Elyse Kaneshiro
Sarah Kirimitsu
Ian Kubo
Kyle Kumasaka
Lily Leño
Megan Lee
Michela Lim
Joey Lin
Elisha Lum
Trislyn Maeda
Lyndsy Mashino
Cori Matsumoto
Noelle Nagaishi
Abigail Ng
Cameron Pien
Jacie Sakaino
Jeremiah Seng
Timothy Shimizu
Abigail Sumida
Justin Sumiye
Kelly Tada
Caylie Takahashi
Lauren Toda
Kaiya Tom
Christina Toyomura
Rachel Tsuchiya
Marissa Watanabe
Jolie Wong
Chris Wu
John Yamamoto
Miya Yukumoto
Lisa Zheng

Eagle Eye Takes Second Place in Journalism Competition

Congratulations to the *Eagle Eye* team for being named the runner-up for the overall Best-in-State award at this year's Hawai'i High School Journalism Awards competition.



Photo: Brendan Aoki

The Eagle Eye was awarded Best-in-State in the following categories:

Breaking News by John Yamamoto | 3rd Place
Photo Essay by Dilan Chock-Makiya | 1st Place
Action/Candid Photo by Brendan Aoki | 1st Place (*photo above*)
Portrait Photo by Dilan Chock-Makiya | 2nd Place
Photo Division Overall | 1st Place
Video by Brendan Aoki | 3rd Place
Multimedia Presentation by Megan Lee & Brendan Aoki | 1st Place
Podcast by Cameron Pien & Noah Hu | 1st Place
Website www.hbaeagleeye.com | 1st Place
Online Division Overall | 2nd Place
Best Single Issue: March 2023 Spike Nite Issue | 2nd Place

Congratulations to our faculty advisor, Eunice Sim, and our 2022-2023 *Eagle Eye* staff:

Cameron Pien (Editor-in-Chief), Cayte Akamu, Brendan Aoki, Noah Camacho, Dilan Chock-Makiya, Noah Hu, Olivia Kim, Titus Lee, Megan Lee, Trislyn Maeda, Taylor Malinger, Natali Nomura; Calla Pien, Jeremiah Seng, Fai Steffany, Brielle Sumida, Marissa Watanabe, and John Yamamoto.

Visit **www.hbaeagleeye.com** to check out their award-winning work! Go Eagles!



The 2022–2023 Eagle Eye staff. (Back row, L–R) Calla Pien, Taylor Malinger, Jeremiah Seng, Titus Lee, Brendan Aoki, Mrs. Eunice Sim (Advisor); (Middle row) John Yamamoto, Olivia Kim, Natali Nomura, Cayte Akamu, Brielle Sumida, Megan Lee; (Front row) Cameron Pien (Editor-in-Chief), Noah Camacho, Noah Hu, Dilan Chock-Makiya, Trislyn Maeda, Marissa Watanabe. Not pictured: Fai Steffany. Photo courtesy of Craig Chang.

The Eagle Eye team took home the Best-in-State award for best podcast. The Eagle Eye launched a new podcast this school year called *The Perch*.

The latest episode of *The Perch* was called: “Cutting Class”. After growing tired of paying for bad haircuts, senior Joel Tanoue pulled up some YouTube videos and decided to teach himself how to cut his own hair. He discovered a true passion for it, and eventually began to cut his friends’ hair... at school. Pictured is Joel Tanoue giving a haircut to HBA English Teacher, Dawson Vorderbruegge.



HBA Students Feted at Annual Varsity Athletic Awards Banquet

The Varsity Athletic Awards Banquet was held May 21 at the Ala Moana Hotel.

A crowd of 348 students, coaches, parents, and guests gathered at the annual event that recognizes all of the HBA students who participated in varsity sports during the past school year for HBA, PacFive, or other combination teams.



Athletic Director
Deren Oshiro

The varsity banquet is one of the few opportunities during the year to bring together the students, coaches, and parents from various varsity teams and sports, so it serves as a time of fellowship and closure at the end of each sports year.

This year eight teams were honored for winning their respective ILH Division 2 Championships. These were girls tennis, boys tennis, girls basketball, boys basketball, boys bowling, Pac-Five softball, Pac-Five girls soccer, and Pac-Five boys soccer.

Additionally, girls cross country won their ILH Division 1 Championship as that sport is all-inclusive at the league level (all students compete together, regardless of school enrollment). Over the past 30-plus years, 2019 and 2022 are the only years that a small school has won the ILH Division 1 title in this sport dominated by large schools. On both occasions, it was HBA who rose above all others.

Four teams won HHSAA Division 2 State Championships this year; boys cross country, girls cross country, Pac-Five girls soccer, and Pac-Five softball. HBA's boys bowling team and the Pac-Five boys soccer team finished as State Runners-Up.

The HBA Athletic Booster Club helped subsidize the event for the athletic department. KTM Services/Enjoy Products donated the centerpieces (snack mix, containers, wrap and decorations).



Boys basketball and cheerleading team.



Boys and girls cross country teams.

In all, 158 students were presented with certificates, letters, pins, and team awards.

Pac-Five Award winners were:

- Dawson Coover (football)
- Lily Leano (soccer)
- Joshua Kusuda (baseball)
- Elisha Lum (wrestling)
- Elisha Lum (judo)
- Kaiya Tom (softball)

The special individual award winners were:

Ken & Rosemond Street Sportsmanship Awards

- Male: Matthew Moka (volleyball)

- Female: Kylie Shyne Rivera-Kaahanui (volleyball)

Athletes of the Year

- Male
Shane Kawakami-Williams (track & field: 100m ILH and state champion, 400m ILH and state champion) | **Elisha Lum** (cross country and wrestling, state qualifier; judo, 114 lb ILH and state champion)
- Female
Joey Lin (basketball, ILH player of year; track, state qualifier) | **Ashley Kodama** (cross country, 5th in state, team ILH D1 champion and state D2 champion; track & field, 1500m ILH champion and state 3rd place, 3000m ILH champion, 800m state 3rd place)

Robert Fulford Scholar Athlete Awards (Top cumulative GPA. Each winner was presented with a check for \$1,500.)

