

Fwd: Letter from the Head of School 3_12_18

1 message

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Mon, Mar 12, 2018 at 8:50 AM

March 12, 2018

Dear Parents,

March 14 National School Walkout

On March 14, the one-month marker of the events at Douglas High School, a national school walkout has been planned by the youth arm of the national [Women's March](#) organization. The walkout has been noted popularly with #ENOUGH, and calls for students, faculty and staff at schools all around our country to walkout of their spaces at 10am, gather together, and stand silence and solidarity for 17 minutes, one minute for each individual killed at Douglas High School.

At Iolani, we will support our students, faculty and staff who choose to take part in this walkout. Students in the Contemporary Issues class have researched the history of gun violence in our country and the proposed solutions from all sides. They will be presenting their findings, informative and non-partisan, to Upper School students during homeroom so that their peers can make an informed decision about participating. Upper School students who choose to participate are invited to leave their classes at 10am to gather in the courtyard between Sullivan and I-building with the chaplains and the senior administration. Faculty who wish to participate will lead the way by ending classes early to stand with our students. We will observe this time of silence and prayer, and honor all of the students, teachers, and staff whose lives have been lost to senseless gun violence in their schools. The program, created by Upper School students is as follows:

- o Mele - Kumu Ku
- o Welcome - Students
- o Reading of the Names - Students
- o Words from the Head of School
- o 3 Minutes of Silence
- o Poem - Student
- o Closing Blessing

During the 3/14 Lower School Chapel, the chaplains will offer the prayer for school safety, offer a specific time of silence, and together we will sing about peace. Lower School faculty members are invited to participate in the gathering by bringing their students if they feel it is appropriate and of educational value to their students.

Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica

On Friday, March 9, 2018, officers of the Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica (Suhyoung Ahn '18, Landon Kushimi '18, and Cynthia Nagano '19) inducted 13 new members to the society. The purpose of the society is to recognize high achievement of high school students in the Spanish and Portuguese languages and to promote a continuing interest in Hispanic and Luso-Portuguese studies.

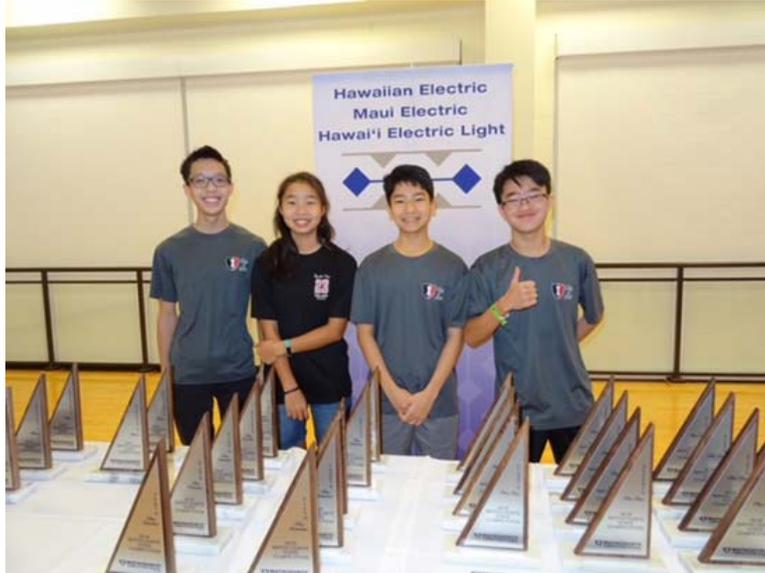


The newly inducted members are Brooke Bolton '19, Seoben Chang '20, Joaquin Cruz '20, Aubrey Danko '20, Olivia Fasi '20, Connor Kennedy '11, Haeri

Kim '20, Bailey Low '20, Isabel Minaglia '20, Shannon O'Keefe '20, Alessandra Clariss Ramirez '20, Dylan Stegman '19, and Adrian Tran '20. Congratulations!

