Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 48874

Home Island: Oahu **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: Yale University

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** Never attended college/1st year in college

Field of Study: Social Sciences & Public Health **Specific Program or Major:** Public Policy

EFC: $11,727.00 **COA:** $59,950.00 **Remaining Cost:** $48,223.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

Coming in strong…for her first debate…ponytail swinging and stepstool ready…4th-grade Star was ready to demolish the snobby 6th graders in front of 100+ people. The crowd roared as she emerged victorious! However, instead of pride, she felt the weight of her words. Her argument for completely ending immigration—claiming foreigners equated to murderers—was a punch she didn't believe in. She had masked her true beliefs to win, but in that moment, she realized two things: her words pack a punch, and she had knocked out the wrong idea. While she fought to win the debate, she truly lost, opting for a consequentialist uppercut over a Kantist hook. The real victory in speaking is advocacy, rooted in ethics—a lesson I wouldn't fully grasp until much later.

Fast forwarding five years, I found myself in the Kamehameha Debate Team ring, stepping into the world of Lincoln-Douglas debate. Here, I faced two battles: the clash of moralities and the policies at play. After my first round on medical intellectual property production laws, I didn't just win—I felt the rush of a knockout punch delivered with purpose as I advocated for lessened copyright laws so marginalized communities facing the structural violence of U.S. medical bills could have greater access to proper medicine. Over 20 debate topics, 30+ philosophies, and 50+ opponents later, I have won rookie of the year, gained the rare and coveted Academic All-American status, currently rank as the top competitor in Hawai'i, won a state championship, and, most importantly, became a 3-year debate captain. From my first debate with old-school Rawlsian Justice kick to my latest use of the modern Kuznets Curve swing, advocating with integrity has become my passion, my fight.

Looking towards the future, I will continue advocating for policies, not simply debating them, ensuring morals guide my moves as a lawyer. I aspire to hold politics accountable, stepping into the ring as a Hawaiian advocate or politician. My career is not solely mine; it is shared with my kumu, ʻohana, and peers, who have imparted invaluable lessons; the homeless outside my shoebox apartment begging for help; the unborn keiki who inherit my generation's creations; and the ʻaina that needs stewards rather than owners. I have taken all honors, AP, and dual credit courses to earn an honors diploma and associate's degree. I will attend a top undergraduate school to expand my worldview and learn moralities and policies from the best. I will navigate law school and pass the bar with flying colors, maneuvering through a gray maze of legal complexities like a seasoned boxer. I envision myself as a Hawaiʻi lawyer, starting at the prosecutor's office, then moving to civil law with a firm, and ultimately running an indigenous social justice law firm. Meanwhile, I'll climb the political ladder, ready to help pass legislation to make Hawaiʻi a true "Aloha State." Watch out... KAPF48874 is in the ring…ready to learn, advocate, and champion the good.

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

Freshman	Freshman President, ASKS; Freshman Representative - Kalalea, Band and Color Guard; Pua Aliʻi ʻIlima Hula with Kumu Vicky Holt Takamine; Double-Qualilfer, Speech and Debate; Poʻo Kula Ambassadors; Volunteer, Honolulu Zoo; Soprano 2 Section Leader; Students Give Back Club; Art Club.
Sophomore	Co-Publicity Director, ASKS; Corresponding Secretary - Kalalea, Band and Color Guard; Pua Aliʻi ʻIlima Hula with Kumu Vicky Holt Takamine; Triple-Qualilfer and Debate Captain, Speech and Debate; Poʻo Kula Ambassadors; Soprano 2 Section Leader; Students Give Back Club; Art Club; Diversity Equity Inclusion and Belonging with Stanford online; Advocacy Club; Walk the Street Wall Street; Women's Empowerment; Letterline; Volunteer, Queen Emma Summer Palace.
Junior	Secretary/Vice-President, ASKS; Treasurer - Kalalea, Band and Color Guard; Pua Aliʻi ʻIlima Hula with Kumu Vicky Holt Takamine; Triple-Qualifier, Debate Captain, and State Champion, Top State Point Totaler, and Academic All-American in Speech and Debate; Head Youth Ambassador, various Advocacy groups like Hawaii Youth Food Council; founder, Star Student; Community service director, Women's Empowerment; Poʻo Kula Ambassadors; Soprano 2 Section Leader; Students Give Back Club; Intern, Queen Emma Summer Palace.
Senior	Secretary/Vice-President, ASKS; Treasurer - Kalalea, Band and Color Guard; Merrie Monarch Competitior, Pua Aliʻi ʻIlima Hula with Kumu Vicky Holt Takamine; Interpretation Captain, Top State Point Totaler,

	and Academic All-American in Speech and Debate; Group Leader, Po'o Kula Ambassadors; founder, Star Student; President, Women's Empowerment; Soprano 2 Section Leader; Students Give Back Club; Head Youth Ambassador, various Advocacy groups like Recycle Hawaii; Head Cultural Intern, Queen Emma Summer Palace.

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

"Ku Ha'aheo e ku'u Hawai'i," stand tall for Hawai'i, has rung in my pu'uwai (heart) with my aloha spirit. I am blessed to be "locally grown" with Hawaiian hula, 'olelo, hoe (paddling), and more. Hawai'i is known as the "Aloha State;" however, its politics have demonstrated zero aloha for its indigenous people; I am one of them. We are priced out of paradise, rapidly dying from heart disease, and the military poisons our land. I wondered, "When is anyone going to do something?" Then I realized, "Why don't I?"

At first, I questioned my abilities as I was just a random high schooler. However, I realized I could never make a difference if I never tried. So, I founded Star Student to help youth succeed academically by re-teaching any knowledge I have been blessed with from various opportunities with counselors, college horizons, and leadership summits through videos and tutoring on social media and Zoom. This program hand-planted hundreds of seeds, helping students gain scholarships and 3.5+ GPAs; however, I knew I had to make it rain to help my lahui flourish as our truly threatening issues are systematic from the structural violence caused by colonialism.

I re-focused on Hawai'i's legislation, finding Senate Bill 731: The state must recognize La Ku'oko'a (Hawaiian Independence Day). This day holds immense pride and importance for my lahui, as it acknowledges our culture, voice, and ensures our place in politics. I knew its passage could inspire my lahui that politics can be our ally and that we are a critical demographic, not an afterthought. Determined to pass the bill, I wrote my testimony. The words gushed out of me as I felt my ancestors guiding my hand and aloha powering my pen.

At the first hearing…ten attended and seven came for other bills; it felt like no one cared and my lahui lost hope. I stood at the podium, dressed in my mu'umu'u and goosebumps, terrified. However, I opened my mouth, and the words simply flowed out. The senators only asked me one question,

"Why are you here?"

Smiling, I responded, "Because my people need this…they need me here."

The next hearing was scheduled.

I began raising support for the bill: marching a rally to the capitol, teaching others to write testimonies, sanctioning field trips for hearings, and speaking with the governor. When SB731 had its final reading…the room was packed. I stood at the podium, dressed in my mu'umu'u and goosebumps, ready. SB731 was swiftly passed! I was quoted in newspapers, interviewed, and more. However, I was not invited to the bill signing, giving me a snapshot of my future: change, especially in our system, takes time, and recognition is not included. However, I never felt more rooted to Hawai'i, Hawaiians' legacy, and aloha. I did not solve the housing crisis or replenish Lahaina's fire-

struck soil or become a poster child, but I brought aloha to my people, standing tall for Hawai'i, which is a solid first step.

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

My home's walls were scarred with torn wood as my father battled drug-induced "aliens" and our "guests" were men with guns who ate mochi I made to ease my parents' tensions. With my black hole father, my mom always stared into space, fighting the urge to escape because of me...until he became involved in the Kealoha case; my mom finally packed her escape pod and fled.

Surviving alone in space was grueling between the maggot-infested food, smoke-reeking clothing, and my father's coke-knife carving my beauty marks as they became "aliens" too. I begged, screamed, and wailed for help--but sound does not travel in space.

Despite being surrounded by my father's black hole, I forbade his darkness to eclipse my light. My beloved mango tree became a chutney business for grocery money. My father's overdue law papers became fun pastimes. My outgrown dresses became fabric for new shirts. Being isolated forced me to navigate the unknown, limitless, opportunities of space, turning crumbling asteroids into flourishing supernovas…alone.

After 4 moon cycles, my mom built another seat in her shoebox-sized escape pod. Despite being physically okay, I was still terrified of being consumed by my father's darkness. However, I now know my father is not darkness, rather, he is in a dark place. The news still reports his court conflicts, drug incidents, gun violence, restraining orders, and more. It pains me that he is out there, alone, lost in space. My father, by far, is not the best person…but he is human…and humans make mistakes.

However, my new universe has asteroid belts of opportunities: Art club for creativity, Po'o Kula Ambassadors for networking, Hawaii Food Youth Council (HFYC) to aid Hawai'i's food sovereignty, and more; Of course, none of these asteroids became supernovas on their own. To be in HFYC I was scouted from a panel at the Conference for Native Hawaiian Advancement. To be a panelist I had to be a successful advocate and elected student council member—each step building on the last and needing many preceding steps. One may become exhausted by such arduous navigation, but I have found strength from my community; I may be the one speaking, but mentors, ancestors, and keiki, power my words. Although I enjoy individual success, shining for/with others feels like sunlight.

As I try to change Hawai'i's structurally violent system, I find myself searching for an escape pod once again—this time for 1.4 million people. However, I have met cruel, manipulative people…which may simply be politics nowadays. Yet, because of my father, I understand they have their own black holes. I also know that I will never give up on my people because

my father raised me in far darker places…and I still shined. I still lead environmental zoo tours, financial literacy lessons, voter registrations, and beach clean-ups. I was born from chaos, raised in darkness, warmed with empathy, and will shine for my community despite any challenges. I am KAPF48874.

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation ID# 48874 - End of Candidate Profile

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 48938

Home Island: Oahu **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: Utah State University

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** 2nd year in college

Field of Study: Other **Specific Program or Major:** Human Biology

EFC: $2,090.00 **COA:** $23,435.00 **Remaining Cost:** $21,345.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

My career goal is to become an orthopedic surgeon, specializing in musculoskeletal conditions, and to serve the people of Hawai'i. I chose this path because of my passion for medicine and my desire to address the unique healthcare challenges faced by Native Hawaiians, particularly in underserved communities. I believe that by combining modern medical techniques with cultural understanding, I can make a significant impact on the health of my people. Growing up in Hawai'i, I witnessed how limited access to healthcare affects many families, especially in rural areas. Orthopedic care is particularly needed in Hawai'i due to the aging population and the prevalence of sports-related injuries and physical labor. My interest in orthopedics began when I volunteered at a local hospital and assisted orthopedic surgeons in treating patients. Seeing the difference they made in restoring mobility and reducing pain inspired me to pursue this field. Currently, I am attending Utah State University, majoring in Biology with a focus on pre-medical studies. I am gaining the foundational knowledge and skills necessary for medical school while actively participating in research and volunteer work. After completing my undergraduate degree, I plan to attend the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) at the University of Hawai'i. JABSOM's focus on healthcare for underserved populations aligns perfectly with my goal of returning to Hawai'i to serve my community. After completing my medical training, I intend to become an orthopedic surgeon in Hawai'i, focusing on musculoskeletal issues common in older adults, athletes, and people in physically demanding jobs. I also plan to advocate for better access to orthopedic care, especially in rural areas, and raise awareness about injury

prevention and rehabilitation. In conclusion, I am committed to becoming an orthopedic surgeon who not only provides specialized care but also works to reduce healthcare disparities in Hawai'i. By attending JABSOM and returning to Hawai'i after my training, I will be able to serve my community and contribute to the health and well-being of the people I care about.

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

2023	Palama Settlement; Landon Yamashiro; 150 hrs
2024	Kamehameha Swim Club; John Flanagan; 24 hrs

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

Joining wrestling in high school has been one of the most transformative experiences of my life. It not only helped me get physically stronger but also pushed me to come out of my shell, gain confidence, and grow in ways I never expected. The lessons I learned on the mat have shaped me into a more disciplined, self-assured, and resilient person both inside and outside of sports. Physically, wrestling challenged me like no other sport could. The intense training regimen pushed my body to its limits. I built strength, endurance, and flexibility through rigorous practice. The sport demanded that I give my all, every single day. I quickly realized that wrestling wasn't just about brute strength; it was about technique, balance, and using your opponent's weaknesses to your advantage. As I improved, I could feel myself getting stronger, not just in my muscles but in my overall physicality. Wrestling gave me a new appreciation for what my body is capable of when I put in the effort. On a personal level, wrestling helped me come out of my shell. I've always been someone who was reserved and a bit of a pushover, but being on the wrestling team required me to step outside of my comfort zone. The sport is inherently about pushing limits and facing challenges head-on, and over time, I found that I was able to apply that mindset to other areas of my life. I became more vocal, more willing to take risks, and more comfortable with stepping up in front of others. Whether it was speaking up during team meetings, volunteering for leadership roles, or simply making new friends, wrestling gave me the confidence to be more outgoing and assertive. In addition to physical strength and confidence, wrestling taught me some of life's most valuable lessons—like perseverance, discipline, and the importance of teamwork. There were times when I lost matches and faced setbacks, but I learned to bounce back, stay focused, and never give up. Each practice, win or lose, was an opportunity to improve. Wrestling showed me the importance of commitment and consistency, and that growth happens through hard work and dedication. Overall, joining wrestling in high school helped me grow into a stronger, more confident person. It transformed not just my body, but my mindset and approach to challenges. The lessons I learned on

the mat have stayed with me, and I carry them with me every day. Wrestling didn't just make me a better athlete, it made me into a better version of myself.

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

Paying for my own education has been one of the most challenging aspects of my life, especially coming from Hawai?i and moving to Utah for college. The financial strain of covering tuition, living expenses, and other costs without any support from my parents has been difficult, but it has also taught me resilience and the value of hard work. Growing up in Hawai?i, I knew that financial support for college would be limited, if not entirely unavailable. My family has always struggled with having enough money to sustain life in Hawai?i, and higher education was never something we could afford on our own. As a result, I knew from a young age that if I wanted to attend college, it would be up to me to find a way to make it happen. The distance between Hawaii and Utah only made the situation more complex. Traveling across the Pacific Ocean is not cheap, and the cost of living on my own like buying groceries and paying for rent is so much more added compared to if I went to college at home. This added financial burden has meant that I've had to work and apply for scholarships just to help ease my tuition costs. The emotional and mental toll of balancing academics with the need to constantly hustle for financial stability has been exhausting. At times, it feels overwhelming to juggle schoolwork with the demands of part-time jobs, budgeting every dollar, and still trying to maintain a social life. But despite the challenges, I've learned to be resourceful, develop strong time-management skills, and ask for help when needed. Most of all, I am so grateful for every experience I have here in college. I know to never take anything for granted and that everything that happens to me here is a blessing. While my parents would love to help me if they could, the reality is that their financial situation simply doesn't allow for that. This has shaped my independence and forced me to mature at a younger age. I've learned to advocate for myself and seek out opportunities I might not have considered otherwise. Through it all, I've now realized that my education is not just an investment in my future, but also in my ability to create change for my family. In the end, the hardships I've faced while paying for my education have strengthened my resilience and determination. Though it hasn't been easy, I am determined to make the most of this opportunity. It may have been a struggle, but it has also been a journey of growth, resilience, and self-discovery.

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 48991

Home Island: Oahu **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: University of Nevada-Las Vegas

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** Never attended college/1st year in college

Field of Study: Business & Communications **Specific Program or Major:** Business Administration/Management

EFC: $4,614.00 **COA:** $24,828.00 **Remaining Cost:** $20,214.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

When I was twelve, my dad came home from work unusually quiet. Normally, he filled dinner with stories about his day, but that night, he stared at his plate and barely said a word. When I finally asked what was wrong, he sighed and said, “Work just isn’t the same anymore. It feels like no one cares about the effort I put in.” At the time, I didn’t fully understand what he meant, but I could see the weight of his words in his eyes.

That moment planted a seed in my mind. I began noticing how work affects people in different ways—how it could drain even the most passionate individuals or empower them to do amazing things. It made me wonder why some workplaces seemed to foster frustration, while others allowed people to thrive. Even though I was young, I knew I wanted to do something about it.

