
Fwd: Letter to Parent 12_3_18

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December 3, 2018

Dear Parents,

Inaugural Keables Scholar

For thirty years, the Keables Chair has brought to `Iolani School poets, reporters, scientists, actors, and novelists -- all united by their love of the English language and their love of teaching. This week, the Keables Chair program introduced an addition to our traditional spring Keables Fortnight residency; the Keables Scholar program. This new one week residency gives `Iolani students and faculty the chance to interact with even more thinkers, writers, and teachers, and makes it possible for guests whose schedules might not stretch to two weeks at `Iolani to visit us for a few days to share their talents and their ideas.



Our inaugural Keables Scholar, Dr. Jelani Cobbs, is the Ira A. Lipman Professor of Journalism at Columbia University. He was previously a history professor and director of the Institute of African American Studies at the University of Connecticut. Dr. Cobbs is the author of [The Substance of Hope: Barack Obama and the Paradox of Progress](#), and [To The Break of Dawn: A Freestyle on the Hip Hop Aesthetic](#), which was a finalist for the National Award for Arts Writing. Cobbs's forthcoming book is [Antidote to Revolution: African American Anticommunism and the Struggle for Civil Rights, 1931-1957](#).



Cobb is a frequent contributor to [The New Yorker](#) magazine, and his work has appeared in [The New Republic](#), [The Atlantic](#), the [Washington Post](#), the [New York Times](#), and [Vibe](#). He has also been a featured commentator on MSNBC, NPR, CNN, CBS, and a number of other national broadcast outlets. He was a featured commentator in the Netflix documentary [13th](#). Cobb was the recipient of the Walter Bernstein Award from the Writer's Guild of America for his investigative series [Policing the Police](#), which aired on [PBS Frontline](#), and has also been awarded the Hillman Prize for Opinion and Analysis Journalism.



In his week at 'Iolani, Dr. Cobb has worked with students in English, History, and Religion courses. His topics included "Criminal Justice and Mass Incarceration", "Colin Kaepernick and the History of Activist Black Athletes", "Media Literacy in the Trump Era", "Between the World and Ferguson", and "Reconstruction and Voter Suppression". In addition, Dr. Cobb held an open lunchtime discussion for students and staff that brought in a standing-room only overflow crowd. In chapel talks with the 9-12 graders, Dr. Cobb gave an inspirational address to the students, inspiring them to make a difference in the world. On Thursday evening, Dr. Cobb addressed a large audience at our Keables Community Night event. His talk was entitled "American Exception: Race and Democracy in the Trump Era."

'Iolani School could not have asked for a more interesting and engaging guest for our inaugural Keables Scholar residency.

Pacific Model United Nations Conference

'Iolani joined about three hundred students from twenty other schools from Hawaii, California, and Japan for this past weekend's Pacific Model United Nations Conference sponsored by the Stephen Stevens World Peace Foundation. Students met at the Convention Center from Friday evening through Sunday to discuss issues such as the Syrian Crisis, natural disasters, and nuclear disarmament. Eleven 'Iolani students served as staff and co-chairs with students from U.C. Berkeley, Stanford, Emerson, and St. Andrew's Scotland. Thirty-three played the roles of delegates in committees ranging from the UN Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC), to the Commonwealth of Nations, to various Joint Crisis Committees.



