

Hōkūlani Insider

Quarterly e-Newsletter for Project Hōkūlani

▶▶▶ E KOMO MAI!

Principal Investigator Dr. Hye-Jin Park Welcome Message



We are pleased to welcome you to the first quarterly e-newsletter, a space where Project Hōkūlani is able to share

relevant and in-depth content for our students, ‘ohana and community members.

The Project Hōkūlani team has been busy recruiting, organizing, and welcoming students and ‘ohana on O‘ahu, Moloka‘i, or Hawai‘i Island.

Please take a few minutes to check out the latest updates from summer to early fall. And learn more about upcoming events, monthly email blasts, and other ways to grow with us.

We take pride in the resilience and growth mindset needed of our own to achieve our goal:

to support Native Hawaiian high school students to enter into postsecondary science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields through a culturally responsive, strength- and work-based enrichment program.



Project Hōkūlani

University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, College of Education,
Center on Disability Studies
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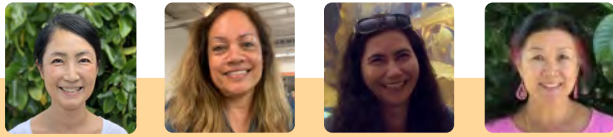


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MAKING CONNECTIONS

by Dr. Yoko Kitami, 'Ohana Engagement Facilitator, kitami@hawaii.edu



LEARN MORE

Over this school year, 'Ohana Engagement Facilitators Dr. Yoko Kitami, Val Crabbe, Ho'ouluhahi Erika Perry and Mellanie Lee are hosting participating parents, guardians and 'ohana members from across the islands to our virtual learning space to:

"learn about culture-based science hands-on activities, strategies to help children learn science at home, and information and resources related to college such as financial aid, scholarships, and early college and dual enrollment programs."

On September 18, 2021, Project Hōkūlani kicked off our first 'ohana gathering, *Making Connections*. We are excited to announce that the first session went well. The agenda included:

- ▶ **Welcome** - Parents joined and learned about our program and got to know each other through introductions.
- ▶ **Local Culture Connections** - Val, our cultural specialist, led a lesson about Hawai'i's diverse cultural history. Through these lessons, we were able to learn more about ourselves, our community and where we came from, so we could learn more about our connections and differences.
- ▶ **Global Culture Connections** - We also talked about how the Native Hawaiian culture and it's unique mix of groups from a particular location creates a global culture that ultimately connects Hawai'i with the world.
- ▶ **Hands-On Activity** - After this, participants gathered images that represented their host, local and global cultures and put them on a plate. That was a fun activity!



“

Polynesian Cultural Center
represents the various Polynesian cultures and how similar they are. Also, it represents the partnership they have with the BYUH to help provide jobs so students can pay for college.

Kalo
represents my native culture which is Hawaiian. Also, [it] can be the global component because [it] is used over many different ethnicities.

Hula
represents my homeland culture of Hawai'i.

BYUH
represents the global reach of providing higher education to [a] wide variety of cultures. Also, it represents where I work and our mission to help students to be self-sufficient and tap into various resources to help pay for school.

Participating Parent's Hands-on Activity

”

“

Global Culture - our grandparents came from many different areas around the world, China, Norway, Sweden, Portugal, and Hawai'i. Now many of our children have moved away from Hawai'i and live in other parts of the globe; Alaska, Texas, North Carolina, and soon Japan.

Home culture - my wife and I have gone through, [GoFarms Hawai'i]. It was hard work and learning to cultivate and care for the land and be able to grow food. These are important to us.

Local culture - We've lived in Kaneohe for more than 15 years and this has become our home. The different foods from our ethnic backgrounds, then of course the 808 state shaka to show aloha.

Participating Parent's Hands-on Activity



”





'IMI LOA HUI HAUMĀNA

by Jerrick Feliciano, Project Coordinator & STEM Specialist, jerrick@hawaii.edu

CAMPUS VISIT

Through exploration, students learned about college facilities and services provided at their satellite campus.