Fast forward to my first job, where I got a closer look at these dynamics. I worked with people of all ages, many of whom felt overworked and unappreciated. I couldn’t fix their situations, but I could listen, support them when they needed help, and learn. Through this, I realized my passion for helping others goes beyond simply lending a hand—I wanted to create real, positive change in their lives. Even though I haven’t experienced as much as most adults, I do know this: work is a huge part of life, and everyone deserves a workplace where they feel valued, heard, and supported. That’s why I’m pursuing a career in human resources. HR isn’t just about policies or hiring; it’s about building environments where people feel inspired to do their best work.

To achieve this, I plan to study business management with a focus on HR, gaining experience through internships and specializing in areas like employee development and workplace culture. I'm especially interested in diversity and inclusion, inspired by my upbringing in Hawaii and travels abroad, which taught me how much richer teams and communities are when they embrace different perspectives. One day, I hope to work for a global organization where I can help bridge cultural differences and empower people from all walks of life. I may be young, but I know what I want: to create workplaces that uplift, inspire, and bring out the best in people.

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

Freshman	
Sophomore	Crumbl, crew member; Students Give Back Club
Junior	Crumbl, crew member; Student Give Back Club; Ambassadors of Aloha Aina; ASL club
Senior	Crumbl, crew member; Wet n Wild, cashier; Ambassadors of Aloha Aina; ASL club

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

The air was crisp as we stepped off the plane in Edinburgh, Scotland. Rolling green hills stretched into the horizon, and I felt the weight of our purpose settle over me. This wasn't just a school trip; it was a journey to walk in the footsteps of our ali'i—Hawaiian royalty who traveled to Europe to protect our sovereignty and share our culture. At the time, I thought I understood what it meant to be Hawaiian. What I didn't realize was how much this journey would change that understanding.

Our first stop was the National Museum of Scotland, where we met a group of Gaelic students for a cultural exchange. The museum, filled with Scotland's rich history, set the tone for the day, but it was the students who left the deepest impression. Their curiosity mirrored our own as we began the exchange. We taught them hula, explaining the meaning behind each hand gesture and step. Watching them move, hesitant at first but gaining confidence, filled me with pride. Their laughter and effort showed me that hula wasn't just a performance—it was a bridge, a way to connect across cultures.

When it was their turn, they played the bagpipes, filling the museum with a haunting, raw melody that seemed to vibrate in my chest. As they explained the instrument's significance, I thought of our pahu drums and 'ukulele. Like the bagpipes, these instruments are storytellers, carrying history and emotion. I realized that though our cultures were different, the heart of our traditions was the same. Music, dance, and storytelling weren't just ways to honor the past—they were ways to connect, to find common ground in our differences.

This lesson deepened as we continued to London. There, in another museum, I stood before a feathered cape and helmet gifted by King Kamehameha I to King George III. The vibrant red and yellow feathers shimmered under the lights, a testament to our ancestors' craftsmanship and pride. This wasn't just a gift; it was a declaration. It said, "We belong here." It was a statement of respect and sovereignty, bridging two worlds. Our ali'i didn't travel to Europe only to protect Hawaii—they came to ensure our culture was seen, respected, and remembered.

By the time we returned home, my outlook had shifted. I once thought perpetuating Hawaiian culture was about preserving traditions—performing hula, speaking 'olelo Hawai'i, or practicing aloha. But this journey taught me that it's more. It's about sharing our stories, finding connections, and carrying forward the values of resilience, respect, and aloha. Being part of the Ambassadors of Aloha Aina has shown me that culture isn't just about the past—it's how we live it in the present and carry it into the future. It's a privilege that connects me to my ancestors, my peers, and the world.

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

One of the most pressing financial struggles I've faced has been the uncertainty of paying for college tuition. During my time at Kamehameha Schools, I was fortunate enough to receive full financial aid, which allowed me to focus on my academics and extracurricular activities without the constant worry of how I would pay for my education. I was relieved to know that I didn't have to burden my family with the high costs of tuition, and it made my experience at Kamehameha feel secure and supported.

However, as I look ahead to college, the situation feels drastically different. I'm no longer guaranteed that same level of financial support, and the reality of paying for tuition on my own has become a daunting challenge. Even with scholarships and financial aid opportunities, I know the costs will likely far exceed what I can afford. The thought of taking on student loans to cover the gap is overwhelming. I worry about how I will manage the pressure of paying for my education while keeping up with my studies and maintaining my mental health.

This uncertainty has forced me to take a proactive approach to my college planning. I've spent countless hours researching scholarship opportunities, budgeting carefully, and figuring out ways to minimize costs, like looking for more affordable housing options. Despite these efforts, I can't help but feel the weight of it all. The idea of possibly having to choose between going to college and facing years of debt is something I never had to think about during my time at Kamehameha. The financial stability I've had here is something I know I may not have again without significant effort and support.

While this struggle has made me anxious about the future, it has strengthened my resolve to push forward. I understand the importance of using the resources available and staying focused on my long-term goals. I know that education is an investment, and while the road

ahead may be difficult, I'm determined to find a way to make it work. It's an ongoing challenge, but I've learned from my time at Kamehameha that it's possible to navigate financial hardships and achieve my goals with hard work, resourcefulness, and a strong support system.

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 49068

Home Island: Oahu **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: University of Hawaii at Manoa

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** 2nd year in college

Field of Study: Other **Specific Program or Major:** Astrophysics

EFC: $1,315.00 **COA:** $12,186.00 **Remaining Cost:** $10,871.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

My career goal is to pursue a degree in Astrophysics and work in the field of space exploration, either here in Hawai?i or with organizations such as NASA or SpaceX. I am deeply passionate about understanding the universe and contributing to advancements in space science and technology. This career path excites me because it combines my love for discovery with the opportunity to make a meaningful impact on humanity's future.
To achieve this goal, I plan to complete a bachelor's degree in Astrophysics within the next four years and pursue higher education if financially feasible. My drive to succeed has been nurtured by the unwavering support of my family and the resources provided by Lawakua. Their belief in my potential, whether through mentorship, academic support, or sacrifices made on my behalf, has motivated me to work hard and remain focused on my aspirations. I am committed to making those who have invested in me proud; both my family and Lawakua. Their support has been important in shaping who I am today, and I want to honor their efforts by achieving my goals and reaching new heights. My success will not only be a personal milestone but also a testament to their encouragement and belief in my future.

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

2023	Police Activity Leagues (PAL), Eric Higa, 20 hrs; Lawakua Kanjukenbo Club, Matt Levi, 100+ hrs.

2024	Police Activity Leagues (PAL), Eric Higa, 20+ hrs; Lawakua Kanjukenbo Club, Matt Levi, 100+ hrs.
2022	Lawakua Kanjukenbo Club, Matt Levi, 100+ hrs.
2019	Lawakua Kanjukenbo Club, Matt Levi, 100+ hrs.

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

Pursuing higher education has always been one of my greatest aspirations, and I have been fortunate to receive unwavering support from those around me to help me achieve my goals. Among the many influences in my life, two stand out as the most impactful: my family and Lawakua. I am deeply grateful for my father, who has guided and nurtured me into the person I am today despite the challenges of being a single parent. His steadfast support gave me the direction and foundation I needed to succeed.

Equally transformative has been my involvement with the Lawakua Kajukenbo Club, where I have trained for nearly seven years and now serve as an instructor at the rank of brown belt. Grand Master Matt Levi has been an extraordinary mentor, imparting invaluable life lessons and instilling in me a strong sense of discipline and purpose. Lawakua has provided critical support, from helping fund my education to keeping me physically and mentally strong. They have consistently set high standards for me, demonstrating their belief in my potential to meet and exceed them.

Being part of the Lawakua community has also given me the opportunity to give back by teaching and training the next generation of leaders. Through this role, I have not only learned the importance of following and respecting instructions but also how to lead and serve as a positive role model. Carrying the title of a Lawakua Warrior fills me with immense pride, as it reflects both the lessons I've learned and the values I strive to uphold.

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

Like many others, I come from a single-parent household, which can be especially challenging in Hawaii. Despite these difficulties, I am incredibly grateful for what I have, knowing there are many who face even greater hardships. I consider myself fortunate to have been able to afford getting to school an opportunity made possible through the sacrifices of my family.

My grandparents have gone as far as taking out loans to pay for my uniforms and clothes, and my father has often given me his last $20 so I could stay after school with my friends. These sacrifices have instilled in me a deep appreciation for my family's support and a strong

drive to succeed. They have also shaped one of my most important goals: to earn a good wage and provide financial stability for my family in the future.
I am equally grateful to Lawakua, an organization that has significantly lightened the financial burden on my family by helping pay for my education. Lawakua also offers free tutoring to any child in the program, creating opportunities for students like me to thrive academically. The support from my family and Lawakua has been invaluable, and I am committed to making the most of these opportunities to give back and achieve my goals.

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 49086

Home Island: Oahu **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: University of Washington-Seattle Campus

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** 2nd year in college

Field of Study: STEM **Specific Program or Major:** Biology

EFC: $200.00 **COA:** $39,906.00 **Remaining Cost:** $39,706.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

I entered the University of Washington (UW) with wide eyes, admitted to major in Environmental Science and Terrestrial Resource Management (ESRM), I quickly realized that I wanted to be more specific in how I wanted to better not only my own life, but the lives of Hawai'i's diverse communities as well. I came here knowing that I wanted to help revitalize our culture through the environment, as well as focusing on the health of those that depend on this environment. At the UW, I intend to change majors from ESRM to eventually double major in General Biology and Oceanography. I became enthralled by the wonders of the ocean and the diversity of its biological factors through an introductory level marine biology course. I knew that focusing on this major isn't what was for me, however.

A guest lecturer came in one day to talk to us about how her and her team utilize ocean sensors to record changes in temperature and salinity levels, with the goal to measure how the rising ocean temperatures could potentially affect not only our marine environment, but how they could also affect coastal communities as well, such as Hawai'i. After this lecture, I immediately went to seek out an interview with the guest lecturer, who ended up being the head of the Ocean Technology department at the UW. She shared her story of how she got to where she is now through grit and willpower, and how deeply she cares for our natural world, with our fellow humans being an extension of this world. Through this interview, she encouraged me to apply for her 10-person project-based class in the winter quarter, a class that freshmen are not typically accepted into. I sent in my application with no experience in oceanography and technology experience, and having my time as a volunteer at the

Hawaiian Humane Society and the introductory marine biology class as my only biology experience, not expecting to get in. I had waited for two weeks before getting the notification that I was accepted into this class, and immediately I was able to see my future.
I want to be able to be a pillar in the health community for Hawaiians, an underrepresented demographic in the medical field, as well as arriving on the front lines of the race to adapt to climate change. I will do whatever it takes to maintain the health of our people, ensuring that future generations get to experience this amazing honua. Next quarter, I plan to continue along the general chemistry route, begin my general biology journey, start my trek through calculus, as well as persevere through ocean technology. I know that I can handle this because I have an entire community behind me, their support being the one thing that can pull me out of the mud and onto dry land.

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

2023	Hawaiian Humane Society, Anne Mukai, 45 Hours; Hui Kou Club, Nathan Nishimura, 20 hours
2024	Na Pua No'eau, Ku Koanui-Souza, 20 hours; Kulia College Pathways, Damien Chang, 20 hours

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

I entered the college application process with nobody in my family to guide me along, as they all had ever gone to college before. And while I am grateful for all of the support my mother especially has given me on this journey, my high school counselor during my junior and senior year was the one that provided me with the knowledge and tools to navigate this daunting journey. I know that there are many out there who have the same experience as me with not having a mentor in their immediate vicinity, especially those in underprivileged and predominantly native Hawaiian and Filipino communities like mine. Upon hearing of a mentorship opportunity through the college-student led program Kulia College Pathways, I immediately jumped on board.
Since October, I have had the wonderful opportunity to mentor a student from Wai'anae High School on their college application journey. They came from a single parent household with a large immigrant family such as mine and grew up in a predominantly Hawaiian community as well, with virtually no guidance from their own high school counselor. This counselor was tasked with overseeing hundreds of students, so there was no plausible way for them to individually help out each and every student. That is why this student reached out to Kulia for help, and I am happy I was able to answer their call. I came into this mentorship program just expecting to proofread essays and possibly look for scholarships for this student to apply to. However, I realized my workload was cut

out to be way more than anticipated. This challenged me beyond expectations, and between Zoom meetings, I am often stumped with coming up with ways to boost my student's morale and motivation for college, especially since their college application deadlines are quickly approaching. I continue to encourage my student, and constantly challenge myself to push this student to always do better than the previous week. We go through countless iterations of their college essays while we bounce ideas off of each other, and I can sense the initial reluctance towards college they once had going away. I have high hopes for my student, and I know that they will succeed in whatever they are going to do in life..

Since becoming a mentor for Kulia, I realized just how many people there are with a similar upbringing as mine, but haven't been able to experience the same opportunities that I was privileged to have at Kamehameha. It is through programs like this that I believe my greatest contribution to future scholars will be, as I believe that everybody should have a chance to follow their dreams, regardless of their background.

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

I cannot remember a time my parents were together. My earliest memories consist of living in the "poop streets" of Waipahu with my dad, grandma, and my two cousins, and along Likini Street of Salt Lake with my mom and about ten other people. As a kid, these places were magical, areas where I was able to run around in the front of the house, but never being able to run along the streets myself. I was able to become creative with the limited spaces available to me. As I grew older, however, I picked up on little things that seemed to indicate something about my two households was different from my classmates at Kamehameha. I wasn't able to host any sleepovers, while my friends invited me over to their houses all the time; My siblings and I rotated sleeping between the one bed and mats on the floor, the other kids' houses had a tall and nice bed with multiple sheets and a comforter; Seeing rats was a common occurrence for me, while seeing a single one at school was enough to freak out the entire classroom.

Another thing that I found common amongst classmates was this idea of "college," a place to go after we graduated high school. This confused me, as I thought that everyone did what my parents did and went straight into the workforce after struggling throughout high school. This made it harder for me to grasp just what I wanted to do once I graduated, as I had no one in my family to ask about their own college experience. It wasn't until I met my counselor, Kumu Gina Karas, for the first time in my junior year that I really started thinking about college. However, I still had no idea how to pay for it, until I learned about scholarships my senior year. I had just finished my first college application with the guidance of Kumu Gina, and I had wanted to get on top of applying for scholarships as well, as I knew that without them, I couldn't achieve my newfound dream of going to college away from home. It led me

to applying to over 30 scholarships, and receiving over $60k in return. However, this would just barely cover a year of schooling at the University of Washington. I knew that even with this huge amount of money, my parents still weren't able to pay the rest of school, and I didn't expect them to. I wouldn't want to put the financial burden on anyone else other than myself. So, I picked up two jobs that gave me some money to have for myself, and I am still looking at thousands of dollars in debt without the help of more scholarships. I plan to apply for twice the amount of scholarships this academic year in order to make sure that I am financially stable enough to be able to accumulate a manageable amount of student loans after my schooling is over.

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 49134

Home Island: Oahu **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: Purdue University-Main Campus

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** Never attended college/1st year in college

Field of Study: STEM **Specific Program or Major:** Aeronautics Aviation Science

EFC: $16,630.00 **COA:** $28,794.00 **Remaining Cost:** $12,164.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

I wish to start my career as an airline pilot and then move up into an aviation management position. My grandparents, who live on the island of Molokai, have become heavily reliant on the aviation industry. They often feel stranded due to the inconsistent and unreliable services of Mokulele, the monopoly airline servicing the island. They have been prevented from accessing essential medical appointments and attending special occasions resulting in drastic effects on the native Hawaiian population and diminishing their quality of life. I wish to return to Hawaii after my educational journey with a vision to improve the aviation industry throughout the state and give back to my community and the people I love. My journey as an airline pilot will lay the foundation to gain exposure to the industry and one day move into a management role to truly make a change. I've been fortunate to partner with the Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum, earning a scholarship for a year-long program aimed at obtaining private pilot's licenses. The program allowed me to participate in volunteer opportunities such as working with students in their educational summer camp, the Explorer's Club. Here I was able to teach students through my newfound educational knowledge building relationships and inspiring them to dream of their life in Aviation. I also volunteered at other aviation community events such as the Annual Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum Gala, where I met and fostered relationships with fellow aviators and generous donors. This was a great opportunity to give back to the museum which gave me the chance of a lifetime, fostering my dream of aviation. Throughout high school, I faced frequent moral dilemmas that tested my character. When I witnessed a teacher inappropriately harassing

female students in my class I refused to sit back and let it happen. Despite the potential backlash, I advocated for my peers through several meetings with academic advisors, administration, and lawyers, resulting in the teacher's imminent dismissal. This experience taught me the importance of using my voice, even in uncomfortable or "risky" situations, to provoke change for communities that cannot speak for themselves. My journey from once shy child to a licensed private pilot and academic success reinforces the importance of perseverance and self-belief. Looking ahead, I see endless possibilities for my future in the skies. I aim to use my unique perspective in aviation to promote opportunities and education for Hawaii's youth. My ultimate goal is to improve air transportation services throughout Hawaii ensuring communities like Molokai are heard and not disregarded as they have been previously. By combining my passion for aviation, my commitment to diversity and inclusion, and my Hawaiian culture, I am determined to impact the lives of underserved populations in Hawaii, my future school, and beyond.