- Male: Ryan Fukui (golf)
- Female: Abigail Sumida (tennis)



(L-R): Ryan Fukui, Shane Kawakami-Williams, Ashley Kodama, Joey Lin, Kylie Shyne Rivera-Kaahanui, Matthew Moka, Elisha Lum, and Jake Nitta.

READY,



SET,



Shane Kawakami-Williams placed first in both the boys 100m (10.63) and 400m dash (48.87).

STATES!

How the Class of 2023 embraced an abnormal high school experience

Excerpts from Natali Nomura '25, *Eagle Eye*

Since January, HBA's track athletes had been training in hopes of competing in this year's state championship, which was hosted on Maui on May 6. The team returned with three medalists: Senior Shane Kawakami-Williams won the 100-meter and 400-meter state championship titles, senior Jordy Davenport took home the second place medal for the 400-meter dash, and senior Ashley Kodama won the bronze medal in both the 1500-meter and 800-meter dash.

The Eagles finished ninth out of 29 schools for the girls and eighth out of 29 for the boys.

Kawakami-Williams had his eyes on the state championships all season. "For the first time since I've been in high school, we get to have States on another island, so we get to go on a trip," he said at the start of the season. He and fellow senior Zachary Oka also competed in long jump during the regular season. HBA had not participated in a field event since 2018. Although neither of the boys were able to qualify for the event at States, they were very excited to try something new this season. "I really want to show to kids from HBA that maybe want to jump in the future that you can do anything that you put your mind to if you try hard enough. You don't have to be limited by what school you come from or what you know, just teach yourself," Kawakami-Williams said.

The track team trained six days a week, rain or shine. Practice ran from 3:30 to 6:00 p.m. and meets ran for five hours or more. Sophomore Jared Crestetto said he spent about 20 hours a week going to both practices and meets. He believes in being disciplined both inside and outside of practices. "Throughout the season, I generally try to get enough sleep each night and hydrate regularly to help with recovery and to prepare for workouts," he said.

For senior Ashley Kodama, last year's 1500-meter state champion and current third place medalist in the 1500-meter and 800-meter dash, injury prevention is also a very important part of a healthy runner's daily routine. "I usually also spend about 15 to 45 minutes before or after

Ashley Kodama placed third in the girls 1500m (4:57.59) and 800m run (2:21.59).





Jordan "Jordy" Davenport participated in the 100m and 400m relays. She placed second in the girls 400 meter dash (58.84).

practice to work on some prevention and recovery—rolling out, hypervolt, etc.,” she explained. Kodama also put a lot of effort into preparing for meets days in advance.

For these athletes, running is as much a mental game as it is physical. Crestetto appreciates how the competition makes him stronger. “I like to remind myself that there’s always somebody out there working harder than me right now, and telling myself that I don’t have to run- I get to run,” he said. Anxiety is another hurdle for these athletes. Senior Jordan Davenport, who won the 400-meter state title last year, shared that the achievement of winning became a burden she had to bear this year. Early in the season, she said, “I know that people will be watching me, especially at the state meet, and I’m scared to see how I’ll do. Everyone has gotten so much faster this season compared to last year, and I might not be able to win States again.” At this year’s state competition, Davenport finished second with a time of 58.84 seconds, a mere second

behind ‘Iolani junior Mia Shepard, who clocked in at 57.13 seconds and set a personal record.

When it comes to the most enjoyable aspects of the sport, runners on the team consistently bring up the community feel of the track team. Although Kawakami-Williams competes in individual events, he said, “I don’t think

The competitive aspect of the sport is also a highlight. With the intermediate season behind her, eighth grader Rylee Sato reflected on her favorite parts, saying, “The best part about competing would have to be seeing who the competition is, and making friends from other schools... One day I think it would be cool to be one of those people that others are scared

freedom. Throughout this track season I have learned that running is my way of worshiping God. Every practice run and every race I compete in is ‘for Him.’ The best thing about racing is to run for God and trust his plan always,” she stated.

As the seniors end their high school running career, they have some advice for incoming runners. “Put in the effort. Many freshmen and sophomores turn to track to fill their second sport in getting exempt from P.E., but just because you run track for the P.E. credit doesn’t mean you have to slack or not give any effort to the workouts or races,” Davenport said.

Kawakami-Williams agreed, saying, “Stay consistent and go 100% in everything. If you really want results, you need to do more than just show up to a race. Take care of practice, take care of recovery, take care of races, and you’ll be fine.”



Senior Chris Wu (center foreground) ran with Elijah Wong '23, Drake Shiraishi '24, and Austin Imperial '24 in the 4x400 meter relay. They placed HBA seventh in heat 2 preliminaries.

I would be anywhere at all without my teammates in track. I cannot run alone. For me it’s necessary to have a team to not only practice with but also race with,” he said.

to race against since you’re really fast.”

Kodama concurs; she finds that racing is what makes the whole season worth it. “Racing gives me a sense of peace and

Freshman Golfer Makes Name for Herself

Excerpts from the Eagle Eye, Noah Camacho '23



Jacey Kage '26 (center) made 2023 ILH Division 1 All-Stars for Varsity 1 girls golf.

The HBA varsity golf team has achieved numerous accomplishments that have positively impacted HBA Athletics over the years. However, coming out of a successful 2021–2022 season, the varsity team saw many seniors graduate, with the boys team losing two players and the girls team losing three. While this may have felt like a blow to the team, freshman varsity golfer Jacey Kage has been a bright spark this season.

