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**Fwd: Letter from the Head of School 4\_29\_18**

1 message

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Bcc: facstaffk-12@iolani.org

Sun, Apr 29, 2018 at 3:57 PM

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Dear Parents,

**May Day: He Lei Poina 'Ole Ke Keiki**

Friday's May Day event, He Lei Poina 'Ole Ke Keiki (A Lei never forgotten is a Beloved Child), was celebrated with Hula from Halau 'Iolani, song from our very own 'Iolani Choir and Kindergarten class, and brought to a close by the entire school singing May Day is Lei Day in Hawaii.







Queen Megan Kawamura '18, King Jordan Hara '18 and court members Aloha Cerit '18, Auli'i McClellan '18, Jace Hirano '18, Alex Liu '18, Katelyn Stegner '19, Kobi Tanaka '19, Mia Kawamura '20 Tyler Morita '20, Autumn Woolpert '20, Koby Kai '20, Jenna Fujiwara '22, Kyle Ching '22, Kasey Sasaki '23, Kekela Meyer '23, Mohailani Peloso '24 and Bryson Leong '25, graced the student body and faculty with their hula, while adorned with lei from all of our Hawaiian Islands. [Here is a link to a video of the program](#)

A message from May Day Queen, Megan Kawamura '18:

Every year since I entered 'Iolani School in sixth grade, I have watched queens take the stage time and time again and have always been moved by their grace, poise, and beauty. I dreamed of becoming May Day Queen for the longest time, but never thought that it would one day fully materialize. However, more than the three minutes I had to myself on stage, I truly valued and enjoyed every moment of the journey to put such a large production together. I had an unbelievable amount of support from my family, Aunt Lehua, Kumu Kū, my senior court attendants, SAO committee and friends through it all. Running around from rehearsal to rehearsal was undeniably stressful, but it was a "good stressful;" I was doing what I loved with people who also put their hearts and souls into what they were doing. Having this opportunity to share a little about this culture, which I have grown to appreciate over the years, has been an absolute blessing. My goal for my last year here at 'Iolani is to inspire the students in younger grades to love and appreciate hula and the Hawaiian culture as much as I have learned to, and I really hope that during these few weeks preparing for May Day and throughout the year working with the Lower School Hālau, I've been able to share this love and inspiration with at least a few of them. I hope that May Day continues to evolve in the years to come and that more students will be able to take part in this beautiful cultural celebration.

#### **Orchestra 4 & 5 Spring Concert**

Orchestra 4 and Orchestra 5 presented their Spring Concert at Hawaii Theatre on Sunday April 15.



In addition to works by Strauss and Wagner, Orchestra 4 premiered "Goddess Poliahu" by Pierre Grill:



You will be able to enjoy Poliahu once again at Dance Showcase on May 11; at that time the orchestra and solo piano will be joined by a full cast of dancers. Orchestra 5's eclectic program included the Dvorak Cello Concerto with Amy Kaneshiro '18, cello soloist:



Throughout this year we have included a variety of special events to showcase the doublebass, a remarkably versatile instrument. Dvorak was followed by a medley of three iconic rock tunes, commissioned by the 'Iolani Orchestra as the centerpiece of our year-long focus on the doublebass. In each of the three sections, the orchestra's bass section took the solo line, accompanied by strings, orchestral percussion, and rhythm section. Bodacious Basses showcased the basses in three of their roles—as soloists, as the bottom end foundation of the orchestra, and as a rhythm instrument.



The concert concluded with the exuberant finale of Beethoven's Symphony #7.





Our 30 wonderful seniors were honored:



### **Parade of Bands**

On April 12, our 'Iolani Wind Ensemble participated in the Oahu Band Directors' Parade of Bands event at Roosevelt High School. The event is not a literal parade; rather, participating concert bands are given 30 minutes to set up on stage and perform a few selections for a panel of adjudicators, before making their exit in time for the next group to perform. Adjudicators, this year were Dr. Stanley Michalski, Jr. (Emeritus Professor of Music and Conductor of Bands at Clarion University of Pennsylvania), and Michael Nakasone (former director of the Royal Hawaiian Band, Hawaii Youth Symphony, Pearl City HS, and Punahou). Adjudicators were given reference copies of the conductor's sheet music to follow as the bands performed, and adjudicators rated the bands according to several categories, including tone, technique, rhythm, etc.



Our Wind Ensemble earned overall scores of superior (Division I) ratings from both adjudicators, with its highest marks in the categories of musical effect and musical interpretation.

