

**Fwd: Letter from the Head of School 4\_7\_19**

1 message

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Sun, Apr 7, 2019 at 4:29 PM

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Dear Parents,

'Iolani Fair This Weekend!!

**Math Team 27th Consecutive Math League Champions**

Even though our math team placed 2nd at meet 7 held this past Saturday at Campbell High, the Raiders built a big cushion over the first 6 meets and won its 27th consecutive Math League Championship. In the overall standings, Iolani had 8 league points followed by Punahou, Kamehameha, McKinley and Roosevelt with 13, 21, 33 and 38 league points, respectively. Seobeen Chang's '20 perfect score helped the team score 241 points, which was 6 points behind first place Punahou. Our other team members were Tyson DeCastro '20, Jeein Hong '21, Chenyi Hu '19, Connor Kojima '20, Brandon Lai '20, Sonny Nguyen '21, Roy Song '19, Jake Song '21 and Jonah Yoshida '21.

The team of Dagny Brand '21, Darren Do '21, Katherine Kan '21 and Justin Sato '21 scored 96 to place 2nd in the JV division. Also participating was Andrew Dawson '21. The JV also had a substantial lead after the first 6 meets, and won their 19th consecutive title. In the overall standings, the JV Raiders had 9.5 league points. Punahou, Waipahu, Kamehameha and McKinley rounded out the top 5 with 13.5, 23, 26.5 and 34 league points, respectively.

Following the meet, trophies were given to the top ten scorers in the league, and the Raiders earned 6 of them. Seobeen Chang was 2nd with an average of 28.6 (out of 30). Roy Song and Tyson DeCastro were tied for 4th with an average of 27.6. Jonah Yoshida and Joshua Park ('21) were tied for 7th with an average of 27.4, and Chenyi Hu was 10th with an average of 27.2. The Senior Merit Award (the highest award given by the league) is given for outstanding service to their team and the league. Chenyi Hu and Roy Song were 2 of the 6 who were presented with this prestigious award.

Comments by Head Coach Michael Park: This team worked hard and were led by two terrific senior captains (Chenyi Hu and Roy Song). They put forth an excellent effort to prepare for each meet, and enjoy the challenge of solving really tough math problems. A big mahalo to coaches David Masunaga, Lance Takeuchi, Kathy Nirei, Alan Yeh, Ryan Sasaki, Erin Nagoshi and Jessi Saylor for giving up their lunch periods to prepare our team for each meet. Congratulations on another great season!

**2009 Hawaii state Economics Challenge**



In the David Ricardo (non-AP) Division, the team of Jerry Liu '20, Jayson Guo '21, Joshua Park '21, and Tyson DeCastro '20 defeated Kalani by a score of 13 to 2 in the final round of competition to win the state championship for a sixth straight year. Iolani's individual high scorer in this division was Jayson Guo.

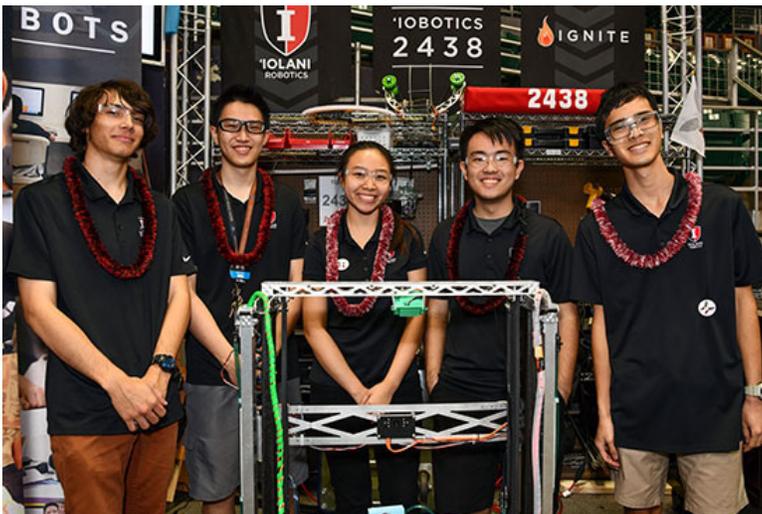


In the Adam Smith (AP) Division, the team of Braxton Lee '19, William Heyler '19, Dylan Huang '19, and Andy Chen '19 fell behind early on but rallied to beat Maryknoll by a score of 15 to 9 in the final round of competition for Iolani's 20th consecutive state title. Iolani's individual high scorer in this division was Emily Ching '19. Iolani now advances to the national semifinals on April 17.

