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## Girls Got Grit participants conclude second year



This year's Girls Got Grit participants prep to present their culminating project which was devised under the guidance and mentorship of some Hawai'i's prominent female business and community leaders.

*The 36 Academy members of the "Girls Got Grit" (GGG) program wrapped up their year-long efforts during a special "unveiling" of their culminating projects on April 11 and 12.*

Comprising five teams, the GGG participants in grades 10 to 12 were chosen for the prestigious program based on their achievements in- and out-of-the-classroom and their leadership qualities.

These students worked and studied with prominent female mentors from various business entities throughout February and March. These successful professionals encompass a myriad of field expertise ranging from healthcare to hospi-

tality, engineering to finance, media to marketing and more.

These mentors worked with their student teams to brainstorm and devise a stellar fundraising program tailored for an organization like the Academy.

At the two-day unveiling finale in April, each GGG team officially "pitched" their fundraising plan for an audience of fellow students and prominent donors and business and community leaders.

The overall "winner" of this year's GGG campaign was named at a culminating luncheon.

At this time, the participants expressed their gratitude to their mentors, who dedicated a great deal of time and energy into imparting their wisdom to the next generation.

In September, the GGG participants will experience two possible internships with prominent businesses in the community.

## From the Head of School

### HELPING GIRLS DEVELOP GRIT



One of the newest initiatives at Sacred Hearts is the Girls Got Grit (GGG) Mentorship Program. This program connects local, professional female business leaders with Academy students in grades 10 to 12 to provide job mentoring, skill-building, leadership development, networking opportunities and internships to prepare them to become future leaders in the workforce.

This program, with outstanding support from Shelley Cramer, a parent and Board member, gives our students an opportunity to develop a broader perspective of how to be a globally-minded citizen. GGG gives students an alternative perspective, a unique source of wisdom and genuine support.

During the past two years, the Academy has worked with approximately 20 community mentors, and to each, we extend a resounding "thank you" for your commitment to empowering, educating and investing in adolescent girls.

This year, 36 girls in GGG are being mentored by these community leaders: Jasmin Rodriguez, Castle Medical Center; Kristina Lockwood, KHON 2; Shelley Wilson, Wilson Care Group; Kat Lin-Hurtubise, Gourmet Events Hawai'i; Martha Smith, Kapiolani Medical Center; Gail Lerch, Hawai'i Pacific Health; Sharon Brown and Alethea Seto, First Hawaiian Bank; Dr. Angela Pratt, Kapiolani Medical Center; and Amanda Stevens, Susan G. Komen Hawai'i.

*Betty White*

## Aspiring scientists study animal systems in-depth

The juniors and seniors in *Erin Flynn's Advanced Placement Biology* course concluded the final segment of a series of four labs during their study of animal systems.

Prior to this final activity on April 5, the students had dissected and closely examined a lamprey, mudpuppy and pigeon before delving into their final sample, a fetal pig.

These dissections allow the students, including (*below*) *Kimberly Wong* and *Sakurako Ichinohe*, to see the material covered in their textbooks "come to life." The labs also gave them a better understanding of how all organic systems work together to enable each animal species to function efficiently and effectively.

The four varied types of species used in each dissection allowed the students to compare how the systems of each differed largely due to the dynamics of evolution. And, they discovered that "form fits function," with each type of animal system uniquely developed according to its environment and lifestyle.

During the lab, the students calculated the body mass of the heart and brain and the total percentage of body length of the digestive tract. They also explored the sample's varied organ systems, including the circulatory, respiratory and nervous systems.





## Ka Leo newspaper staff amasses State accolades

The year-long efforts of the staff of the *Ka Leo*, the Academy's online newspaper, was rewarded with a myriad of State honors received at this year's *Hawai'i High School Journalism Awards* on April 19 at the Pagoda Hotel Ballroom.

Overall, the *Ka Leo* newspaper came up just short of the top honor for "Best in State," finishing second in judging behind Hawai'i Baptist Academy.

Evaluated among all public and private schools, the Academy journalists also won first place in the *Writing* and *Photo* categories and was second in the judging of *Online* details.