Mathcounts

What is the least positive base-10 integer that can be written as a 4-digit number in base 3 and as a 3-digit number in base 4? This was one of the easier problems participants were tasked with at the state Mathcounts competition last year. Questions for this year will be released at a later date. Don't take too long to solve this problem as you have 29 more problems and an average of 1 minute and 20 seconds to solve each problem!



The 'Iolani Mathcounts team placed 3rd at the State competition held at Kamehameha on Saturday. The four-member team was comprised of Kyle Ching '22, Allison Ito '23, Jaron Kawamura '22, and Tyler Matsuzaki '22. Kyle qualified for the countdown round which is a fast paced head-to-head competition. Participants have 45 seconds to answer questions like "What is the least value of z for which $z!$ is a multiple of 50? No calculator allowed! The team is coached by Joe Guillou and Kristi Sakaguchi.

National History Day: Hawaii District Competition Finalists



'Iolani students Hailey Kawamura '20 and Summer Royal '21 placed as finalists in the Hawaii History Day district competition in the essay and documentary divisions, respectively. Summer's documentary, entitled "Modus Vivendi: The Only Way Out of the Suez Conflict, The First Financial Crisis of Modern Times," placed in the top 3 out of nearly 20 entries. Students were advised by teachers Mr. Milks, Mrs. Muraoka and Mr. Hackler.

'Iolani Debate Team

The 'Iolani Debate team spent this past Saturday competing in the last state qualifying tournament of the season at Kamehameha Schools.



In Beginning Public Forum Debate, Madeline Heyler '21, Emily Tom '21, Jeein Hong '21 and Trevor Lau '20 qualified for the state tournament. In Championship and Novice Lincoln Douglas Debate, Sidney Chang '18 and DJ Edgerton '12 qualified for the state tournament. Congratulations to all of our competitors!

2018 Chinese Bridge Chinese Proficiency Competition



Yoo Ra Sung '19 competed at the South West Regional of 2018 Chinese Bridge Chinese Proficiency Competition this Wednesday and placed third. Due to the different formats of the competitions between the Hawaii preliminary and the South West regional, Yoo Ra was given less than two weeks to prepare for a cultural talent show and Chinese knowledge quiz in addition to revising her prepared speech to a different length. Very well done!

Tam Young Art Chair

The Tam Young Arts Chair continues to offer our students wonderful opportunities to interact with artists, film makers, writers and musicians.

This week students in English 10, AP US History, Advanced Theater, and Risa Beer's film production class welcomed husband and wife film makers Tracy Heather Strain and Randall MacLowry of the Film Posse. Ms. Strain and Mr. MacLowry have a long list of credits that include PBS documentaries in the American Experience and American Masters series. Their new film *Sighted Eyes/Feeling Heart* about the life of playwright and activist Lorraine Hansberry premiered last month on PBS.



For the sophomores of English 10 this was a special chance to learn more about Hansberry and her classic play *A Raisin in the Sun*, which they are currently studying. Ms. Strain and Mr. MacLowry shared about their fourteen-year journey with Hansberry's story that resulted in a film that yielded important new insights on Hansberry's art and her civil rights activism. AP US students learned about Hansberry's early life in Chicago, her father's activism, and her role in a famously contentious 1963 meeting between Attorney General Robert Kennedy and African American civil rights activists and artists that also included writer James Baldwin and singer Harry Belafonte.

Film students learned about the meticulous research process that went into the making of the film. Ms. Strain also shared with students that she was first inspired to make a film about Hansberry as a high school student and she encouraged our aspiring film makers and artists to keep hold of their visions so that they may share their ideas with the world.

Japanese 4 Honors and AP Japanese students were inspired by Sogetsu Ikebana master Ms. Maki Takushi, also sponsored by the Tam Young Arts Chair. They were able to explore Japanese culture through Japanese flower arrangement.





