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Celebrations mark closure of Academy seniors' tenure

“GOD LED US HERE THROUGH
THE UPS AND THE DOWNS.
RUNNING FAST, WE HIT THE
GROUND.
TAUGHT US TO STAND STRONG
AND HOW TO FACE THE WORLD.
NOTHING CAN COMPARE
TO THE FRIENDS WE'VE MADE.
HOW WE'VE GROWN AND
HOW WE'VE CHANGED.
DON'T KNOW WHAT
THE FUTURE HOLDS
BUT WE ARE READY
TO CHANGE THE WORLD.

– “Change the World” by Agnes Brown, '19

WITH THE FINAL BELL OF THE SCHOOL YEAR ON MAY 22, 101 SENIORS OFFICIALLY BEGAN THE COUNT-DOWN ON THE CULMINATION OF THEIR HIGH SCHOOL EXPERIENCES AT THE ACADEMY.

After their **Commencement Exercises** on May 25, every member of the **Class of 2019** will join thousands of others as they pack their bags – ready to face the challenges of college. They have been accepted to schools such a *Cal Poly Tech–San Luis Obispo*, *Creighton University*, *New York University*, the *University of San Diego* and the *University of Washington*. Others will travel to campuses closer to home in the *University of Hawai'i* system and at *Chaminade* and *Hawai'i Pacific Universities*.

No matter where they are headed, these students leave the Academy armed with a firm academic foundation and are motivated to make the world a better place not just for themselves, but others as well, and **“Change the World!”**



From the Head of School

BIDDING ALOHA TO CLOSE SCHOOL YEAR

It has been a joy to share with you on a weekly basis the wonderful activities and programs of the Academy. As you read this final e-Parentline for the school year, we are heading into the busiest weekend of the school year – Commencement on Saturday and the Alumnae Reunion on Sunday.



We bid our fondest "aloha" to the Class of 2019, whose accomplishments in academics, athletics, leadership and spiritual development are substantial and make us very proud. We feel confident that the school has provided them with a structure that has prepared them well as they move to the next phase of their formal education.

Many alumnae will be with us during this Graduation weekend. As I talk to them, it turns out that what mattered most to them, while they were here, still matters to our current students.

Indeed, from the time the Academy opened over 110 years ago until today, the goals are still the guiding principles that govern our actions and work – developing not only academics, including the arts and athletics, but also, the heart, in a vibrant and caring community that reaches out to needs of society.

Enjoy a few free days before our Summer Sessions Programs begin on June 10. However, offices will be staffed throughout the summer.

On behalf of the Sisters and staff, I thank you for your faithful support of the Academy during this past school year.

Betty White

Red Carpet rolled out for videographers

The "stars" of the **Lower School Digital Media Club's (DMC)** enjoyed their night in the spotlight at the annual **Red Carpet** Event on May 17 in the Auditorium!

Over 150 family, friends, educators and supporters joined the 22 members of the DMC in grades four to six for this gala evening event to celebrate their hard work and accomplishments throughout the year.

Along with hot popcorn, the audience viewed the best videos produced by each of the individual members – along with a reel of some "behind-the-scenes" action!

The event also was interactive, with the audience voting for the video they deemed "most outstanding."

After ballots were tallied, **Head of School Betty White** was honored to announce the three top vote-getters – the **"People's Choice Awards."**

Elizabeth Murakami's "Twelve Ways To Enter a Door" took third; **Hailey Kim's** "Happier" scored second; the top spot went to "The Alpaca Song" by **Rachelle Narciso** and **Lilah Kuhia**.

Each DMC member also received an "Oscar" and a meritorious certificate for their year's dedication and efforts.

The DMC, under the guidance of **Laurel Oshiro**, works towards helping young, aspiring videographers create movies aimed at making Hawai'i a better place.



