
Fwd: Letter from the Head of School 4_15_18

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Dear Parents

Welcoming the Accreditation Visiting Committee

Every 7 years 'Iolani School undergoes a reaccreditation of its status as an independent school. This process is overseen by the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools, HAIS, under the umbrella of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, WASC. Today we welcome 15 distinguished administrators, staff and faculty to the campus for a 3 day visit and review of the school's self-study which was authored by the entire faculty and staff over the past 18 months. The visiting committee has traveled from the East Coast, West Coast, Neighbor Islands and schools on Oahu and they get to see us in all of our One Team glory on Fair Week!

Speech & Debate State Championships

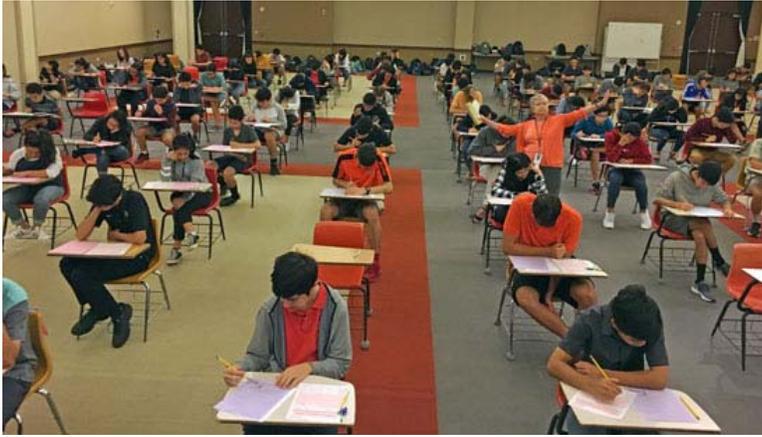
The 'Iolani Speech and Debate team participated in the State Championship Tournament this past Thursday-Saturday. Matthew Sohn '19 placed first place in International Extemporaneous Speaking and Daniel Brigoli '18 placed second in U.S. Extemporaneous Speaking. Maria Stevenson '19 placed second and Madeline Heyler '21 placed fourth in Impromptu Speaking. Maria Stevenson '19 and Samuel Rivers '19 placed fourth in Advanced Public Forum Debate and Emily Tom '21 and Madeline Heyler '21 placed first in Beginning Public Forum Debate. Winston Wei '18 and Daniel Brigoli '18 placed fourth in Policy Debate. The team took home the NFL District Cumulative Point Award.



Congratulations to all of our competitors and thank you to everyone who volunteered their time to judge at the tournament.

National Latin Exam

122 'Iolani students took the National Latin Exam which was held on March 14. Twenty-six students were awarded Summa Cum Laude Certificates with a gold medal. Thirty-seven students won a Maxima Cum Laude Certificate with a silver medal. Sixteen students achieved Magna Cum Laude Certificates and nine students received Cum Laude Certificates.



Two of the Latin 1B students, Tyler Matsuzaki '22 and Kyle Ching '22, achieved perfect scores. 143,000 students from all 50 states and 24 foreign countries took the exam. Eighty percent of lolani students who took the test did better than the national average!

Geography Bee



Seventh grader Kai Konishi, who won this year's 'Iolani School Geography Bee, represented our school at the Hawaii State Geography Bee held on April 6th at the Blaisdell Center. At the Bee was sophomore Mika Ishii who won the state competition for a record 4 years! Kai finished first in his group in the preliminary round, and made it to the top 10 finalist competition. It was stiff competition with students from across the state including the neighbor islands. Kai finished in 8th place and represented 'Iolani well!

Symphonic Band & Wind Ensemble spring concert

On Sunday April 8, our Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble gave their spring concert at the historic Hawaii Theatre. The Symphonic Band presented music based on American Riversongs, as well as a percussion-intense piece called "Spitfire," named after the World War II aircraft.





