



# Five Board of Director Positions Open

## Board of Director Nominations Due March 2

Do you know someone who would make a good director on the board? The election of HEA Board of Director members is rapidly approaching and the deadline for nominations is Monday, March 2nd.

There are five positions available for a two-year term. Nominees and nominators must be members of HEA, and a nominator must have the approval from the nominee. Nominations must be submitted in writing. Forms may be requested from HEAdquarters (949-6657 or toll-free 866-653-9372 from the Neighbor Islands) or email HEA at [hea.office@hawaiieducationassociation.org](mailto:hea.office@hawaiieducationassociation.org). If you cannot obtain a form, please submit the nominee's name, address, telephone number, and a brief resume (no more than 150 words) of the nominee along with your own name, address, phone number and signature.

Please send nominations to HEA at 1953 South Beretania Street, Suite 5C, Honolulu, HI 96826. All nominations must be post-marked, delivered in person or faxed to HEA's office at 944-2032 by March 2, 2020.



## Board of Directors Elections

Board of Director election ballots will be sent to all HEA members on or about March 6th. Along with the ballots, a proxy form for the Annual Meeting will be included. If you have not received your ballot by March 31st, please contact the HEA office. The election deadline is April 6, 2020.

The votes will be tabulated on Monday, April 20th. According to election rules, candidates may send observers on this day. If there are fewer candidates than vacancies, those candidates will be automatically elected. Election results will be presented to the HEA Board of Directors for certification at the Annual Meeting on April 25, 2020. All candidates will be notified of the election results on or about May 1, 2020. All ballots will be stored at the HEA office in a sealed container for thirty days after certification. Any challenge made to these procedures or to the conduct of the election must be made in writing, signed by the challenger, and forwarded to HEA within 30 days after certification.

## Let's Talk About Other Things!

I thought I would change the subject and lighten up the discussion. I'm so-so with social media. I do Facebook, Snapchat, e-mail and on-line ordering and I read tweets. However, my grand and great-grand nieces and nephews do their thing on the computer, they often leave me behind. I suspect some of you are in the same boat.

People who did not grow with social media are called "digital immigrants." Generally, they were born before 1980. Others are "digital natives" who grew up with technology and they were born after 1980. If you go into an Apple store, 18-month year old children are sitting on their bouncy chair playing with an iPad. So, I thought I would focus on the abbreviations digital natives use when they are on social media.

*(Continued on page 2)*



**June Motokawa**  
President

**A**loha and a most Happy and Peaceful 2020! Kung Hee Fat Choy!  
There is much going on in our world that can make life challenging BUT waking up each morning and choosing the kind of day to have is a such a wonderful gift. I wish good, solid and positive days for you.

As you have read, Ronald Toma, HEA Vice President (2012-2018), was celebrated for his lifetime of sharing good on December 28, 2019. It is a personal loss for all of us in HEA's family but I know that Ron's journey continues in Light and Peace. He was such a good human being! AND knowing him makes me think that he must be having fun up there!

Down here on planet Earth, the HEA Executive Committee and Board of Directors established a Ronald K. Toma Professional Development Scholarship. Scholarship applications are available on HEA's website: [www.hawaiieducationassociation.org](http://www.hawaiieducationassociation.org) and all public schools. Thank you to Scholarship Committee Chair Meredith Maeda for your work on the initial drafts.

The Board continues its effort in providing for its Mission through its portfolios in AXA, fundraising and developing a grant program. Thank you to all that have helped through gifting the HEA during the October and February Fund Raising.

The Board members also established an increase in the number of Board members to ten. Because the HEA Board of Directors is a working Board, it was decided that additional support was needed.

Please join us if you are interested in participating with us and believe the HEA Mission is important for Hawaii's education of its youngsters.

Take good care of yourself.

*(Continued from page 1)*

## Let's Talk About Other Things!

Let's get started with the most common abbreviations: **LOL** is laugh out loud or lots of love. Be careful not to mix them up or you will send "laugh out loud" when you mean "lots of love."

**BTW** is by the way, **BRB** stands for be right back. **LMK** is the acronym for let me know. Here are some other acronyms that social media natives use:

- \*\$ = Starbucks
- 121 = one to one
- 143 = I love you
- 2G2BT = too good to be true
- 2QT = too cute
- NVM=never mind
- ? = I have a question
- CYT = see you tomorrow
- WYCM = will you call me
- PAL = parents are listening
- != I have a comment
- 142n8ly = unfortunately
- 1432 = I love you too
- 2moro = tomorrow
- 420 = marijuana
- L8R= later
- A2D = agree to disagree
- IMHO = In my humble opinion
- MOS = mom over shoulder
- PAW = parents are watching
- \*\*// = it means wink, wink
- 123 = I agree
- 20 = location
- 2nite = tonight
- 511 = too much information
- 88 = hugs and kisses
- ACC = actually
- F2F = face to face
- P911 = parent alert
- ISO = in search of

