

Fwd: Letter from the Head of School 11_26_17

1 message

Timothy Cottrell <tcottrell@iolani.org>
Bcc: facstaffk-12@iolani.org

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November 26, 2017

Dear Parents,

K-12 Thanksgiving Chapel

On Wednesday, we gathered together for our annual K-12 Thanksgiving Chapel. Our time together was shaped by four verbs: Take, Bless, Break and Give. These four verbs describe the actions of Jesus in the story of the feeding of the 5,000: "[Jesus] took the five loaves of bread and the two fish, looked up to heaven, blessed them and broke the loaves apart and gave them to his disciples. Then the disciples gave them to the crowds." (Matthew 14:19)





Take: Our Offering of Our Time

We took time to be together in unity of purpose, listen to scripture, reflect on God's word to us, and raise our voice in song. The Gospel reading of the feeding of the 5,000 was read by Karissa Dunn '18.

Bless: Our Offering of Our Prayers

We prayed for God's presence and blessing on our lives, our school community, our nation and the world. Prayers of thanksgiving were read by 6th grade students, Dara Ann Kimura '24, Joshua Ling '24, James Wu '24, and Jodie Shinsato '24. Upper School world language students read this prayer in French (Sara Abdul-Ghani '19), Japanese (Jarin Sakamoto '18), Spanish (Brandon Simon '18), and Chinese (Sidney Chang '18): Bless, O Lord, these gifts to our use and us to your service, and keep us ever mindful of the needs of others. All this we pray in your name. Amen.

Break: Our Offering of Ourselves

Opening ourselves to the fullness of all that life is and offers, we asked God to break us open that we might share something of ourselves, the essence of who we are, with the world. Hālau 'Iolani offered a hula, Ua Mau, a traditional Hawaiian hymn that opens with the words: "Perpetual is the righteousness that comes from the Father above. Let us gather together in His goodness and grace. Hosana 'ia ke Akua ma nā lani ki'eki'e (Praise be to God in the Highest Heavens)."

Give: Our Offering For the Community

We offered our gifts for the community. Our donations for the Institute for Human Services, Aloha Harvest, and Lanakila Meals on Wheels are a symbol of our tremendous gratitude to God for all of the blessings of our lives. We welcomed special guests Connie Mitchell (Executive Director, IHS), Ku'ulei Williams (Executive Director, Aloha Harvest), and Lori Lau '99 (Executive Director, Lanakila Meals on Wheels).





The 'Iolani School Chorus offered an anthem composed by performing arts department faculty member Mr. John Alexander, titled 'O Nā Pōmaika'i, with the text taken "[from the Preface to the Book of Common Prayer Hawaiian and English words by H. R. H. Alexander 'Iolani Liholiho King Kamehameha IV." The anthem's opening chant was offered in Hawaiian, by Mr. Jon Yasuda '04, Hawaiian language teacher and faculty member.





The anthem is translated: "The blessings in store for us are reconciliation with God through Christ the Head of the Church, and pardon of our sins, the love of God in this world and beatitudes everlasting in the world to come."

The Right Reverend Robert Fitzpatrick, Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Hawaii offered us a final blessing.



Lower School 6th grade Chapel Leaders, Carter Matsuwaki '24, Noah Wakabayashi '24, Lauren Young '24, Rebecca Piercey '24, and Lincoln Awaya '24 and Upper School Acolytes, Brett Hazama Lum '18, Nate Yonamine '20, Davey Huang '18, and Ju Hye Kim '18, all served, managing the flow of events of the morning.

Thanksgiving Food Drive & Chapel Offering

Many thanks to everyone who donated to our annual food drive! This year, we were able to collect two truckloads of food and a record amount of fruits and vegetables for IHS and Aloha Harvest. Special thanks to the Lower School Student Council, Global Issues Network club, and PE classes who helped to collect donations and load the IHS and Aloha Harvest trucks on Wednesday morning.







We are also grateful for all of the donations given to Lanakila Meals on Wheels and IHS. #LoveStandsSupreme

PACMUN



The 6th Annual Pacific Model United Nations (PacMUN) was held at the Hawaii Convention Center from November 17th to November 19th. There were around 300 delegates from 21 schools in Hawaii, California, Canada, and Japan attending this conference. Fifty 'Iolani students participated. Congresswoman Colleen Hanabusa delivered opening remarks, emphasizing the benefits of being engaged with global issues. To close the conference, Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard spoke about the importance of having a service-oriented mindset. Former 'Iolani Model UNer (MUNer) Keng-Chia (Charlie) Chao '15 also served as the Secretary-General of PacMUN 2017.