They also amassed a number of State "best" accolades, including the areas of:

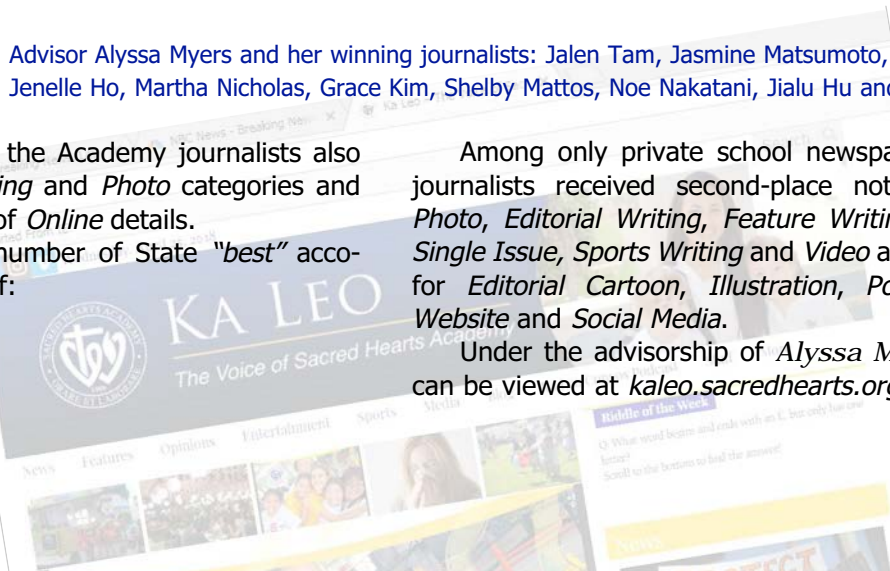
- *Blog;*
- *Column Writing;*
- *Infographic;*
- *Multimedia;*
- *Photo Essay;*
- *Profile Writing.*



Advisor Alyssa Myers and her winning journalists: Jalen Tam, Jasmine Matsumoto, Rebecca Meyer, Jenelle Ho, Martha Nicholas, Grace Kim, Shelby Mattos, Noe Nakatani, Jialu Hu and Taylor McKenzie.

Among only private school newspapers, the *Ka Leo* journalists received second-place notoriety for *Action Photo, Editorial Writing, Feature Writing, News Writing, Single Issue, Sports Writing* and *Video* and was third place for *Editorial Cartoon, Illustration, Portrait Photo* and *Website* and *Social Media*.

Under the advisanship of *Alyssa Myers*, the *Ka Leo* can be viewed at [kaleo.sacredhearts.org](http://kaleo.sacredhearts.org).

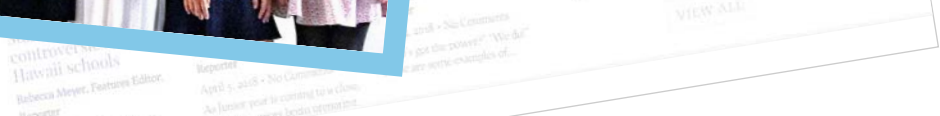


## Speakers express themselves stellarly at tournament



At the *Punahou Speech Tournament* on April 7, the Academy's Lower School participants eloquently performed their pieces and were awarded with a second-place finish overall among the 15-school field.

Also, 11 speakers, (left with Advisor *Clarie Thompson*) excelled and received three or more "Superiors" for their outstanding performances!



## Cyber security expert shares how financial institutions follow money

Sparked by an increased awareness of the importance of cyber security, the Academy sponsored an intriguing discussion with a financial digital expert on April 5.



*Karen Silvers*, a forensic accountant with *U.S. Bank*, shared *“Following the Money: How Banks Use Patterns to Fight Crime”* with about 60 students, including (above with *Silvers*) *Aubree Davis*, and faculty.

During the informative presentation, *Silvers* covered the facets comprising money laundering, details about the USA Patriot Act and other financial regulations in this area, penalties institutions face for non-compliance and methods used by banks to detect and deter criminal activities.

*Silvers* also covered the career possibilities available in the growing anti-money laundering compliance field and the role that more diligent digital forensics could have played in detecting and prevent the events of 9/11.



## Senior honored for technology efforts

For her stellar accomplishments in cyber security and computer science and her enthusiasm and positive character, senior *Ashley Zhang* (above with Academy Cyber Advisor *Deborah Kula*), was recognized as *“Student of the Month”* in April.

This award was bestowed by the *Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association-Hawai'i Chapter* which recognizes a deserving student in the State each month.



## Student earns prestigious award

Senior *Mahea Sims-Tulba* received additional recognition for her outstanding community service efforts, recently earning the prestigious *Violet Richardson Award* from *Soroptimist International*.

This accolade is given to young women between the ages of 14 to 17 who engage in volunteer action which makes their communities better places.

*Sims-Tulba* (left with College Counselor *Randall Fong* and her parents, *Kimberly Tulba* and *Augie Tulba*) built on her experience prior to joining the Academy to build an innovative, informative and helpful anti-bullying program which has reached and impacted thousands of Hawai'i students.