This gives you a flavor of the social media language. There are hundreds of acronyms used. If you receive a message that has acronym that you don't recognize, go to [NetLingo.com](http://NetLingo.com) which is an internet dictionary. Your grand kids and akamai friends know hundreds of internet acronyms so I have only given the tip of the iceberg. Learn the computer and social media. The Great Aloha Run offers free classes from June to September. The Hawaii State Library offers free computer classes to seniors at some branches. The Kalihi Palama branch begin classes in February. Check with your local branch. The Community Colleges also have free classes for seniors and of course, the DOE Adult Education Schools offer computer classes for a small fee. Learning the computer is a necessary for everyone, young and old. Have fun when you communicate on social media with your friends and family.

B4N=bye for now.

- By Joan Lee Husted

## Fond Farewell Ronald K. Toma



Hawaii Education Association is saddened by the loss of a dear friend and board member, Ron Toma. Ron passed away peacefully on November 14, 2019 at Kaiser Moanalua Hospital after a two-and-a-half year battle with Lymphoma. He was 78 years old. Ron's impact on those who knew him and had the privilege of working with him will always be cherished.

Ron graduated from Hilo High School and earned a bachelor's and master's degree, respectively, from the University of Hawaii and Washington State University in chemistry and secondary education.

Ron taught chemistry and physics at Kalani High, Waialua High, and Moanalua High Schools. He was recognized as Hawaii State Teacher of the Year in 1975. In that same year, he took on a new role as a Curriculum Specialist for the Department of Education, Central Oahu District. Over his educational career, he served as Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent of Education and then became the Administrator for the Office of Personnel Services-Certification and Development Section for the Hawaii DOE. Ron retired from the DOE in 1999 as the Educational Director of the regular education program, known today as OCISS. Even in retirement, he continued to support the DOE as a Project Director of the Pacific Regional Educational Laboratory Program and volunteered on many of its projects and programs.

Ron's contributions to HEA spans back to 1965 when he first joined the association. He served as HEA President in 1971-72. In 2011, Ron served as a facilitator to the Board as it looked to re-develop its decision-making process to improve and expand its programs. He was appointed to the Board in 2012 and served as Vice President until he voluntarily stepped down in 2018. During his time at HEA, Ron also served as Chair of the Programs Committee, which oversaw the Teaching As A Career (TAAC), Excellence in Teaching and Learning (ExTL), and scholarship programs. He was instrumental in creating a TAAC Symposium where educators from CTE Education Pathway, at the state level and university system create an informal professional learning community to share best practices, instructional resources and tools. Ron was also instrumental in the creation of ExTL, a partner program with the Hawaii State Teachers Association, that provides professional development opportunities to Hawaii's public school teachers.

In recognition of Ron's substantial contributions to HEA's professional development programs, the Board is naming its newly formed In-service Professional Development Scholarship the Ronald K. Toma Scholarship - Professional Development for In-service Public School Educators in his honor.

Ron was brilliant, but always humble, kind, and steady. He led by example and was always willing to freely help others. Without question, Ron made an indelible mark on those with whom he worked, from Board and Committee members to staff and association members. Whether it was his genuine care for others or dedication, professionalism, meticulous attention to detail, and leadership, Ron was truly one-of-a-kind and will be truly missed.

Deepest sympathy and condolences to the Toma family.

## Scholarships Available

The following scholarships are available from February 3, 2020.

### HEA Scholarships

- 2 - \$2,000 for high school seniors
- 2 - \$1,000 for continuing college students
- 2 - \$2,000 for in-service public educators
- Multiple - up to \$3,000 for Ronald K. Toma professional development for in-service educators
- 2 - \$2,000 for student teachers sponsored by the Helen MacKay Memorial

### Hiroshi & Barbara Kim Yamashita HEA Scholarship

- 1 - \$2,000 for college students

The deadline to submit scholarship applications is April 1, 2020. The Student Teacher scholarship's deadline is June 15, 2020. All necessary papers must be mailed or hand delivered to 1953 S. Beretania Street, Suite 5C by 12 Noon on that day.

For more information, visit [www.hawaiieducationassociation.org](http://www.hawaiieducationassociation.org) or HEA office at 949-6657 or toll-free 1-866-653-9372.

## VISION

"To affirm the professionalism of Hawaii educators."

## MISSION

"To strengthen and support excellence in education by:

- Advocating teaching as a profession.
- Awarding scholarships for pre-service and in-service educators.
- Advancing professional learning for effective teaching."

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Hours: Monday-Friday  
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