

# THE SCHOOL NEWS

Next  
Parish  
News issue,  
April 21

## 1 HONOLULU

### Sacred Hearts Academy Lower School

After notching strong performances throughout the season and at the **Hawaii State VEX** (robotics education and competition) championships, four of our VEX IQ teams qualified for the VEX IQ World competition April 23-25 in Kentucky. **Peter Park** is the advisor. Of the 550 championship slots available for teams from around the world, 24 were secured by Hawaii teams. Six of our teams, two on the middle school level and four in the elementary competition, qualified to vie for the state title on Feb. 20. When the results from the state competition and throughout the season were tallied, the Academy teams earned world championship spots. **Aureann Vendiola** and **Abigayle Vendiola** finished in second place for the state's overall elementary championship and won the Robot Skills Award. **Lauren Kealoha**, **Reese Machida** and **Sophia Ramos** earned the State Build Award. **Gabrielle Castro**, **Sara Inao** and **Sadie Takaki** qualified based upon season standings. At the middle school level, the trio of **Kammie Ardo**, **Ayla Hakikawa** and **Nanami Mehring** took the Energy Award for enthusiasm and earned a spot in the world competition for the second consecutive year. (Reported by Hayley Matson-Mathes)



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EDITOR'S CHOICE



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## 2 PEARL CITY

### Our Lady of Good Counsel School

Our school values **art education**. Activities that foster creativity are some of the building blocks of child development. Art teachers **Gus Morcate** and **Alyce Dodge** guide students through basic and complex artistic techniques. The school shared a special **Mahalo Art Show** with their church parishioners. It was complete with fellowship refreshments, clay exploration, and wonderful student art displays. Families, teachers, and parishioners showed outstanding support for the school by stopping by to view the work of the children! The community thanks its faculty, staff, and parents who helped to set up and serve! (Reported by Chantelle Enos)



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## 3 HONOLULU

### Saint Louis School

Congratulations to the **St. Louis Serenaders** who performed at the **Hawaii Catholic Schools Choir Festival**. The group of six young men were proud to sing loudly and proudly in their historic, inaugural participation at the annual event. St. Louis opened a kindergarten through fifth grade lower school in the Fall of 2016. (Reported by Michael Paekukui)

## 4 WAIALAE-KAHALA

### Star of the Sea Early Learning Center

Girls show off their dolls at the **Girl's Day Celebration** on March 3. (Reported by Mariam Lazar)

## 5 HONOLULU

### Holy Family Catholic Academy

Our **early learning center students** from the **Lambs class** put forth a strong team effort to assist in campus cleanup chores. Each week a different grade level, pre-kindergarten through eighth, takes on the responsibility to keep our school grounds neat and orderly for the enjoyment of the entire community. It is a labor of love! God bless our little Lambs. (Reported by Christina Malins; photo by Audry Boyle)

## 6 KAILUA

### St. Anthony School

Our school choir did a wonderful job at the **Hawaii Catholic Schools Choral Festival** at **Maryknoll Schools**. "Ode to Mary" was the theme. Our 30 students sang "Our Hawaiian Madonna" and "E Na Lima Hana" led by our music teacher **Mr. Kepa Stern**. All the students did a wonderful job and

sang angelically. ... On April 22 we will have a **Green Gala and Silent Auction**, 6-9:30 p.m., in the school courtyard. The **PTSG** is helping us become a more sustainable and green campus. Great auction items, wine and beer, heavy pupus and top entertainment are planned. Come and join us. ... The **fourth graders** took their annual trip to the Big Island of Hawaii. They plan and research the first half of the school year so that they are well prepared for all of the adventures they get to experience. Mahalo to the teachers and chaperones who accompanied them: **Mrs. Nicole Peterson**, **Ms. Casey Engelhardt**, **Mr. Willie Quinn** and **Mr. David Cosier**. The students really enjoyed the night crater viewing, bowling, Puukohala Heiau as well as the numerous other activities they had. ... Spring break is March 20-27 and Easter break will be April 14, Good Friday and April 17, Easter Monday. A happy and blessed

Easter season to all. (Reported by Patricia Barros)