Kage is a first-year high school golfer but is already on the Varsity 1 team. She started playing golf at the age of five, and out of all the sports that she has tried, it is the only sport that she has stuck with. “I chose to play golf because I always seemed to excel at the sport, and I also picked up interest in the sport,” said Kage. “I was starting to really enjoy being out there on the golf course and [participating in] competitions.”

However, when Kage was younger, she did not always enjoy playing the sport. “I thought that it was boring and not useful, and [I] was thinking of quitting. As I got older, I started to mature and decided to stick to golf more,” she explained. Kage’s family has been a part of her golfing journey and has influenced her to play the sport. “My dad and grandpa were always involved with the junior golf community,” said Kage. “My dad has played golf since he was very young and wanted to carry on the ‘golf tradition’ so he taught me and my brother.” Kage’s father, who is also her coach, signed her up for her first tournament when she was seven years old in order for her to gain more experience with tournament play. With an average of 75, Kage was fourth overall

in scoring average for the ILH girls division during the regular season. She had the lowest scoring average out of both the HBA boys and girls Varsity 1 teams. “I have a few goals for the season, but one goal that I am going for is to place well in States, maybe top 10,” Kage said before the season ended.

The boys and girls state championships were held at the Wailua Golf Course on Kaua’i in May. There were not enough girls to qualify for a team score for HBA, so Kage played for an individual score instead. She ended up shooting an 81 on the first day and a 79 on the second day to finish with a tie for 16th place.

While she did not achieve her goal to be in the top ten, Kage will have many more opportunities to showcase her skills in the next few years of high school. “What I hope for in future seasons is to do better than in previous years and to make a name for HBA and also myself in golf,” Kage said. “I enjoy the competitions and [meeting] other junior golfers. I also enjoy the different places that we get to travel [for] golf and the new experiences.”

Looking back on her first varsity season, Kage recalls many memorable moments off and on the course. She said, “Some of my favorite moments in the golf season were [playing] fun games with the team during practice and also winning one tournament for HBA.” Kage believes that she made the right decision to play golf and thinks that the sport has really helped her to grow. “Golf has taught me in so many ways. I learned how to be honest, hard-working, and also patient. I have also begun to be a little more open minded when it comes to certain things,” she added.

High School Awards

GRADE 12

Bible

Excellence in Critical Issues in Christian Thought

Cameron Pien
Jared Cruz

English

Outstanding English 12 Student

Lyndsy Mashino
Michela “Ella” Lim
John Yamamoto

Outstanding AP English 12 Literature and Composition Student

Timothy Shimizu

Journalism

Excellence in Multimedia Presentations

Megan Lee

Excellence in Podcasting

Cameron Pien

Eagle Eye’s Most Valuable Staffer

Cameron Pien

Excellence in Writing for the Eagle Eye & Yearbook

Marissa Watanabe

Excellence in Photography for the Eagle Eye & Yearbook

Brendan Aoki

Excellence in Digital Art for Yearbook

Cori Matsumoto
Lauren Chee

Mathematics

Outstanding Student in Calculus Foundations

Miya Yukumoto

Outstanding Student in AP Statistics

Kira Baker

Outstanding Student in AP Calculus AB

John Yamamoto
Lisa Zheng

Outstanding Student in AP Calculus BC

Timothy Shimizu

Outstanding Student in AP Computer Science

Cameron Pien

American Mathematics Competition 12—1st Place

Megan Lee
Noah Hu

American Mathematics Competition 12—2nd Place

Tyson Yoshikawa

Hawaii State Mathematics Bowl Team

Megan Lee
Noah Hu

Maria Gaetana Agnesi Mathematics Service Award

Megan Lee

PE & Health

Outstanding Student in Weight Lifting

Kalysta Fujihana
Elijah Wong



Science

Outstanding Student in Physics

Lyndsy Mashino

Outstanding Student in AP Biology

Timothy Shimizu
Jolie Wong

Outstanding Student in AP Environmental Science

Kira Baker

Outstanding Student in AP Physics 1

Cameron Pien

Outstanding Student in AP Physics 2

Megan Lee
Elisha Lum

Outstanding Achievement in Anatomy & Physiology

AJ Castillo

Outstanding Student in Intro to Engineering Design

Bryson Akagi
Abigail Sumida

Social Studies

Outstanding Student in Economics

Megan Lee
Timothy Shimizu

Outstanding Student in AP Economics

Jared Cruz
Noah Hu

Outstanding Student in AP Psychology

Cameron Pien

Social Science Scholar

Cori Matsumoto

Outstanding Leadership in Mock Trial

Katie Chen

Visual & Performing Arts

Outstanding Leadership in Wind Ensemble

Hannah Dela Cruz

Budding Artist in Ceramics 1

Zachary Oka

Outstanding Craftsmanship in Ceramics 3/AIS

Katie Chen

Outstanding Artist in Advanced Mixed Media

Taylor Malinger

Outstanding Artist in Advanced Drawing & Painting

Sera Gavin

Outstanding Filmmaker in Advanced Filmmaking

Eugene Caruso

Outstanding Photographer in Advanced Photography

Hannah Dela Cruz

Scholastic Honorable Mention Award

Arielle Cook
Kyle Kumasaka
Cameron Pien

Excellence in Photography

Dilan Chock-Makiya

World Languages

Overall Excellence in Chinese

Ella Lim

Outstanding Achievement in Japanese 3 Honors & Japanese 4

Bryson Akagi

Outstanding Achievement in AP Japanese Language and Culture

Kira Baker

Overall Excellence in Japanese

Jeremiah Seng

Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 4

Mari Nakashima

Overall Excellence in Spanish

Timothy Shimizu

Senior Scholarships

“It Takes a Dream” Scholarship

Kaiya Tom

Rev. O.W. “Dub” and Grace Efurd Memorial Scholarship

Lyndsy Mashino

Stacie and Julie Lee Scholarship

Megan Lee

The Deanna Aoki Memorial Scholarship

Miya Yukumoto

The Community Builder Scholarship

Christina Toyomura

The HBA Alumni Association Eagle Pride Scholarship

Noah Hu

Sue Nishikawa Family Scholarship

Hannah Dela Cruz

PTF Awards

PTF Service Award—Grade 12

Hannah Dela Cruz
Ryan Fukui



Hannah Dela Cruz was awarded the Sue Nishikawa Family Scholarship.