BYU Hawai'i; HCC Hilo;
HCC Pālananui; UH Mānoa;
UH West O'ahu



SCAVENGER HUNT

A fun & interactive college campus scavenger hunt allowed students to explore and learn about the layout of the campus.



GROWTH MINDSET

Learning how your mind works and ways to strengthen your mind kicked-off the first student lessons. Students were inspired by the John Legend interview on how success is gained through effort! And collectively they wrote examples of a fixed vs growth mindset and talked about the difference between them.



Digital Media

Students had lots of fun exploring digital media and expressing their creativity through a variety of different technologies. Which included green screens and compositing videos with images, audio, and text.



Interested in seeing the student contest videos?
Check out

<http://go.hawaii.edu/V29>

MEET THE TEAM

PROJECT HŌKŪLANI LEADS



▶ **Dr. Hye Jin Park**
principal investigator, parkhye@hawaii.edu

Has over 20 years of experience working with diverse students, including: gifted and talented, disabilities, and indigenous students. For the last 13 years, her research has brought multi-million dollar federal grants to Hawai'i's education system. Currently, Dr. Park is a principal investigator and co-principal investigator of five STEM research projects assisting underrepresented students. Dr. Park's research interests include education for exceptional students and evaluation.

Dr. Kiriko Takahashi
co-principal investigator, kiriko@hawaii.edu

Along with Dr. Park, Dr. Takahashi has directed numerous educational research and demonstration projects aimed to improve the STEM outcomes of underrepresented students. She has over 20 years of experience working with children, youth and adults with diverse abilities and cultural backgrounds. For Project Hōkūlani, she will provide guidance and expertise on how to support each student's educational endeavors. Dr. Takahashi is passionate in seeing all students become excited about science and mathematics.



▶ **Jerrick Feliciano**
project coordinator and STEM specialist, jerrick@hawaii.edu

He has over 10 years of experience working on federally funded grants aimed to provide STEM culture-based education approaches for diverse populations representing indigenous, disabilities, and other underrepresented students. For Project Hōkūlani, he provides specialization in teaching and developing science curriculum to diverse populations. Jerrick is passionate in providing opportunities for underrepresented and underserved students to learn through fun culturally-responsive hands-on lessons.

Kendra Nip
data coordinator, kendraw@hawaii.edu

For over a decade, she has worked on providing educational programs for diverse student populations. She is also pursuing her doctoral degree in educational psychology at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. For Project Hōkūlani, she brings her expertise in data analysis and culture-based methodologies. Kendra's research interests also include educational and neuropsychological assessment and educational program evaluation.



▶▶▶ EDUCATORS



▶ **Dr. Alejandro Guillen**

STEM specialist, am3@hawaii.edu

He has 10 years of experience teaching college-level mathematics in California and in Hawai'i. And for the last 4 years he has focused career to work with students in underserved communities. Through engaging approaches he has developed and taught hands-on math and science lessons to Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students, and students with disabilities. Dr. Guillen's research interests include mathematical logic and data science.

Jerica Mānoa

Native Hawaiian cultural specialist, jmanoa@hawaii.edu

For over a decade, she has developed curriculum and programming for K-12 students addressing academic skills in math, reading, writing, communication and social skills. In addition, she has bridged student programming to parents, teachers, mentors and community members. She specializes in diverse student cultures including Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islanders, and more specifically students with disabilities, English language learners, and gifted students. Jerica is passionate in bridging culturally responsive teaching and mentoring with STEM education in school and at home.



▶ **Samantha Wee**

curriculum specialist, skrobert@hawaii.edu

She has 10+ years of experience in education focused on preparing and transitioning students with disabilities into postsecondary education, as well as creating and implementing culturally relevant, hands-on STEM lessons. She graduated with her master's in education, curriculum development, and has been focused on coordinating STEM projects for elementary students on O'ahu for various projects at the Center on Disability Studies.