**'Robotics Regional Competition**



Last week, our team participated in the the FIRST Hawaii Regional Robotics Competition. Our 'obotics students did a tremendous job during the intense 3 day event at the Stan Sheriff Center. The team was ranked in the top 8 by the end of the qualifying matches which put the team in a picking position in the alliance selection ceremony. Team 2438 entered the quarterfinal playoffs as the 5th seeded alliance, and after a nail-biting tie-breaking match, the team did not continue on.





During the awards ceremony, Robotics team 2438, was awarded the esteemed Regional Engineering Inspiration Award. This award is given to the team that most notably models engineering ingenuity and excellence, and who inspires those same innovative qualities in others. In the award speech, the master of ceremonies described our team as a group that “ignites passion for STEM in the community”. That statement couldn’t be more accurate; the team has worked hard all year to build an impressive robot, and an equally impressive community of builders, dreamers, and problem-solvers, both in our school and out of it. This in addition to the Chairman’s Award that the team won earlier this year at a competition in British Columbia means that they have won two top awards available in FRC. The team is now preparing for a trip to Houston to compete in the World Championships. [Here is a nice story that was in the news about our Robotics team helping another team.](#)

#### RITS-`Iolani exchange

The RITS Global Summit held at Ritsumeikan Jr/Sr High School from February 5-10, 2019 began the RITS-`Iolani exchange for 7 `Iolani 9th graders. Connor Arakaki '22, Braden Lee '22, Tyler Matsuzaki '22, Wyatt Nako '22, Hiroto Nawano '22, Lauren Okimoto '22, and Carianne Takeuchi '22, attended the 5-day Summit, while experiencing life in Japan with a homestay family. Representing the 13 invited countries, 70 international students and 250 Japanese students gathered together to share their cultures, learn new things from one another, problem-solve and discuss global sustainability goals, using English as the common language. `Iolani students prepared a cultural presentation and a teaching booth, and participated in specially prepared Japanese academic classes prepared in addition to classes led by the international teachers. “Go to Japan and meet the world!” Wyatt Nako '22, reflected on the experience on the plane ride home, “... if these are the people who will be leading our nations in twenty-five years, the world may actually be okay!”





The RITS-`Iolani exchange with students from Ritsumeikan, culminated in a hosting experience for 11 `Iolani students and their families here on Oahu. 12 8th and 9th grade students shadowed `Iolani classes with their `Iolani hosts, participated in special classes led by the One Team effort of `Iolani teachers, and learned about life here in the islands, the aloha spirit and the meaning of One Team, as their host families coordinated a day of touring the island

and provided meals, transportation and a place to stay.

#### **Stan Honda - 2019 McDermott-Oda Chair for Communications and Journalism**

For almost two decades, the McDermott-Oda Chair program has brought to `Iolani many distinguished speakers to work with faculty and students in the areas of writing, journalism, and digital communications. Established in 2000 by internationally acclaimed travel writer and author John W. McDermott and his associate, Stephen Oda '61, the McDermott-Oda Chair has also enabled journalism faculty and students to travel to the mainland to attend workshops and conventions. This year's honoree, New York-based photojournalist Stan Honda, spent a one-week residency working with students and faculty in Photography, U.S. History, Newsroom, and Race & Social Justice classes. Stan's talks focused on the power of photojournalism to document and communicate stories about historical and current news events, including the September 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center, inauguration of President Barack Obama, U.S. incarceration of Japanese Americans in WWII, the U.S. space shuttle program, and more.