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

Freshman	Business owner of Island Dipped (a home-business designed to create chocolate covered confections such as chocolate dipped strawberries, pretzels, etc. You can check out my work on instagram @islanddipped)
Sophomore	Business owner of Island Dipped (a home-business designed to create chocolate covered confections such as chocolate dipped strawberries, pretzels, etc. You can check out my work on instagram @islanddipped); Received the Caltech Signature award for my excellence and leadership in the STEM fields.
Junior	Became a private pilot through George's Aviation Services; Volunteered at the Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum's Summer program where I worked with students in grades 3-5 teaching them aeronautics; Scholarship recipient from the Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum; Volunteered at the annual aviation Gala; Kamehameha Schools aviation club; Best Delegate (Model United Nations)
Senior	Intern through Hawaiian Airline's inaugural Aviation Ao program where I learned valuable experience from airline pilots, flight attendants, and management; private pilot

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

My grandparents, who live on the island of Molokai, have become heavily reliant on the aviation industry. They often feel stranded due to the inconsistent and unreliable services of Mokulele, the

monopoly airline servicing the island. They have been prevented from accessing essential medical appointments and attending special occasions resulting in drastic effects on the native Hawaiian population and diminishing their quality of life. I wish to return to Hawaii after my educational journey with a vision to improve the aviation industry throughout the state and give back to my community and the people I love. My journey as an airline pilot will lay the foundation to gain exposure to the industry and one day move into a management role to truly make a change. I've been fortunate to partner with the Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum, earning a scholarship for a year-long program aimed at obtaining private pilot's licenses. The program allowed me to participate in volunteer opportunities such as working with students in their educational summer camp, the Explorer's Club. Here I was able to teach students through my newfound educational knowledge building relationships and inspiring them to dream of their life in Aviation. I also volunteered at other aviation community events such as the Annual Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum Gala, where I met and fostered relationships with fellow aviators and generous donors. This was a great opportunity to give back to the museum which gave me the chance of a lifetime, fostering my dream of aviation. Throughout high school, I faced frequent moral dilemmas that tested my character. When I witnessed a teacher inappropriately harassing female students in my class I refused to sit back and let it happen. Despite the potential backlash, I advocated for my peers through several meetings with academic advisors, administration, and lawyers, resulting in the teacher's imminent dismissal. This experience taught me the importance of using my voice, even in uncomfortable or "risky" situations, to provoke change for communities that cannot speak for themselves. My journey from once shy child to a licensed private pilot and academic success reinforces the importance of perseverance and self-belief. Looking ahead, I see endless possibilities for my future in the skies. I aim to use my unique perspective in aviation to promote opportunities and education for Hawaii's youth. My ultimate goal is to improve air transportation services throughout Hawaii ensuring communities like Molokai are heard and not disregarded as they have been previously. By combining my passion for aviation, my commitment to diversity and inclusion, and my Hawaiian culture, I am determined to impact the lives of underserved populations in Hawaii, my future school, and beyond.

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

Bumblebees shouldn't fly. According to the laws of aerodynamics, their wings are too frail and their bodies too heavy, so they should be condemned to an earthbound life. Yet defying all odds, they soar anyway. But how? In many ways, I am a bumblebee. The house I was told to call home was filled with conservative values that clashed with my identity. As a multiracial gay individual, I faced cultural, social, and economic hardships that threatened to clip my wings before I could even take off. My parents' strong political views and frequent arguments created a turbulent environment for my siblings and me. Their disapproval of the LGBTQ+ community forced me to hide a fundamental part of myself. But just as bumblebees don't let their anatomical limitations ground them, I refuse to let my circumstances define my

future. So I set my eyes on a life in aviation, an opportunity to be free. Yet, I had no financial or educational support from my parents so I carved a path on my own. At just 17 years old, I became a private pilot. Fortunately, I did so through a scholarship program from the Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum which funded my flight training when my parents were unwilling. This achievement wasn't just about being able to fly but proving that I could soar above the limitations set against me. Even when my siblings were deemed academic failures by our parents, I pushed myself to enroll in advanced placement, honors, and dual credit courses throughout my high school career maintaining a 4.0 unweighted GPA. In doing so, I will graduate with an Associate of Arts Degree from Hawaii Pacific University alongside my high school honors diploma. I have also received several academic awards such as the Caltech Signature Award demonstrating my excellence in science and math, and recognition from the College Board as an outstanding student in the African American and Indigenous (native Hawaiian) categories. But I wouldn't be here today without learning from hardship. My journey from a marginalized child to a licensed private pilot and academic success reinforces the importance of perseverance and self-belief. My experiences have shaped who I am, sparking a passion for growth and positive change in my community. Like bumblebees who pollinate flowers and contribute to the ecosystem, I will make meaningful contributions to the aviation community and beyond. Whether it may take the form of improving air transport services for underserved communities in Hawaii or advocating for greater representation in STEM fields, I'm committed to using my wings to lift others. Despite the voices that said I couldn't fly, I've taken off. With the wind beneath my wings now, I'm ready to soar to new heights proving that challenging societal constraints leads to a whole new world of possibilities.

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 49230

Home Island: Hawaii **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: Hawaii Pacific University

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** Never attended college/1st year in college

Field of Study: Social Sciences & Public Health **Specific Program or Major:** Elementary Education

EFC: $11,124.00 **COA:** $30,020.00 **Remaining Cost:** $18,896.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

The career path I intend to pursue is an elementary school teacher. Ideally, I would love to be back at Kamehameha Schools Kapalama campus, continuing my journey and giving back to the school that gave me so much. Deciding what I wanted to do with my life is one of the biggest and most important decisions I will ever make, and I wanted my career to be more than a paycheck. I want to do something that I am passionate about. This was a very difficult decision to come to and I honestly had no idea what I wanted to do. This was until I was given an opportunity during my junior year in high school to be an assistant coach for my cousin's soccer team. Coaching itself was a whirlwind of an experience, I got to meet so many different girls all with different personalities, abilities, and attitudes. Although extremely challenging at times this was one of the greatest experiences I have had. I was so grateful to be given an opportunity that made me realize what I wanted to do for the rest of my life. Then one day I realized that I had so much fun teaching these girls and seeing them grow and get better, and I knew that I could be happy doing that for the rest of my life. I always knew that I wanted a career that went beyond me, and teaching is perfect for that. Throughout that experience, I learned just as much about myself as I did about those girls. I learned that my strengths include patience, kindness, and understanding. I wanted to go into a field where I can put those qualities to good use. I am currently a first year student studying elementary education in pursuit of my Bachelor's degree at Hawaii Pacific University. I was fortunate enough to earn an Associate of Arts degree from Hawaii Pacific University while in

high school, so I am a third-year student in terms of credits. After earning this degree, I plan on obtaining a Master's degree also in the field of education preferably in the administrative side of education. I know that achieving this won't be easy but I am motivated and determined to do so for the sake of our lahui.

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

2022	AYSO Assistant Coach; Joelle; 30 hrs
2023	AYSO Assistant Coach; Joelle; 30 hrs
2024	The Pantry; Jennie; 3 hrs

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

When I was a junior in highschool I was given an opportunity to be an assistant coach for my cousin's soccer team. I had recently stopped playing soccer myself due to burnout, this was one of the hardest choices I had to make so I was hesitant to participate in something similar. My family eventually convinced me and soon enough I was spending three days a week back on a soccer field. Coaching itself was a whirlwind of an experience, I got to meet so many different girls all with different personalities, abilities, and attitudes. Although extremely challenging at times this was one of the greatest experiences I have had. I was so grateful to be given an opportunity that made me realize what I wanted to do for the rest of my life. Deciding what career path I wanted to pursue was very difficult for me prior to coaching these girls. Then one day I realized that I had so much fun teaching these girls and seeing them grow and get better, and I knew that I could be happy doing that for the rest of my life. I always knew that I wanted a career that went beyond me, and teaching is perfect for that. Throughout that experience I learned just as much about myself as I did about those girls. I learned that my strengths include patience, kindness, and understanding. I wanted to go into a field where I can put those qualities to good use.

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

I am extremely grateful for everything my parents have done for me, they have done nothing but sacrifice for my sister and I, but from a young age I have known that they would not be able to pay for college. Although this was frustrating, the reality has done nothing but push me to do well academically and instill in me a hard work ethic.Throughout highschool I put my time into building a strong resume that would not only help me to get into college but

hopefully receive scholarships. I am currently putting myself through school, this has proven to be extremely difficult and stressful. I was fortunate enough to receive a merit scholarship from my chosen institution that eased my financial burden. I also received a few external scholarships for which I was extremely grateful for. Even with those scholarships I was forced to take out a loan and work while attending school. This burden has affected my personal life by limiting the amount of time I have for family and friends outside of school and work. Fortunately I have always been driven academically and now paying for my own education has made me have a deeper appreciation for all my classes. I know that this financial burden will not last forever and that the lessons I learn from this will only make me a better person.

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 49386

Home Island: Hawaii **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: University of Southern California

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** Never attended college/1st year in college

Field of Study: STEM **Specific Program or Major:** Architect Architecture Architectural Engineering

EFC: $37,992.00 **COA:** $61,503.00 **Remaining Cost:** $23,511.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

Rarely have I been somewhere without formulating an opinion on the most minuscule details of its design within seconds, usually with ideas for its improvement. I could never picture myself in any space without changing something, even those designed by world-class HGTV designers. I've come to realize my passion for home design and architecture fuels this mindset, which is why I aspire to be an architect and start my own real estate company. Design has always been a part of my life, but I started being more creative with design when my cousin introduced me to Minecraft. Although the video game is typically focused on combat and survival, I use it as a platform to build homes. As I continued to spend more time playing Minecraft, I got better at creating more realistic and high-end homes, incorporating concepts I saw in the media. I've learned that I love designing, and I've spent hours designing, sometimes inspired by buildings I've seen. I find the process very similar to working in the field, but it doesn't feel like work, and I often go to sleep thinking about a recent project. I'm a huge nature lover. I strive to be environmentally conscious, while still preserving luxury and convenience. As I continue to pursue interior design, I am also exposed to the construction industry's environmental impact. It hurts knowing development has been affecting climate change. At the same time, I have a platform to inflict great change to move our society to a more sustainable future. This can be achieved seamlessly and luxuriously, and I find this combination of function and style to be very beautiful. Not only do I enjoy making things look pretty, but I aim to continue to push the world of urban

development to be more environmentally friendly. It starts with how buildings are designed, from construction to livability, all factors of development impact the environment. It's becoming increasingly important for me to learn how to start and build a career in design with a focus on sustainability. I've started by building connections with local professionals, like Kanako Suzuki, an architect at a Honolulu architecture firm. I met Suzuki through a career fair hosted by my school, and through interviewing Suzuki, I was enlightened on the opportunities I should look for moving forward, like USC's 5-year Architecture program which is currently my top pick. I hope USC will be the path I take to start a real estate career. I can't wait to start my architecture journey! It's always been something I love, and it gives me an opportunity to uplift the community and preserve our environment. Through sustainable and beautiful architecture and design, development can provide luxury without taxing effects, and I look forward to learning more about how I can continue to push the limits of sustainable architecture.

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

Freshman	ILH JV Tennis, Player; Hawaii Nature Center, Volunteer; Boy Scouts Troop 181, Scout; ILH JV Golf, Player; ILH JV Diving, Player;
Sophomore	Lokahi Club Tennis, Player; ILH JV Tennis, Player; Hawaii Nature Center, Volunteer; Boy Scouts Troop 181, Scout; ILH JV Diving, Player; Keaka Kamehameha Theatre, Light Tech, Actor; Speech and Debate, Impromptu Speaking Competitor;
Junior	Lokahi Club Tennis, Player; ILH JV Tennis, Player; Hawaii Nature Center, Volunteer; Boy Scouts Troop 181, Scout; ILH Varsity Tennis, Player; Keaka Kamehameha Theatre, Light Tech; Speech and Debate, Board Member - Tournamentarian, International Extemp Speaking Competitor, Impromptu Speaking Competitor;
Senior	Hawaii Nature Center, Volunteer; Boy Scouts Troop 181, Scout; ILH Varsity Tennis, Player; Keaka Kamehameha Theatre, Light Tech, Actor; Speech and Debate, Board Member - Funordinator, International Extemp Speaking Competitor, Impromptu Speaking Competitor, Lincoln-Douglas Debater; College Horizons, Participant; VH07V, Sales Associate;

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

Since my sophomore year, I've joined the Speech and Debate team, serving on the board for two of those years. Speech has become a major part of my life. I enjoy talking, and through speech, I've honed my communication skills to be the most articulate I can be. I specialize in limited prep

categories, but I have since expanded to include research-based limited prep along with debate categories. Since I started in 2022, I've been able to significantly expand my communication skills, earning a spot and placing 6th in Impromptu at the state tournament in 2023, and in 2024, competing at states in both Impromptu and International Extemp, earning 5th in Impromptu, and state champion in International Extemp, going to the national tournament over the summer for Extemp. Speech and debate, though an academic club, is very fun for me. I enjoy learning about new things, and I am able to express that through my speech categories. In both Impromptu and International Extemp, I am required to present a speech on the fly, which means I'm required to know a bunch of information on the fly and apply it to the relevant topic I was just presented with. In addition to personal growth in speech competition, I've been a big part of the growth of my fellow teammates. As a board member and a veteran of the team, part of my job includes helping newcomers learn their category and improve in speech and debate, and in addition to assisting them to grow, I've been able to grow critical leadership skills along the way. Leading a team of passionate, loud, and sometimes argumentative teenagers is not always the easiest to do, but by learning in challenging conditions, with support from my coaches, I have been able to take the initiative in several projects that uplift our speech and debate team, including running all of our public relations and branding online, along with communication and recruitment for team members. Speech and debate have been a central part of my high school career. The team I have become a part of has really become a real family, and I've had many of my best memories through speech and debate. And on top of that, I've been able to get involved in creative aspects of my future career. Running the logistics, marketing, fundraising, and events of our speech team is similar to managing a business surrounding real estate and hospitality. I enjoy doing so many niche activities, especially anything remotely related to creativity and branding. With that, I've experimented with making our speech team more like a business in how I brand everything. I came up with the idea of a team slogan to include under our new logo that I designed – "Investigate, Imagine, Inspire." I've learned so much about myself and my love for design and entrepreneurship through speech, and being able to grow in communication, present ideas, and build a brand has been so enlightening and fun. I've truly found a community that I love dearly and have grown so much with.

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

I've lived a pretty sheltered life. My parents aren't loaded, but I've always been able to experience the best of opportunities. I've lived in the historic neighborhood of Nu'uanu my entire life. I've always been creative and found my passion for real estate and design when I was in second grade. I loved designing renderings of homes, but my creative mind always designed properties with the utmost luxury, and although they were gorgeous and practical, they would be expensive to build in real life. Toward the end of 2021, my parents were informed that we needed to find a new home to live in. The home my mother had leased since she was 25 had been our family home my entire life. The landlord became an aunty for

us. However, our landlord's daughter, who was just married and expecting a baby, needed a home, and in the crazy real estate market of 2021, was unable to find a suitable home in her price range. However, God has a way of performing miracles. Though she told us we needed to find another place to live within 12 months, our landlord had found out that one of our neighbors was preparing his home to sell, so we ended up purchasing it off-market, a dream come true for my parents who wanted to stay in Nu'uanu but didn't know how we'd ever afford it. This home was beautiful but old and in need of a renovation. I was faced with an incredible opportunity, playing the role of head designer of the remodel of our future home. I was beyond excited, but there was a catch. There was a lot to do, but a limited amount of time and money to get these projects done. I was faced with the reality of working on a real-life project with real-life trades and a real-life budget and timeline. I was ready to face this new challenge head-on. Balancing a budget, not only for a renovation but how it affects other aspects of my family's life, as well as choosing finishes that match the style of my entire family while considering the durability and shipping of products, was a challenge, to say the least. However, it was a fun challenge. Paying for a major renovation in addition to the mortgage payments on a home is definitely a large financial burden for my parents, but I'm lucky that my education was not hindered by this. Yes, this reduces the amount of money my parents have to spend on my education, and how much institutions may determine my family's needs as well, but I've learned so much about real life in the context of my major. I'd argue that because of this, I'm more prepared for college and to study architecture. I've had real-life experience with design and construction, and I've had to think about more than just making things pretty. Furthermore, this solidifies my passion for architecture and design. Instead of finding out if I like my major while in college, I know going into it that I'll enjoy it. The path ahead is clearer than ever, and I'm inspired to continue to learn more and pursue more projects in real estate.

