



**Mits Aoki Legacy Foundation  
6<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
&  
Scholarship Luncheon**



**Bringing Forth the Light  
Ka Lama Kū o ke Ao**

**The Standing Torch of Daylight**

Welcome back to the 6th Mits Aoki Legacy Foundation Annual Meeting for our Luncheon celebration and introduction of our brand-new scholarship program! Join us as we come together:

**RSVP  
Click  
Here**

**January 13, 2024**  
11:00 am to 2:30 pm  
Church of the Crossroads  
1212 University Ave, Honolulu, HI 96826



There is no cost to attend. Registration is required. Donations are accepted. RSVP by 1/6/2024.

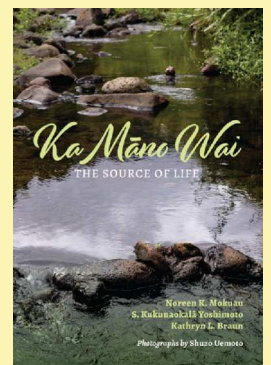
**2023 Mitsuo Aoki  
Community Service Awards**

We are pleased to announce this year's honorees Dr. Pat Nishimoto, FAAN, FT and Dr. Rae Seitz MD.



**Bringing Forth the Light Dialogue**

We are living in a time of uncertainty and great changes; seeking light. Join us to meet three amazing Hawaiian women who have dedicated their lives to lifelong learning and sharing knowledge of their Hawaiian culture with the world, honoring their kupuna and ancestors. Dr. Claire Hughes, Linda Kaleo Paik and Dr. Noreen Mokuau will dialog with us, and with one another.



**<https://mitsaokilegacyfoundation.org/>**

# Bringing Forth the Light

## Ka Lama Kū o ke Ao

January 13, 2024  
11:00 am to 2:30 pm

**The Standing Torch of Daylight** Church of the Crossroads  
RSVP by January 6, 2024

### Recognition of Community Service

We are honored to recognize the outstanding achievements of Dr. Pat Nishimoto, FAAN, FT and Dr. Rae Seitz, MD as our 2023 Mitsuo Aoki Community Service Award recipients.



**Dr. Patricia Nishimoto**, DNS, FAAN, FT recently retired as the Adult Oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist and Palliative Care Nurse at Tripler Army Medical Center where she worked as a civilian from 1986 to 2021. She also had an outstanding career as a US Army Reserve Nurse for 33 years and 10 months, humorously describing herself as “an old Army nurse”. “Dr. Pat” as she is affectionately called, is one of the most knowledgeable palliative care nurses in the state of Hawaii and has been sought out as a speaker here in Hawaii, nationally and internationally. She has trained thousands of professionals including interns, residents, fellows, nurses, psychologists and social workers. She has written numerous articles and book chapters related to care of oncology patients and their families, and has been intimately involved with research throughout her career. Dr. Pat actively participated with the American Cancer Society and developed the “Oncology on

Canvas” creative arts program allowing hundreds of people with cancer and their families to express their thoughts and emotions on their cancer journey through art. Her patients have been her teachers. Pat generously volunteers and gives back through the community with Kokua Mau, and multiple other organizations in Hawaii and nationally.



**Dr. Rae Seitz** has been a leader in Hawaii in the field of palliative care medicine for over 20 years since her graduation from the UH John Burns School of Medicine and her Faculty Scholar Program in palliative and hospice medicine at Harvard Medical School in 2001. Following her training she went on to become one of Hawaii’s first board certified palliative care specialists and has provided care to thousands of Hawaii’s individuals and families with serious illnesses through her medical practice and through the programs she designed and developed through Kaiser Permanente Hawaii and HMSA. She was instrumental in the implementation of the Our Care, Our Choice Act for Hawaii reducing the suffering of those choosing to have control over their final time of life. She has taught thousands in palliative care and end of life throughout Hawaii, nationally and internationally. She is a founding board member of Hawaii’s palliative and hospice care

organization. In 2013 she was of the top 30 visionaries in the field of Hospice and Palliative Medicine by the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine. As the CEO for Hui Pohala, she is leading the way to develop and train professionals from Hawaii to become knowledgeable and increasingly competent in the field of palliative care. She is a Consultant for I Kua Na’u “Let Me Carry Out Your Last Wishes”, Advance Care Planning for Native Hawaiian Elders.

### Recognition of Future Service

We are also honored to announce the “Dr. Reverend Mitsuo Aoki Scholarship” funding campaign to perpetuate his legacy of educating students and community members about holistic healing and end of life care. This scholarship is planned to be administered through the Hawaii Community Foundation.