### **Hokuloa Community Concert**

The Hokuloa Singers wrapped up their 2nd semester community performance series with a concert at 15 Craigside on Friday evening, where they were met by a very appreciative audience who not only applauded but supplied the group with punch and cookies to show their gratitude.



Next on the singers' agenda is a joint concert with the men's and women's choirs from Concordia University on Tuesday, May 8 from 2:05 to 3:00 in the Castle Building Chorus Room C-101. The public is invited!

### **2018 Japanese Language Achievement and Speech Award**



Congratulations to Jarin Sakamoto '18, who received the 2018 Japanese Language Achievement and Speech Award from the United Japanese Society of Hawaii. He was 'Iolani's representative and recipient of this prestigious award given to outstanding Japanese language students across the state. His speech was also selected as one of the best speeches at the award ceremony.

### CyberPatriot Team

The CyberPatriot Team was recognized for attaining 2nd Place in the State of Hawaii for the CyberPatriot X Open High School Platinum Division. The recognition ceremony was held on April 28th at Sacred Hearts Academy. The Platinum Division is the highest division consisting of the top 30% of all open teams, with 2,757 teams registered. The 2017-2018 team consisted of Darren Kam '18, Jenna Lau '18, Lily Perry '18, and Norton Kishi '18.



This honor is achieved through 4 separate 6-hour competitions held during the school year. Each cyber defense competition has scored tasks that take teamwork to find, verify, and correct or eliminate. Some of these tasks are to secure and repair multiple live computer systems without damaging or disabling the system, decode files, and correct networks. CyberPatriot is the Air Force Association's National Youth Cyber Defense Competition. To learn more about this competition, visit their website [uscyberpatriot.org](http://uscyberpatriot.org).

### 4th Grade Iron Chef Challenge

On Wednesday, April 25, the fourth floor of the Sullivan Center was transformed into a cooking arena. Fourth grade students showcased both their cooking skills and their garden harvest in an Iron Chef Challenge. Each dish featured at least one ingredient that was planted and carefully raised by the students in the One Team Field House garden beds. Guest faculty and staff judges were amazed at the range of tasty dishes offered, such as eggplant parmesan, pesto pasta, smoothies, tomato bisque, and a variety of salads.













Through this garden-to-table experience, students practiced sustainability and developed a greater appreciation for the food on their tables.

### Earth Week Celebration

In celebration of Earth Day, students of the 'Iolani Plastic Free Initiative hosted a series of events and activities to bring awareness and attention to reducing single-use plastic. On Tuesday, students who brought a reusable cup were served a fresh fruit smoothie sponsored by the Spirit Big Committee. Wednesday's activity was learning about reef-safe sunscreen and how to make homemade sunscreen that won't harm our coral reefs.





On Thursday, students screened "Chasing Coral," a film depicting the devastating effects of climate change on coral reefs, and the week concluded with

a celebration of the 2nd Grade Fork Project on Friday! Second graders presented their findings to the upper school about how their use of metal forks at lunch is helping to reduce the impact of the 15,000 plastic forks that are generated each month at 'Iolani School. In honor of the Earth Fair, the Save the Music Tree Club performed beautiful songs and shared stories about the destruction of the "Music Tree," or the Brazilian *pernambuco*, a special tree which has for centuries provided the wood to make the world's greatest bows.

#### E-Hawk at Hawaii Fly-in

'Iolani's E-Hawk Electric Aircraft Team spent the day displaying their project at the EAA (Experimental Aircraft Association) Chapter 1598 Hawaii Fly-In at John Rogers Kalaheo Airport this past Saturday. The students impressed the crowd with their static display of the E-Hawk's tail-boom and empennage. In addition to the E-Hawk the students showcased one of their custom-made drones designed to retrieve modest payloads from hard to reach places.





The team also had the opportunity to view and interact with the collection of military and general aviation aircraft that were on hand.

#### **Junior Prom: Wander**

On Saturday, members of the class of 2019 held their Junior Prom, Wander, at Hilton Waikiki Beach Hotel.



Congratulations to the class for putting on a wonderful evening, and many thanks to the student committee members: Hi'ilei Amundson, Chris Inouye, Julia Lim, Cole Mijo, Michelle Shuai, and Maya Woo and class officers: Landis Fusato, Lauren Tanaka, Taylor Venenciano, and Matthew Sohn for planning this evening to remember.

#### **Boys Volleyball**

Our boys volleyball team will host a first-round HHSAA Tournament game tomorrow night (Monday, April 30) versus Kapolei. First serve in the Lower Gym is set for 6 pm.