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 49502

Home Island: Oahu **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: University of North Dakota

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** Never attended college/1st year in college

Field of Study: STEM **Specific Program or Major:** Aeronautics Aviation Science

EFC: $9,664.00 **COA:** $15,037.00 **Remaining Cost:** $5,373.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

Flying over extremely remote and difficult-to-reach places like Halawa and Wailau Molokai filled my body with such an exhilarating sense of accomplishment and growth that grew my passion into a pursuable future career. Passing the rolling waters of Papalaua Falls that fall off sea cliffs and the serene beauty of Wailau Valley made me confident that I was going to turn this experience into a lifelong journey where I would be able to explore every gem the world has the offer. To do so, my current goal is to become a commercial pilot for a major airline. I want to achieve this by attending the University of North Dakota, which is renowned for their academics and largest collegiate training fleet worldwide. Through this path, I hope to set myself up for success and personal growth as I explore a passion sparked by my interest in aviation. I also feel connected to their mission of working together to deliver their students the highest quality education, research, and service in aviation. Knowing that this university cares so deeply about its students is also a driving factor in my decision. Coming from Hawaii where connection to people is highly valued, I feel even better to be attending a university with a similar attitude.

Through UND's highly selective commercial aviation program, I would have access to a large fleet of 110 aircraft, and advanced simulators, providing extensive hands-on flight experience. I also intend to use the university's comprehensive curriculum that covers both the practical and theoretical aspects of aviation. As I am already working towards my Private Pilot's License, I will be ahead of my peers, which gives me a jumpstart in such a vigorous program. By choosing the University of North Dakota and staying focused on my goal, I am

setting myself up for a promising and fulfilling career in aviation. As I continue to work towards this end goal, I will always remember to stay committed to safety and, of course, develop my professional career.
As a successful commercial pilot, I plan to return to Kamehameha Schools to share my experiences and insights with aspiring pilots. The Aviation Club at Kamehameha Schools played a crucial role in opening my eyes to all of the vast possibilities within the aviation industry. As a member, I was able to speak with numerous aviation instructors and pilots who helped me shape my aeronautical journey. Having this opportunity to talk to numerous pilots I was able to see all the vast and available paths I can take. So, my goal is to also become a valuable resource for students interested in pursuing careers in aviation, just as the on-campus Aviation Club did for me. By dedicating my time and sharing my experiences, I hope to inspire and guide the next generation of pilots from Kamehameha Schools. Being a pilot, guest speaker and valuable resource is something that I look forward to. I am so extremely excited about what my future holds and can't wait for my college journey to begin!

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

Freshman	Speech and Debate (Member) and Key Club (Member)
Sophomore	Speech and Debate (Member), Key Club (member), and Aviation Club (Member)
Junior	Hui Kou (Co-founder), Georges Aviation Flight School (Student), and Aviation Club (Member)
Senior	Hui Kou (Co-founder), Georges Aviation Flight School (Student), and Aviation Club (Member)

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

Growing up on the islands, I was raised with Hawaiian values such as never showing up to a gathering empty-handed, always kissing my kupuna goodbye, and leaving these islands more abundant than I found them for generations to come. Serving my community has fostered my personal growth and strengthened my ties to the land I live on. One of the main ways that I do this is through the club I founded in my Junior year, Hui Kou. Our goal is to restore native Hawaiian plants to Hawaii's ecosystems, revitalizing our culture through environmental stewardship. This mission involves educating others and learning about Native Hawaiian plants, their unique properties, and their traditional uses. While our club mainly focuses on restoration work, we have taught students how to identify plants while hiking and spread awareness of Rapid Ohia Death to our community. On top of Hui Kou, I also use my time to better my community through my service at Kaoo Oiwi. Despite the tediousness of pulling countless weeds, building dense mud rows, and waiting many

months to grow a single kalo corm, I find joy in this process and will continue doing it because the reward of providing kalo for my family and friends surpasses all the hardships I endure. Working in Loi patches enveloped me with new ideas, practical skills, and most importantly community connections. Kakoo Oiwi has diversified my thinking since I was able to meet many brilliant like-minded Hawaiians. I feel that my time is worth being spent here since I agree with their goals of promoting the social and economic advancement of the local community.
While sustainability has been my starting point for building a future that centers my lahui, the skills I have learned such as leadership, teamwork, and most importantly cultural awareness, will also allow me to grow in my future endeavors. Using leadership and communication skills will allow me to effectively communicate with diverse groups of people. Then, I plan to use the cultural awareness I've gained from my experiences and conversations with many knowledgeable Hawaiians to become a well-educated and articulate member of my community, contributing for decades to come. This land with continue to provide for us so it's my turn to give back. With every plant restored, every kalo harvested, and countless lessons shared, I hope to foster hope for our future generations. I've discovered that my roots run as deep as the ancient loi found at Kakoo Oiwi, and my potential as vast as the native forest. Grounded in this knowledge, my hopes and dreams are even higher. Because by nurturing the land, I have found my purpose. In serving my community, I have discovered my true and authentic self!

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

Coming from a working-class family I was taught the value of money early on. Money was always tight and continues to be which is why my grandparents instilled in me the importance of saving money and the wisdom that frugality isn't always a negative trait. My heart sank when I heard that my grandfather's house had dirt flooring and holes in the roof. Then, when he told me stories of how he frequently went hungry and ate pigeons at times, I felt motivated to break this generational cycle. I have actively sought out opportunities to better prepare myself for success through involvement in money management and business classes offered at my school. Throughout my high school career, I took numerous classes such as Independent Living, Principles of Entrepreneurship, and Personal Finance. These courses deepened my understanding of money habits and taught me how to make my money work for me. Without these vital classes, I would have been unaware of essential finances like taxes, debt management, and overall financial education.
For instance, learning about forms like the W-2, W-4, and 1099 forms was necessary for my growth. I realized that without this knowledge, I would have entered adulthood without a clear understanding of how to navigate my finances and how to fill out crucial forms like the W-4. With this knowledge and skill set, I have set up a high-yield savings account and multiple Certificates of Deposit, which have significantly improved my current financial

situation. I am incredibly thankful for the opportunity to take these classes because they have equipped me with the skills necessary to thrive in the adult world. Through diligent saving and smart investments, I have managed to double my initial starting amount which is such an exhilarating thing to say. This experience has reinforced a crucial idea that you should never let your financial situation limit your goals, because I truly believe that the only limit in life is the one your mind makes.

In conclusion, I have been through long-lasting financial hardships. Only through taking challenging classes like Independent Living, Principles of Entrepreneurship, and Personal Finance have I been able to better my situation which has impacted my parents and grandparents. Learning about my grandpa's sacrifices to create a better life for his family has influenced my desire to become a successful member of my community. He left behind his entire life in Hilo, Hawaii to come to Oahu in search of professional opportunities. While he only wants me to be financially stable, something he struggled with, I want to strive for that and more. Because life is limitless when you put your mind to it.

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 49520

Home Island: Oahu **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: Brigham Young University-Hawaii

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** Never attended college/1st year in college

Field of Study: Social Sciences & Public Health **Specific Program or Major:** Elementary Education

EFC: $40.00 **COA:** $6,068.00 **Remaining Cost:** $6,028.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

As a female freshman majoring in education at Brigham Young University Hawaii (BYUH), my career goal is to become a passionate and effective educator, with a focus on promoting inclusivity and empowerment in the classroom. I have always been drawn to working with children and helping them discover their potential, and I believe that education is a powerful tool for change in individuals and society as a whole.

I have chosen this career path because I want to make a positive impact on the lives of my future students. Education has the ability to shape not only knowledge and skills but also values and confidence. I envision myself creating a nurturing and stimulating learning environment where all students feel valued and encouraged to express themselves. Additionally, BYUH's emphasis on cultural diversity and community engagement resonates deeply with me, as I want to incorporate these values into my teaching practice.

To achieve my career goal, I plan to take full advantage of the resources available at BYUH, including participating in workshops, networking with experienced educators, and seeking leadership roles within educational organizations on campus. I will immerse myself in diverse teaching experiences through internships and volunteer opportunities in various educational settings. Furthermore, I intend to pursue ongoing professional development and stay current on educational research and best practices, so that I can continually refine my teaching methods and better serve my students.

Ultimately, my journey in education is not just about my career; it is about advocating for each child's right to a quality education and fostering a generation of learners who are equipped to contribute positively to their communities. I am excited to embark on this path and see where it leads me, and I am committed to making a difference along the way.

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

2019	Waianae Veterinary Clinic- Vet Tech Assistant- Cynthia & Christopher Collier
2021	Waianae Veterinary Clinic- Vet Tech Assistant- Cynthia & Christopher Collier
2022	Waianae Veterinary Clinic- Vet Tech Assistant- Cynthia & Christopher Collier
2023	Waianae Veterinary Clinic- Vet Tech Part Time- Cynthia & Christopher Collier

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

As a freshman majoring in education at Brigham Young University Hawaii (BYUH), one on-campus activity that profoundly influenced my personal growth was my involvement in a community tutoring program aimed at helping local elementary students. This initiative not only provided me with practical teaching experience but also helped me gain insights into my capabilities, strengths, and areas for improvement as an aspiring educator.

Initially, I was nervous about stepping into a classroom, particularly as a tutor. I was concerned that I wouldn't be able to effectively communicate concepts or keep the students engaged. However, once I began working with the children, I found that my fears began to dissipate. I realized that building relationships with the students was as important as the content I was teaching them. I learned to be patient, to listen actively, and to adapt my teaching style to meet the diverse needs of each student. This experience taught me the importance of empathy and understanding in education.

As I continued to volunteer, I noticed that my confidence grew. I became more effective at explaining math and reading concepts, and I began to see the students thrive. Witnessing their progress sparked a deep passion for teaching within me. I discovered that my career goal was not just about delivering information, but about inspiring and empowering students. I wanted to help them find their own love for learning, just as I was discovering mine through this experience.

Additionally, working in this tutoring program helped me recognize the larger role that educators play in their communities. I saw firsthand the challenges that some families faced, from language barriers to financial instability, and it made me want to be an advocate for my future students. I began to understand the importance of cultural competence in teaching, especially in a diverse environment like Hawaii, where each student's background influences their learning experience.

Reflecting on this experience, I realized that my journey in education is not just about teaching in the traditional sense; it's about fostering a caring and supportive learning environment. I emerged from this experience with a renewed sense of purpose and clarity regarding my career goals. I aspire to become an educator who not only imparts knowledge but also serves as a mentor and a guide for my students, helping them navigate their own paths to success.
Ultimately, this tutoring program was a pivotal moment during my freshman year at BYUH, propelling me toward personal growth and a deeper understanding of what it means to be an effective educator. It shaped my educational philosophy and affirmed my commitment to making a positive impact in the lives of my future students.

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

As a freshman majoring in education at Brigham Young University–Hawaii, I have faced several financial challenges that have shaped my journey to college. Growing up in a household where money was often tight, I have always been acutely aware of the limitations that financial constraints can impose on pursuing higher education.
One of the most significant difficulties I've encountered is the rising cost of tuition and living expenses. My family has a limited income, which has made affording college a daunting task. Although I was able to secure some scholarships, they only cover a portion of my expenses. As a result, I have had to take on part-time work to help bridge the gap. Balancing work with my studies has proven to be physically and emotionally taxing; there have been nights when I struggled to keep my eyes open during lectures after a long shift. This fatigue has sometimes hindered my academic performance and made it more challenging to engage fully with my studies and peers.
These financial hardships have also affected my personal life. I often feel a sense of stress regarding my financial situation, which can interfere with my ability to enjoy the college experience. Social events or outings with friends sometimes feel out of reach because I worry about the costs involved. I've had to learn to prioritize my spending carefully and often choose less expensive activities that fit within my limited budget.
To manage these challenges, I have utilized several strategies and resources. Firstly, I have diligently researched and applied for additional scholarships and grants specific to education majors. Finding opportunities that cater to my field has motivated me to maintain strong academic performance. Secondly, I have utilized university resources, such as financial advising services, to better understand budgeting and financial planning. They have helped me create a budget that allows me to track my expenses more effectively.
Additionally, I've relied on support from my family and friends. They have provided both emotional and financial support, reminding me that I'm not alone in this journey. I've also

connected with campus organizations focused on helping students in financial need, which have offered workshops and networking opportunities.

In summary, while my financial circumstances have presented significant challenges, they have also taught me resilience, resourcefulness, and the importance of community support. I remain committed to my education and career goals, knowing that overcoming these hardships will only strengthen my resolve and prepare me for a future in teaching.

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 49572

Home Island: Hawaii **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: Chaminade University of Honolulu

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** 1st year graduate/professional

Field of Study: Other **Specific Program or Major:** Counseling Psychology

EFC: $0.00 **COA:** $27,454.00 **Remaining Cost:** $27,454.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

I grew up in Waianae, a hometown stereotyped and characterized by anything but success. As a fair-skinned, medium build, dirty-blonde haired, green-blue eyed, high-pitched voice Native Hawaiian, I was never the cookie-cutter local. I understand the ridicule and ostracism that one can face in life. I faced it constantly, and in many ways, I still do today. I was reared in a faith-filled house and was taught early on about the love our Heavenly Father has for all of us. It was hard for me to understand during this time as my prayers seemed to fall on deaf ears. Yet despite my attempt to commit suicide, I reached out one final time in prayer, and God answered, sending me my mother, who shouldn't have been home at that time. From then on, I have an unwavering and unyielding faith in God and His love for all of us, amongst many other beautiful life lessons. I have seen how hopeless the darkness can be. I want to help the rising generation, including kids, adolescents, and young adults. Amidst the chaos of growing up, many of life's influential decisions occur, sometimes with no guidance, support, or direction. I don't believe that any population is more significant than another. Still, this specific population can significantly impact our future as they are our future leaders, innovators, and, most importantly, parents. I want to support this clientele by giving them the tools to overcome life's daily, unexpected stressors and their anxieties, experiences, and trauma through traditional and non-traditional means. Each client has a different lifestyle, even if ethnically similar, and their therapy sessions should embody all facets of their life, not just the cookie-cutter methods. As a graduate student and future therapist, I will bring this perspective, understanding, unwavering dedication, humility, and the life

experiences I have to a profession that sometimes forgets the social aspect of this social science. Beliefs on the effectiveness of culturally based and non-Western forms of therapy are not widely accepted, deemed worthy, or credible in the scientific community. Yet, through willingness and necessary research, many skeptics can see the efficacy of these methods, and further underrepresented communities can find their place in therapy. It is easy to become just a number; in many ways, I am seen only as a number by some, but the difference between a counselor and a "great" multicultural counselor is seeing the one. I can only achieve this dream by obtaining at least a Master's degree in Counseling, although I would love to get my PhD or PsyD, so I can become licensed. The funds I receive allow me to achieve my dreams and set myself up as a future multicultural counselor with various skills and techniques to help all populations. Everyone has a story to share; I want to provide them with the means to convey it.

