



Board of Director Nominations Due March 8

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 Wednesday, March 8th.

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. 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 postmarked, delivered in person or faxed to HEA's office at 944-2032 by March 8, 2023.

Board of Directors Elections

Board of Director election ballots will be sent to all HEA members on or about March 15th. 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 12, 2023.

The votes will be tabulated on Tuesday, April 18th. 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 22, 2023. All candidates will be notified of the election results on or about May 1, 2023. 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.

TO OBTAIN OR REQUEST NOMINATION FORM

Please visit hawaiieducationassociation.org or call the HEA office at 1-808-949-6657 or toll free 1-866-653-9372.



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Save the Date!

3rd Annual Fundraising Concert

"Teach Our Future"

Saturday, April 1, 2023

6:00 p.m.

McKinley High School

Join HFE for a night of musical heaven with Imua, The Camarillo Brothers, Eric Lee, Crossing Rain, and performances by some of our local student musicians.

HFE provides professional development, leadership development, and research and innovation to in-service teachers. For ticket cost and questions, please email HSTA's assistant Jaime Cunnane at jcunnane@hsta.org.

2022-2023 Board of Directors

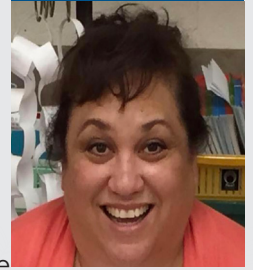
Joan Lee Husted
Piliialoha Lee Loy
Joan Lewis
Wilbur Luna
Meredith Maeda
Jonathon Medeiros
June Motokawa
Justin Wong
Jacqueline Yanagi

Staff

Executive Director
Laurie Togami

Program Manager
Lynn Hammonds, Ed.D.

**Membership Clerk/
Receptionist**
Normita Agustin



A Message from the President: Greetings from the School Zone!

Happy New Year and Welcome to the Year of the Rabbit!

On behalf of the HEA Board of Directors, I hope your holidays were delightful and that 2023 is off to a strong start.

I am happy to share that HEA started 2023 by hosting an amazing summit with community leaders who share our passion for the health and well being of our students and our schools. It is the first of what I believe will be an annual gathering that provides policy and other decision makers opportunities to engage with educators. This first gathering helped us reveal the level to which health and wellness impact student, staff and school success. All participants left feeling that we have good first steps that we can take together to make impactful changes.

One of our first steps includes the kick off of our Communities of Care Tour. With the financial support of the Kaiser Foundation and in partnership with the Hawaii Teachers' Standards Board, we will be conducting workshops throughout the state. More information will be provided and we encourage you to join us when we are in your area.

This spring will also be a time of renewal for our Board of Directors. We have a number of board terms ending this year, and our elections process will be in full swing. I would like to invite those who want to join us in leading our good work to get on the ballot for the upcoming election cycle. As importantly, we appreciate everyone's participation in voting.

As always your commitment to education and your membership in our community are valued beyond words.

With much aloha,

Joan Kamila Lewis
BOARD PRESIDENT

Our Vision

To affirm the professionalism of
Hawaii's educators.

Our Mission

To strengthen excellence
in education:

- Advocate teaching as a profession.
- Support pre-service and in-service educators.
- Advance professional learning for effective teaching.

Hawaii Education Association
1953 South Beretania Street, Suite 5C
Honolulu, HI 96826
Tel: 808.949.6657
Fax: 808.944.2032

hea.office@hawaiieducationassociation.org



Fond Farewell Merle Yoshida



It is with a heavy heart that HEA has learned of the passing of Merle M. Nishida Yoshida. Mrs. Yoshida passed away at

the age of 67 at Queens Medical Center on October 2, 2022. She was a former teacher at Kalaniana'ole School in Papaikou where she retired in December 2021. She is survived by her husband, James Yoshida; mother, Toshie Nishida; sisters, Jean (Wayne) Souza and Lois Nishida.

Merle generously volunteered her time and shared her invaluable knowledge while serving on the HEA Educational Programs Committee. She was a key supporter of HEA's Creative Writing Festival for over 15 years. Every year, she would fly over to Oahu and spend the day to personally help at the event. Her warm smile and heartfelt care for the students were sincerely appreciated. Merle will always be remembered and truly missed.