Eighth graders transition to next phase of educational journey

“**LIKE A SHIP BLOWN
FROM ITS MORINGA
BY A WIND OFF
THE SEA.
LIKE A SEED DROPPED
BY A BIRD
IN THE WOOD.
WHO CAN SAY IF
I’VE BEEN CHANGED
FOR THE BETTER?
I DO BELIEVE I HAVE
BEEN CHANGED
FOR THE BETTER.
BECAUSE I KNEW YOU I
HAVE BEEN CHANGED
FOR GOOD...**

– “For Good” by
Stephen Schwartz

On May 3, the Academy’s 72 eighth graders celebrated the completion of their tenure in **Junior High** and expressed their appreciation for one another during a poignant **Rite of Passage** ceremony.

Held annually, this Rite also marks the transition of the eighth graders to the next phase on their educational and life journey – **High School**.

Friends and family members joined the students in the Saint Margaret Mary Chapel for this year’s Rite, which featured student testimonials about the triumphs and challenges of the past and words of wisdom for facing the future and a special hula performance of “Nani Wai ‘Ale ‘Ale” by members of the class.

Advisor Kaycie Baltanado and **Head of School Betty White** presented the students with their memento booklet and pins to wear next school year.

The special evening closed with the eighth graders singing “For Good” which summarizes the bonds the classmates share.



Sixth graders close out Lower School tenure and "fly-up"

“**THERE OUGHT TO BE A TIME THAT WE CAN SET ASIDE TO SHOW JUST HOW MUCH WE LOVE YOU. AND I’M SURE YOU WOULD AGREE WHAT COULD FIT MORE PERFECTLY THAN TO HAVE A WORLD PARTY ON THE DAY YOU CAME TO BE. HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU...**

– “Happy Birthday” by Stevie Wonder

The Academy’s sixth graders engaged in a number of special activities, celebrating the culmination of their experience in the Lower School and movement to **Junior High**.

On May 21, over 60 parents and family members joined the students for the class’ end-of-the-year luncheon at C’est Si Bon in honor of this transition, compared to another “birthday” of sorts.

Each student honored on-stage with her “birthday candle,”

with each homeroom teacher sharing something special about each and expressing personalized wishes for a bright future in the years ahead.

For this special celebration, the sixth graders also performed a special song, **“Happy Birthday”** before enjoying birthday cake.

The following day, May 22, the sixth graders joined their seventh grade counterparts for **“Fly-Up Day,”** with activities to help them transition to the Academy’s Junior High.



Third graders explore Oahu's diverse cultural sites during tour

“AH, WHAT A
BEAUTIFUL DAY TO
GO FISHIN’
THE OLD
HAWAIIAN WAY.
AND THE HUKILAU
NETS WERE SWISHIN’
DOWN IN OLD
LAIE BAY.
OH WE’RE GOIN’ TO
THE HUKILAU.
EVERYBODY LOVES
THE HUKILAU
WHERE THE LAULAU
IS THE KAUKAU
AT THE LU’AU...
OH WE’RE GOIN’ TO
THE HUKILAU...”

– “Hukilau” by Jack Owens

During a whirlwind, overnight “**Tour**,” the Academy’s third graders traveled to the far corners of Oahu, stopping to explore some of the Island’s key cultural and environmentally-rich sites.

The travelers departed campus early on May 9 for the two-day trip, which included:

- > Getting a primer about one of the Island’s flourishing crops at the **21 Degrees Estate Cacao Farm** and learning how bees aid in cacao growth, which is transformed into chocolate.
- > Learning the art and technique for proper *Lei Po’o* and *Haku lei*-making at **Senator Fong’s Plantation and Gardens**.
- > Exploring the history and practices implored by the ancient Hawaiians to fish and propagate food resources at **Kahana Bay** not only for sustenance, but for making medicine as well.
- > Obtaining “hands-on” – and “feet-on” – experience tending and caring for a taro patch at **Na Mea Kupono Lo’i Kalo** in Waialua.
- > Going on an iPad-aided scavenger hunt and enjoying the “*Menehune Mischief Character Dinner Buffet*” at **Aulani Disney Resort and Spa**, the group’s lodging for overnight.
- > And, off course, no trip around Oahu is complete without a stop to “cool off” at Aoki’s **Shave Ice** on the North Shore!