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

2024	2024 Culture Night (BYU-Hawaii Student Leadership and Service), Jacquie Alisa, 25hrs; 2024 Food Fest (BYU-Hawaii Student Leadership and Service), Jacquie Alisa 25 hrs; Music Therapy Intern (Sounding Joy Music Therapy), Nina Guerrero, 12-15 hrs.; LDS Stake Service Project: clean Laie temple ground, Kingsley Ah You & Alipate Latu, 1-2 hours, Blood Bank Donation, Melanie Kauvaka 1 hour
2023	BYUH Hawaiian Chapter President, Jerusha Magalei and Jacquie Alisa, 50 hours (unsure as this was course over 2 semesters, just don't want to sound like I'm lying cause I'm not) ; 2023 Food Fest (Hawaiian Club President) 4 hrs., Giving Machines, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Valerie Manoa 3 hrs.

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

Music is the core of who I am, whether it be steel drum classes, hula dancing, choir, or jam sessions with friends. It was my constant friend, and it helped me understand parts of myself and talents that I didn't know I possessed. Music is found in all aspects of our lives; there are few moments in life where music doesn't exist. If you asked me what profession I would go into growing up, counseling was perhaps the furthest from my mind. I never envisioned myself going into counseling, partly because I personally never had experience with counseling and had no personal need for it. I have seen the darkness in this life, especially when you don't always fit in. As a fair-skinned, medium build, dirty-blonde haired, green-blue eyed, high-pitched voice Native Hawaiian, I was never the

"cookie-cutter" local island boy that anyone would imagine when they think of Polynesia, let alone Waianae, my hometown. I understand the ridicule and ostracism that one can face in life. I faced it constantly, and in many ways, I still do today. I was reared in a faith-filled house and was taught early on about the love our Heavenly Father has for all of us. It was hard for me to understand during this time as my prayers seemed to fall on deaf ears. Yet despite my attempt to commit suicide, I reached out one final time in prayer, and God answered, sending me my mother, who shouldn't have been home at that time. From then on, I have an unwavering and unyielding faith in God and His love for all of us, amongst many other beautiful life lessons. Needless to say, I have seen how hopeless the darkness can be. Yet, in life's beauty, we all deal with these problems differently, some in more adverse means. As an undergraduate student, I learned about and saw first-hand how effective non-traditional and cultural-based forms of therapy are. Such forms, such as expressive arts therapy, allow people to express themselves through art in ways verbal communication can't. I saw this dancing hula, singing in the choir, and even singing in the shower. While these situations occurred outside a traditional counseling setting, they nevertheless had therapeutic effects on me. Additionally, as a music therapy intern, I worked with special needs adults and used music as a means of therapy. One of those clients, Charles, had cerebral palsy. This condition left him unable to move anything below his neck. However, as Charles and I sat in the room alone, waiting for others to join us, a simple melody I played on the piano caused Charles to move his head and body from side to side. It was nothing short of a miracle, especially since the therapist stated that she hadn't seen such activity from Charles. There is efficacy in these alternative forms of therapy that aren't actively used. Everyone has a story to share; we must be willing to provide them with the means to convey it.

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

I epitomize what it means to not judge a book by its cover. As a fair-skinned, medium build, dirty-blonde haired, green-blue eyed, high-pitched voice Native Hawaiian, I was never the “cookie-cutter” local island boy that anyone would imagine when they think of Polynesia, let alone any island local. Even now, I suppose it’s hard for you to visualize what I look like, and you might even overlook my application based on appearance. Growing up in Waianae, police sirens, gang wars, domestic abuse, teen pregnancy, and rampant drug use are second nature. Ask any local, and they would characterize Waianae as the same ghetto. It seemed I was destined to become just another number, another criminal, another high school dropout, another deadbeat on the west side. The only pathway to success was the school you attended, yet with only a handful of quality private schools, the competition was stiff to get in, let alone afford. I was blessed to be reared in a loving, faith-filled family, but we had financial struggles. Having all three sons fortunate to get into Kamehameha Schools is a blessing, yet it comes with a cost. While financial aid helped, it was the only means we could afford school, among the sacrifices my parents made for us. Many look at our family

and think we have money, but they mistake our happiness for wealth; we could only afford our house because it was Hawaiian homestead. My parents always sacrificed) for us to achieve our dreams. There are few moments in my life where I felt I had something of my own; my home, food, life's commodities, and life's luxuries were given to me by the sacrifices of others rather than my own. My recent bachelor's degree was only possible because of my parents' support and FAFSA offering me loans since I wasn't married and didn't qualify for additional help due to my age. I don't desire to sound unappreciative because we drink from wells we did not dig. Still, I don't want to be a financial burden to my parents anymore. They have sacrificed so much for me and have yet to enjoy the fruits of their labor for themselves. As much as my parents would like to help me with my graduate degree, they don't have the means to. I was never the cookie-cutter Waianae boy, but my life experiences and rearing amongst a community that understands struggles and opposition yet supports each other is one of the main reasons I want to empower the younger generation as a therapist. I can only do so by having the financial support to further my education and achieve this calling. Without financial support, I have no means of my own to support my educational goals and become a licensed therapist. The rising generation needs us, and I want to support them in realizing their potential and power as Kanaka Maoli. Understanding who they are can help them understand their impact on the world. It is this spirit of aloha that defines and connects us as Hawaiians.

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 49776

Home Island: Oahu **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: Chaminade University of Honolulu

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** 1st year graduate/professional

Field of Study: Other **Specific Program or Major:** Doctorate/Clinical Psychology/PsyD

EFC: $1,600.00 **COA:** $27,720.00 **Remaining Cost:** $26,120.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

My Career goal is to become a Clinical Psychologist and open my private practice. I want to specialize in those with developmental or cognitive disabilities like ADHD and ASD. To achieve this, I will go to graduate school to gain my master's and/or doctorate. I have chosen this career through my time at Never Quit Dreaming. A non-profit organization that offers resources that promote growth and confidence in children with special needs such as ASD, ADHD, etc. through the power of sports. Because I loved and cherished working with people with special needs, I decided to continue helping them through mental health services.

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

2023	Never Quit Dreaming, Intern, Supervisor: Kristopher Dung; 250 hours
2024	Spill the Tea Cafe, Intern, Supervisor: Deizhanna Kaya-Abad; 125 hours
2024	PRIDE Festival, Spill the Tea Cafe, Volunteer, Supervisor: Deizhanna Kaya-Abad; 3.5 hours

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

The off-campus activity I participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of my career goals is volunteering at a non-profit organization called Never Quit Dreaming. It's an organization based in Hawai'i that accommodates activities for special needs individuals. They understand that it can be hard for special needs families to find opportunities and resources for their children, so we help them by giving it to them. As a volunteer, I help the organization by assisting in their specialized sports programs, special events, and collaborations. They aim to offer special needs families resources and help kids discover their inner strength, build confidence, and foster lasting friendships. I have been a volunteer for this organization since 2014. This organization has helped me find what I want to do for a career. The profession I want to take on is becoming a Clinical Psychologist. This will allow me to help people find solutions or treatment for their mental health issues, especially those who have special needs. This will also allow me to understand better those that need my services, and help them with whatever they need help with.

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

A financial circumstance I've had was not being able to enjoy the amenities that come with dorming at a college. Because it is expensive to dorm, I wasn't able to afford it. Because of this, I've had a hard time meeting new people and making connections. To counteract this, I've had to meet new people either in my classes or from walking past them which can be a little weird. But I've been able to manage, and have met new people through this.

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 50108

Home Island: Oahu **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: University of Connecticut

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** Never attended college/1st year in college

Field of Study: Other **Specific Program or Major:** Bioengineering Medical Engineering Public Health / Pre-Med Track

EFC: $30.00 **COA:** $41,192.00 **Remaining Cost:** $41,162.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

Few professions touch lives as profoundly as medicine. To meet someone in their most vulnerable moments, extend hope, or guide them through their final chapter is a privilege. A physician is both healer and witness, navigating life, death, and sickness with respect for every stage. Yet, healthcare remains a maze of barriers, disproportionately affecting underserved communities. Patients should not have to face these challenges alone.

This calling is deeply personal, rooted in my Hawaiian heritage and my experience as a chronically ill patient. Growing up in Hawaii, I've seen how limited access to care affects my community. Diagnosed with chronic migraines and Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome (POTS), I've felt the fear of unanswered questions and the comfort of a provider who truly listens. These experiences taught me the importance of advocacy and patient-centered care while fueling my passion for medicine.

As a medical assistant in dermatology, I've seen the human side of healthcare—calming teenagers with severe acne and supporting elderly patients during skin cancer treatments. Shadowing a nurse practitioner and dermatologist showed me the perseverance and compassion required to deliver effective care. My commitment to improving healthcare extends to research: as a student contributor to the Population Sciences in the Pacific Program at the University of Hawai?i Cancer Center, I study Hawaii's sunscreen filter ban and its impact on public awareness. These experiences strengthened my belief in addressing barriers to care through both clinical practice and public health initiatives.

I plan to major in public health and biomedical engineering to tackle healthcare challenges from clinical and systemic perspectives. By applying to BSMD programs, I hope to integrate my passion for medicine with my commitment to underserved communities, particularly in Hawaii. Beyond my personal aspirations, I aim to inspire young Native Hawaiians to embrace education and perseverance. Representation matters, and I hope my journey shows others that challenges can be overcome through determination and support.
I am driven by the responsibility to bridge someone's fear of today with hope for tomorrow. This purpose—shaped by my personal health struggles, hands-on patient care, and dedication to improving healthcare—fuels my desire to pursue medicine. As a future physician, I hope to create a space where healing is not just a possibility but a reality for every patient, regardless of the barriers they face.

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

Freshman	JABSOM CANOE Intern; Hawaiians for Medicine Club Member; Piano and guitar student
Sophomore	Volunteer at Queens Medical Center; JV Swimmer; KSK Sinfonietta Violin II Section Leader; MD & NP Shadower; Team Member at Jamba Hawaii; Piano and guitar student; VP + Co-founder of KSK HOSA
Junior	VP + Co-Founder of KSK HOSA; JV Swimmer; Breast Cancer Hawaii Community Engagement Intern; Breast Cancer Hawaii Youth Advocate Fellowship Coordinator; Student Researcher at University of Hawaii Cancer Center; Dermatologic Medical Assistant; KSK Sinfonietta Violin II Section Leader; Piano and guitar student
Senior	Breast Cancer Hawaii Community Engagement Intern; Dermatologic Medical Assistant; Student Researcher at University of Hawaii Cancer Center; VP + Co-Founder of KSK HOSA; Co-Founder & Secretary of KSK Crafty Club; KSK Sinfonietta Violin II Section Leader; KSK Admissions Volunteer; Piano and guitar student

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

Co-founding my high school's HOSA chapter, an organization dedicated to inspiring future healthcare professionals, has been the most rewarding and transformative experience of my life. When my classmate and I discovered that our Hawaiian private school, known for its commitment to fostering leaders and cultural enrichment, lacked a club for students interested in the health sciences, we felt a spark of purpose. It was a realization that students with an interest in healthcare needed a space to connect, learn, and grow–a place where they could explore careers and be inspired to serve their communities. Driven by this vision, we decided to take action.

Creating this club was no small task. Together, we navigated the challenges of building a club from the ground up–securing funding, recruiting members, and organizing our first meetings. From drafting a mission statement to setting up workshops and community events, I felt grateful for the opportunity to lay a foundation for students who share the same passions. What began as a small initiative quickly blossomed into a thriving community; one that connected peers with opportunities to explore various healthcare careers and, ultimately, our shared vision of giving back to Hawaii. Through this process, I saw how empowering students to pursue their dreams can transform individuals and their greater community.

As HOSA Vice President and Co-Founder, I took on the responsibility of mentoring younger members, organizing workshops, and preparing our team for state competitions. I found that guiding our team was not about being the loudest voice in the room but about listening and supporting each member. It was a privilege to watch our members step into leadership roles and contribute their own ideas. One of the most memorable moments was watching a peer advance to an international competition, representing Kamehameha Schools and the entire state of Hawai'i. Their success was a testament to the power of teamwork and perseverance and a reminder of the far-reaching impact of creating spaces where students feel seen, heard, and encouraged.

This experience taught me invaluable lessons about leadership, collaboration, and adaptability. Looking back, I feel incredibly grateful to have established this club. HOSA has not only strengthened my leadership skills but also reinforced my current commitment as a part-time healthcare worker (medical assistant) and future career in Hawaii's healthcare system as a dermatologist. This role gave me a window into the importance of mentorship and the power of shared purpose. Knowing that I helped create a space where students explore their interests and grow into the leaders they aspire to be fills me with pride and gratitude. The teamwork and camaraderie I experienced in this role will shape my approach to future challenges as a student and a physician, where I hope to continue inspiring, empowering, and serving with the same dedication I have given to HOSA.

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

My health conditions have severely impacted my daily life and academic capabilities. I was diagnosed with POTS (2023) and migraines (2021), which have required numerous hospitalizations and required me to take periodic breaks from work and affected my attendance in school. The unpredictable nature of my symptoms, such as episodes of fainting, limits my ability to fully engage in classes. Although, I am working with school administrators and have received accommodations to better my academic experience. During junior year, I had to medically withdraw from several courses due to the severity of my POTS. In senior year, ongoing post-concussive syndrome following a syncope episode from POTS further disrupted my studies, requiring absences for doctor appointments, hospitalizations, and another medical withdrawal. My father's struggle with drug addiction

has also impacted my academic journey, especially during my high school years. His absence, as he attended rehab during the latter half of freshman year profoundly affected my family and, consequently, my academic performance. In sophomore year, his work injury further challenged our family's financial stability and
required me to care for him after school, and I felt the need to step in, shifting my focus from school to work as a barista and medical assistant to support us through this difficult time. Balancing work, family responsibilities, and school added immense
pressure, but it taught me resilience and responsibility. Despite these challenges, I am committed to my goals and continue to persevere, drawing strength from these experiences to pursue my academic and personal
aspirations as a future Hawaiian physicia

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 50183

Home Island: Hawaii **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: Chapman University

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** 3rd year in college

Field of Study: Business & Communications **Specific Program or Major:** Communications

EFC: $18,822.00 **COA:** $58,634.00 **Remaining Cost:** $39,812.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

Becoming a pediatric speech pathologist has been my career goal since I was a Sophomore in high school. I am now finishing up the Fall semester of my Sophomore year in college, and my career goal still remains. When telling people about my career aspirations, their reaction goes one of two ways. Either "I've never heard someone say that before!" or "What's a speech pathologist?" This profession is often misunderstood and underrepresented, specifically among Pacific Islanders. This reality has deepened my commitment to joining this field, where speech-language pathologists (SLPs) are in high demand. As I was looking over college majors in high school, I stumbled upon communication disorders. Upon researching this career path, I learned that among 188,143 certified SLPs, there are only 255 self-identified Pacific Islanders within this field. Native Hawaiians tend to be overlooked in both education and medical fields. Learning this fueled my passion for this career path. This past summer, I took a significant step toward my goal by working as a lead preschool teacher at Holy Nativity School. Teaching children was a dream come true, and the experience was both rewarding and challenging. I gained skills such as time management, lesson planning, and adaptability, all of which are crucial in working with young children. However, what struck me most was witnessing the unique struggles each child faced when expressing themselves. One student in particular, a four-year-old boy named Owen, resonated with me. Owen struggles with a speech impediment that often led to frustration, embarrassment, and meltdowns. It was overwhelming to see and experience. Given that I am not a licensed speech pathologist, I couldn't give him any real help or treatment, but I could offer him

patience and empathy. Observing his challenges underscored the importance communication has in fostering confidence and connection. These challenges didn't discourage me. Rather, it made me even more motivated to work with children, especially children like Owen. My path to becoming a speech pathologist is just beginning. After completing my undergraduate degree in communications at Chapman University, I will then need to obtain my Master of Science degree, which I hope to do at the University of Hawai?i at Manoa. Chapman does not offer the prerequisite courses for graduate programs in speech pathology, so I've sought alternatives. After extensive research and meetings, I found that the University of Hawai?i offers an online prerequisite program in speech pathology. Although completing this program will add an extra year to my academic timeline and require additional costs, it is a challenge I welcome wholeheartedly. I am deeply passionate about addressing the underrepresentation of Pacific Islanders in the field of speech pathology. By combining my cultural understanding, academic dedication, and personal experiences, I aim to make a meaningful impact as a pediatric speech pathologist.

