

President's Message

Aloha Hawai'i State members!
Congratulations! You rose to the challenge!

In the last newsletter, I invited members to try something new and attend one of the online Hawai'i State events. As a result, we had two successful events in the last two months.

The Leadership Development Workshop in September registered over 80 chapter leaders from all 14 chapters. In October, we set a record for a statewide conference with over 130 members in attendance at the 2020 Fall Conference, hosted by Kappa Chapter. Although we missed seeing each other in person, most participants agreed this was an excellent alternative.

At the Conference, I shared the book, *Fortunately* by Remy Charlip, which I used to read to my students. The story takes us through the ups and downs of Ned's attempt to get to a surprise party. It is a good reminder that with each *unfortunate* event in our lives, there is usually some *fortunate* outcome.

Virtual meetings and conferences can not replace the connections and relationships we are accustomed to making with our Delta Kappa Gamma sisters at the chapter, state, and international levels. But, **fortunately**, this pandemic pushed us to explore new possibilities such as bigger breakout sessions, online training, and accommodations for participants from across the state and country. Let's continue to look for all the "fortunately" experiences in our lives and share them with others.

Remember, stay physically distanced but socially close to one another.

Aloha,



Lori Y. Furoyama, Hawai'i State President



Membership—The Heartbeat of Every Chapter

The pandemic has changed how we view our "normal" world! One constant is the fellowship with our DKG sisters. Therefore, it is important to do a wellness check of our membership to support each other. Equally important is developing a membership plan for the biennium and beyond.

The 2nd Vice Presidents are focused on helping their chapters expand and explore ways to reach out and support members. Sharing successes in distance learning, techniques in managing new virtual classrooms, and website resources can help reduce the stress of the new norm and level the learning curve of the current school year.

Hawai'i State has over 400 members. As chapters prepare to recruit and retain members, review the guidelines from International to ensure that members are enrolled in the correct classification.

Active: An individual employed as a professional educator, including paid graduate assistants, or retired from an educational position.

Reserve: Reserve shall be granted **only** to a member unable to fully participate because of physical disability and/or geographic location.

Honorary: An individual who has rendered notable service to education or to women and is elected in recognition of such service.

And our newest classification:

Collegiate: A junior or senior undergraduate or non-salaried graduate student enrolled in an institution offering an educational degree. International membership dues is \$20. There is no state or chapter fee. They may participate in society activities except holding office.

In this issue we begin introducing new members, and honoring our Blooming Roses, Red Roses, and in memoriam White Roses.

Sue Alivado, State 2nd Vice President

Attention: All Chapter 1st Vice Presidents and EEC Chairs

On November 21, 2020, at 1:00 p.m., mark your calendar for our Hawai'i State Strategic Action Plan (SAP) and Educational Excellence Committee (EEC) Meeting via Zoom.

The desired outcomes of the meeting are:

- 1) To network and build the relationships between chapter 1st vice presidents and SAP/EEC chairs.
- 2) To review the Hawai'i State Strategic Action Plan matrix, timelines, and available resources.
- 3) For representatives to share the draft of chapter SAP and EEC goals and targets.
- 4) To share questions or barriers as we pull together our chapter SAP/EEC Plans.

To help me know who is attending, please click [here](https://forms.gle/Z6xFdGBkMsCYFqo79) or on your internet browser go to <https://forms.gle/Z6xFdGBkMsCYFqo79>.

If you have questions, please contact me, Lisa Nagamine, at (808) 383-6213.

Lisa Nagamine, State 1st Vice President

Wanted: A Few Good Women!

Like the U.S. Marines, DKG Hawai'i State Organization is looking for a few good women! Needed are visionary and vibrant persons to serve as our Hawai'i State's President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, and Secretary for the 2021–2023 biennium.

Take up the challenge of leading an organization of 400-plus committed and creative women who impact education daily as teachers, administrators, and supporters of education. What better place to learn and hone leadership skills than in the embrace of our Society with mentorship by our seasoned and accomplished sisters. Learn and be challenged by the "new normal" of distance learning and virtual collaboration from our savvy techie members.

Please seriously consider becoming an officer. Or, if you know of someone who would make for a great candidate, encourage them to consider this opportunity. Nomination information and form are available (<https://dkghawaii.org/chapter-info>) in Society Business Forms. If there are any questions, please contact Nominations Committee Chair Sandy Domion of Epsilon Chapter.

Blooming Rose Award: An annual recognition of a member nominated by a chapter who has ten or fewer years of membership and who exhibits outstanding service to the Society.



Mohala Boncales of Mu Chapter, received our Blooming Rose honor for her

service in the area of technology. Mohala is our State Webmaster and assists in training at Leadership Development and fall and spring events. She has facilitated breakout sessions for International Conferences. Mohala gives of her time to the needs of DKG and incorporates her "Queen Bee" humor along the way. She is a Social Studies teacher at Mid-Pacific Institute.



Rho Chapter proudly introduces **Aimee Kasumi**, our Blooming Rose. Aimee started her career at Honaunau School as a teacher

for the hearing impaired and also taught kindergarten and computer courses. She retired from her position as resource teacher for the West Hawai'i Complex office.