Robert Young

STEM specialist, rgyoung@hawaii.edu

He has 13 years of experience in math and science education, including outreach projects, curriculum development, and teaching middle school, high school, and college throughout Hawai'i. Robert has over 7 years of extensive experience in scientific research in neuroscience and mathematical modeling.



▶▶▶ 'OHANA ENGAGEMENT AND SITE COORDINATORS



▶ Dr. Yoko Kitami

'ohana engagement facilitator, kitami@hawaii.edu

She has over 15 years of experience working with diverse and at-risk K-12 students, parents, teachers, school liaisons, and adults with disabilities. She is passionate in working with parents/legal guardians of students. For Dr. Kitami, "it has been a joy to help them learn to work with children through our mathematics-related cultural activities and watch the parents and children grow closer to each other in education."

Val Crabbe *ohana engagement facilitator, vacrabb@alulike.org* ◀

She is a 'ohana engagement facilitator.



▶ Cheryl Corbiell

Moloka'i site coordinator, corbiell@hawaii.edu

She has her masters degree in communications studies and 20+ years of experience in education working with students from elementary to college, and specializes as a tutor, mentor, and instructor in programs throughout Hawai'i such as, Ka Pilina No'eau Project (BEAM) a STEM program for middle school - tutor and mentor, and Ke Kekui Mohala High School seniors professional documents instructor. Cheryl hopes to incorporate place-based learning, create opportunities for collaboration, build student intrinsic motivation, and create opportunities for learning to be fun.

Mellanie Lee

Hawai'i Island project coordinator, mellanie@hawaii.edu ◀

She lives on the land of the Kanaka Maoli on Hawai'i Island and is the Hawai'i Island project coordinator. For 35+ years, her rich experience includes teaching regular and special education, school-to-work transitions and family training; designing curriculum and culturally responsive pedagogy approaches; conducting workshops, training, and technical assistance; and is a project director throughout the Pacific Islands and Hawai'i. She serves on the Board of Sustainable Kohala, an organization committed to promoting sustainability in North Kohala.



▶ Ho'oululahui Erika Perry

Hawai'i Island site coordinator, hperry@hawaii.edu

She resides in the ahupua'a of Waikahekahe in the moku of Puna on Lononuiākea (Hawai'i Island) and is originally born and raised in Hilo, where the Wailuku River enters the Pacific Ocean after descending Mauna Awakea. Her 15+ years of programming experience includes: educational public events, middle and high school environmental science field programs, STEM tournaments, internship programs and environmental training & research. Ho'oulu is the founder and Board President of MA'AEA, a nonprofit organization dedicated to 'āina-based education, stewardship, and community outreach to create a more sovereign Hawai'i and more just world.



▶▶▶ PROJECT HŌKŪLANI STAFF



▶ **Dalen Kahiapo**

digital media specialist, dkahiapo@hawaii.edu

He has 19+ years of experience in digital media, visual communications, and incorporating technology into the development of culturally-based curricula and educational programs. In addition, he is a Nā Hōkū Hanohano award-winning graphic artist who has used his experience in visual and digital technology to create innovative learning opportunities for K-12 students statewide. And a board member of I Ola Lāhui - an organization tasked with responding to the urgent needs of Native Hawaiian and rural communities for behavioral health services.

Monica Lau

graduate assistant, sokhan@hawaii.edu

For the last 4 years, Sok-Han (Monica) has worked throughout the Center on Disability Studies, where she specialized in assisting with data management for a variety of projects like Project BEAM. She is also a PhD student at the Department of Educational Psychology, College of Education. Monica's research interests are in the area of assessment and her dissertation is focused on applying the cognitive diagnosis models to assess students' master and non-mastery of skills and knowledge.



▶ **Genesis Leong**

public information specialist, genesisl@hawaii.edu

She has 15+ years of experience in marketing & organizing large scaled events focused on cutting edge technology, social justice advocacy and community development. She has extensive experience in inclusive design; social media, and creating content about people with dignity. In addition, she is a graduate student in the Urban and Regional Planning program and the Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance program at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

Kathy Sah-Kakiba

administrative and fiscal support, ksahkaki@hawaii.edu

She is the administrative and fiscal support.