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

2024	Kakoo oiwi, Melissa Mau, 9 hrs; Kuilei Cliffs, Mary Demonteverde, 20 hrs; Hooulu Designs, Logan Shiroma, 40 hrs.
2023	Students Give Back Club, Lea Parveen Arce-Enoka, 15 hrs.; Hawaii Club, Lauren Kalama, 10 hrs. ; Environmental Club, Kainani Tacazon, 10 hrs.
2022	Students Give Back Club, Lea Parveen Arce-Enoka, 15 hrs., Be the Match, Stacy Torres, 5 hrs.; Hooulu Designs, Logan Shiroma, 15 hrs.
2021	Sunrise Movement, Sophie Lehua, 20 hrs. Marx & Crafts Club, Ella Turner, 10 hrs.

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

Working as a financial aid office assistant at Chapman University has been an incredibly enriching experience that has sparked personal growth and deepened my understanding of myself and my career goals. Initially, I applied for this position to alleviate the financial burden on my parents and contribute to my educational expenses. However, what truly drew me to this job was my personal connection to the mission of financial aid. As a grateful recipient of financial assistance, I understand the stress of paying for college and want to help my peers navigate this daunting process. In my role, I assist with financial aid inquiries, manage deadlines, organize and scan confidential documents, update databases, and provide customer service through various channels. I also help students connect with the appropriate staff and resources, ensuring they feel supported and informed. Beyond the technical responsibilities, this job has given me the opportunity to hear the stories of students

facing significant challenges—whether financial, personal, or academic. Despite these hardships, many remain committed to their education and future aspirations. Their resilience and determination are profoundly inspiring. This experience has been humbling, as it has highlighted both my privileges and my ability to relate to others through shared struggles. Hearing the unique circumstances of my peers has expanded my perspective and deepened my empathy, reminding me that behind every file or inquiry is a person striving for a better future. My work in the financial aid office has also reinforced my drive to become a speech-language pathologist. Just as I assist students in overcoming obstacles to achieve their goals, I hope to one day help individuals find their voice—literally and figuratively—through speech therapy. Witnessing the resilience of my peers has motivated me to remain steadfast in my own studies and goals. This job has been more than a way to ease financial pressures; it has been a source of inspiration and personal growth. It has reminded me of the power of perseverance, the value of service, and the importance of lifting others as I work toward achieving my dreams.

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

Attending a private elementary school was an incredible privilege. I was exposed to smaller class sizes, individualized learning, and a safe, nurturing environment. With that being said, it was evident to me at a young age that I was not as wealthy or financially stable as my peers. While many of my classmates enjoyed afterschool activities, my parents encouraged me to play in our yard instead because we couldn't afford the additional costs. When my dad picked me up in our great-grandma's well-worn minivan, I would flush with embarrassment as others climbed into shiny luxury cars. When my friends asked to come over to my house, I would think of every excuse just so that they couldn't come over and see my modest home. Though these moments may seem trivial now, they consumed me as a young child. Despite these challenges, my parents worked tirelessly to provide for my siblings and me. They ensured that we never had to worry about where our next meal would come from, whether we had a roof over our heads, or whether we could pursue an education. Their resilience and sacrifices shaped my understanding of hard work and gratitude. However, 2023 brought new and significant financial hardships to our family. My dad experienced a medical emergency, being diagnosed with benign prostatic hyperplasia and polyps on his bladder. The medical expenses that followed placed a heavy burden on my family, all while it coincided with my first year of college. This added strain on my parents—both emotionally and financially—was noticeable, and I did my best to lessen the burden by seeking financial aid opportunities. At the same time, my mom faced an unsettling level of job uncertainty due to potential changes at her workplace. As an inflight manager at Hawaiian Airlines for over 25 years, she has been the foundation of our family's financial stability. However, early in 2023, discussions of a merger between Hawaiian Airlines and Alaska Airlines began

circulating. This placed her job at risk. This year, the merger was finalized. She was offered an interim role with a timeline of six to twelve months, after which her employment remains uncertain. Watching my mom navigate this unprecedented situation with strength and grace has been both inspiring and difficult to watch. These challenges have deeply impacted my academic and personal life. Balancing the stress of my family's financial instability while navigating the demands of college has been daunting. However, these experiences have also taught me resilience, adaptability, and the importance of seeking support when needed. I've utilized on-campus resources such as financial aid counseling and work-study jobs to help offset costs. Through it all, I remain steadfast in my educational and career goals. These hardships have not only shaped my perspective but have also fueled my determination to succeed and one day provide the same unwavering support to others that my family has given to me.

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 50226

Home Island: Oahu **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: Creighton University

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** 3rd year in college

Field of Study: STEM **Specific Program or Major:** Computer Science

EFC: $30,125.00 **COA:** $44,524.00 **Remaining Cost:** $14,399.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

My career goal is to become a computer scientist who uses technology to address social and environmental challenges, particularly within the Hawaiian community. I am passionate about leveraging data, software, and innovation to create solutions that enhance sustainability, promote education, and preserve cultural heritage. The rapid growth of technology offers a unique opportunity to bridge the gap between traditional knowledge and modern practices, and I want to be at the forefront of this movement.

I chose computer science because I believe it is a powerful tool for change. In a world that is becoming increasingly interconnected, technology has the potential to transform industries, empower communities, and protect the environment. I've always been fascinated by how technology works, and I recognize its vast potential to impact society in meaningful ways. As someone deeply connected to my Hawaiian heritage, I want to use my skills to serve my community, helping preserve the culture, environment, and values that are important to us.

To achieve this goal, I am committed to excelling in my studies and gaining hands-on experience through internships and projects that focus on using technology for social good. I also plan to work with local organizations and initiatives that support the Hawaiian community, whether through environmental conservation efforts, educational programs, or tech-related solutions for everyday challenges. Additionally, I hope to mentor young Native Hawaiians interested in technology and create pathways for them to enter the field, encouraging the next generation to see computer science as a tool for empowering our communities.

By combining my passion for technology with my commitment to service and cultural preservation, I aim to contribute to the future of Hawaii in ways that honor our traditions while embracing innovation. My goal is to help create a future where technology serves the people and the land, ensuring that Hawaii thrives for generations to come.

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

2024	Habitat for Humanity-Build Site, Noah Takamiya, 7 hours; Creighton Luau Volunteer, Precious Nakamoto, 7 hours; Heartland Hope Mission, Julous, 7 hours; Keep Omaha Beautiful, Kacey Nishida, 2 hours; Blood Donation, N/A, 1 hour; Ronald McDonald House, Mandi Agustin, 1 hour; Kountze Food Pantry, Mandi Agustin, 3 hours; Dance Marathon Volunteer, Marissa Okamoto, 6 hours; Griswold Chruch & Nursing Home, Rexton Suzuki, 5 hours; Best Buddies events, Alexa Lozlak, 6 hours;
2023	Students Give Back Club, Lea Arce-Enoka, 7 hours; Senior Service Day, Patrick Fujioka, 5 hours; UH Manoa JESSE Program Volunteer, Kimberly Perez Hults, 3 hours; Kamehameha Swim Club Volunteer (Battle of the Sexes), John & Kevin Flanagan, 2 hours; Alpha Phi Omega services, Noah Takamiya, 23 hours; Best Buddies events, Mia Marcozzi, 15 hours;
2022	UH Manoa Kanewai Lo'i, Kimberly Perez Hults, 2 hours;
2021	Pono Project (Personal Service Project), Michael Puleloa, 20 hours;

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

This past year, emotional adversity prompted me to step back and engage in self-reflection. This reflection sparked my motivation for personal growth. This manifested as a renewed commitment to my faith and a dedication to being a better man. Realizing that I wasn't living up to my potential, I began seeking God through personal prayers and attending Mass. Engaging with others with a common interest in God helped push me into a positive mindset. This shift toward becoming more centered on goodness and selflessness has profoundly changed how I interact with others and has deepened my sense of community.

This transformation has driven me to focus on service and connection, particularly through meaningful community activities. I started volunteering regularly at food pantries, where I not only distributed goods but also built relationships with individuals who inspire me to always do the right thing and give back. I also visited a nursing home and engaged in conversations with kupuna whose wisdom and stories deepened my respect for the generations that came before me. That experience

taught me the power of empathy and active listening, reinforcing the importance of focusing on others rather than myself.
On campus, this change inspired me to step into a leadership role in my service fraternity, where I organized activities to bring students together in a spirit of collaboration and support. Whether planning events or encouraging quieter voices to speak up, I learned that leading isn't about being in the spotlight but about empowering others.
These experiences have strengthened my desire to give back to the Hawaiian community. Volunteering has shown me the value of kahiau, selfless generosity, a principle I strive to embody in everything I do. My faith has also deepened my connection to other Hawaiian values, such as malama (care for others) and kuleana (responsibility). These principles guide me as I pursue my academic and career goals, with the vision of creating positive change in our community.
In my future career in computer science, I aim to contribute to a field where Native Hawaiians are underrepresented by using my unique skills, education, and perspective to uplift the Hawaiian community. As I advance in my career, I aim to mentor others and create opportunities that open pathways for Native Hawaiians to thrive in the tech industry. I am committed to ensuring that the work I do reflects the empathy and values I have recently embraced, inspiring others to prioritize service and foster a stronger sense of community.
This journey of personal growth—rooted in faith, service, and a renewed sense of purpose—has helped me become more self-aware, more focused on others, and more committed to living a life of kahiau. I am confident that this foundation will not only help me succeed academically but also equip me to lead positive social change for Hawai?i.

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

While I have been fortunate to avoid significant financial hardships, I am mindful of the importance of financial planning and responsibility in my educational journey. My family's financial situation has encouraged me to approach opportunities thoughtfully and with gratitude.
To support my education, I actively sought scholarships, student discounts, and free educational resources. For scholarships, I researched community opportunities online, utilized resources provided by Kamehameha, and prioritized choosing a college I loved that also offered financial aid. One example of leveraging student discounts was purchasing my school laptop at a reduced price.
Free educational resources, such as Google Workspace (Docs, Spreadsheets, Slides, Gmail, etc.), have been invaluable for note-taking, assignments, and communication with professors. In one class, I was required to use Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator, which typically require a paid subscription. Instead of purchasing the software, I found library computers equipped with these tools and completed my work there. While this was less convenient than my

classmates who owned the software, I was grateful for the free access and adapted my schedule to make it work.

These experiences taught me the value of careful planning, resourcefulness, and gratitude. By thoughtfully using the resources available to me, I learned how to overcome challenges and optimize opportunities. These lessons have shaped my character and prepared me to handle future challenges with resilience and adaptability.

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 50343

Home Island: Oahu **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: Hawaii Pacific University

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** Continuing graduate/professional

Field of Study: Other **Specific Program or Major:** Masters of Business Administration

EFC: $0.00 **COA:** $20,600.00 **Remaining Cost:** $20,600.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

My career goal is to pursue dual careers in firefighting and investment management, ultimately contributing to the Hawaiian community by serving both as a firefighter and as a financial professional. The foundation of this goal is inspired by my father, a firefighter, whose commitment to helping others instilled in me a deep desire to serve my community. Firefighting, with its emphasis on protecting lives and the environment, aligns with my passion for service, while investment management offers an opportunity to support Native Hawaiian communities and provide financial resources for future generations.

I have chosen this dual career path because it allows me to blend my love for hands-on, community-based work with my interest in business and finance. Firefighting provides a unique chance to make an immediate, tangible impact on people's lives, and I am drawn to its flexibility, which will allow me to balance both careers effectively. In addition to firefighting, I aspire to work in investment management at Kamehameha Schools, where I can contribute to the legacy of Princess Pauahi by supporting programs that uplift Native Hawaiians through education, community initiatives, and economic development.

To achieve these goals, I am pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Business with a focus on Finance and Economics, followed by a Master's degree to further develop my leadership skills and business acumen. I am also preparing for a career in firefighting by undergoing the rigorous training and certifications necessary to excel in the field. I have already passed the written exam for the Honolulu Fire Department and am preparing for the physical agility test. Additionally, I am involved in the Ho'omau Fire Academy and the Honolulu Fire

Department Explorers, which provide hands-on experience and training in areas like public speaking, mock interviews, and emergency response skills.
Through academic excellence, physical preparation, and practical experience, I am determined to equip myself with the knowledge and skills needed for both firefighting and investment management. By combining these careers, I hope to create a lasting impact on my community, giving back to the lahui and furthering the vision of Princess Pauahi through service, leadership, and responsible financial management.

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

2024	2023-2024 A'o Ukulele Guild of Hawaii, Jonah Davis, 14 hours
2023	2021--2023 Admissions Assistant for Kamehameha Schools, Sheri Chan, 34 hours
2023	2023 Tennis Coach/Assisting Kamehameha Schools (JV), Christopher Parish 34 hours
2023	2023 Garden Helper, Kamehameha Schools (Students Give Back Club), Landon Choy, 3 hours

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

An off-campus activity that has profoundly influenced my personal growth and career aspirations is my involvement in the HFD Explorers Program. Designed for individuals interested in pursuing a career in firefighting and emergency services, this program provides participants with hands-on learning opportunities and foundational knowledge about fire service careers. Operated in partnership with the Honolulu Fire Department, the program includes fire station duties, classroom instruction, drills, and community service projects. Through these activities, participants receive training in essential skills such as first aid, CPR, patient stabilization, firefighting operations, ropes and knots, and hazardous materials awareness.
Being part of the HFD Explorers Program has been one of the most impactful steps I've taken toward achieving my goal of becoming a firefighter. Spending time at the Waipahu fire station, observing firefighters respond to real emergencies, and witnessing their dedication firsthand has been incredibly motivating. It has strengthened my resolve to work hard and learn as much as I can to prepare for a career in this demanding and rewarding field.
Recently, I had the opportunity to learn how to stabilize patients with neck and back injuries and safely transport them using backboards in various extraction scenarios. We also practiced basic EMT techniques, such as hooking up oxygen for patients, patching wounds, and treating burns. These practical exercises have not only enhanced my technical knowledge but also reinforced the importance of teamwork, precision, and calmness under pressure.

One of the most inspiring aspects of this experience has been witnessing the camaraderie among the firefighters. Their bond is like that of a family, built on trust, mutual respect, and shared purpose. Watching how they treat each other with such care and solidarity has given me a new perspective on the importance of teamwork and community in a career like firefighting. It's not just about responding to emergencies; it's about building a support system that helps everyone perform their best in high-stakes situations.

The HFD Explorers Program has sparked significant personal growth by providing me with a clearer sense of purpose and a deeper understanding of the values I hold. It has solidified my passion for serving my community and my commitment to the rigorous preparation required for this career. This experience has not only brought me closer to my goal of becoming a firefighter but has also taught me the importance of resilience, compassion, and the power of working together to overcome challenges.

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

The main financial challenge I face is that my two sisters are also in college, placing a significant financial strain on my family as my parents work hard to support all three of us in pursuing higher education. Covering tuition, living expenses, and other college-related costs for three children has been a tremendous burden for them. To help ease this pressure, I work part-time to contribute to household bills and support my family's financial needs.

These circumstances have had a profound impact on my academic and personal life. Balancing work, school, and family responsibilities has required careful time management and unwavering determination. There have been times when financial stress has made it difficult to focus on my studies, but it has also motivated me to push harder and make the most of every opportunity.

To manage these challenges, I've relied on financial aid, scholarships, and part-time jobs to support my education while contributing to my family. I've learned to budget carefully, prioritize essential expenses, and find cost-effective ways to achieve my goals. This experience has taught me resilience, strengthened my work ethic, and deepened my appreciation for the sacrifices my family makes to ensure my sisters and I have access to education.

These hardships have shaped my determination to succeed, not only for myself but also to honor the support of my family. They inspire me to work toward a brighter future, one where I can give back to my community and help others who face similar challenges.

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 50485

Home Island: Oahu **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: University of Hawaii at Hilo

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** 2nd year in college

Field of Study: STEM **Specific Program or Major:** Environmental Science

EFC: $5,872.00 **COA:** $7,838.00 **Remaining Cost:** $1,966.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

My career goal is to become a conservation officer in Hawai'i, working to protect the state's unique ecosystems and wildlife while promoting sustainable land and resource management. I have always been deeply connected to the land and nature, and my desire to safeguard these resources for future generations is what drives me to pursue a career in conservation. As a Native Hawaiian, I am particularly motivated to help preserve the cultural and environmental heritage that is integral to my identity and to the broader community.

The role of a conservation officer is critical in enforcing environmental laws, protecting wildlife, and ensuring that sustainable practices are adopted to conserve natural resources. I chose this career path because I believe in the power of effective environmental stewardship. Hawai'i's ecosystems are fragile, and its native species are at risk due to invasive species, climate change, and overdevelopment. As a conservation officer, I would work to preserve Hawai'i's biodiversity and educate the public about the importance of protecting the environment.