2023 SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Hannah Angela
Dela Cruz



Noah Hu



Megan Lee



Lyndsy Mashino



Kaiya Tom



Christina Toyomura



Miya Yukumoto

High School Awards CONTINUED FROM PAGE 26

GRADE 11

Bible

Excellence in Introduction to Christian Thought
Abigail Bumgardner
Hannah Morse

English

Outstanding English 11 Student
Ty Koch
Moxiau “Yoyo” Xia

Outstanding AP English Language and Composition Student
Taylor Malinger

Outstanding AP English Literature and Composition Student
Hannah Dela Cruz

Mathematics

Outstanding Student in Algebra 3
Sean Tanji

Outstanding Student in Trigonometry
Sean Tanji

Outstanding Student in Pre-Calculus
Hannah Cheng
Ryan Wong

Science

Outstanding Achievement in Physics
Hannah Cheng

Outstanding Achievement in AP Chemistry
Tyson Yoshikawa

Outstanding Achievement in AP Physics 1
Yoyo Xia

Bausch & Lomb Honorary Science Award
Brendan Aoki

Rensselaer Medal Award
Yoyo Xia

Social Studies

Outstanding Student in Modern World History 11
Ty Koch
Hannah Morse

Outstanding Student in AP Modern World History
Joseph Giles

Visual & Performing Arts

Outstanding Student in Wind Ensemble
Kyle Siu

Outstanding Student in Theater (fall)

Ashlee Cole
Ha’eha’e Kahana

Outstanding Artist in Advanced Drawing & Painting
Cerra Leong

Scholastic Silver Key
Sean Tanji

World Languages

Outstanding Achievement in Chinese 2
Hannah Morse

Outstanding Achievement in Chinese 3
Kyle Siu

Outstanding Achievement in Japanese 3 Regular
Alissa Tong

Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 3
Samantha Choi
Jared Cruz

Japanese National Honor Society Inductee

Yoyo Xia

National Honor Society Inductee

Ty Koch

School Awards & Scholarships

HBA Endurance Scholarship
Hannah Cheng
Joseph Giles
Taylor Malinger
Ryan Wong

L.O. and Johnnie Taylor Outstanding Service Award
Hannah Taylor

PTF Awards

PTF High Achievement Award
Hannah Cheng
Taylor Malinger

PTF Service Award—Grade 11
Hannah Cheng
Joseph Giles

GRADE 10

Bible

Excellence in Old Testament
Jaden Oki
Kiani Shiroma

English

Outstanding English 10 Student
Samuel Lim
Randie Lueder

Shakespearean Recitation Competition
Randie Lueder

Mathematics

Outstanding Student in Algebra 2
Sydney Zane

Outstanding Student in Algebra 2—Honors
Brady Katano

American Mathematics Competition 10—2nd Place
Sage Shiroma

American Mathematics Competition 10—1st Place
Brady Katano

HBA Mathematics Team High Scorer
Brady Katano



Theater students take their curtain bow at a stage performance.

Hawaii State Mathematics

Bowl Team

Brady Katano
Jaden Oki
Joshua Labaczewski
Mia Takahashi

PE & Health

Outstanding Student in Physical Education and Health

Joshua Labaczewski
Tabby Yee

Science

Outstanding Student in Chemistry

Joshua Legawa
Sage Shiroma

Social Studies

Outstanding Student in US History 10

Sam Fujimoto
Amanda Tsuha

Visual &

Performing Arts

Outstanding Student in Concert Band 2

Bayley Matsumoto

Outstanding Student in Wind Ensemble

Brady Katano

Excellence in Service & Development of the Band Program

Amanda Tsuha

Commitment & Craftsmanship in Ceramics 2

Dylan Djou

Outstanding Achievement in Animation

Melia Castillejos
Thalia Matsumoto

Outstanding Photographer in Basic Photography

Lydia Halcomb

Scholastic Gold Key American Visions Award

Kalena Canionero

Scholastic Silver Key

Melia Castillejos

Scholastic Honorable Mention Award

Kalena Canionero
Megan Monico

World Languages

Outstanding Achievement in Japanese 2

Brady Katano
Mia Takahashi

Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 2

Asia De La Cruz
Justin Won

Japanese

National Honor

Society Inductees

Brenden Ahuna
Elijah Book
Kenshin Casamina
Sara Chang
Jennifer Chiang
Lydia Halcomb
Harumi Ho
Lauren Kanoholani
Brady Katano

Abbie Kato

Alyssa Kauleinamoku

Kyler Kiyabu

William Kowal

Joshua Labaczewski

Joshua Legawa

Samuel Lim

Randie Lueder

Hanae Lum

Bayley Matsumoto

Kai Motoyama

Ethan Nouchi

Reyn Nouchi

Jaden Oki

Mia Takahashi

Kai Toyofuku

Nadan Tsang

Amanda Tsuha

Chloe Yamamoto

Allison Yee

Sydney Zane

National Honor Society Inductees

Sara Chang
Jennifer Chiang
Samuel Fujimoto
Natali Nomura
Robert Nordin
Jaden Oki
Samuel Ruan
Cole Sakai
Barbara Storm
Nadan Tsang
Amanda Tsuha