►►► SCIENCE INSTRUCTORS



Marty Kawasaki

Marty’s research interests include Wildlife Ecology, Hawaiian Ethnobiology. As a science educator/ guest lecturer she has a desire to inspire K-12 students to become young scientists. Marty’s passion is to be the spark that fires up future Hawaiian scientists, engineers and creators.



Jo’el Nathansen

Jo’el’s teaches marine science and environmental science at Kea’au High School. She believes that STEM is all around us and she loves working with her students to find their passions and help to relate them to careers in the STEM world to become active contributors in our global community.

►►► ACADEMIC & CULTURAL MENTORS: MĀNOA



Po’okela Ng

Hometown: Waialua, O’ahu

Alma Mater: Kamehameha - Kapalama

“ My goal is to be a doctor. In my eyes, being a mentor and helping others with things I understand helps me to gain perspective into others lives and build tools to connect with patients in the future and provide holistic healthcare. ”



Jakelynn Poki

Hometown: Waipahu, O’ahu

Alma Mater: Waipahu High School

“ One tip for students is to apply for anything and everything even if you think you won't get it, at least you applied. I didn't have much guidance when I transitioned to college, my goal is to provide that sort of guidance to kids who need it. ”



Trinity Young

Hometown: Waimanalo, O’ahu

Alma Mater: Henry J. Kaiser High School

“ I enjoy influencing others to pursue new goals to improve themselves and the community. Achieving my environmental science degree, helped me to strive to be a part of helping shape our future through science and/or education. ”



▶▶▶ ACADEMIC & CULTURAL MENTORS: WEST O'AHU



Keora Flanary-Olayvar

Hometown: 'Aiea/Pearl City, O'ahu **Alma Mater:** Kamehameha - Kapalama

“ I have a strong passion for sharing and connecting science to our home and culture. As a Kanaka scientist, indigenizing science and supporting Kanaka to become future STEM leaders, who represent us as vast and knowledgeable people is important to me. ”

▶▶▶ ACADEMIC & CULTURAL MENTORS: NORTH SHORE



Lesina Manutai

Hometown: La'ie, O'ahu **Alma Mater:** Kahuku High School

“ I enjoy working with the youth in our community. Since I am studying to become a high school teacher, I thought this would be a great opportunity to learn about other opportunities for the youth in our community. ”

▶▶▶ ACADEMIC & CULTURAL MENTORS: HAWAI'I ISLAND



Rory Akau

Hometown: Keaukaha, Hawai'i **Alma Mater:** Ke Ana La'ahana PCS

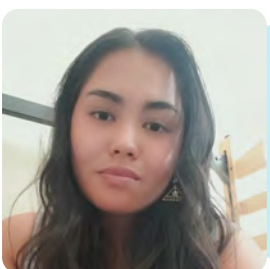
“ I love to teach if it's life skills or STEMing up a lesson. And incorporating my experience as a cultural practitioner, advent conservationist, and STEM programs (Mānowai O Hanakahi, Nā Pua No'eau, and internships). ”



Brycen Ibarra-Niimoto

Hometown: Kealakekua, Hawai'i **Alma Mater:** 'Aiea High School

“ A Hawaiian studies and Hawai'i life styles programs graduate, Marine Corps veteran, former policeman, and former 'Aha Pūnana Leo o Kona teacher. My goal is to complete my biology major and enroll into the JABSOM school of medicine. ”



Tatum Okamoto

Hometown: Pāhoa, Hawai'i **Alma Mater:** Kealakehe High School

“ I am interested in helping students realize their potential in science and encourage them to stick with their STEM goals. I want to be able to share my experiences and represent myself as an accomplished undergraduate. ”