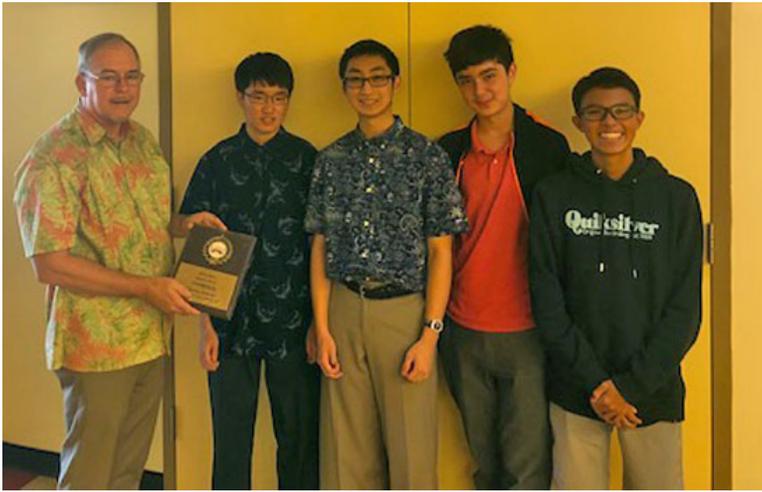


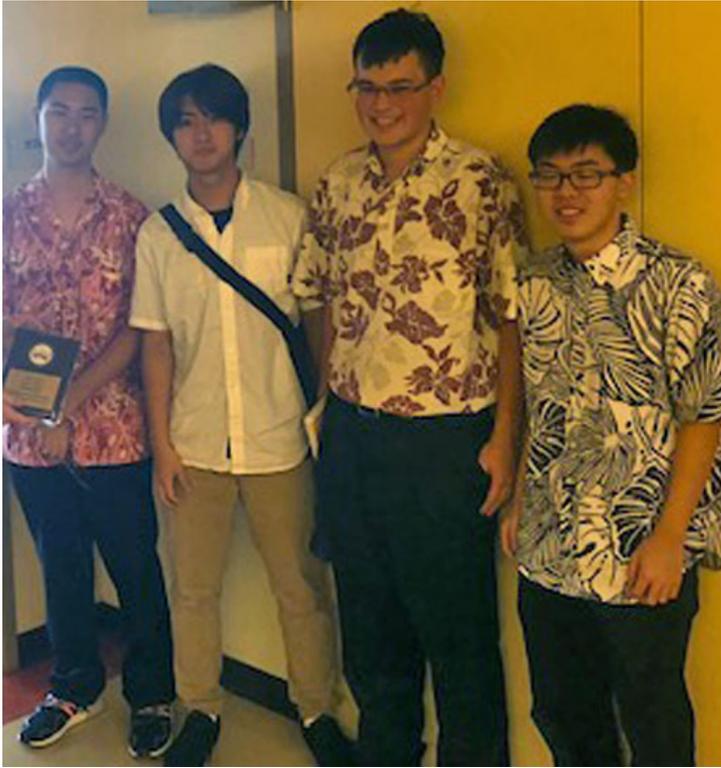
Winning awards from 'Iolani were Jake Peacock '22 winning Best Delegate for his role as a representative in the U.S. Joint Crisis Committee. Jonah Yoshida '21 and Kiira Philips '22 won Honorable Mention in DISEC, the disarmament committee. Matthew Sohn '19 won the research and Outstanding Delegate awards for the United Kingdom Joint Crisis Committee. Timothy Ignacio '22 won Honorable Mention for his role in the France Joint Crisis Committee. William Heyler '19 also won a research award for his work in the Russia Joint Crisis Committee. Zoe Stenger '20 won Outstanding Delegate in the Iran Joint Crisis Committee. Kyung Ju Lee '20 won Honorable Mention and Lydia Jun '19 won the Best Delegate award for their work in the Saudi Arabia Joint Crisis Committee.

History Bowl

'Iolani was again victorious in the Oahu District History Bowl competition. Our team of Matthew Sohn'19, Chris Tanka '20, Luke Hagi '20, and Patrick

Perry '20 won first place in the Bowl defeating Punahou.







In the individual Bee, Matthew Sohn '19 won in the Varsity Division with William Heyler '19 taking third. Maddy Heyler '21 took second in the Junior Varsity Division; Jensen Ahokavi '21 took third. Seventeen 'Iolani students participated.

Science Olympiad Invitational Tournament

This past Saturday 'Iolani hosted its annual Science Olympiad Invitational Tournament. Approximately 450 students from 19 schools participated in 40 different competition events. Tests events where students demonstrated and applied their knowledge included Circuit Lab, Fossils, Density Meteorology, Heredity, Herpetology, Code Deciphering, Chemistry Lab, Forensics, Water Quality, Astronomy, and Anatomy. Building events allowed students to test their pre-built designs included Roller Coaster, Mousetrap Vehicles, Mission Possible (Rube Goldberg Machine), and Boomilever (Cantilever).

The 70 'Iolani students in attendance had many fine showings. Of particular note was Tierra & Maya's well-engineered balsa wood and paper aircraft which stayed aloft for well over a minute in the Lower Gym and Chenyi's cantilever bridge which supported over 700 times its own weight.

'Iolani's students have been working since the summer to master scientific concepts and to engineer devices. During the spring, they will compete in other invitational tournaments as well as regional and state championships. A heartfelt congratulations goes out to these students and their coaches who have dedicated many hours to achieving excellence and a much gratitude to the parent volunteers and to the many groups at 'Iolani School (facilities, cafeteria, security, administration) for making this event a success.

Special thanks to Jason Tanaka (Division C Coach and father of Kento Tanaka '16) who organized this large tournament. Thank you to head coaches who have given so many hours, allowing the students to develop mastery. Narayan Raja and Jason Tanaka for Division C and Sheri Kobata, Daryl Kobata, and Jami Muranaka for Division B and Fred Heyler for Division A. Many groups have been gracious in their sharing of space at 'Iolani. Carlene Toshi, Ricky Key, and the rest of facilities have been most helpful. Kevin Wada and the cafeteria staff prepared many bentos. There were many parents who volunteered for a day (or more) to make this successful. Much mahalo to so many who made for a seamless event with around 800 on campus for the closing ceremony.

'Iolani Division C Science Olympiad Team (Grades 10-12).