## 7 KAPAA

### St. Catherine School

Our **fifth graders** have completed two very interesting science units this quarter. They studied biomes, ecosystems and habitats the first half. On March 2, they met **two biologists** that work on the Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands. They went to Major's Bay and discussed shearwater habitats while being shown around the bay. After dinner at Shenanigans, they met with **Pastor James** and astronomers from the **Kauai Educational Association for Science and Astronomy** to complete their unit on stars and the universe. It was "out of this world!" The astronomers worked with our fifth graders to explore objects in space. They saw planetary nebulas, spiral galaxies, major stars, Venus and Mars, carbon stars,

and numerous constellations. It was a late night but worth every minute! ... On Feb. 13, our pastor, **Father Anthony Rapozo**, blessed our **new school bus** that has been generously donated by **Akita Enterprises**. ... On Feb. 28, high school students, teachers, seminarian **Romple Emwalu**, Father Anthony and **Father Moses** had a **Mardi Gras luncheon** before entering the season of Lent. This wonderful event was under the direction of **Mrs. Maria Ballesteros**, director of St. Catherine High School program. ... Under the direction of our art teacher **Mrs. Andrea Corbo**, our students created artwork that will be on display at the **Kauai Museum 57th Annual Student Art Festival**, March 9-May 5, where locals and tourists can enjoy students' talents. In addition, when parents came to attend Student Led Conferences, they could enjoy a stroll through the evolution of art history. Each class had on display a particular period of art with their very own art work inspired by the respective period. (Reported by Andrea Corbo and Patricia Doherty)

## 8 HILO

### St. Joseph School

Elementary school librarian **Ann Wilson** organized the school's **Geography Bee**. We are proud to announce that seven students participated in the 29th annual **National Geographic School Bee** on Jan. 25. The event is sponsored by the **National Geographic Society** for students in the fourth through eighth grade. Our students usually begin preparing for the bee in September by researching and studying practice questions from the National Geographic Bee website. The winner of this year's school bee was eighth grader **Lillian Salvador-Smith**. Congratulations to Lillian and all of the participants! The other students who participated were **Eva Chupity** (sixth), **Kyra Bockrath** (eighth), **Destiny Chase** (eighth), **Owen Misajon** (fourth), **Stephen Connolly** (fourth) and **Kayliah Whittington-Ramirez** (sixth). (Reported by Fayth Paekukui)

## KEKAHA

### St. Theresa School

The **Schoolwide Learning Expectations (SLE) Awards** were announced for February! The following learners exemplified kindness, compassion, hard work and gratitude for our SLE of dignity and rights of workers. Preschool, **Kailana Lau**; kindergarten, **Ella Ventura**; first grade, **Kawena Ruiz**; second grade, **Anu Karratti**; third and fourth grades, **Cooper Bell**; fifth and sixth grades, **Madeline Winsley**; seventh and eighth grades, **Braeanna Moises**. This is our school's highest award. By living our SLEs and making them real, we can accomplish anything we set our mind to. Congratulations to all these learners! (Reported by Chantal A. Duarte)

## 9 KAILUA

### St. John Vianney School

Our school was visited by an **accreditation team** that gave us

excellent reviews, however we will know more once the commission convenes later this school year. The accreditation team was escorted on a tour of our campus by students on their first day in the rain, and that evening was entertained by our amazing choir at a welcome dinner! An accurate self-study document was provided to the team, thanks to all for the input and feedback from parents, teachers and students. Mahalo also to our PTSH and school board members for meeting with the visiting team and for their constant support of our school. Pictured are visiting team members from left, **Chantelle Luarca** (Our Lady of Good Counsel School), **Mrs. DeMello, Kay Purcell** (chairperson, Archdiocese of Seattle), **Therese Ko** (St. Patrick School), **Laci Hitchcock** (Mary, Star of the Sea School) and **Sheila Worley** (Maryknoll School). ... Our fourth graders participated in the **National Association for Family and Community Education's National FCE Essay and Artwork Contest**. The fourth graders wrote and submitted essays on this year's theme "Caring Character Counts." Awards were presented to all of the participants on March 9 at morning assembly. Congratulations to **Kulai Schuman** who placed second in the county division! ... The **SJV Country Fair** will take place on May 5, and the committee is asking for help with donations for the silent auction and raffles. Also needed are crafts and specialty items to sell in the Country Store. For more information, please contact the school office at 261-4651. (Reported by Earl Walker)



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**10 HONOLULU**

**Sacred Hearts Academy High School**

Senior and the student council president **Raelynn Chu** was selected by the **Girl Scouts of Hawaii** as one of four Hawaii delegates to the 61st session of the **Commission on the Status of Women's Conference** in New York City, March 10-17. The prestigious conference took place at the United Nations where Chu shared the youth point-of-view related to critical global women's rights issues. The academy continues to develop girls of confidence, courage and character to make the world a better place. The Commission on the Status of Women is a global intergovernmental body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women. ... Our school celebrated **National Engineers Week** Feb. 24 with representatives from the **Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Pacific**. The 13 engineers presented interactive activities and shared their professional roles. Highlights of these exercises included building bridges using papers and pennies to test structural soundness; using models and book references while constructing the tallest structure possible using only spaghetti and marshmallows; and conducting asset management and space planning using Lego and Pokeman figures. NAVFAC representatives staged a fun competition with our students encouraging careers in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) professions. (Reported by Hayley Matson-Mathes)