Hawaii Education Association

2022 - 2023 TAAC Awards

HEA is pleased to announce six high schools that will each receive \$200 for their Teaching As A Career grant. TAAC's goal is to motivate and encourage high school students to pursue a career in teaching. These grants are given to high school CTE pathway/teaching clubs to support education projects and activities. The schools awarded are:

Farrington High School
Sandy Ramiscal, Teacher

James Campbell High School
Val Tina Oishi, Teacher

Leilehua High School
Cindy Abe, Teacher

Maui High School
Rondy Arquero, Teacher

Pearl City High School
Tammy Yoon, Teacher

Kauai High School
Jonathon Medeiros, Teacher

Inaugural HEA Leadership Summit: Creating Communities of Care

In 2022, the Hawaii Education Association (HEA) celebrated its Centennial, belated for a year due to Covid. To celebrate the beginning of our second century as an association for all Hawaii educators, an inaugural HEA Leadership Summit was held on January 3, 2023, 9:30 am – 1:30 pm, at the Richards Street YWCA, downtown Honolulu, with the theme, “Creating Educator Communities of Care.”

Thirty-five leaders from all sectors of the profession included representatives from the Board of Education, Legislative Education Committees, Hawaii P-20, Hawaii Public Charter School Commission, Hawaii Educator Preparation Programs, the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board, Governor’s Office on Early Learning, Hawaii Association of Independent Schools, Kaiser Permanente Foundation, Castle Foundation, INPEACE and Hawaii Kids Can.

Based on feedback from across the state, HEA leadership decided to focus on supporting the well-being and mental health of our educators who continue to give so much of themselves as we enter a new normal after the COVID pandemic. A recent study published in Educational Researcher revealed that teachers reported higher levels of distress during Covid than front line health professionals.

HEA Vice President Joan Lee Husted moderated a heartfelt panel discussion of the status of educators across the country and here at home in Hawaii. The panel presented their professional experiences reflecting the national landscape, mental health statewide, frontline perspectives in public schools and teacher preparation programs, and the unique Native Hawaiian outlook on the status of educators after Covid. Panelists included:

- Tiffany McDole, State Relations Strategist, Education Commission of the States
- Dr. Mestisa C. Gass, Program Director, Mental Health America of Hawaii
- Joan Lewis, HEA President and Instructional Coach at Kapolei High School
- Jonathon Medeiros, HEA Director and National Board-Certified English teacher, Kauai High School
- Angela Hoppe-Cruz, Program Director, Institute for Native Pacific Education and Culture (INPEACE)
- Dr. Christina Keaulana, Faculty, Leeward Community College Teacher Education Program



Breakout roundtables led by HEA Board members followed, with lively discussion focusing on how statewide leadership can work together to best support Hawaii educators. The overwhelming consensus was that this is mission critical in the recruitment and retention of quality educators and collaboration among all stakeholders, both in the public and private sectors, will be required.





**Hawaii
Education
Association**

EDUCATORS SHAPING HAWAII'S FUTURE TODAY

1953 South Beretania Street, Suite 5C
Honolulu, HI 96826

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Upcoming Educator Communities of Care Workshops

In spring 2023, HEA will also sponsor face to face workshops on Oahu, Kauai, Maui, and Hawaii Island (Hilo) for in-service educators statewide at the P-12 and higher education levels serving in Hawaii public and private schools, to continue this work and share well-being and mental health resources. Dr. Troy Hutchings, national content matter expert, will lead attendees in discussions of utilizing the Model Code of Ethics for Educators in creating caring environments that facilitate safe spaces for educators to discuss ways to support their practice and each other. Generous sponsors are Kaiser Permanente Foundation, Atherton Foundation, and the East Hawaii Community Foundation. The workshops will be held on the following Saturdays:

- March 4 at Leeward Community College
- March 25 at the University of Hawaii at Hilo
- April 1 at Maui Community College
- April 29 at Kauai Community College

Dr. Hutchings will offer four virtual sessions in June and July to follow-up with in-depth discussion focused real life scenarios to support implementing Communities of Care at attendee school sites.



Scholarships Available February 1, 2023

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 \$6,000 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 3, 2023. The Student Teacher scholarship's deadline is June 12, 2023. 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 or HEA office at 949-6657 or toll-free 1-866-653-9372.