The Wind Ensemble performed Variations from the Northern Sea, by Japanese composer Yasuhide Ito, which derived its musical material from the well-known Japanese folk tune *Soran-bushi*, and music from the animé classic *Spirited Away*.





To close the concert, in a tradition that originated with band director emeritus Richard Hotoke, the wind ensemble performed Michael W. Smith's "*Friends*" in honor of the seniors. For this, Erena Yamatsu '20 took the baton so Mr. Dayao could stay at the mic, calling each senior individually to the front of the stage as the music was played.





Underclassmen greeted their beloved seniors with lei as their names were called.



Clips from the concert can be found on the band's YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/user/iolanibands

Dance Performance – Ala Moana Centerstage

The in-school Jazz and Ballet program, along with the 'Iolani Dance Team, performed beautifully for a jammed packed audience on Friday night, despite the challenging weather conditions.





Hip-Hop, Lyrical, Contemporary and Jazz Funk took Center stage showcasing creative and innovative student choreography, along with pieces to be shown at the Spring Dance Showcase, "Four Doors", on May 11 at the Neal Blaisdell Concert Hall. Bravo to all the performers!

2nd Grade Field trip to Hawai'i Heritage Center

On Thursday, April 5th, 'Iolani second graders visited the Hawai'i Heritage Center located in downtown Honolulu. This learning trip provided a unique opportunity to experience the architecture and cultural traditions, brought to Hawai'i by various immigrant groups.







Highlights of their Chinatown walking tour included visiting the Ying Leong Look Funn Noodle Factory, the Izumo Taishakyo Mission of Hawaii Shinto Shrine, Oahu Market, Char Hung Sut, and Maunakea Marketplace.

Imua and Yearbook at National High School Journalism Convention

Members of the leadership staff for Imua and Yearbook publications traveled to the JEA/NSPA National High School Journalism Convention in San Francisco where students enriched their journalistic perspectives throughout the city and shared the voice and story of 'Iolani.



Highlights included a tour of Adobe's San Francisco headquarters, Paly Mac and Stanford's d.school, AT&T Park, and an inside look at the creative work at Ideo. This year, *Kamo'olelo O 'Iolani vol.94, Rise* was selected out of over 3,000 yearbooks to be featured in Jostens' Look Book, celebrating excellence in yearbook design and coverage.

Art 7 Field trip to HiSAM



The Art 7 Visual Arts program is a course designed to introduce students to the world of art. In 6 short weeks, 7th graders create a ceramic sculpture, complete a drawing unit; and visit the Hawai'i State Art Museum (HiSAM) to view contemporary artworks created by Hawai'i artists. Ms. Susan Hogan, Director of Education at HiSAM, and her docent volunteers welcome our 7th graders throughout the year. Students are guided through several galleries while docents share their knowledge about the artists, artworks and architecture of the No. 1 Capitol Building.



The unique collection of artworks highlights the featured artists' diverse use of materials and techniques. These artworks further serve as the source of inspiration for a creative short story assignment based on students' impressions of favored works of art. These imaginative stories are later shared with Ms. Hogan and her staff, enlightening them with an array of colorful characters and plots.

Literature of the Ocean Field Trip

Students in Dr. Kate Kane's Literature of the Ocean class worked with steam biologist Cory Yap to clear invasive species that are disturbing the ecosystem in our watershed. Half the class stood poised with nets downstream while the other half herded the fish toward them. All fish were sorted and the native species, O'opu and Āholehole, were released back into the stream while the invasive species were removed.





When Yap first started this work he found that native fish made up only 2% of the catch. Last Friday, Iolani students caught almost 100 fish, 36 of which

were native species; what a difference in the percentages. It is so rewarding to participate in a project that produces such a positive change in our environment. In class students have been contemplating the role the ocean plays in their lives. This was an opportunity to take direct actions of stewardship for the ocean.