School Awards & Scholarships

HBA Endurance Scholarship

Randie Lueder

PTF Awards

PTF High Achievement Award

Kenshin Casamina
Jennifer Chiang
Brady Katano
William Kowal
Joshua Labaczewski
Joshua Legawa
Kai Motoyama
Kiani Shiroma
Sage Shiroma
Vincent Sueblinvong
Justin Won

PTF Service Award—Grade 10

Jaden Oki
Sydney Zane

GRADE 9

Bible

Excellence in New Testament

Olivia Kim
Jake Riemer

English

Outstanding English 9 Student

Collin Higgins
Olivia Kim

Mathematics

Outstanding Student in Geometry

Lauren Okuda

PE & Health

Outstanding Student in Physical Education and Health

Jacey Kage

Science

Outstanding Student in Biology

Lauren Okuda
Tia-Nicole Takekawa

Social Studies

Outstanding Student in Ancient World History 9

Collin Higgins
Vincent Warr

Outstanding Student in Government 9

Tyler Fujimoto
Annalyn Higgins

Visual &

Performing Arts

Outstanding Student in Concert Band 1

Jason Okutani

Outstanding Achievement in Basic Art

Sophie Dukelow
Joelle Lum

Outstanding Achievement in Basic Drawing

Kira Tanaka
Vivien Wong

Outstanding Achievement in Basic Mixed Media

Lauren Espiritu
Megan Monico

Outstanding Filmmaker in Intro to Filmmaking

Drew Lohr



World Languages

Outstanding Achievement in Chinese 1

Calla Pien

Outstanding Achievement in Japanese 1

Tia-Nicole Takekawa
Vanessa He

Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 1

Kale Reeves
Olivia Kim

National Honor Society Inductees

Anika Chang
Sophie Chong
Tyler Fujimoto

Vanessa He
Annalyn Higgins
Collin Higgins
Callie Kawaguchi
Olivia Kim
Zoë Naso
Calla Pien

School Awards & Scholarships

HBA Endurance Scholarship

Kate Iida
Trinity Vong

Ruby Sakoda Nakahara Scholarship

Tyler Fujimoto

PTF Awards

PTF Service Award—Grade 9

Vanessa He
Serphina Zulueta-Imai

Middle School Awards

GRADE 8

Bible

Excellence in Bible 8

Alaina Young
Janel Lee

English

Outstanding English 8 Student

Lexi Kamikawa
Zoe Lim

Mathematics

Outstanding Student in Algebra 1

Bryan Watanabe
Katherine Butay

PE & Health

Outstanding Student in Physical Education and Health

Leina Wong
Bryan Watanabe

Science

Outstanding Student in Earth Science 8

Zoe Lim
Hannah Garces

Social Studies

Outstanding Student in American History 8

Hannah Garces
Leina Wong

Visual & Performing Arts

Outstanding Student in Fine Arts 8

Mari Casamina
Hannah Garces

Outstanding Student in Middle School Band

Verily Coryell
Madisyn Rogers

Outstanding Student in Middle School Drama

Leina Wong

Outstanding Artist in Middle School Art Basics B

Ian Longpre
Zoe Lim

Outstanding Artist in Middle School Art Basics A 3-D

Nina Magtoto

Cartooning

Kaylee Kobashigawa
Lexie Kadooka

Outstanding Middle School Filmmaker

Zoe Lim

School Awards & Scholarships

HBA Endurance Scholarship

Hannah Garces
Janel Lee
Zoe Lim
Faith Matsukado

PTF Awards

PTF Service Award—Grade 8

Madan Abe
Alyssa Tsutsui



GRADE 7

Bible

Excellence in Bible 7

John Harada
Kaitlyn Legawa

English

Outstanding English 7 Reader

Bethany Hofacker

Outstanding English 7 Writer

Logan Watkins

Mathematics

Outstanding Student in Math 7

Keira Liew
Alex Fujimoto

PE & Health

Outstanding Student in Physical Education and Health

Alex Fujimoto
Keira Liew

Science

Outstanding Achievement in Science 7

Alex Fujimoto
Keira Liew

Outstanding Student in Geography

Keira Liew
Logan Watkins

Visual & Performing Arts

Outstanding Student in Fine Arts 7

Janey Chang
May Shiraishi

Outstanding Student in Middle School Beginning Band

Sarah Byrer
Nainoa Tindle

Curiosity and Commitment in Middle School Art

Camden Murakami

Outstanding Artist in Middle School Art

Sophia Tung

Outstanding Artist in Middle School Art Basics A 3-D

Stella Leong

School Awards & Scholarships

HBA Endurance Scholarship

Alex Fujimoto
Kiera Liew
Reese Lueder

PTF Awards

PTF Service Award—Grade 7

Alex Fujimoto
May Shiraishi

Funding Opportunities for Students

Financial Aid and Scholarships

Last year, Hawai'i Baptist Academy awarded more than **\$1.5 million** in financial aid, scholarships, and merit based scholarships. These scholarships are made available by the school and many generous donors who have established annual scholarships and scholarship endowments.

Hawai'i Baptist Academy offers several different types of scholarships annually:

EAGLE'S WINGS SCHOLARSHIPS

We have over 100 scholarships from various generous donors and other supporters of HBA, ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000. These scholarships are awarded in addition to the financial aid award offered by HBA. These scholarships are open to students who qualify for financial aid in the upcoming 2024-2025 school year. There is no GPA requirement to apply for an Eagle's Wings scholarship.

ENDURANCE SCHOLARSHIPS

We have over thirty scholarships ranging from \$1,000 to \$2,500. The selection committee considers scholastic achievement, artistic achievement, volunteer service, leadership and extracurricular activities.

These opportunities are open to all current and incoming HBA students meeting the minimum 3.0 GPA requirement (or elementary equivalent). These scholarships are merit based and not dependent upon financial need.