The conference had eleven committees, representing diverse interests and unique perspectives. Delegates debated issues such as North Korea's nuclear program, the South China Sea maritime dispute, India-Pakistan relations, and criminal justice reform. The 'Iolani International Affairs Association was awarded outstanding large delegation for its impressive performance at PacMUN 2017.

For the Asian Development Bank, Catie Kaneshiro '20 (Italy) and Mika Ishii '20 (China) received honorable mentions while Lily Perry '18 (Solomon Islands) was named an Outstanding Delegate. Their chairman was former 'Iolani MUNer Luc Lavatai '15.

For the Chinese National Security Council, Kyung Ju Lee '20 (Chairman of the National Reform and Development Commission) and Kylee Takanishi '20 (Minister of State Security) earned honorable mentions.

For the Indian National Security Council, Zachariah Pedro '18 (Army Chief of Staff) received an honorable mention.

For the Japanese National Security Council, Trinity Myers '19 (Director of the Cabinet Intelligence and Research Office) was named an Outstanding Delegate.

For the Pakistani National Security Council, Lydia Jun '19 (Minister of Kashmir Affairs) earned an honorable mention while Daniel Christopher Ferrer '18 (Advisor to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs) was named an Outstanding Delegate.

For the South Korean National Security Council, Ju Hye Kim '18 (Minister of Unification) was named as an Outstanding Delegate.

For the Russian National Security Council, Travis Kon '19 (Minister of Foreign Affairs) received an honorable mention.

For the United States National Security Council, Brett Hazama Lum '18 (Secretary of Commerce) earned an honorable mention while Matthew Sohn '19 (Secretary of Defense) received Best Delegate. Their chairman was former 'Iolani MUNer David Kang '15.

For the United States Senate, Brandon Haruki '22 (Senator Lamar Alexander, R-TN) received the research award while Jake Peacock '22 (Senator Bob Corker, R-TN) was named an Outstanding Delegate.

For the Press Corps, Sarah Nakamoto '18 (The Washington Post) and Landon Kushimi '18 (People's Daily) received honorable mentions while Sara Hui '18 (Korean Central News Agency) was named an Outstanding Delegate. Their chairman was current 'Iolani MUNer and Secretary-General of the Hawaii Model United Nations League Jake Steiner '18.

Make It 101 Students Support Aina Haina Elementary School Library Renovations

Make It 101 students, Micah Morikuni '21 and David Torres '21, have been spending the past two and a half months working with Mrs. Shelley Lau, librarian at Aina Haina Elementary School, and a few of her 4th and 5th grade students to design and build new bookshelf, entrance, and desk signs for their remodeled library. Micah and David communicated with Mrs. Lau via email and video conference to propose ideas and receive feedback during the design process. Through several iterations and prototypes, they came to a decision that incorporated the school colors and hand-drawn designs from Mrs. Lau's students. In October, Micah and David presented their project at the Schools of the Future Conference to educators from all over the state of Hawaii.



Many teachers asked them if they're taking orders! This past week, Micah and David took a field trip with Mr. Fricano to Aina Haina Elementary School to meet with Mrs. Lau in person and deliver the finished signs. They also helped to install the signs and visited with the 4th and 5th graders that helped provide the hand drawn designs.





Micah and David both enjoyed the opportunity to work with Mrs. Lau and felt very humbled by the thought of their final product becoming part of Aina Haina Elementary School for years to come!

Valerie June's visit to Russ Motter's History of American Song class

Singer songwriter Valerie June visited with students of History of American Song and shared with them the story of her journey in the music world.