Please support our Raiders! The winner of that match will move on to face Kamehameha-Maui on Thursday in the quarterfinals at McKinley High. [Link for more info on state tournament](#)

#### **Varsity Judo**

The boys varsity judo team finished as the runner-up at the ILH Championships on Friday at Kamehameha. Two ILH champions -- Hunter Fujiwara '18 at 121 pounds and Charles Kam '18 at 285 -- led the way for the Raiders, who qualified 12 judoka for the HHSAA State Championships on Saturday, May 5, at the Stan Sheriff Center.









The girls team finished in third place, led by ILH champion Kari Tanji '19 at 109 pounds and three other state qualifiers. [Link for more info on state championships](#)

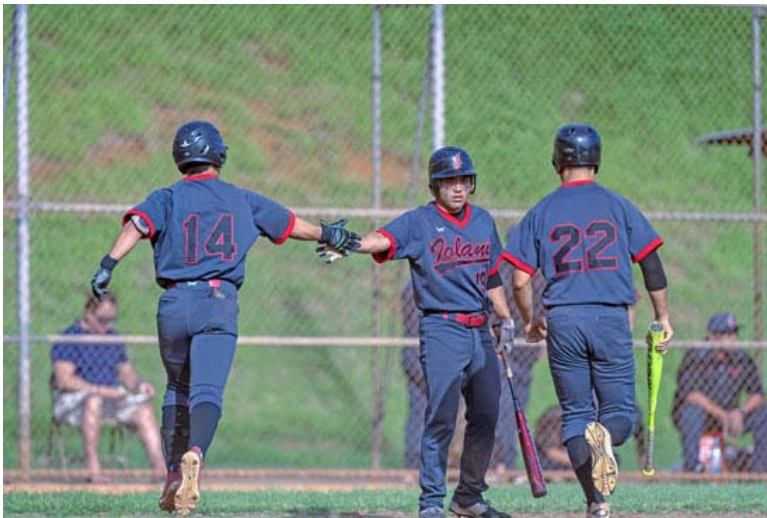
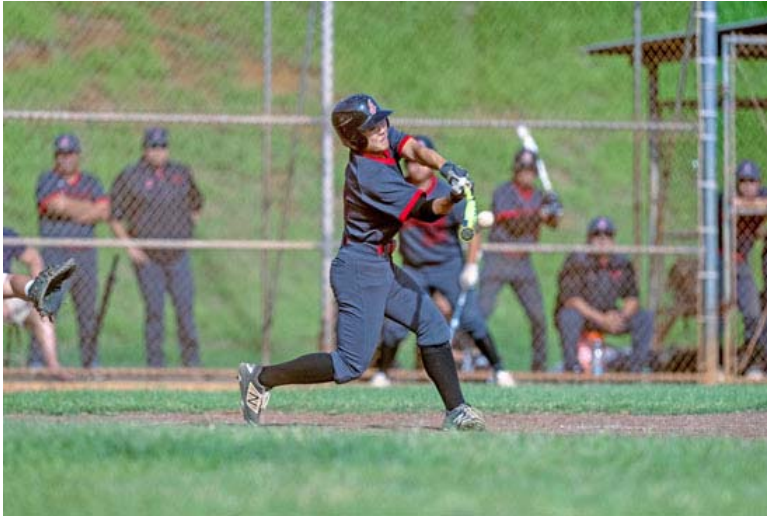
#### **Varsity Softball**

On Tuesday, the varsity softball team opened the ILH Tournament with a 15-8 victory over Mid-Pacific, which advanced them to a semifinal game against Punahou. Going into the final inning of that game on Thursday at Punahou, our girls trailed, 4-3. But Aleia Agbayani '19 hit a three-run home run and then pitched a scoreless bottom of the 7th to preserve the 6-4 win. That victory put our Raiders into the ILH Tournament championship game on Tuesday versus Maryknoll at Sand Island.



The winner of that game, which starts at 4 pm, will earn the league's second and final HHSAA state berth. Go Raiders!

#### Varsity Baseball



Our baseball team also had a come-from-behind win over Punahou on Thursday, scoring four runs in the bottom of the 7th to earn a 9-8 victory, which clinched second-place in the ILH this season. Our Raiders will begin play in the HHSAA State Championships on Tuesday, May 8, at Les Murakami Stadium. [Link for more info on state tournament](#)

All the best in health and happiness,  
Tim

—  
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