SENIOR SCHOLARSHIPS

There are several opportunities open to all current 12th grade HBA students. These merit based scholarships are available for graduating seniors to apply towards their college tuition. There is a separate application process that takes place in the Spring semester.

APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

HBA will be announcing the Eagle's Wings and Endurance scholarship processes in August, with the deadline after fall break. This will allow students to work on their application during the fall break for the 2024-25 school year.

In addition to the email announcement, a Financial Aid tile has been created in the MyEagle parent portal, which provides further information regarding the financial aid process, including FAQs and further instructions of how to apply through our financial aid platform.

Students can apply for either the Eagle's Wings **OR** the Endurance Scholarship. The scholarships use a common application form and common reference forms (two reference forms are required). The process for both scholarship opportunities are exactly the same.



ABOUT FINANCIAL AID

HBA is committed to providing necessary financial aid support to all families who qualify. There are various factors that play a role when determining financial aid support, therefore we highly encourage **ALL** families to apply. All information submitted will be reviewed carefully and confidentially by a third-party verification system. Awards are distributed to students on the basis of financial need.

The financial need methodology takes into account many aspects of the family's financial situation: income, assets, core expenses, debt, family size, and number of children at tuition-charging schools.

In addition to financial need, HBA relies heavily on the four core values throughout this process: humility, curiosity, love, and commitment. Each individual family's situation is considered. Those who desire to continue receiving financial aid must reapply each year. Please note that one year's financial aid support does not guarantee the same amount for the following years.

TIMELINE FOR CURRENT STUDENTS TO APPLY FOR BOTH FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Mid-August: Scholarship applications open for current HBA students for the 2024-2025 academic year.

Mid-October: Financial aid applications accepted for current HBA students for the 2024-2025 academic year.

October 20: Scholarship deadline for current HBA students.

December 1: Scholarship deadline for incoming applicants to HBA.

March 1: On or before March 1, the first round decisions will be emailed to current HBA students.

Early to mid March: First round financial aid decisions and scholarship awards will be emailed to new applicants to HBA Grades 6–12.

Mid to late March: First round financial aid decisions and scholarship awards will be emailed to new applicants to HBA Grades JK–5.

April to May: Scholarship awards will be emailed to current HBA students

May: Second round decisions emailed to current HBA students who missed the December 1 deadline.

Over the years, our family has been blessed by scholarship support from generous donors of HBA.

My dad, who recently passed away, raised us to give and to have a servant heart in everything we do. In hopes of continuing his legacy, I established a scholarship in his name. I want to honor my father and the way he lived his life: faithful, generous, and always bringing glory to God. Honoring my father and giving back to HBA goes hand in hand. As a multi-generational HBA family, I hope to instill those same values in my son, so that he may carry on his grandfather's legacy.

Eric Yamashita '84

Past parent and scholarship donor



For information about establishing a scholarship to help future generations of Eagles, contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at development@hba.net or (808) 533-7094.

Faculty Spotlight

Ross Mukai

Excerpts from this year's 2022-2023 Yearbook Faculty Dedication

Written by Valerie Coryell, HBA's English Department Faculty

Proverbs 15:15 tells us that “the cheerful heart has a continual feast.” The person to whom the 2023 yearbook is dedicated brings such cheer to the HBA community that merely bringing his name up in conversation elicits genuine smiles.

ON THEIR FIRST DAY ON THE JOB, IN THE FALL OF 1996, a handful of new HBA teachers arrived in their best work attire and waited for orientation to begin. At the last moment, in ambled a young man in board shorts and slippers, conspicuously chewing gum. He may or may not have been wearing a towel around his waist—reports vary—but what is certain is that one of the first rules the principal made clear that day was “No chewing gum on campus.”

That young man ended up devoting his life to HBA. As his past and present roles attest, he is committed to living, learning, and playing together in community. He has served as class advisor for almost every grade from 7th through 12th, coached different sports, held the position of department chair, and played electric bass in the chapel praise band. His wife also taught at HBA for several years, and all three of his children have been enrolled at the school.

In some capacity over the past quarter century, he has taught a wide variety of skills, among them surfing, cooking, bridge-building, origami, water-balloon-launching, and one year, even sewing. However, most students will remember Ross Mukai best as a running coach or a math teacher.

Mr. Mukai started HBA's cross-country team in 2001. Popular from the get go, the team soon boasted over 100 students each year. With the help of a cross-country alumnus, Mr. Mukai later expanded HBA's running program to include track. Willing to go to great lengths to give his runners an edge, Coach Mukai experimented with water exercises; various physical therapies, mental training; and the perfect blend of powder, water, and syrup to make the daily after-workout “juice.” Hundreds of students have benefitted from the teams, which have also earned HBA a number of awards and honors. Although Mr. Mukai has now put aside his stopwatch to focus on being a dad, his legacy continues in the hands of several current coaches who were once his runners.

In a similar way, Mr. Mukai continues to pass down his passion for mathematics: at least four of his students have returned to HBA as math teachers. Students say Mr. Mukai is stern yet knows when to lighten the mood. Colleagues respect his versatility; he has taught almost every course in the department from middle school math to calculus and from algebra to AP Statistics. He even developed a class—Logic and Reasoning—to share his love of puzzles, games, and logic challenges.

Mr. Mukai, we admire your dedication, your generosity, your pragmatic outlook, and your ability to laugh. Thank you for showing us what it means to have a cheerful heart and to feast continually on the abundant life God has given us.

Ross Mukai with his wife, Tariya Mukai, and their three children Tyden (second grade), Matylda (kindergarten), and Ryder Mukai (fourth grade).