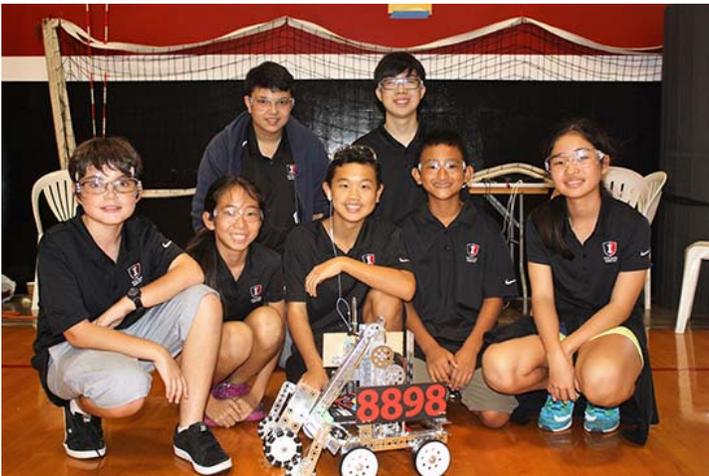
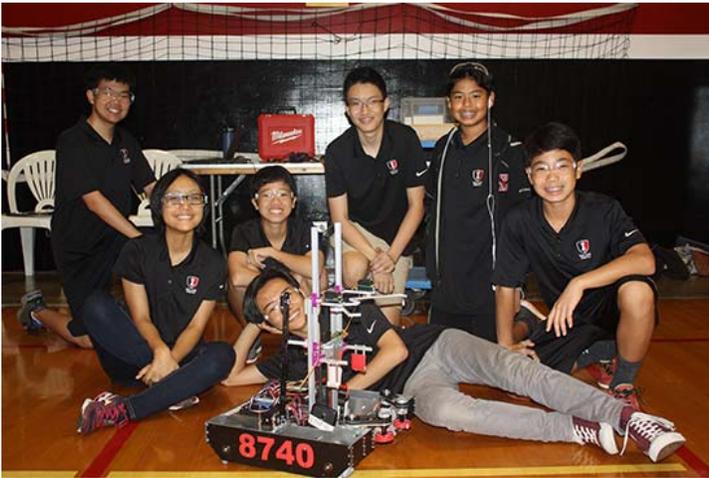


She told of her childhood experiences in black and white churches in rural Tennessee that helped provide a foundation for her art. Her story is one of persistence and resilience as she followed her calling. Ms. June's advice to students was to recognize their individual gifts, recognize the gifts of others, and collaborate to make the world a better place.

'Iobotics First Tech Challenge

The 'Iolani Robotics teams ('Iobotics) wrapped up their 3rd and final league match of the FTC season yesterday, at Mililani HS. All three of our FTC robotics teams, made up of 7th & 8th graders, have been working hard since September, building, testing and iterating their robot designs. Under the guidance of FRC robotics team members they have done an excellent job this season so far, competing at 'Iolani in October, Kailua-Kona in November, and on Saturday out at Mililani. The robotics students have continued to improve with each match, not only in their robot designs, but in their driving and teamwork as well. They even shared some team bonding time on the Big Island!







We are very excited to head into our State Championship on Saturday, December 9th, at Maryknoll and all three of our teams are positioned to do well through either rankings or design capabilities. We are excited for all our teams! Go 'lobotics!

World Geography 'Pacific Region Thanksgiving'

Seventh grade World Geography students wrapped up a unit on the Pacific Region on Wednesday by cooking up some dishes to make their own "Pacific Region Thanksgiving" meal. They harvested 'uala leaves and 'ulu that are grown on campus, and bought other locally produced ingredients.





The menu included 'Uala Leaves Stew, 'Ulu Hash Browns, and Mashed Okinawan Sweet Potatoes. The 7th graders also ate their delicious food on ti leaves from campus.

Soccer season kicks off Wednesday

On Friday afternoon in their final preseason game, the varsity soccer team defeated Kapolei, 4-0. Our Raiders will open their ILH season on Wednesday when they host Punahou. The game, which pits the defending league champion Buffanblu against the defending HHSAA state champion Raiders, will kick off on Eddie Hamada Field at 4 p.m.





Go Raiders! If you can't make it to the game, 'IOLANI LIVE will webcast it, beginning at 3:55 p.m. [Here is the direct link](#)

'Iolani builds the EMG-6 in the Sullivan Center

Faculty member Martin Emde has engaged his students to start building the EMG-6 electric motor glider.



Mr. Emde visited the designer's facility in California a few months back to talk about the possibility and feasibility of engaging the students in this project. [Here is the website with the ongoing story.](#)

The first grade classroom tree prototyped in the Sullivan Center

At the center of our new 1st grade classrooms is an elevated platform with a tree growing into the space. Reading and instilling a love of reading is a big part of 1st grade. This space is designed to inspire and engage our students during free reading time.



Here is the student team designing the first reduced scale prototype



The trunk was then prototyped with an anchor design for the floor



Full scale- version were then glued together. Each piece is 6 pieces of plywood cut on our shopbot table router and glued



The team then assembled for installation of the 4th floor of the Sullivan Center





From here, different canopy designs will be tried to get the best “tree-ness” possible

All the best in health and happiness,
Tim

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Timothy R. Cottrell, PhD
Head of School
'Iolani School
(m) [808-222-2027](tel:808-222-2027)

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