Grade 1 Ho'ike

Last Friday was a reflection, a celebration of the work the first grade students have done all year to answer the question "What is my story?" It was also the inaugural year of their Spring Ho'ike, and parents got to be a part of it. Parents experienced an inside look at the learning process, led by their first graders. Families were brought into those moments, activities, experiences and struggles that help prepare the children to be active owners of their own story, and that the art of storytelling is never truly finished. Parents were invited to join the learning process by being active participants in a few activities. They engaged with their first grader, let them tell what did, what they learned, how they got to where they got: *listened to their story*. They were asked to think about who they are and what their stories might be.











Parents were welcomed into the process, so they could see how sophisticated young minds truly are, and how rich learning is when a student knows that he/she has a voice.

Blood Drive

We held the 3rd blood drive of the school year on Friday April 13. Parents, faculty/staff, and students age 16-18 were welcome to donate. In total, 55 donors signed up and we were able to collect from 43 donors.





Key club donated fruits and Mrs. Preston baked delicious brownies for the donors. This is the first 'Iolani blood drive to use a portable collection unit.

This unit is new technology that separates the red blood cells while putting the other blood components back into your body. This helps to address the shortage of universal donors that Hawaii has. Compared to the mainland, Hawaii has half the amount of type O donors but we have the same demand for blood.

'Iolani Empty Bowls Event



Logo created by Julia Lim '19

The event will take place Thursday, May 3, 2018 in Seto Hall & Student Center from 4:30 pm - 7:00 pm with the following schedule:

2:30-6pm - Farmers Market

4:30 pm - Informational Tables hosted by Student Groups & Non-Profit Agencies

5:00 pm - Sara Miles Keynote Seto Hall

6:00-7:00 pm- Dinner Program-Student Center

7:00 pm - Aloha Harvest Pickup

Please join us for our biennial Empty Bowls event to raise awareness about hunger in our community. Our keynote speaker this year is [Sara Miles](#). She is the founder and director of [The Food Pantry](#), and served for ten years as Director of Ministry at St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church. Following her address, we will join together for a simple dinner of soup and bread, student musical performances, and student reflections on serving the hungry in our community. We will be accepting donations of food for [Aloha Harvest](#). (Vienna Sausage). To RSVP for the Empty Bowls event, please click [here](#).

ARCH Education - 'Iolani STEM Spring Program

Last week a group of 6 students from Hong Kong attended classes in the Sullivan Center as part of a five-day STEM program. They attended our schoolwide Easter Chapel on Monday and then took several courses including robotics and video game design.





They also met several of our faculty and students and were impressed with the excellent instruction they received as well as our campus and facilities. Our 'Iolani students also enjoyed interacting with these bright and well-mannered new friends.

Just for Funk



Teachers and students in the "Just For Funk" band performed Thursday during lunch in the Center Courtyard to the delight of colleagues and classmates. This band is put together for pure enjoyment and fun and featured Prince funk songs.

National Letter of Intent Signing

Saige Ka'aha'aina-Torres '18 (volleyball - Utah) and Phuc Huynh '18 (tennis - U San Francisco) signed national letters of intent on Wednesday, April 11 with their family and friends and coaches surrounding them in the Sullivan Center



Girls Tennis

Congratulations to the 'Iolani Raiders girls tennis team for finishing 16-2 on the season and a second-place finish overall in the ILH standings. We would like to wish a fond aloha to our three seniors, Xiao Yi Beckvall '18, Teshera York '18, and Megan Kawamura '18 for doing an outstanding job this season.





Starting next week, April 16 - 19, the Clay Benham ILH Championships will be held at Central Oahu Regional Park (CORP). They will be fighting for berths into the HHSAA State Championships to be held at CORP May 3-5. Team members are: Xiao Yi Wang-Beckvall 18', Teshera York 18', Megan Kawamura 18', Mari Kwee 19', Celeste Inouye 19', Gabriela Siaoosi 19', Alyssa Watanabe 19', Cynthia Nagano 19', Kylie Pham 19', Jenna Yoshimi 19', Sachi Sawamura 19', Kristen Yokoyama 19'.

All the best in health and happiness,
Tim

--
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