Elementary Spotlight

Steve Louis (“Mr. Steve”)

Excerpts from this year’s 2022–2023 Yearbook Elementary Dedication

Written by Cheryl Higa, Third Grade Teacher

*“The LORD my God,
I take refuge in you;
save and deliver me
from all who pursue me.”*

Matthew 22:37 (NIV)



Ariel (Sato) Kishimoto '12 and her first grade class say aloha to Mr. Steve.



Steve Louis

Often described as friendly, dedicated, and kind, Mr. Steve Louis served as a security guard at Hawaii Baptist Academy for 20 years. He was the first person to greet families, faculty, and guests with a smile, often putting others before himself. He had a way of welcoming students while at the same time making sure that everyone on campus was safe.

Mr. Steve grew up in New York. Believe it or not, he was the shortest of 13 siblings who were all extremely tall. His mother was 5'11", his father was 6'9" and his youngest sister (of 14 children) is 6'3" tall.

Mr. Steve served in the military for 17 years. He was stationed at Fort Bragg in California and served in the 82nd Airborne Division of the United States Army on combat tours in Afghanistan, Iraq and Kuwait. As a paratrooper, he made more than 119 jumps from aircraft with parachutes on specialized missions and served on a bomb squad. He was dropped into areas before troops arrived to make sure they were cleared of bombs. He truly believed in the “one for all and all for one” where the 240 personnel in his unit were family.

When Mr. Steve was asked what his favorite Bible verse was, without hesitation he said Psalm 7:1, “The LORD my God, I take refuge in you; save and deliver me from all who pursue me.”

He gives God credit for him being alive today as he knows that God saved his life several times when he served in the military.

After 20 years of service to HBA, Mr. Steve and his wife decided it was time to retire. In retirement he is looking forward to fishing, lots of football, a trip home to New York to visit family and maybe even a trip to Africa! We are honored to know you and are thankful for you, Mr. Steve Louis. Congratulations on your retirement!



“Not on my watch”—Mr. Steve made sure that our campus was safe and unharmed.

Sixth Grade Aloha Celebration



The class of 2029 at their sixth grade Aloha Celebration at the Richard Bento Elementary Campus.

“DEAR HEAVENLY FATHER, Thank you very much for this special evening, our 6th Grade Aloha Celebration. Thank you for this time when we can remember and celebrate all that we have learned and accomplished during our time at the Elementary Campus. We are grateful that you allow us to attend this wonderful school, and that you provide us with loving families, friends and teachers to guide and support us along our journey. We invite you to be a part of our celebration this evening, and pray that this time will bring glory and honor to you. Thank you for being a loving and faithful God. In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen.” — **Kyler Onaga ’29**

The Class of 2029 celebrated their hard work, achievements, memories, and the time spent together on the Richard Bento Elementary Campus alongside their teachers, parents, and family members.



Demi Chae '29

“Thank you to our parents and family members who have made countless sacrifices for us to be here today. We are so grateful for the love and guidance you share with us every day,” said Demi Chae ’29 at the opening of the ceremony.



Principal Amy Vorderbruegge with Ivy Won '29.

Amy Vorderbruegge also shared heartfelt words as this marked her last Aloha Celebration in her role as elementary campus principal, before she transitioned to her new role as HBA’s Director of Strategic Planning.

“I have been honored to see many of you start your HBA journey, as early as kindergarten, and to have grown into the young ladies and gentlemen you are today,” reflected Amy Vorderbruegge. “I am so proud to see how you have grown in your walk with God, your love for one another, and to see our school’s core values of humility, curiosity, love, and commitment planted in your hearts. I know God has great plans for each of your lives.”

Amy went on to recognize the sixth grade students who have earned the **ESLR Awards** this past year: Humility—Isaac Cai, Riley Kim, Jack Okazaki;





Curiosity—Ava Blanchard, Zoey Cheung, Laurence Yang; Love—Liam Lucero, Landon Onishi, Azalea Wasson; and Commitment – Demi Chae, Amy Siu, Vanessa Wong.

Two students were selected by their peers for a special **Citizenship Award**. The award went to Mei Thomas and Isaac Cai for demonstrating kindness, honesty, self-control, respect, responsibility, cooperation, and peace.

The **JOY Award** recognizes those who embody qualities of JOY: Jesus first; Others, second; and Yourself, last. The students who captured the idea of choosing to be a joyful thermostat were Riley Kim and Joseph Wong.

The winners of the **All Around Award** were voted on by their peers as students who exemplify positive traits in citizenship as well as expressing JOY. In addition, they have contributed to our school community by participating in extracurricular activities, while maintaining high academics. The students selected for this award were Demi Chae and Jack Okazaki.

Last but not least, the **President's Award for Educational Excellence** is the highest academic award we honor, as the criteria to receive it demands consistent excellence. Students need to have an A- average or better in grades 4, 5 and 6 and score in the 85 percentile or above on a standardized test in Reading or

math for the last three years. Students receive a special certificate from the President of the United States of America and a pin commemorating this award. This year our President's Award recipients are: Zoey Cheung, Kole Hashimoto, Riley Kim,

Jack Okazaki, Cody Pien, Anri Seminara, and Pressly Reign Stevenson.

Congratulations to all of our sixth graders and their families and we pray special blessings on our Eagles as you move on to the next chapter of middle school!



The 2023 All Around Award recipients were (L-R): Joseph Wong and Riley Kim (JOY), Jack Okazaki and Demi Chae (All Around), Isaac Cai and Mei Thomas (Citizenship).

Bubble



BUBBLE RUN is a fundraiser hosted by HBA's Elementary Campus and the Parent Teacher Fellowship (PTF). The proceeds from this fundraiser are going towards a new playground at the elementary campus as well as student activities and programs. The PTF will also be using the funds to continue to provide grade level fellowships as well as funding other events throughout the school year, like our annual PTF kickoff dinner, events at the middle school and high school, Teacher Appreciation Lunch, and end of the year Service Awards. Mahalo for your support of our students and school!