BEYOND THE CLASSROOM



Project Hōkūlani

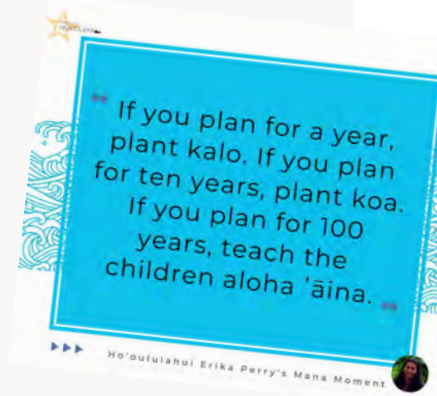
@projecthokulani
 @project_hokulani
 @phokulani
 @ProjectHokulani

Monday | Mana Moments

We kicked off the #ManaMoment campaign, a series of weekly posts highlighting our team's favorite STEM quotes. By sharing our own personal motivational quotes to our followers, we hope these short messages will contribute to readers' positive and growth mindsets.

Get a motivational pick-me-up and read interesting facts about the scientist or influencers behind the quote at <http://go.hawaii.edu/c2V>

#ManaMoments #MotivationalMonday #STEM #Science #Mindset



Friday | Meet the Team

The 'Meet the Team' campaign provides our followers of local educators and STEM enthusiast to see the faces behind Project Hōkūlani. By showcasing our team, we hope readers will build a human connection with us and engage with our project.

Connect and share your aloha with our team posts!! <http://go.hawaii.edu/V2g>

#FacesOfManoa #FF #FridayFeeling #FridayReads



Bi-Weekly | #STEM + Education Community Opportunities

Discover upcoming student and educators' STEM and education opportunities!!

We've compiled a list of community tweets of award nomination, contests, call for proposals, scholarships, fellowships and other upcoming opportunities from our Twitter connections.

Read the lists of @NSF, @NASA, @HawaiiP20, @HSTEorg, @HawaiiSeaGrant, @Hlacademyofsci opportunities <http://go.hawaii.edu/K2V>





CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Project Hōkūlani Student and 'Ohana Upcoming Events

NOVEMBER 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

STUDENTS

▶ **Tuesday, Nov 2, 4-5 pm, virtual**
College basics with Kumu Cheryl

'OHANA

▶ **Wednesday, Nov 3, 6-7 pm, virtual**
College Going Emphasis Month

STUDENTS

▶ **Saturday, Nov 6, 9 am-12 pm, campus & virtual**
College basics with Cultural Mentors
Hands on II: Health science (A) with Science Instructors

'OHANA

▶ **Wednesday, Nov 10, 6-7pm, virtual**
College Going Emphasis Month

STUDENTS

▶ **Tuesday, Nov 16, 4-5 pm, virtual**
College application and essay writing with Kumu Cheryl

'OHANA

▶ **Wednesday, Nov 17, 6-7pm, virtual**
College Going Emphasis Month

STUDENTS

▶ **Thursday, Nov 18, 4-6 pm, virtual**
Hands on II: Health science (B) with Kumu Jerrick

STUDENTS

▶ **Saturday, Nov 20, 9 am-12 pm, campus & virtual**
College application and essay writing with Cultural Mentors
Hands on II - Health science (B) with Science Instructors

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

STUDENTS

▶ **Saturday, Dec 4, 9am-12pm, campus & virtual**
Early college and dual enrollment with Kumu Cheryl
Internship project, understand my needs, and meet my team with Site Coordinators

STUDENTS

▶ **Saturday, Dec 11, 9am-12pm, campus & virtual**
Financial aid & scholarships with Kumu Sam
Meet my internship mentors with Site Coordinators

'OHANA

▶ **Saturday, Dec 18, 9:30-10:30 am, virtual**
Growth Mindset

STUDENTS

▶ **Winter Break, virtual-asynchronous**
Mentoring III: Role model presentation I

Project Hōkūlani is an educational research project funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Native Hawaiian Education Program Grant (Award Number S362A200035) to serve Native Hawaiian youth and their families on the islands of O'ahu, Moloka'i, and Hawai'i. The Project Hōkūlani research team is housed at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