To achieve this goal, I am pursuing a degree in environmental science at UH Hilo, where I am gaining the knowledge and skills necessary to understand complex environmental systems. I am also actively participating in programs like the Kupu Hawaii Youth Conservation Corps, which gives me hands-on experience in conservation and land management. This practical experience is essential for my development as a future conservation officer, as it allows me to learn how to manage natural resources effectively, engage with communities, and address environmental challenges at the local level.

In addition to my education and field experience, I plan to pursue internships and volunteer opportunities that will further develop my skills in law enforcement, environmental policy, and wildlife protection. Networking with professionals in the field and gaining a deeper understanding of state and federal environmental regulations will also be key to achieving my career goals. By combining my academic background, practical experience, and passion for conservation, I am confident that I can make a positive impact on Hawai'i's environment as a conservation officer.

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

2024	Kupu Hawaii Youth Program, 300hrs

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

One off-campus activity that sparked a period of personal growth and a deeper understanding of my career goals was my participation in the Kupu Hawai?i Youth Conservation Corps (HYCC) summer internship. Through this program, I worked with a team of peers on conservation projects across the islands, including invasive species removal, native plant restoration, and ecological monitoring. These hands-on experiences not only allowed me to apply the knowledge I was gaining in my Environmental Science studies but also gave me a sense of purpose and connection to the land and my culture.

This internship taught me the importance of teamwork and the value of every individual's contribution to a larger goal. It also helped me realize how deeply I care about preserving Hawai?i's natural resources and cultural heritage. These experiences solidified my desire to pursue a career in conservation, potentially as a conservationist or a veterinarian focusing on wildlife and ecosystem health.

The Kupu HYCC program challenged me to step out of my comfort zone and embrace leadership opportunities, such as guiding volunteer groups and presenting our work to community members. These experiences boosted my confidence and helped me develop skills that I can carry into my future career. Overall, this activity was pivotal in shaping my personal and professional growth, reinforcing my commitment to protecting Hawai?i's environment for future generations.

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

Growing up in a Native Hawaiian family, finances have always been tight. My parents worked hard to provide for me and my siblings, but there were times when unexpected expenses strained our household. College presented a significant financial challenge, especially as I'm pursuing a degree in Environmental Science at the University of Hawai?i at Hilo. Tuition, housing, and essential supplies often seemed overwhelming. Additionally, living in Mililani, on another island from campus, added costs for housing, traveling, and transitioning to a new environment.

These financial struggles impacted my academic and personal life by forcing me to prioritize and sacrifice. I worked part-time jobs and sought scholarships to alleviate some of the burden, which sometimes meant less time for studying or participating in extracurricular activities. Despite these challenges, I've remained committed to excelling in my studies and contributing to my community. The support of programs like Kupu HYCC and mentorship from community leaders has been invaluable in helping me navigate these obstacles.

To manage and overcome financial challenges, I have relied on a combination of strategies and resources. Scholarships have been a crucial lifeline, as has budgeting meticulously to ensure my resources stretch as far as possible. I've also sought internships and opportunities that align with my career goals, providing both financial support and valuable experience. Additionally, I've built a network of mentors and peers who provide guidance and encouragement.

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 50606

Home Island: Oahu **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: University of Nevada-Las Vegas

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** 1st year graduate/professional

Field of Study: Health & Medical **Specific Program or Major:** Healthcare Administration

EFC: $0.00 **COA:** $22,698.00 **Remaining Cost:** $22,698.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

Healthcare and the human body have fascinated me for as long as I can remember. At around seven years old, I flipped through a pop-up anatomy children's book and imagined a future in medicine. Yet, when it came time to apply for colleges during my junior year of high school, while the entire world faced the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, my career aspirations changed. Watching healthcare workers, especially my mother and other frontline nurses navigate the pressures and challenges of a pandemic, I was no longer interested in the clinical route. Instead, I was drawn to the structural and organizational aspects of healthcare, leading me to healthcare administration. The pandemic highlighted that the success of healthcare organizations is determined by frontline workers but also the strategic efforts of administrators who ensure operations run smoothly. My purpose for pursuing this path is that I want to be a part of the solution, to create positive change for healthcare workers and patients in my community. My undergraduate studies as a Healthcare Administration and Policy major have deepened my belief that leadership behind the scenes is essential to the success of our healthcare systems. I aspire to be a leader who shapes policy and operations that empower healthcare professionals and improve outcomes. As a Kamehameha Alumni, it has been my dream to be a leader within The Queen's Health System. Its legacy of quality care and dedication to improving the health outcomes of the people of Hawai'i, especially Native Hawaiians, inspires me to be a servant leader in this community.

To achieve my career goal, I plan to pursue a Master of Healthcare Administration, focusing on programs that emphasize strategic planning and quality of care improvement. I am currently researching programs to further my education and gain advanced knowledge in healthcare management, operations, finance, and policy. My strategy includes building practical experience through internships, and volunteer work. For example, I volunteered at an HR service center at The Queen's Medical Center to gain firsthand insight into recruitment, retention, and HR management challenges. Additionally, I plan to leverage my upcoming spring internship to further develop my professional skills and network. After completing my master's degree, I plan to complete an administrative fellowship with a leading healthcare organization. Through these experiences, I will be prepared to be a leader in the industry with the skills and critical thinking necessary for the challenges that come with a complex healthcare environment.

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

2024	The Queens Medical Center, HR Service Center, Andrea Chun, 74 hours.
2024	The University of Nevada Las Vegas, Healthcare Administration Student Association, Chris Papesh, N/A.

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

I began volunteering through The Queens Medical Center summer volunteer program. It initially piqued my interest because I sought out opportunities to deepen my understanding of the healthcare environment. My volunteering experience in healthcare HR provided great insights into healthcare organizations' operations. I gained a deeper understanding of the challenges organizations face in recruitment and retention, particularly during challenging times with staffing. Observing HR processes while facing a potential nursing strike allowed me to witness firsthand how healthcare leadership navigates labor relations and plans for such challenges. Sitting in on their meeting about potential strike responses was a valuable experience, emphasizing the importance of strategic problem-solving and collaboration to maintain operations during a potential crisis. This experience affirmed my career goal of addressing systemic issues and helped me to develop skills like critical thinking through problems and effective communication. It also taught me the importance of adaptability and empathy in leadership, shaping my vision of becoming a healthcare administrator who prioritizes workforce well-being and operational efficiency.

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

I grew up being raised by my mother and maternal grandparents, with no financial support from my father. My mother worked tirelessly as an RN, I witnessed firsthand the sacrifices she made to support our family. Her 12-hour shifts, often extended by extra hours to earn additional income, ensured that I had access to post-secondary education and life's essentials. While her dedication provided stability, I could see the toll it took on her. Long hours, exhaustion, and stress are constant in her life. Her sacrifices instilled a deep sense of gratitude and determination to ease any financial burdens.

To contribute, I began working part-time while balancing my full-time student schedule. While it is only part-time, coursework requires hours of studying and doing assignments. It can be challenging to balance my time between working and my academics. My earnings have helped cover some living expenses and groceries, reducing some of the financial strain. To manage education costs I have utilized school resources such as my university library portal which has saved me thousands of dollars on textbooks. To maintain a budget, reading books on personal finances and using budgeting applications have helped tremendously. This situation has also impacted me socially, as I often have to opt out of social gatherings or events.

As my college journey progresses, my financial situation has become increasingly challenging. Both of my grandparents have now retired and my mother will have more financial responsibility towards household costs. The rising costs and limited resources worry me, especially as I consider pursuing a graduate degree with higher costs. I want to further my education to excel as a leader in my community. My financial challenges motivate me to work harder, seek scholarships, and plan carefully for my future. Achieving this goal would honor my mother's hard work and help me to advance in my future career.

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 50739

Home Island: Oahu **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: Chaminade University of Honolulu

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** Never attended college/1st year in college

Field of Study: Social Sciences & Public Health **Specific Program or Major:** Criminology Criminal Justice

EFC: $0.00 **COA:** $27,454.00 **Remaining Cost:** $27,454.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

My career goal is to pursue a degree in criminology and ultimately work in criminal justice, focusing on crime prevention and rehabilitation. From a young age, I have been fascinated by true crime stories, documentaries, and shows like Criminal Minds and Special Victims Unit. These programs have not only entertained me but have also opened my eyes to the complexities of crime, the psychology behind it, and the impact it has on communities. Growing up in Hawai?i, I became acutely aware of the high crime rates that plague our islands. The stories of crime and its repercussions are not just statistics to me; they are part of the fabric of my community and have affected families, including my own. Having a history of family members who have experienced incarceration has given me a unique perspective on the challenges that individuals face within the criminal justice system. I have witnessed firsthand how crime can disrupt lives and communities, and this personal connection fuels my passion for making a positive impact in this field. I have chosen this career path because I believe that education and understanding are vital to addressing crime effectively. I want to equip myself with the knowledge of criminal behavior, the justice system, and the best practices for prevention and intervention. My intention is to advocate for crime prevention programs that focus on rehabilitation rather than punishment, and to develop strategies that address the root causes of crime, such as poverty, lack of education, and mental health issues. To achieve my goal, I plan to pursue a degree in criminology, where I will study various aspects of criminal behavior, law enforcement, and social justice. I am committed to

participating in internships, volunteer opportunities, and mentorship programs within the field, as I believe practical experience is crucial. Additionally, I intend to engage with my community through outreach programs, helping to educate others about crime prevention and the resources available for those affected by crime. Ultimately, I envision a career that allows me to contribute to a safer community in Hawaii and beyond. Through understanding and compassion, I hope to play a role in reducing crime rates and supporting those impacted by crime, creating a more conscious and informed society.

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

Freshman	Students Give Back Club, member
Sophomore	Students Give Back Club, member; Speech and Debate, competitor; Kamehameha Dance Company, dancer
Junior	Students Give Back Club, member; Kamehameha Dance Company, dancer; ASL Club, Co-Vice president; Malama your mind Club, Secretary
Senior	Students Give Back Club, member; Kamehameha Dance Company, dancer; ASL Club, Vice president; Physics Club, member

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

Throughout my life, I have often found comfort in familiar routines and activities. However, I realized that true personal growth often lies beyond the boundaries of our comfort zones. Joining the Kamehameha Dance Company marked a pivotal moment in my life, leading to profound self-discovery and reshaping my perspective on my career aspirations. Initially, stepping into the dance studio filled me with apprehension. I had little experience in dance and felt intimidated by the talent surrounding me. Yet, I was determined to explore this new avenue and challenge myself creatively. With each rehearsal, I slowly began to embrace the excitement of learning and the joy of movement. This experience pushed me to confront my fears and vulnerabilities, eventually transforming them into newfound confidence. As I immersed myself in the world of dance, I discovered an unexpected passion for performance and expression. The Kamehameha Dance Company emphasizes not only technical skills but also the importance of storytelling through dance. I learned to convey emotions and narratives through movement, a skill that transcends dance and resonates with many aspects of life. This newfound ability to express myself in ways I had never considered deepened my understanding of the power of art. It also ignited a desire to explore the intersections between dance, culture, and community. Moreover, being part of a dedicated team fostered a sense of belonging and

collaboration. The friendships and bonds I formed with fellow dancers created a supportive environment where we could share our vulnerabilities and celebrate accomplishments together. This camaraderie taught me the value of teamwork and collective effort, encouraging me to adopt a growth mindset. I began to approach challenges not as obstacles but as opportunities to learn from others and push my limits. Ultimately, my involvement with the Kamehameha Dance Company has reshaped my career aspirations as well. I realized that my passion for dance could be incorporated into my goal of serving the community. I aspire to work in a field that engages the arts and promotes cultural expression—whether through education, community outreach, or therapeutic practices. I now understand that art can be a powerful tool for healing and connection, and I want to be part of that transformative process. In conclusion, joining the Kamehameha Dance Company sparked a period of personal growth that extended far beyond learning dance techniques. It pushed me out of my comfort zone, revealed new passions, and reshaped my understanding of how I can contribute to my community. As I move forward in my academic and career journey, I carry with me the lessons of resilience, collaboration, and the importance of creative expression—principles that I intend to incorporate into my future endeavors.

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

As a Native Hawaiian, my life is a tapestry woven from the threads of my cultural heritage and the challenges that my community faces daily. Growing up in a modest two-bedroom apartment with five family members, I often find myself longing for a sense of personal space that feels increasingly elusive. Our tight living situation is a constant reminder of the economic hardships we endure—struggles that are magnified by the soaring cost of living in our beautiful islands. The effect of wealthier newcomers has led to gentrification, which threatens to displace families like mine from the land that has nurtured my ancestry for generations. Every time I walk through my neighborhood, I feel the weight of change in the air. Familiar homes—the homes of my friends and relatives—have been sold to outsiders, leaving a void that can't be filled. This reality ignites a passion within me to fight for my community and preserve our way of life. I know I can't simply stand by and let this happen; I need to take action. Therefore, I actively seek scholarships and balance part-time work alongside my studies, channeling my efforts into both my education and community involvement. These experiences have deeply shaped my perspective, instilling a strong sense of responsibility to my culture. I envision a future where Native Hawaiians not only survive but thrive, where our voices are heard in discussions about housing policies and cultural preservation. My journey is not just about personal success; it's about honoring my roots and making a difference for future generations. I dream of a time when my children can enjoy the same connections to our land and culture that have enriched my life. Through education,

advocacy, and unwavering determination, I believe we can reclaim our space in our community and foster a brighter future for all Native Hawaiians.

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation ID# 50739 - End of Candidate Profile

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 50889

Home Island: Oahu **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: Utah Valley University

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** Never attended college/1st year in college

Field of Study: Social Sciences & Public Health **Specific Program or Major:** Psychology

EFC: $6,796.00 **COA:** $17,092.00 **Remaining Cost:** $10,296.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

My career goal is to work with Polynesian youth from ages 12 through 19. I am both Hawaiian and Tongan and growing up in Hawaii, I was blessed with the resources necessary to receive immediate support on O?ahu. In sports, education, mental health, and spirituality, I always knew there were people or places available to turn to who catered to my circumstances, beliefs, mental health issues, and, most importantly, my culture. It was an expectation.

However, in November 2024, I was honored to serve a full-time mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. I was assigned to live and teach in San Jose, California while I spoke the Tongan language. I spent a lot of time with the Tongan youth of the San Francisco Bay Area. This opened my eyes tremendously. The things of culture, services, and resources that I thought were “normal” and expected at home in Hawai?i were unheard of for Tongan people on the continent.

The youth I worked with in San Jose came from difficult circumstances. Their parents were first-generation immigrants to the United States from Tonga and many of the issues stemmed from communication at home being very limited. The parents spoke Tongan yet the children spoke English. When I learned this I could empathize with their academic, cultural, and spiritual struggles. With school work, their parents could neither help with assignments nor find appropriate tutoring because talking to teachers at school was difficult to understand. When it came to cultural experiences, their parents grew up on the islands but raised their children in the States. It was hard to be cultural in a land where culture was not represented

or, at times, even discouraged. When it came to spirituality and faith, the youth were usually forgotten for faith-building experiences because the teachings were all done in Tongan. Mental health is also “frowned upon” because people who suffered in this way were deemed as weak. Although the youth were doing their best to overcome such challenges, I knew I could help even more.

While I served in these areas, I worked hard to connect the bridges of disconnect between parents leaders, and the younger generation. I learned a new language to serve as a missionary, yet I was able to communicate easily with both the youth and the parents. This created relationships that I hold dear to my heart. I related my mental health issues to the youth, and it provided an avenue to be a good listener. They related to me so, therefore, they would listen.

I desire to use the knowledge I receive from a psychology degree to become a therapist, focused on those of Polynesian descent. With that position, I know that I can become a stable, professional adult to whom the youth can rely. Through my studies and experiences, I can provide resources to obtain the specific help that they need. My goal is to make a difference in this generation of Polynesians and many more to come.

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

2019	Kamehameha Girls Volleyball, 4 years, Coach Chris Blake
2021	Kamehameha Girls Basketball, 2 Years, Coach Pualei Straight
2023	Cultural Community Service, Ka Papa Loʔi o Kanewai, 6 hours, Makahiapo Cashman
2023	President, Young Women Class 16-18 years old, 1 year, Katie Nau

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

An activity that I participated in which sparked a period of growth was serving a full-time religious mission and the experiences it has given me.