**11 WAIALUA**

**St. Michael School**

On March 6, the students celebrated **Father Lusius** birthday. The students enjoyed making cards and giving him leis. The **eighth grade class** also presented Father with an acrostic poem. He even bought the students vanilla and chocolate cake to celebrate. Father enjoyed the time he spent with the students on his special day. (Reported by Sandra Franks)

**12 WAILUKU**

**St. Anthony Grade School**

**Dr. Seuss' Birthday/Read Across America** was celebrated on March 2 at our school. The **third graders** read their favorite Dr. Seuss book to the kindergarteners. The event ended with the students having a taste of "Green Eggs and Ham." Pictured from left, **Shaylee Ramos, Richard Hoopii, Cayla Medeiros, Ethan Whitcomb, Kolton Souza**, and reading, **Alyssa Imbo**. (Reported by Melodie Tafao)

**13 HONOLULU**

**St. Anthony School**

We thank God for a successful accreditation March 5-8, using the Improving Student Learning (ISL) Protocol. This is the fifth accreditation of the school; the previous ones were in 1993,

1999, 2005, 2011. We thank the members of the **Western Catholic Educational Association (WCEA)** and **Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)** visitation team, front from left, **Stephanie Conching, Dr. Elizabeth Guneratne** (chairperson), **Michael Paekukui**, and **Thomas Pangilinan**. Seated with them in the front row is **Dr. Michael Rockers**, Catholic schools superintendent. Also in the photo are faculty and staff members **Sister Jennifer Dayday, SPC**, (grade eight/leadership team member); **Sister Victoria Lavente, SPC**, (principal/grade two); **Sister Josefina Coronado** (grade six/leadership team member), **Ms. Lovey Ann De Rego**, associate superintendent, **Mrs. Corazon Aczon** (grade three/leadership team coordinator), **Miss Camille Sarmiento** (grade four); **Sister Anielyn Delicana, SPC** (kindergarten/leadership team member); **Mrs. Josephine Narciso** (grade one); **Mr. Lito Taylan** (grade five); **Mrs. Joanne Calaycay** (grade seven); **Mrs. Profita Espiritu** (staff), and **Father Arnel Soriano, MS**. (pastor). Many individuals and groups, the pastor, principal, faculty, staff, parents, students, alumni, the school advisory board, the Parents Teachers Guild, the Parish Pastoral Council, and the parishioners

contributed to the success of the accreditation. God bless us all! (Reported by Corazon Aczon)

**14 WAIPAHU**

**St. Joseph School**

Every year all the classes at our school sponsor school and parish Masses. On March 3, the **third grade class** sponsored the **First Friday school Mass**. Students are actively involved in the liturgy by being lectors, singers, gift bearers and commentators. After communion, the third grade class sang and danced to the song "The Power of Your Love." (Reported by Keala Kia)

**15 MAKAWAO**

**St. Joseph Early Learning Center**

The teaching staff led the second

day of a novena leading up to the feast day of our parish and school patron saint on March 20. The parish and school rejoiced with a Mass celebrated with **Msgr. Gary Secor**, an installation of a newly elected **pastoral council and stewardship committee** as well as a blessing of individual families' **St. Joseph** statues. The Mass was followed by a potluck dinner in the parish gym. Pictured from left in front of the statue of **St. Joseph** are preschool teachers **Renette Koa, Helen Souza, Alicia Cordeiro** and **Arnedo Wilson**. (Reported by Helen Souza; photo by Earl Lamadora)

**16 EWA BEACH**

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help School**

The **student government officers** and their advisers planned a school-wide event where students and teachers got in the spirit of celebrating as a family with food, music and games for **Mardi Gras (Fat Tuesday)**. So, on Tuesday, Feb. 28, grades **kindergarten through five** participated in line dancing, while **grades six through eight** participated in a semi-formal dance and played some games. Students and their parents were encouraged to participate in the festivities and to bring some of their delicious foods to share for class potlucks. During the potluck, classes watched movies, recesses were extended, and friends from various grade levels could eat, talk stories, and play together. (Reported by Crystal Kaaikala)

**17 HONOLULU**

**Chaminade University**

Student **Sheehan Chase** created a journal of his grandmother's life that was so impressive, he started a business. He now owns "Tale to Tell." In 2013, Chase began writing the biography of his grandmother through her stories, photos and mementos. "I got so much positive feedback that the entrepreneurial seeds were planted," Chase said. To cultivate his entrepreneurial spirit, he joined Chaminade's **Hogan Entrepreneurs Program** where he was urged by advisors and mentors to develop a prototype of his grandmother's journal. Chase prepared his grandmother's book with her oral history and showcased it to the Hogan advisory board where he connected with his first client. In December 2016, he launched his business "Tale to Tell." As a communication major, he was able to blend the telling of a good story with a business niche. In January, Chase was one of the state's top finalists in the Global Student Entrepreneur Awards. (Reported by Stacey Higa)