Foamalanche



It's snowing foam!



Reaching for bubble clouds.



Kristen Sato smiles with her students.

Run

June 1, 2023



Waterslide fun

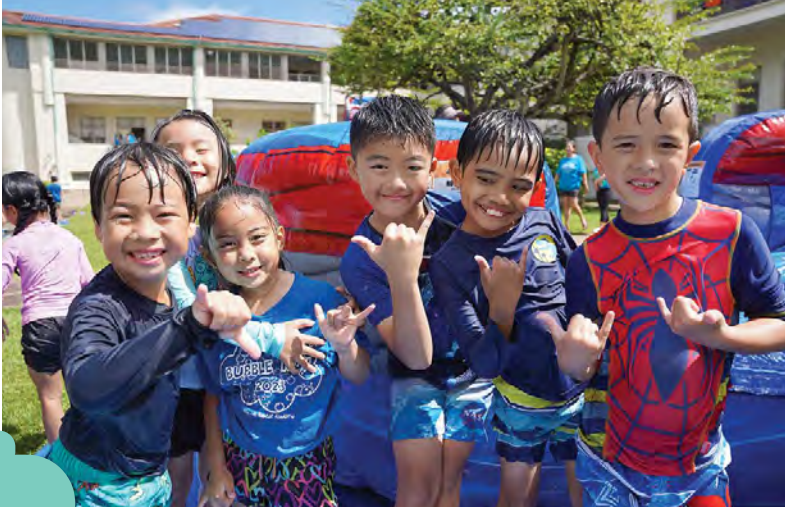


Bubble Run Hugs: Students hug second grade teacher, Tammie Bell.



Ending the day with shave ice.





HAWAI'I BAPTIST ACADEMY

1,100+
students preschool
through 12th grade



1:11 average teacher
to student ratio

9

Best in State
titles for Hawai'i
High School
Journalism Awards



10+ 1st place finishes in
HMSA's Kaimana Awards
and Scholarship Program

20+
advanced
placement
courses



Member of the ILH, Pac-5 and
Christian School Athletic League



100% of our graduates are
accepted to college



25%
of our families
receive financial aid

1949
founded by
Southern Baptist
Missionaries

55+ clubs

70%

of our middle and
high school students
participate in a sport

45+
sports teams

**Learn more at
HBA.net**

HBA has three campuses in Nu'uano serving elementary, middle, and high school students. It also has a satellite preschool in Mililani Mauka, HBA Preschool at GracePoint.



Mahalo

from the Elementary Student Council

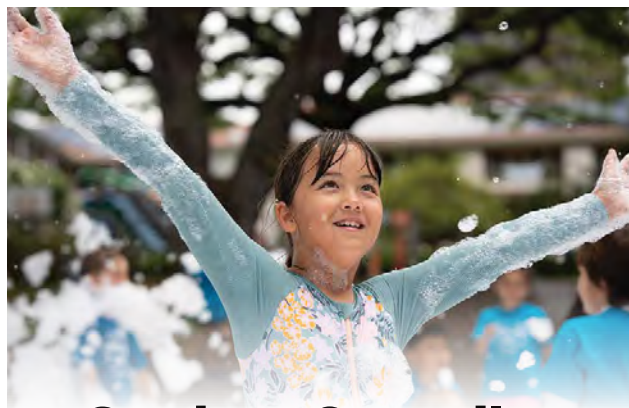
WE WANT TO THANK EVERYONE FOR SUPPORTING OUR BUBBLE RUN, whether it was through prayers, volunteering at the event, or donating money towards our fundraiser.

We have successfully surpassed our goal of \$50,000 and raised **\$51,922.33**. All of this money will go to a new playground, student activities, student programs, and the Parent Teacher Fellowship.

On the day of the event, there were four water slides, a shave ice area, and a bubble run obstacle course. The grand finale was a big area full of foam. Students made beards like Santa Claus, tried to get foam on their teachers, and covered their friends with foam.

As we did this, we celebrated a great fundraiser and an awesome school year. Thank you for your help and support of the Bubble Run and of HBA.

We couldn't have done it without you. Thanks for helping to make our day special. Mahalo nui loa—our hearts are bubbling over!



Sustainable Giving

HBA's Endurance Society

Hawai'i Baptist Academy's Endurance Society, is our Monthly Giving Program. This special group of individuals are committed to meeting the greatest needs of HBA through their monthly giving. Our Endurance Society friends receive an exclusive welcome gift, and are invited to a quarterly virtual Coffee Hour with President Shiira as well as other HBA events. The minimum giving requirement is \$5 a month.

By making a monthly commitment, your continuous giving provides long-term program support making a sustainable commitment to our school. To learn more about the Endurance Society, email the Office of Institutional Advancement at **development@hba.net** or call **(808) 533-7094**.

Seeing the school do so much to support the students and their families has fueled our commitment to continue to support the school by donating regularly. We enjoy supporting HBA and have found the school to be so appreciative of having families participate and become more invested in the school regardless of the amount given. God has blessed our family in many ways and has given us the means to be able to donate to HBA on a regular basis. We want to pay it forward.

Quin Ogawa
Current parent



L-R: Quin, Madison '26 and Gail Ogawa

HBA is a place where dreams are nurtured and developed. My family has received countless blessings through employment, education, friendships, and financial support. We believe that giving back to the school is just a small token of our appreciation. We are living in a time when everything is so expensive, many children are not as fortunate as my children, who have an opportunity to receive quality education. It is our intention that our humble donation will be invested into the future generations. Our giving, regardless of the amount, is an answered prayer to someone who needs help financially.

Ellen O.N. Tsang,
IT Specialist (HBA employee)



L-R: Aaron, Jakin '32, Ellen and Natan '25 Tsang



HAWAII BAPTIST ACADEMY

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