Aimee joined Rho in 2017 and served as secretary and on the scholarship committee. She worked tirelessly raising funds to support a high school graduate pursuing teaching as a career. We are grateful for Aimee's dedication and commitment to Rho Chapter.



Jennifer Shiroma brought with her two friends from Wahiawa Elementary School when inducted into Kappa Chapter in

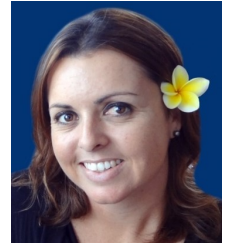
2016. All have been active since then. Jen took over treasurer responsibilities because of a change in our officers, served as O'ahu Coordinating Council Treasurer and Fall Conference 2020 Co-Chair, and attended the 2019 International Conference in Costa Mesa. A first grade teacher and mother of three boys, Jen supports her husband in all his endeavors. We are proud to have Jen as our Blooming Rose.

Rho Chapter Inducts Seven Members in October

We are grateful to have strong women who will use their voices to advance leadership and work collectively to improve education in our community, state, and beyond.

Although we are limited to virtual meetings, this has not stopped us from planning sessions that encourage relationship building, leadership development, and mutual support. We excitedly anticipate that our newest members along with all Rho members will positively contribute to the work of our chapter.

Monica Nonaka is a Grade 5 teacher at Konawaena Elementary. She is a mom of two boys and enjoys hula and gardening.



Kecia McDonald teaches at Kealakehe Intermediate. She loves to travel, was a Peace Corps volunteer, and is proud to serve Hawai'i public schools.



Joy Personius is a West Hawai'i Complex office resource teacher. She grew up in Kona and comes from a long line of women educators. Joy is passionate about the emotional wellness of our next generation!



Stephanie Yokoyama teaches at Kahakai Elementary. Born and raised in Kona, she returned to teach to give back to the community that made her who she is today. Stephanie grew up on a coffee farm with many animal friends throughout her life, from cats to dogs to geese to sheep, as well as a chinchilla, chickens, pigs, and a goat. Stephanie believes that everyone has potential to do great things when given the support they need, and that belief drives everything she does in her teaching.



Kaia Hiro is a first year teacher at Holualoa Elementary. Kaia was born and raised in Kona and graduated from UH Manoa.



Meet **Fern White**, West Hawai'i Complex Office Career and Technical Education Resource Teacher. Fern has her Masters of Arts in Teacher Leadership and is a National Board Certified Teacher in English Language Arts Young Adult Literacy. When not at work, Fern is a super Hawaiian Cowgirl, a certified Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship Instructor and a certified American Riding Instructor in three disciplines.

Lori Uchimura is a happily retired Kahakai Elementary Grade 5 teacher who is determined to become the best that she can be by fulfilling her plans to turn their property into an abundant, peaceful, and bountiful example of artful sustainability, which may someday be shared with schools, community, and social media, in hopes of encouraging young women, especially, to pursue their own passions



and learn that they can do anything they put their mind to do. Lori loves her spiritual growth, her family, friends, travel, reading, ikebana and floral design, gardening, cooking and nature!

Be a Ray of Hope—Mu Chapter's Biennium Theme

Mu Chapter reinstated **Donna Shigezawa**, Librarian at Salt Lake Elementary. Donna describes herself as a "jack of all trades." In her 35-year professional career, she has taught Grades 4, 5, and 6, Music and Physical Education IRA, and Gifted and Talented Writing, served as Student Council Advisor, assisted after-school programs, and took her chorus to California and the neighbor islands.



An Historic First

The Leadership Development (LD) Workshop on September 12 was a historical first for our Hawai'i State sisters. The pandemic opened an opportunity for the LD committee and host Lambda Chapter to plan a virtual workshop. Fortunately, with the support of skilled techies, we navigated polls, breakout rooms, screen sharing, chats, and even screen shots.

Positive, enthusiastic welcome by State

President Lori Furoyama. Lori shared supportive words of welcome and invited us to check out the new resources on the Society website, as well as our newly revised Hawai'i State website.

Focus on Leadership Style. The keynote presentation by Epsilon member Laure Burke and JoAnn Wong-Kam on the *Four Frames of Leadership* enhanced our knowledge of leadership styles and strategies to help us work successfully both professionally and personally.

Officer training sessions. State officers and chairs led breakout sessions for chapter leaders. Prior to the workshop, facilitators shared resources and guides through Google Docs for participants to preview. Many commented that this was very useful preparation for the session and enabled them to come ready with questions and concerns.

Time for Chapters to work on Strategic Action Plans. Guided by 1st VP Lisa Nagamine's overview of the design and function of the State Strategic Action Plan, each chapter worked on, then shared their ideas via a virtual Gallery Walk.

Creative breaks. Resources on the Society website and clips from the award winning documentary, *Rise of the Wahine: Champions of Title IX*, (which features honorary Epsilon member, Representative Patsy Mink, and Lambda charter member and UH Women's Athletics Director Donnis Thompson) were screened.