To Kill a Mockingbird: English 8 & Fab Lab Project

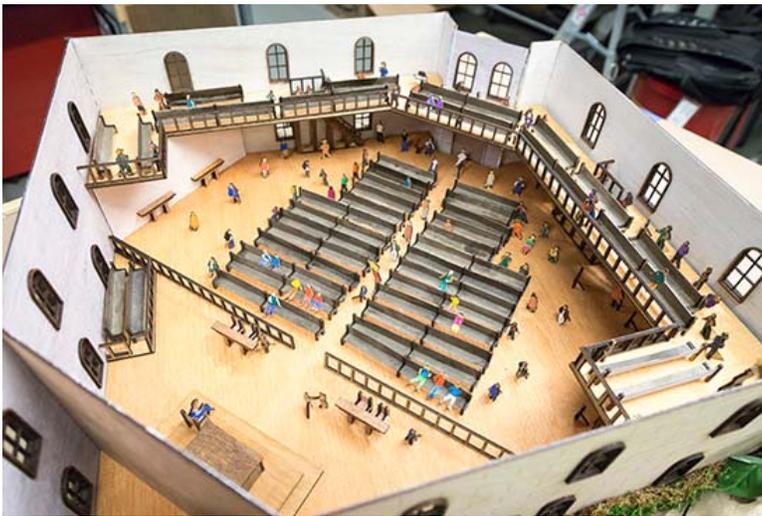
Come quarter two of 8th grade, English classes are all about *To Kill a Mockingbird*, the classic loss-of-innocence novel, written by Harper Lee. How can today's teenagers possibly understand what it was like growing up in 1930s, small town Maycomb, Alabama where an African American man is wrongly accused of sexually assaulting a young white woman? Over the years, 'Iolani teachers have aimed to put students "in the shoes" of those both black and white, young and old, who attended the most famous trial this little town had ever witnessed.

Ms. Evans, once again, called on "Master Fab Lab Teacher," Doc Inouye, to actually give her students a bird's eye view of the trial. Over the last few months, the 8th graders designed and constructed the Maycomb County Courthouse, complete with pews for the white gallery, jury box, judge's desk and chair, and of course, the segregated African American balcony. When the courthouse was finally complete, each student took the perspectives of jurors, attendees, both black and white, and even the wife of the accused, Tom Robinson.









They wrote diary entries, which they “aged” with the aid of coffee and tea solutions. When asked about their experiences, the students said, “Building the courthouse helped me actually “see” the architecture of the times and what it was like to really be there.” Most students recognized that the most challenging aspect of the project was using the Inkscape program and cutting the pieces to scale. One comment stood out, “I could really think about the trial; how tense it must have been, people’s thoughts, and the intensity in the courtroom.” All in all, even though it was a tedious process, the students said that it really brought this wonderful novel to life.

Sixth Grade Medieval Faire

The Medieval Faire is a culmination of an interdisciplinary unit involving Social Studies, Language Arts, Math, Science, and Art. Students researched a role of their choice and created their own costumes and props. The roles include: Alchemists, Bankers, Almoners, Apothecary, Archers, Armorer, Blacksmith, Artisans, Astrologers, Calligraphers, Castle Builders, Cooks, Clergy, Falconers, Game Players, Heralds, Herbalists, Jesters, Knights, Knight Templars, Law and Order, Merchants, Monks, Musicians, Nobles, Peasants, Physician/Surgeons, and Pilgrims.







Third Grade Mini Society Parent Day

Mini Society Parent Day was the successful conclusion of the third grade unit on economics. Young entrepreneurs opened their businesses to a throng of consumers on Thursday, March 8th. Parents and relatives enjoyed shopping through the open market and testing their skills at a wide variety of game.







Junior Lu'au and Class Ring Distribution

This past Saturday, the junior class gathered with family and friends to celebrate their time together as a class and receive their class rings. Themed around *Moana*, the evening began with the class officers and committee members performing "We Know The Way" with kazoos. Other highlights of the night included stand-up comedy, instrumental, and singing acts that made the event a memorable one.







The night ended with a slideshow and many smiles and tears. Many thanks to everyone who helped make this event a special one for the class of 2019.

The Chikondi Project

As part of the unit on Africa, two seventh grade World Geography classes are doing a service project to help poor communities in Malawi. It's called The Chikondi Project (Chikondi means *Love*).



