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Academy singers perform with Honor Choir



The ultimate goal of the Western American Choral Directors' Association (WACDA) Honor Choirs is to bring deserving and talented singers together for a "mountaintop" experience which includes outstanding choral literature and guidance from world-class conductors.



Fourteen talented Academy singers in grades six to nine were thrilled to participate as members of the prestigious 2018 **WACDA Honor Choir** from March 14 to 17 in Pasadena's Civic Auditorium.

They joined hundreds of other students, chosen from over 1,000 singers from across the nation who submitted audition tapes, which included displaying mastery of singing the "scale," to an elite judging panel.

The first three days of the experience entailed working with renowned clinician **Jessica Napoles** to hone skills and prep a number of

pieces for performing.

The preparation culminated on Saturday evening with the various Honor Choirs of students in grades six to 12 joining for "Let Our Songs Be Heard," an outstanding concert of their practiced and polished numbers.

Lower School Music Director Deborah Okada remarked, "The Academy students enjoyed the amazing opportunity to work with leaders in the field, gain confidence and improve their skills. They were also honored to perform with dozens of students from across the nation who share their love of singing."

Okada's sixth grade participants were **Jondrina Cambra, Keira Iwamoto, Cadence Kasprick, Aimee Kauhane, Kiana Kostiha, Kaya Kramer, Diana Lee, Payton Leong, Summer McDaniel-York, Danilla Monk, Mae Otsubo** and **Lia Worthington.**

Isabel Allen and **Keona Tomita** were the two Academy freshman participants who study under the direction of **Zachary Moore.**

From the Head of School

ARTS PROGRAMS STEAM AHEAD

Quite often – especially parents – will remind me that instead of boasting of a strong STEM program, we should use the term STEAM. Indeed, the Academy has worked hard to make sure that the Arts – both Visual Arts as well as Performing Arts – are strong in its curriculum, starting at the Lower School level.



The study of the Arts at the Academy is treated not as frill, but as an essential element in the education of your daughters. Specific arts units are required in High School for graduation, and in the Lower School, Music and Visual Art is part of the curriculum with numerous students also taking private lessons after school.

Two major reasons for the Academy's strength in the Arts is its competent, artistic and devoted faculty – who are well-trained and love what they do – and stellar facilities maintained for these activities.

As the school year comes to a close, many of you will view the Performing Arts in "concert mode." The final performance of the Hula classes will be integrated into May Day, and the Drama finished their year participating in Footloose. However, slated still to come are Dance on April 23, Band on May 7 and Choir on May 11.

The school is grateful for the role that the Arts play in its culture and in the lives of its students. We also take this opportunity to thank the many groups of parents who volunteer in the Band, Choral, Dance and Drama programs!

Betty White

Senior earns prestigious Prudential Service Award

For her outstanding service and accomplishments to benefit the local community, senior **Mahealani Sims-Tulba** was named the State's honoree of the **Prudential Spirit of Community Awards**.

This is the country's largest youth recognition program, based exclusively on volunteer community service.

Motivated after experiencing, first-hand, the destructive power of bullying in the fifth grade at another school, Sims-Tulba was determined to combat this issue and help others in similar situations.

Her efforts included forming a non-profit foundation to communicate and expose the problem of bullying in the State through her **"Be Respectful and Value Everyone" (B.R.A.V.E.) campaign**.

Sims-Tulba has reached more than 40,000 students throughout Hawai'i, visiting schools and libraries to read and distribute her book expose about bullying, entitled *"It's Okay to Be Different."*

She also discusses this issue and its many facets with parents and students at community events, created a music video about the subject and appeared on a weekly television program.

As part of her award, Sims-Tulba (below with her parents, **Kimberly Tulba** and **Augie Tulba**) will be recognized at national events in Washington, D.C. in late April.



Prudential



New space helps students STEAM ahead in Robotics and Engineering

With enhanced interest in **STEAM** areas, a new design lab to accommodate the Lower School's increased

robotics and engineering activities was recently opened, with a formal blessing ceremony slated for April 19.

Advisor Peter Park and his **Junior High VEX IQ** students (above) presented an overview of the robotics program for the school's **Board of Directors** in the renovated space on April 9.

The 1,000-square foot area was designed specially for STEM usage.



And, the new, modular seating allows the students to more easily conduct group work and work collaboratively while sharing ideas during the building and programming process.

In addition, the new space is utilized by the hard-working **VEX IQ** teams as they conduct after-hours prep work for the **VEX IQ World Championships** later this month.

Park concluded, "The new space

has created enhanced energy and excitement among the robotics students and their parents, many of whom are mentors.