Uniting Finale. Led by Stephanie Conching, we closed our first virtual LD Workshop with our DKG song. Although we were alone in our homes or lanais, we felt very connected through this new medium, as evidenced by all the enthusiastic comments shared on the chat screen: "Wow, A first, Proud to be here, Thank you."

Anne Marie Duca
Leadership Development Chair

Congratulations!



Annette McComber, Zeta Chapter member and preschool teacher at Keaukaha Elementary in the Hilo-Waiakea Complex Area, is one of the sixteen finalists named Teacher of the Year.

Annette exemplifies the characteristics of an outstanding teacher: Guides students to achieve excellence, creates a culture of respect, connects with the community, demonstrates leadership skills and innovation, and is a lifelong learner.

Students and families love Kumu McComber: "...truly gifted as an educator. Her passion and love for her students is noticeable upon the moment you meet her."

Elsie Hu, a member of Hawai'i State for 56 years, received the Kumu Award at our Fall Conference. Asked why she has continued her long membership, Elsie writes,



"I have remained active in Kappa Chapter because its members are caring and ensure my success and that of others when we take on projects. We have honored beginning teachers in our schools, sewn face masks for students in our members' classrooms, and recently planned and executed the virtual state Fall Conference.

Having been introduced to Delta Kappa Gamma as a Future Teacher of America chapter member at a state tea, I in turn can nurture and mentor others through DKG activities."

Blue Ribbon School

Not once, not twice, but thrice! Liholiho Elementary received its third designation as a Blue Ribbon School, most recently in 2020.

Congratulations to Kappa Chapter member and teacher, **Naomi Salaveria**, Principal Christina Small, and her entire staff for all they do to earn this well-deserved recognition. They are truly dedicated to the students.

DKG Fine Arts Gallery

Soo Boo Tan, a Mu Chapter Red Rose, received recognition from DKG Society



International's Art and Humanities Gallery. Judges accepted her two photography submissions *Papaya and Moon* and *Deconstructed Ikebana*.

Jurors also accepted **Lori Furoyama's** (Mu) essay *Cheerbook 2020* in the Writing category and **Darlene Oshiro's** (Theta) visual *Tribal Art* in the Mixed Media category. Visit the Fine Arts Gallery from November 15, 2020 to May 15, 2021 at <http://gallery.dkg.org/> to view their creative work.

Hawai'i State Scholarships for 2021 Academic Year

The Lucille Hodgins Selective Recruitment Grant for \$1000 is available to those who are enrolled in a Hawai'i university or college and pursuing a career in education.

Two scholarships for active members are the Josephine Day award for up to \$1000 for those pursuing National Board Certification and the Eva Phillip Curry stipend for up to \$500 to support professional improvement or to fund a school or community project.

Electronic application information for all scholarships will be posted to the Hawai'i State website. Deadline is January 31, 2021.

Highlights of 2020 Fall Conference

Hawai'i State held a successful, first-ever virtual conference because of the efforts of many state officers and Kappa Chapter members working up front and behind the scenes.

The theme of the conference was *Mālama—Caring for Ourselves, Our Sisters, and the Society*. Alice Inoue, our keynote speaker and founder of Happiness U, and the presenters of the breakout sessions appropriately addressed the concerns of these pandemic times.

Overall comments from the attendees included:

"I'd rather be [there] in person, but for now, this is awesome! Neighbor island folks can't always afford (time and money) to travel to O'ahu, so this is a really nice alternative."

"I thought the options for breakout sessions and the keynote speaker made this a very successful virtual conference!"

"Feeling a bit more confident with Zoom."

"Amazing what we can do with technology."

Photos of our precious Blooming Roses from nine chapters ran continuously during the break. Congratulations to Mohala Boncales, our State Blooming Rose!

Alice Inoue spoke on a *Positive Mindset for the New Normal*. Members commented that her presentation was "Very refreshing and inspiring," and "I'm excited to apply the mindset to not only my life, but to also share with my students who are obviously carrying stress!"

The topics and presenters of the seven breakout sessions and attendee feedback were:

Using Blackboard as an Online Course Management Tool by Sandra Maruyama and Lena Kanemori, Kappa Chapter. "Speakers were very knowledgeable and content was very interesting."

What's Your Word? The MyIntent Project by Cindy Asato-Kochi, Gamma Chapter. "Enjoyed this because it was new to me. Can see how it can be a great way to show students (anyone, really) how to self-reflect, how to focus, the power of words and the power of suggestion."

E Ola Ka'ike Hawai'i (Hawaiian Knowledge Lives) by Alexis Keikilani Meyer, Zeta Chapter. "Awesome job and resources provided that I will use for personal and professional learnings."

Stress Management Strategies by Corinne Matsumoto, Beta Chapter. "I felt the most de-stressed I have felt in the last two weeks!"

The Art of Self Care by Deanne Kanekuni, Theta Chapter. "Advice I can really use now. I want to share the handout with my relatives!"

Build the Mindset to Overcome Adversity by Terri Wada. "Dove-tailed nicely with keynote speaker's talk. Enjoyed her high energy presentation with just enough participation by attendees."

From Farm to Table by Nolan Uyeda and Jennifer Shiroma, Kappa Chapter. "So many good tips and recipes. I'm starting today!"