Fwd: Letter from the Head of School 2_25_18

1 message

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

Sun, Feb 25, 2018 at 1:06 PM

Dear Parents,

2018 Chinese Speech Competition

Eight `Iolani students competed at the 2018 Chinese Speech Contest for Hawaii Students at UH this past Sunday. It is an annual event sponsored by the Confucius Institute at UH Manoa and the Chinese Language Education Association of Hawaii. The participating schools include many private and public schools as well as local Chinese schools. `Iolani's team had great success. Yoo Ra Sung '19 placedfirst, Sean Callahan '18 placed 2nd and Isabel Minaglia '20 placed third in the High School Non-heritage Group; Jingyao Chen '19 also placed first in High School Heritage Group; and Steven Qian '23 placed first and Christina Kim '22 placed third in Middle School Heritage Group. Other participants Dong Li Wang '20, Krysti Chen '22 also delivered very strong speeches. Yoo Ra Sung '19 will have the opportunity to represent Hawaii to compete at the South West Regional of 2018 Chinese Bridge Chinese Language Proficiency Competition on March 7. We are very proud of them. All three Chinese teachers helped coach the contestants. Great team effort!

Oahu Band Director's Select Band

Five of our high school students participated last week in the Oahu Band Director Association's Select Band last week. Isabelle Chow '20 (harp), Erena Yamatsu '20 (flute), Remy Ohara '21 (trumpet), Elliot Hee '20 (string bass), and Caitlyn Kadooka '20 (clarinet), auditioned along with about 200 other high school students to try out for this elite high school band, conducted by guest conductor, Professor Michael Haithcock of the University of Michigan. Steven Qian '23 (clarinet, not pictured) was selected out of 200 middle school auditions to be in the middle school group, conducted by UH Director of Bands, Dr. Jeffrey Boeckman.

The culmination of the week was the concert given on Sunday at McKinley auditorium. Highlights from the middle school portion included a musical interpretation of haiku complete with a taiko drum, Japanese head scarves, and improvisation from the musicians; and a piece called Foundry in which players banged on “found” metal percussion to create sounds from a metalworking foundry. The high school portion included a piece dedicated to the Parkland victims and survivors. In this piece, originally commissioned to honor the nine victims and families of the June 17, 2015 terrorist attack on Mother Emanuel A.M.E. Church in Charleston, SC, the band members sang the lyrics to the Black national anthem: "Lift Ev’ry Voice and Sing,” and stomped their feet to sound like marching.

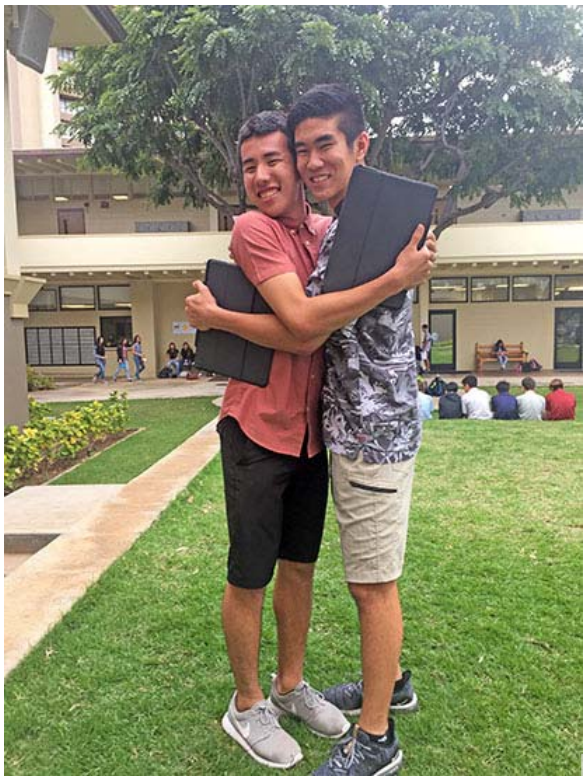
Senior Luau

The senior class celebrated another key moment this past Saturday night. With over 750 people in attendance, students and their families were treated to a delicious dinner buffet and special program at this year’s Senior Luau. Coordinated by co-chairs Lauren Arakaki ’18, Jarod Okamura ’18, and Ashley Pang ’18, this event featured many wonderful performances by students and parents. Highlights include a surprise parent hip hop dance, a hula performance to Keali‘i Reichel’s “Mele ‘Ohana” by seniors in tribute to all senior parents, and a parent hula to Na Leo Pilimehana’s “You Don’t Remember.”

The evening ended with the premiere of the long-awaited senior class lip dub video, filmed at the Senior Camp this past October. Mahalo to all those involved in making this event possible!

Valentine's Day BFF Trivia

Due to rainy conditions last week, our lunch event was rescheduled to Thursday 2/22. Pairs of Upper School students participated in a Valentine's Day BFF trivia competition to see how well they knew each other. Questions like, "how old is your BFF's mother?" challenged the participants and amused the crowd of onlookers.



The winners, Seniors Nick Arima '18 and Kaisen Nakagawa '18, won Starbucks gift cards.

SADD (STUDENTS AGAINST DESTRUCTIVE DECISIONS)

The students of SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) held their "Stop if you love me" campaign on Friday during lunch. The campus group is in its second year and consists of 25 students in 7-12 grades who want to bring awareness about safe driving. Each semester, the group hosts a campaign to educate other students and distribute logo items.

STOP

Officers Alyssa Yonamine '18 (President) and Raymie Shimokawa '18 (Vice President) hope the students will continue to grow this group.

Notes of Aloha

'Iolani has been invited to send letters of aloha, support, compassion and love to the students and faculty at Douglas High School in Parkland, FL. One of the teachers requested handwritten letters from around the nation which she will distribute throughout the school when it reopens on 2/27. "*Our kids are amazing and they want to get back to school and continue learning but first, they need time to just be together and begin the process of healing. I would like to greet them all on the first day back with letters of support. Not the email kind or the texting kind but real letters handwritten and signed by kids from our amazing community. I want them to hold the envelopes addressed from around the world to see that they are not alone and there is still kind and caring people in this world.*" – Ms. Wolk-Rogers, Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School.

NOTES

THE SULLIVAN CENTER
for Innovation and Leadership

During lunch, students gathered near the Pa to write their letters to the students in Florida as well as the church of one of the student victims, Carmen Schentrup.

Clem Hew Memorial Baseball Tournament

Varsity baseball preseason kicked off on Saturday, February 17 at the annual Clem Hew Memorial Baseball Tournament, hosted by the school.

Twelve teams participated in this year's event. The 'Iolani boys won their first game of the season on Saturday, defeating Pearl City 5-3.

All the best in health and happiness,
Tim

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

This communication may contain information that may be confidential, privileged and/or prohibited from disclosure. Except for personal use by the intended recipient, or as expressly authorized by the sender, any person who receives this information is prohibited from disclosing, copying, distributing, and/or using it. If you have received this communication in error, please immediately delete it and all copies, and promptly notify the sender. Nothing in this communication is intended to operate as an electronic signature under applicable law.