<https://bit.ly/mits2024>



RSVP by 1/6/26 - either click on the link, go to our website, or use the QR code

# Bringing Forth the Light

## Ka Lama Kū o ke Ao

The Standing Torch of Daylight

January 13, 2024  
11:00 am to 2:30 pm

Church of the Crossroads  
RSVP by January 6, 2024

### Bringing Forth the Light and Wisdom Dialogue

Bringing forth the Light and Wisdom of old to benefit present and future generations our esteemed teachers and mentors, Dr. Claire Hughes, Linda Kaleo Paik and Dr. Noreen Mokuau will lead our dialogue about the importance of being rooted in one's culture, and looking to past ancestral knowledge, in order to know who we are now and using this awareness as a foundation, and as a compass, to grow into the future. Noreen co-authored, and Claire and Kaleo are featured in, a new book, [Ka Mano Wai: The Source of Life](#) published by University of Hawaii Press.



**Dr. Claire Ku'uleilani Hughes** has a lifelong commitment to improving our health by turning to Hawaiian foods. She is well recognized as a premier expert on the traditional Hawaiian diet and its implications for culturally relevant promotion of health. She has initiated, and collaborated on, numerous Hawaiian health initiatives. She worked with Dr. Kekuni Blaisdell and Dr. Emmett Aluli, whom she considers her teachers and mentors, on projects such as the Molokai Diet Study. She consulted with Dr. Terry Shintani on the Waianae Diet Program and the State of Hawaii Department of Health and the Native Hawaiian Health Care System. She was the first Native Hawaiian registered dietician in 1959, and first Native Hawaiian branch chief of the Nutrition Branch of the State of Hawaii, Department of Health. She is well known for her health column in *Ka Wai Ola* the newspaper of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. Dr. Hughes has been recognized with numerous awards for her life work in nutrition and the Hawaiian culture.



**Linda Kaleo Paik** is a Hawaiian cultural practitioner who loves to sing and uses her voice to also advocate for causes that she defines as “malama kupuna, care for the elders and ancestors, and malama àina, care for the land.” Growing up in South Kona, Kaleo learned Hawaiian ways and practices from her family, in particular from her father. One such complex practice is related to helping loved ones in the passing from life to death. In her family, she was chosen to carry on this practice and in accepting this kuleana she stated “the task is quite sacred in all its dimensions.” One aspect of this kuleana is her involvement with the Oahu Island Burial Council and cultural practices associated with repatriated iwi.



**Dr. Noreen Kehaulani Mokuau** Dr. Noreen Kehaulani Mokuau is Professor Emerita and Retired Dean of the Thompson School of Social Work & Public Health at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. She presently serves as an MPI, along with Dr. Jerris Hedges, of a National Institutes of Health grant on health disparities in Hawaii. Her life work is in educational and research excellence that uplifts and benefits the people of Hawaii, with a special interest in Native Hawaiians. Dr. Mokuau has edited three books, published numerous journal articles, book chapters and technical reports, and given many presentations on cultural competency and social services for Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders and Asian Americans. Her foundation has been her genealogical linkages to people and places. She believes when she gives talks that all of her family members, past, present and future, stand with her in the sharing of stories and information. She believes that our ancestral past holds deep reservoirs of information that can benefit people today and tomorrow.



# Mits Aoki Legacy Foundation

The purpose of the Mits Aoki Legacy Foundation is to make accessible the pioneering work of Reverend Dr. Mitsuo Aoki, and others, by teaching and promoting a holistic approach in the areas of health, healing, death and dying, to individuals, groups, organizations and institutions.

In his honor, the Foundation perpetuates his Mission by:

1. Teaching and promoting a holistic approach in the areas of health, healing, death and dying, to individuals, groups, organizations and institutions
2. Teaching persons to accept responsibility for their health and mobilizing their own health capacities
3. Assisting terminal patients to make wise use of a variety of healing and health-promoting practices
4. Providing a warm and supportive environment for the individual undergoing the dying process
5. Furthering the awareness within persons of their relationship to God and to their neighbors.

To access his work, please visit the following archives:

## Mitsuo Aoki Video Archive Collection

'Ulu'ulu: The Henry Ku'ualoha Giugni  
Moving Image Archive of Hawaii  
University of Hawai'i–West O'ahu



## Mitsuo "Mits" Aoki Digital Collection

University Records Archive  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Libraries



To find out more about the Foundation, please contact us directly:

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