The students planted cucumbers, squash, green beans, green onions, lettuce and kale and will be selling them for \$3 each or 2/\$5. The profit from the sales goes to build victory gardens in Malawi through the organization Face to Face ('Iolani alum Levani Lipton '92 has worked closely with this organization). For more information visit www.facetoface.org.

Lower School Chapel

In Lower School Chapel this week, Upper School students from the Operation RAD (Raising Awareness about Darfur) club spoke about 'Iolani's sister school, [Little Ripples Preschool](#), in the refugee camp in Goz Amer, Chad. This year's Easter Chapel offering will support the Little Ripples Preschool program. Students learned how their small acts of kindness and generosity can have a ripple effect for the lives of children living in the camps all the way around the globe.



First grade students, who are completing a unit on refugees, read a story called [The Rain School](#) by James Rumford. About a school in Chad, Africa, the story shows how important learning is in a country where only 30% of children are able to go to school. Through their work with Dan Kelin, a resident drama specialist funded by the Tam and Young Grant, the children have grown in empathy for the plight of the refugees. They were honored to be asked to share a glimpse into the hardships of life for these refugee families. They look forward to continuing their journey of understanding by forming lines of direct communication with our sister school, Little Ripples Preschool, in Chad.



Student members of the woodwind, brass and percussion chamber ensembles from Mrs. Muramaru's Intermediate Band class also offered their music. March is nationally recognized as "Music-In-Our-Schools-Month," and as schools across the nation celebrate the opportunity to learn, play and share

their enjoyment of music, 'Iolani's ensembles are delighted to share their gifts and talents with our younger students for the first two weeks this month.



Varsity Baseball

The varsity baseball team is off to a 2-1 start in ILH play and has a big week ahead. Sandwiched between a pair of impressive wins over Saint Louis (8-5) and Pac-Five (14-4), our Raiders absorbed a tough 1-0 loss to Mid-Pacific.





The team will be back in action on Tuesday vs. Kamehameha at Ala Wai (3:30 pm) and then hosts Punahou on Thursday (3:30 pm) and Maryknoll on Saturday (noon). Go Raiders!

'Iolani Tennis

The 'Iolani Boys and Girls Tennis Varsity Season has started with a bang. They have turned the tennis court into an octagon to out-hit & grapple their opponents. The boys have rolled through Kamehameha, Punahou, Mid Pacific, Maryknoll, St Francis & Le Jardin Academy, winning all 30 singles & doubles matches. The girls have had similar results beating Saint Francis, Mid Pacific, Kamehameha, Saint Andrew's Priory, Maryknoll, HBA, and LJA while only losing three matches and attaining a perfect 7-0 record.





The Boys and Girls are currently in 1st place. The boys will play Hawaii Baptist Academy on Saturday to wrap up the First Round while the girls play IPA on Monday and Punahou on Tuesday at 'Iolani at 4:30pm to finish the first round. Go Raiders!

Campus Expansion Update



Construction of the Residence Hall is well under way. The concrete footings were poured last week and construction of the upper floors has begun. The Residence Hall is expected to be completed in October of 2018. While the Residence Hall is being built, incoming boarding students for the upcoming 2018/2019 school year will be provided temporary housing in the newly renovated 'Iolani Banyan apartments, which is located directly behind the Residence Hall and connected to campus.

As you may have noticed, the lawn fronting St. Alban's Chapel and the green space outside of the K/1 classrooms were recently trenched to accommodate utility lines for the first phase of our camp expansion. The Lower School lawn has recently been re-sodded and will be restored to its original form shortly. This week, the contractor blocked off an area mauka of the Art Building that will serve as a staging area for the construction of the Residence Hall. For everyone's safety, please adhere to all signage posted around the construction site and utilize the designated walkways provided as shown in the diagram below.

Sitework for the K/1 Community is ongoing and will continue for the next few months. While we do not yet have a projected completion date, we do expect everything to be ready for the 2019/2020 school year.

All the best in health and happiness,
Tim

—
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