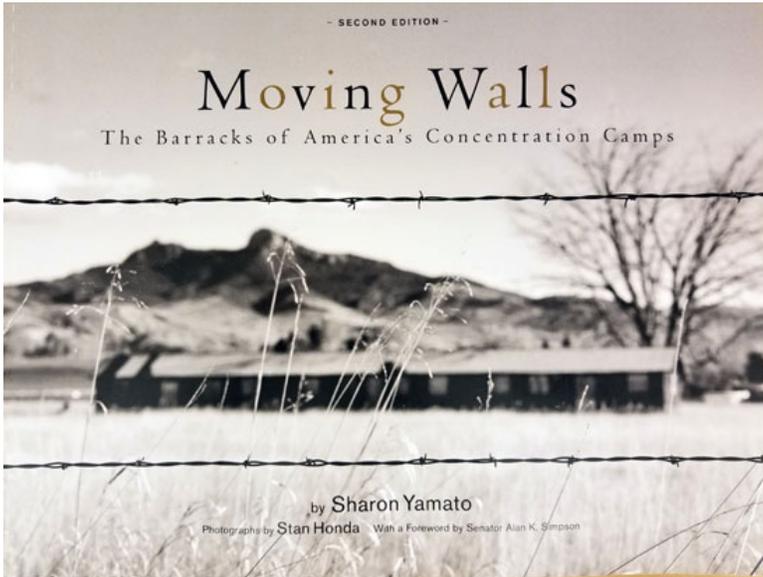


A photojournalist for 34 years, Stan has worked at the San Diego Daily Tribune, L.A. Times, New York Daily News, and most recently at Agence France-Press (AFP). Stan's photos have appeared on the covers of national magazines and have been featured several times as NASA's Astronomy Picture of the Day.

An enlightening Community Night talk, "Capturing Life Through a Lens," drew to the Seminar Room last Thursday over 50 guests, including faculty and students from public and private high schools, members of the local media, and photography club enthusiasts. Passionate about photographing celestial events with the aim of helping to preserve views of the night sky, Stan also included stunning photos of night sky landscapes from his recent artist-in-residence experience at Haleakala National Park.



As his parting gift to `Iolani School, Stan donated two copies of his book "Moving Walls: The Barracks of America's Concentration Camps" and an accompanying video to the Upper School library.



Mahalo to the McDermott-Oda Chair for making possible a memorable visit by an interesting and accomplished guest in 2019!

### Kindergarten/Sophomore Project

Easter came a bit early for some of the Lower School on Friday...Members of the Sophomore Class of 2021 planned and executed a sometimes chaotic but entirely fun Spring event with the Kindergarten Class of 2031! Nearly 100 sophomores spent their meeting and lunch periods with the youngest Raiders on campus. The event began with lunch and getting to know each other a little bit. When lunch was done, there were crafts to complete and games to be played. The craft stations were face painting, card creating and bunny ear making, while the games were a (plastic) egg toss, a multi-skill obstacle course, and the bunny hop pillow case race!





The Kindergarten teachers stood back and smiled as they watched the sophomores and their class advisers struggle a bit with teaching and entertaining their charges. Before it was done, the K teachers expressed their gratitude and wished out loud that this event would become an annual activity.

### East meets West, Part 2

On Saturday, March 30, the Intermediate Band hosted the Wai'anae Intermediate Band for Part 2 of the "East Meets West" series that began two weeks ago when 'Iolani visited Wai'anae for the first joint rehearsal, finishing with a performance at Pearlridge Center. For Part 2, the combined groups performed at The Royal Hawaiian Shopping Center in Waikiki. This was Wai'anae's trip to the city for their staycation weekend. It was a fun learning and bonding experience for the west-side students, as it was for the 'Iolani students getting to know their counterparts better during this second collaboration.

The day began with an icebreaker that awarded the winning instrument section the lead spot in the lunch line. After rehearsing and eating lunch, everyone was transported to the performance venue. It was a beautiful setting with 'Iolani and Wai'anae supporters in the audience, and visiting tourists returning from their shopping to listen to the presentations. The students were like rock stars as visitors took photos of each other with the band in the background.





