

**Fwd: Letter from the Head of School 3\_24\_19**

1 message

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Bcc: facstaffk-12@iolani.org

Sun, Mar 24, 2019 at 12:16 PM

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Dear Parents,

**Welcome back from break!**

**Scholastic Art Awards**



On Saturday, March 16th, 'Iolani Art students attended the 56th Annual Hawaii Regional Scholastic Art Awards ceremony and reception at the Hawaii State Art Museum where they were acknowledged and presented with their award certificates. The artworks selected by a panel of judges for display at the art museum represent the talent and hard work of visual art students grades 7-12 from public and private schools. 'Iolani School is well represented in the show this year with 11 Gold Key Awards and 34 Silver Key Awards.



Two 'Iolani students received American Vision Awards: Gabrielle Ah Mook Sang ('20) and Chris Inouye ('19).



Julien Hill's ('20) Regional Gold Key Award winning artwork went on to win a National Gold Key award and will be acknowledged in an award ceremony in June in New York City. Four students were recipients of named regional awards: Gabrielle Ah Mook Sang ('20), Mia Fujita ('20), Tori Maeda ('20) and Nikki Shimao ('20). Congratulations to our accomplished student artists! Please check out the show, which runs until April 18th at HiSAM, open M, W-Sa 10am-4pm. Admission is free!

There is an [online gallery on our school website](#) that features all the Gold and Silver Key awards as well as Honorable Mentions.

#### **English Speaking Union Shakespeare Competition**

Congratulations to senior Mariko Jurcsak '19 who represented 'Iolani School at the English Speaking Union Shakespeare Competition Saturday, March 2. Mariko won the competition with an outstanding performance of a Queen Margaret monologue from Henry VI, part III, and sonnet 55. Mariko will now represent Hawaii at the National competition April 28 - 30, in New York City. Thank you to everyone who supported her along the way!

#### **Voices United Music Festival**

The 'Iolani Class of 2026 and Punahou sixth grade choir students came together for a joint music festival. Their goal was to raise their voices to promote peace in the community, State, and world. Students from both schools also ate lunch together and made new friends.





Fifth grader, Maile Arita exclaimed, "The Punahou kids were so friendly and welcoming. I loved getting to know them!" The students' voices beautifully blended in harmony and with hope for a brighter future.

#### **Guest in Musical Theatre Class**

Local Actress Kimee Balmilero (Hawaii 5-0, Magnum PI) worked with the students in Musical Theatre II this past week. In addition to her television credits, Balmilero was in the original Broadway cast of Mamma Mia, and came to help the class prepare for their upcoming production.



Mamma Mia (performances on May 17/18) is one of four upcoming musicals being presented by our Musical Theatre program, others include Rent:High School Edition (April 25/26), Mulan Jr (May 3/4) and Once Upon A Mattress (May 25). All performances will be at Mamiya Theatre on the St. Louis Campus. Check our PAD website in upcoming weeks for ticket details.

#### **Fifth Grade Class Day**

Our 5th graders got an early start on Spring Break with their Class Day on Thursday at Bellows Field Beach Park.





The Class of 2026 enjoyed lots of fun in the sun and surf on a picture-perfect day. Many thanks to parents who volunteered to chaperone and also joined in on the fun!

#### Upper School Variety Show





### East Meets West

On Saturday, March 9, 'Iolani and Wai'anae Intermediate Bands joined forces for a day of music and fellowship. The bands began their day at Wai'anae Intermediate School with an outdoor ice-breaker activity, then rehearsed pieces that were going to be performed together later that afternoon.



While both groups prepared the music separately, this was their first meeting to combine as a whole.



Just before the rehearsal began, something magical happened that brought smiles to the adults in the room. As the students practiced independently, the cacophony gradually turned in to a unified sound as each person joined in playing the same piece, flash mob style. Soon the entire group was "jamming" to the same music. After the end of one piece, they collectively decided on the next and began playing, all without a conductor! Meanwhile, the three band directors stood in the office, watching and listening to all of this unfold, feeling satisfied that the mission of this collaboration was already

accomplished.

The combined ensemble was conducted by master teacher and guest conductor of the 2019 Middle School Select Band, Mr. Don Tsuha. Blending the sounds, minds and hearts of the two ensembles into one homogenous group took creative energy, expert knowledge and passion for working with young people. The students responded enthusiastically and took pride in striving to do their best. After a bento lunch from Tamura's Super Market, the students were transported to Pearlridge Mall for their performance in the newly renovated Wai Makai. 'Iolani began the concert with two pieces, "Cluster, Fluster, Bluster March" and "Plaza de Toros," followed by Wai'anae's "That's What I Like" and "Terracotta Warriors."

The concert concluded with the joint group performing, "Havana," "A Million Dreams" and "The Incredibles." Family, friends and those simply passing by enjoyed the performances with their display of excited cheers, enthusiastic applause and moving and grooving to the music. The evening concluded with both groups going to see the movie, "Captain Marvel." It was a productive and fun day of music-making and camaraderie! Stay tuned for Part Two when Wai'anae travels east to 'Iolani for another day of collaboration and a performance at the Royal Hawaiian Shopping Center, March 30, 4pm!





### Boys Volleyball

Congratulations to our boys volleyball team, which won the Hawai'i Boys Volleyball Invitational on Saturday, beating [El Camino Real \(Woodland Hills, Calif.\)](#), 25-23, 17-25, 15-8, in the championship final. A perennial powerhouse, El Camino Real is currently ranked No. 26 in the nation by MaxPreps and was a CIF Los Angeles City Section Open Division semifinalist last year.



The 12th Annual Hawai'i Boys Volleyball Invitational, hosted by our school, featured 20 teams this year (our largest field yet), including five strong teams from the mainland and four from the neighbor islands.





After winning their pool and gold bracket quarterfinal match, our Raiders reached the final by sweeping Beckman (Irvine, Calif.), 25-22, 25-20. Another southern California standout program, Beckman is currently ranked No. 62 in the nation.



Our team will return to ILH action on Monday, hosting a key match versus Kamehameha. First serve in the Lower Gym is set for 5 pm. Go Raiders!

All the best in health and happiness,  
Tim

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