Mousetrap Vehicle (Mechanical design propels vehicle forwards & backwards a set distance)



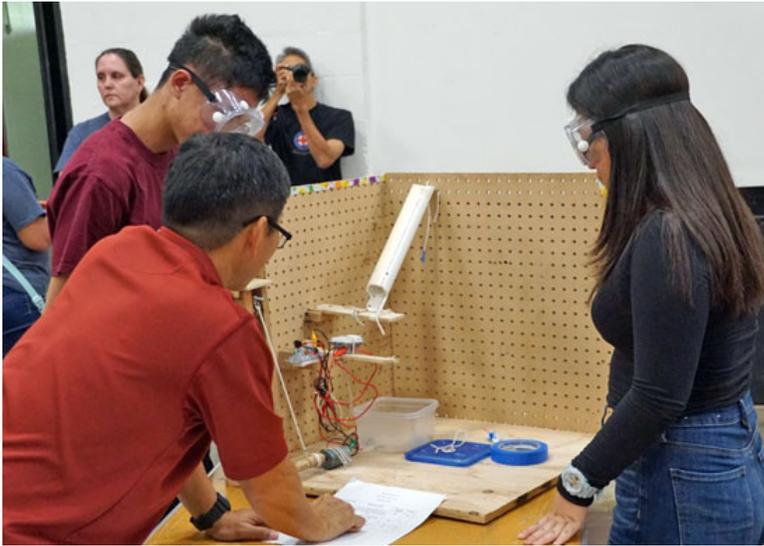
Discussing Boomilever (Cantilever) Design



Boomilever Testing



Mission Possible (Rube Goldberg Machine)



Wright Flier Take Off (Propelled aircraft leaving for minute plus flight)



Listening to the Opening Ceremony



Hawaiian II class field trip to Ka Papa Lo'i 'o Kānewai at UH Mānoa

Last week, Hawaiian II students learned about the different parts of water system at the lo'i and some traditional taro cultivation practices such as organically adding nutrients to the soil.





They also learned about the various varieties and characteristics of the taro.

Second Grade Field Trip to Hawaii Plantation Village

The second graders visited Hawaii's Plantation Village to get a glimpse into what life was like for the seven ethnic groups that immigrated to Hawaii to work on the sugar plantations. Life was hard for the immigrants but they were very resourceful. The plantation workers shared important aspects of their cultures (food, music, customs, games, language) with each other.







During our Celebrating Our Heritage Unit, the second graders interviewed family members to learn about when and why their ancestors immigrated to America. Our visit to the plantation village was especially meaningful for many of the second graders whose ancestors immigrated to Hawaii to work on the sugar and pineapple plantations.

Worldquest

'Iolani participated in the Worldquest competition at the University of Hawaii sponsored by the Pacific Asian affairs Council. The competition is a series of tests current affairs in the world. Eight of our students participated.





The team of Matthew Sohn '19, Yoo Ra Sung '19, Mika Ishii '20, and Jake Peacock '21 won the award for Best team on a Oahu not placing in the top three.. They competed against 243 students from 31 schools.

Film Production Class at the HIFF

Last month, our Film Production class entered two films to a competition run by the Hawai'i International Film Festival and the Daniel K Inouye Institute. The task was to create a short film inspired by one of four themes from Senator Inouye's first speech to the DNC in 1968. One of our submissions was selected as a finalist in the competition, and screened at Dole Cannery Theater as part of the Hawaii International Film Festival's program.

It was a great experience for the students to walk the red carpet, watch their own work on the big screen, and participate in a filmmakers' panel discussion at the end of the screening. Afterwards, they were invited to a VIP luncheon where they got the chance to speak with actor Harry Shum, Jr (Glee, Crazy Rich Asians). Our 'Iolani filmmakers were active participants at both events, representing our school well!

Both teams from our class chose the theme of 'aloha' for their films, which was inspired by the beautiful words that ended the Senator's speech: "I wish to share with you a most sacred word of Hawai'i. It is aloha. To some of you who visited us, it may have meant hello. To others, aloha may have meant goodbye. But to those of us who have been privileged to live in Hawaii, aloha means I love you. So to all of you, my fellow Americans, Aloha."

Both films were a wonderful and timely tribute to the spirit of Senator Inouye, and the students put a lot of heart - and of course, aloha - into their work.



Devan Fujinaka '21, Noa Schneider '21, Oliver Park '21, Bryce Yoshida '20 (members of the group with the film that reached the finals)



The team fielding questions during the filmmakers' panel discussion



Mrs. Inouye delivering the opening address for the student film showcase.

Hokuloa Christmas Concert Series

The Hokuloa Singers kicked off their Christmas concert series on Friday, November 30 at the IHS Women's and Family Center to a very appreciative audience of over 100, plus a small army of volunteers who also enjoyed the sound of young voices celebrating the birth of Christ.



After months of preparation, the students were finally able to experience the joy and gratitude of a grateful audience.

Clyde Kusatsu '66

Clyde Kusatsu '66, who has been in hundreds of feature films and television programs during his 45 years as a professional actor, returned to campus and spoke with students enrolled in the Advanced Theater and Musical Theater III classes.





All the best in health and happiness,
Tim

—
Timothy R. Cottrell, PhD

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