"We are thankful and eager and committed to growing our **Lancer Robotics** programs and are excited about the future possibilities our students can reach using this stellar space."

Big numbers of books exchanged during Book Swap

About 1,000 books changed hands to promote literacy during the annual **Big Book Swap** from March 27 to 29 in the Lower School Library!

With an abundance of Swap contributions, every student in grades Junior Kindergarten (JK) to two was able to choose at least two free books to take home and enjoy.

Coordinator **Laurel Oshiro** is especially grateful to parent volunteers – **Beth Pinkerton, Jodi Leong, Cammie Yee** and **Erin Koshiba** – who helped organize the event and cheerfully "connected" each student with a book.



Big learning opportunities abound on Hawai'i Island

The Academy's fourth graders returned from their three-day *huaka'i*, journey, to **Hawai'i Island** from March 7 to 9 with a greater understanding of life in the Hawaiian Islands, both past and present.

The varied sights and activities enriching each student's knowledge included:

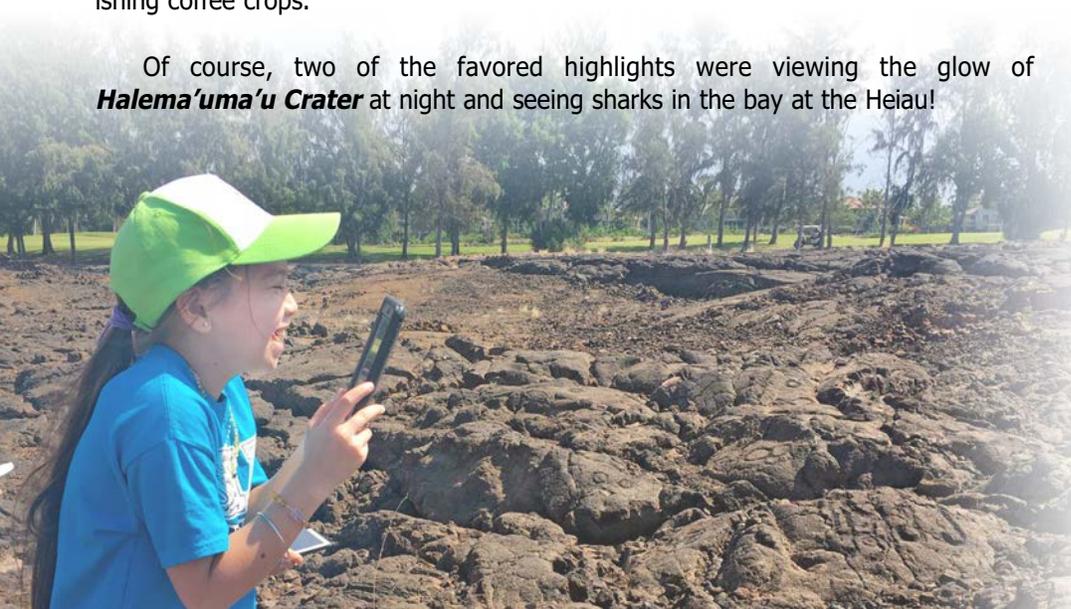
- ▶ Learning about how the Islands were formed and developed by examining the geology, geography and terrain at **Volcano National Park**, including a hike along *Devastation Trail* and stops at *Echo Canyon* and the *Thurston Lava Tube*;

- ▶ Exploring the Island's unique cultural features, including (above) the Japanese *torii*, or "gateway," at **Liliuokalani Park**;

- ▶ Delving into mythology, folklore and cultural practices of the ancient Hawaiians at **Pu'u Kohala Heiau**, a temple constructed to win favor from the war god, and (below) closely examining the petroglyphs at **Anaeho'omalu**;

- ▶ Discovering what life was like on the Islands during the 1920's at the **Kona Coffee Living History Farm** and what was required to grow and develop flourishing coffee crops.

Of course, two of the favored highlights were viewing the glow of **Halema'uma'u Crater** at night and seeing sharks in the bay at the Heiau!



MAV DAY

APRIL 27 | GYMNASIUM

LOWER SCHOOL

8:30 A.M. – (FOR GRADES JK TO TWO FAMILIES)

10:30 A.M. – (FOR GRADES THREE TO SIX FAMILIES)

JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL

1:00 P.M.

PARKING

Available only in the front lot using valet service

LIVE-STREAMING

All programs will be live-streamed during the performance time at www.sacredhearts.org/EventsLive

FLOWERS AND GREENERY NEEDED

Donations of Monstera Leaves, Plumeria, Lauae, Ti Leaves (on stalk), Gingers and Heliconia are needed for decorations.

Donations can be dropped off from April 23 to 26 in the Gymnasium