Similar to the Pearlridge mall concert, the students performed like pros. This event culminated many hours of preparation and commitment, and created friendships, character development and broadening perspectives through making music, the link that connects “East” and “West.”

#### **Freshman Community Service**



On Saturday, April 6th, a group of Freshmen partnered with 808 Cleanups at Nimitz Beach, near the Coast Guard Airfield and worked to remove invasive plants that are strangling the beautiful morning glory and various scrap metal items, as well as combing the beach for litter and plastics. They collected a total of 505 pounds of trash and were happy to make an immediate impact. Thank you to Class of 2022 Advisor Rob Duval and Residential Parent Leilani Fortuno for chaperoning.

#### **Senior Prom**



On Saturday, the Class of 2019 spent the evening together at The Modern Honolulu as they enjoyed each other's company at their last prom, fittingly named "Ever." Congratulations to the Co-Chairs (Hi'ilei Amundson, Maya Oda, Keli Santos, Alyssa Acosta, and Julia Lim) and Class Officers (Taylor Venenciano, Lauren Tanaka, Hannah Hiraki, and Joshua Morisaki) for planning and organizing this most memorable evening, ever.

#### **Boys Varsity Tennis**

The boys team had a strong week with key wins against Punahou (4-1) and Mid Pac() placing them at the top of the ILH standing as we near the end of the second round of matches. The boys team is 12 - 0.They will finish up with the following schedule and celebrate senior day after their match against Kamehameha School.





Wednesday, April 10 vs. HBA @ IOL 4:30pm  
Tuesday, April 16 vs. KSK @ IOL 4:30pm (Senior day)

### Girls Varsity Tennis

The girls varsity had a strong week as well defeating Maryknoll in back to back matches and amassing a 12 -1 record. The are currently #2 in the ILH standings and are gaining momentum for their final showdown against Punahou at home on April 17. The following is the remaining schedule along with a senior day celebration for nine varsity members after the Kamehameha School match.



Monday, April 8 vs. LJA @ IOL 4:30pm  
Monday, April 15 vs. KSK @ IOL 4:30pm (Senior day)  
Wednesday, April 17 vs. PUN @ IOL 4:30pm  
Come out and cheer on our seniors to victory!

### eSports



On Tuesday, March 2, 2019, 'Iolani School (Team 3) was victorious in the first ever esports match in school history against Kamehameha Schools (Team White). The Raiders won both League of Legends (LoL) matches handily in the best of two competition against the Warriors.

On the same day, 'Iolani School (Team 1) competed against 'Iolani School (Team 2) in a head to head LoL competition with Team 1 winning both matches. All three 'Iolani Teams displayed humility in victory, graciousness in defeat, and perpetuated the One Team philosophy. All players were extremely thankful to school faculty/staff, alumni supporters, and everyone who helped get the esports program up and running. Both Coach Gabe Yanagihara and Assistant Chris Butler were extremely proud of all the players, casters, and esports team managers. The next eSports match will be on Tuesday, April 9th at 4pm HST.

### Intermediate Track Championships

On Saturday, the Intermediate Track team rounded out their season with their ILH championship meet at Punahou. The girls' team was led by Alexandra Lee '24 who placed first in the discus throw and Lexi King '23, Annabelle Hong '22, and Cami Okamura '22 who respectively placed first, second, and third to sweep the high jump event.



The boys' team was led by Zach Takeshita '23 and Hudson Nguyen '23 who placed first and second in pole vault. Both boys and girls teams finished third overall in the team standings.

#### Senior March Madness

This past Thursday and Friday, our seniors held their own "March Madness: Spikeball Edition" as a part of their year-long "Battle of the Benches" friendly competition.





Seniors helped each other learn the game before attempting to win their bracket for a prize of free lunch for their bench. The winning teams were “Liang Gang” for the boys and “TBD” for the girls bracket.

All the best in health and happiness,  
Tim

—  
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