As a missionary for my faith, our purpose was to spread the gospel and help others feel joy. We chose to leave our families at home to proselyte, serve, and minister and I had the honor of serving in the San Jose, California mission for 18 months. One experience that I can recall specifically played a pivotal role in my personal growth and receiving a new understanding of myself.

While going door-to-door trying to find people who would be interested in hearing a message about Jesus Christ, I was held at gun-point. There was a house full of men with guns and one of them pointed the gun at me while he stood and asked me questions. Although in shock I was able to testify my beliefs and explain that I meant no harm to him or his household. Luckily he gave us permission to leave.

The magnitude of the situation didn't hit me until I got home. I was in shock. My initial response was to cry. I was overwhelmed and confused with what happened. I had never seen a gun in-person and in my mind, crying would make me feel better by the next morning so I could get back to work. That was not the case at all. The next morning, I remember waking up paralyzed with the shock that I had from the night before. I couldn't move when I tried and when I closed my eyes, I would have flashbacks about what happened. My body began to shake and I was crying even more than the night before. My partner who I live and serve my mission with, saw what was happening and called for help. It wasn't until I received his support when I realized the situation was bigger than I thought. My mission president provided me with resources to get the help I needed by meeting with our mission counselor. I began trauma therapy and it was extremely difficult. I had to learn how to address the feelings that I had, but what was hard was that I had to do it by myself. My family was in Hawaii and I was in California. Addressing raw emotions and healing on my own was a struggle. I definitely grew a new understanding of myself and gained more skills to overcome difficult times in the future.

During therapy, I learned it was okay to feel the feelings I had. In order to truly heal from the experience, I had to take my time sifting through my thoughts and find a balance physically, emotionally and spiritually. Hours of therapy meetings later, I was able to go back out and fulfill my responsibility to serve.

To this day, I use these skills that I learned from being held at gun-point to overcome new challenges I face. Whether it be through interpersonal conflicts or safety encounters I have with people on the street, I rely on this experience heavily to remind myself that when push comes to shove, I know how to attack difficult times because I have done it before. Therapy after trauma grew my confidence in myself that I can do hard things.

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

One financial challenge I have faced on my path to college is the recent change in FAFSA policy stating there will no longer be consideration for siblings who are attending college. I am the oldest of 6 children and I have a sister who is currently attending a university in Utah. Because we are both striving to reach our post-secondary goals after graduating from high school, I am applying to this scholarship with the hopes of easing the financial burden. I also plan to apply for institutional and private scholarships as well as the FAFSA to leverage whatever aid I might be able to receive. Currently, I am not attending college because I chose to serve a full-time religious mission prior to enrolling in school; however, this has required me to work hard to accomplish my dreams of being able to serve God and to earn a college degree after my mission.

The struggles my parents are experiencing are immense and stressful as they try to resource money for both of us to receive higher education, and I want to do as much as I can to relieve the financial burdens. This directly affects my academic and personal life in a positive

way. My parents have already sacrificed so much to make sure that I received a rigorous, rich high school experience, and I made sure to stay focused and driven throughout by earning good grades. In addition, I committed myself to do well not only academically, but also to participate in school programs, to serve within the community, and to take care of my parents whenever I was home. Their sacrifices are what drove me to make them proud. In doing so, I gained noble skills and strategies to work for what I desire.

In order to overcome these financial challenges, I chose to use the resources that Kamehameha provided for me. For example, I enrolled in the Lifeguarding physical education course during my senior year of high school. The course materials and activities helped me to become certified and hireable as a lifeguard for the City and County of Honolulu. Shortly after graduating, I worked a steady job at the Pearl City pool. Earning a consistent paycheck, I was able to help out financially at home and to save up for college. With a bigger responsibility, however, came the need to gain more skills in managing my earnings as well as my time.

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 51199

Home Island: Oahu **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: Loyola Marymount University

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** Continuing graduate/professional

Field of Study: Arts & Humanities **Specific Program or Major:** Screenwriting

EFC: $0.00 **COA:** $19,922.00 **Remaining Cost:** $19,922.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

As a 2020 KS Kapalama graduate and proud Native Hawaiian, I hold my Kanaka Maoli and Polynesian roots close to my heart. I keep the values, culture and aloha that I've learned growing up on my sleeve as I pursue my highest dreams. I completed my undergraduate career at Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska, graduating with a BA in Graphic Design and Film in May 2024. I am currently pursuing my MFA in Screenwriting at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, California. My greatest aspiration, the highest possible accomplishment I'm striving for, is to write a feature film about Polynesian solidarity and identity in a world of Western conflict. I am currently working on the screenplay while attending classes and sculpting my craft. The purpose of this film is to showcase the Indigenous identity crisis and community struggle post colonization. It's a view of how our ancient ancestors would handle the modern world. This kind of film is vital as there are not enough films about Native Hawaiian, Polynesian or just Indigenous stories in general. I see it as my responsibility as Kanaka Maoli to showcase the story of Hawai'i and her people in a genuine light. Erase the stereotypes, correct the incorrect history lessons of what Westerners "thought" of Hawai'i. To see Native peoples on the big screen is crucial to not just our brethren but for our children whose closest likeness is Moana, an ambiguous animated Polynesian princess. Our Native and local community needs to see real Natives and locals on screen tackling current personal, environmental and cultural issues. I see it as my responsibility to make that happen. As a Native Hawaiian and Asian young individual, I myself have faced identity struggles; am I Native enough, am I Asian enough, am I Latin

enough? Growing up in a place full of different cultures, flavors, and ethnicities, it's hard to feel a sense of both belonging and uniqueness. Finding oneself in a conglomerate mess of colonialism and systemic pitfalls is a surreal challenge, but if I'm able to contribute to the Indigenous identity via film and storytelling, then I will happily take up this challenge. This film will highlight the importance of returning to Native roots, embracing Hawaiian language and fighting for sacred lands and cultural traditions. Reconnecting with our Indigeneity is essential to uniting all Kanaka.

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

2022	Abide Omaha, Creighton University Pep Band, 10 hrs
2022	Tri-Faith Initiative Omaha, Creighton University Pep Band, 8 hrs
2023	Food Bank for the Heartland, Creighton University Pep Band, 11 hrs

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

During my four years at Creighton University, I dedicated my time, energy and spirit into the Creighton University Pep Band, a student led organization. This club consisted of a wide array of enthusiastic musicians and avid sports fans. I was able to socialize and grow close to so many different people from all walks of life. During my junior year, I was elected into the executive team as the Public Relations Officer, overseeing the pep band's public image and social outreach. It was my duty to promote the band through posters, active social media pages and networking communications with other student organizations and institutions. The following year, my senior year, I was elected into the position of Vice-President of the pep band. Working closely with the President of the band, it was my responsibility to send out weekly informational emails with clear notices of the upcoming schedules and games. Remaining in frequent communication with Creighton Athletics, I acted as the executive to regular member liaison. I kept record of membership status, attendance, points and apparel invoices and orders. In times where the President was not able to attend the volleyball/basketball games, it was my job to step up and lead the band in performance numbers and student section spectating. Holding two leadership positions within such a tightknit and dedicated community encouraged me to venture far outside of my comfort zone. I was able to talk to new people with confidence, connect professionally and personally with others and establish a level of trust and respect. I was able to put my foot down in times of disagreement with higher management and advocate for the stability and safety of our band members. These leadership roles were very important to me as they were opportunities of giving my love and appreciation back into the group that allowed me to flourish and mature. The students, and friends, that paved the path before me allowed me to expand on their legacy, procuring a friendly, generous, steadfast guild that I can look back with confidence and be proud of the contributions I've made to an ever-growing organization. I would not be who and where I am without the accomplishments and time I've had

with the pep band. I understand who I am and have a clearer idea of where I want to go with my future. As a rising screenwriter and a newcomer in the entertainment industry, I search for and relish in the leadership roles. I look forward into uncertainty and embrace the unknown head-on with determination knowing that I can handle any adversity with poise. If an entire student club of over 100 members put their trust and faith in me, then I am more than capable in believing in myself and all of my future endeavors.

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

I am an only child to a single mother. I was brought up by my mother my entire life with my father seldom being in the picture. My mom has provided everything for me to the best of her ability, painstakingly pursuing a decent paying job that she was not happy with for over 20 years just to provide for our small but mighty family. Many years ago, well into my high school years, my father stopped paying his child support payments and ultimately stepped out of my life completely. My mother did not tell me about the halting of such payments until well into my undergraduate career at Creighton University. Due to my father's absence, I had to grow up in a single income, single parent household, I had to find part-time and work study jobs that scraped up enough money for living expenses. There were times post high school graduation where my mom and I sat down and discussed how we were going to afford higher education. My mom was dead set on me attending college despite our financial struggles at the time. My mom taught me the basics on how to save and spend my money wisely. She helped me in any way she could but ultimately helped me get my feet off the ground looking for jobs, internships, and scholarships. I'm pursuing an MFA in Los Angeles, CA, and I find myself wondering if I'll have enough to pay for groceries or keep up with my student loans. Now, more than ever, I'm facing financial instability in hopes of pursuing my dream career. Although I am a bit unsure, I am sound in my own abilities to keep track of my spending because of my mother's humble experience. I'm currently funding my own tuition, rent and groceries. I often wonder what it's like for my classmates and friends that do have both parents in their lives and how much support they receive. Other than financially, my friends that have both parents in their lives do experience a different kind of family stability or emotional acceptance. Not all families are perfect, of course, but I often wonder what it would be like if my father stayed in the picture at all. I wondered what it would be like to see him at my graduations, my award ceremonies and at holidays. Sometimes I wonder how my mom was able to do so much for me and provide as much as she could even without that extra support of a partner. I wonder how she's able to do it all and stay strong and it makes me realize that if she could power through life, so can I.

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 51656

Home Island: Oahu **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: University of San Francisco

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** Never attended college/1st year in college

Field of Study: STEM **Specific Program or Major:** Civil Engineering

EFC: $11,722.00 **COA:** $53,472.00 **Remaining Cost:** $41,750.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

My main academic objective is to earn a Bachelor of General Engineering degree with a Sustainable Civil Engineering concentration. Financial limitations currently make obtaining a master's degree in civil engineering less feasible, despite my desire to do so. Although this is the case, I will make the best with what I have, hoping to contribute to both my local and bigger community. In order to achieve this goal, I must work hard through college, putting the best possible version of myself forward.

This dream stemmed from the sights of my childhood. Growing up, I often saw the amazing contrast between the rural and urban environments. While traveling to school from the more “country” regions of the island, I frequently grew drawn to the highrises that I saw while on the bus. Over time, these structures evolved into more complex and beautiful designs, inspiring my passion for building and construction. Additionally, Hawaii’s robust construction and civil engineering market has fueled my determination to pursue this field. More recently though, the initiative for sustainable engineering has piqued my interest, especially with Hawaii’s fragile and limited ecosystem. Seeing this huge jump in the last decade has really allowed me to understand that this is a problem I would like to tackle, particularly through sustainable building practices. Beyond the allure of engineering challenges, my ultimate goal is to live comfortably in my home state. A goal that is becoming increasingly difficult due to the high cost of living. By becoming an engineer, I hope to contribute to local infrastructure projects that make living in Hawaii sustainable for its residents while allowing me to remain close to my family.

Additionally, as a Native Hawaiian and aspiring STEM graduate, I am particularly drawn to becoming a leader and role model in this field. Native Hawaiians are underrepresented in higher-level positions, making it challenging for the younger generations to envision themselves as such. This lack of representation can also be attributed to a broader issue, where many talented Native individuals leave the islands in search of higher-paying opportunities. By establishing myself within Hawaii, I aim to counter this awful trend and inspire other Native Hawaiian Students to pursue STEM careers and leadership positions.
In summary, my journey to becoming a civil engineer is driven by a passion for construction, a commitment to my home state of Hawaii, and a desire to create a sustainable future. Sustainable Civil Engineering aligns with my educational background, professional aspirations, and cultural identity. By contributing to projects that enhance Hawaii's infrastructure and inspiring other Native Hawaiians to pursue leadership roles, I hope to make a meaningful difference both locally and globally. Ultimately, I want to leave an impact. Not just in the structures I help build, but also as a leader who empowers others to succeed.

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

2024	Women's Empowerment Club, 25 hours; Mikala Akiona
2024	Filipino Curriculum Project, 40 hours; Patricia Halagao
2024	Malama Limu Club, 20 hours, Madison Murata

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

Participating in the Filipino Curriculum Project has been one of the most transformative experiences of my life. Collaborating with students across Hawaii not only deepened my understanding of my heritage as a Native Hawaiian and Asian but also highlighted the importance of education being used as a tool for cultural preservation and empowerment. Cooperating with many differing viewpoints and people to integrate Filipino culture into public school curriculums was a powerful reminder of how deeply community, identity, and progress are intertwined.This experience shifted my perspective on the role of civil engineering in society. Growing up on Oahu, I've always admired how infrastructure reflects a community's unique culture and values. The Filipino Curriculum Project reinforced my belief that engineering, like education, can serve as a bridge between tradition and innovation. By designing sustainable infrastructure that respects cultural identity—such as community centers or gathering spaces—I hope to create environments that honor heritage while supporting growth and connectivity. Through this project, I've grown to see my career not just as a technical pursuit, but as a meaningful way to give back to the communities that shaped me. It has

inspired me to blend my passion for engineering with my dedication to cultural preservation and community well-being.

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

As a Native Hawaiian and Asian student, pursuing higher education at the University of San Francisco has been both an exciting opportunity and a significant financial challenge. Living on an island comes with unique expenses, from the high cost of living to the price of traveling to the mainland for college. My family has always worked hard to support me, but we have had to make sacrifices to manage tuition and living expenses. These financial challenges have been a constant reminder of the privilege and responsibility that comes with my education.

The weight of these challenges has shaped my academic and personal life. Balancing work, studies, and extracurricular activities has required me to be resourceful and disciplined. I've worked as a soccer referee, which not only helped alleviate some expenses but also taught me the value of resilience and time management. Additionally, my involvement in mentoring through the Filipino Curriculum Project has shown me the importance of giving back, even when resources are limited, reinforcing my desire to one day uplift my community through my career.

To overcome these hardships, I have sought scholarships, financial aid, and work opportunities to minimize the financial burden on my family. I've also embraced the support of mentors and programs aimed at empowering students from underrepresented backgrounds. These resources have been instrumental in helping me stay focused on my goals while reminding me of the importance of advocating for equitable access to education and opportunities.

These experiences have strengthened my resolve to pursue civil engineering with a focus on designing sustainable and culturally respectful infrastructure that benefits underserved communities. I want to ensure that future generations face fewer barriers to success and thrive in environments that reflect and respect their heritage.

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 51684

Home Island: Oahu **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** 4th year in college

Field of Study: STEM **Specific Program or Major:** Civil Engineering

EFC: $2,680.00 **COA:** $55,531.00 **Remaining Cost:** $52,851.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

One day, when I'm approaching retirement and I look back on my time as a civil engineer, I want my career to have told a story. I want to have a positive impact on not only the environment but the lives of the people my work would affect. My current goals are to represent Native Hawaiians in STEM and develop solutions for environmental protection and conservation while simultaneously preserving Hawaiian culture and our aina.

Deep in the valley of Kahaluu, where the Koolau mountains tower into the blue sky, and the crows of roosters are only heard by those who are not from the countryside, sits my childhood home with an orange mailbox and an enormous yard. For all 20 years of my life, I have gazed upon the Koolaus and sat in awe of their elegance. They have always called to me. I do not solely observe their exterior beauty but I also wonder about the stories their ridges hold as they sustained the lives of my ancestors generations ago. Those who are not of Native Hawaiian descent will never truly understand or feel how powerful our connection to the aina is. Yet, historically, they have been the ones in power to make decisions about Hawaii.

Through my career path, I can make a difference by including a Native Hawaiian perspective into conversations about civil engineering and the aina. I write to you as the only Native Hawaiian woman on the campus of Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Massachusetts. 1 of 2,520 women and 1 of 7,354 students. My experiences here have challenged me to stay rooted in my Native Hawaiian identity and have developed my ability to learn to be comfortable in a societal place where I should be uncomfortable.

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

2024	Ladles of Love - Dignity Kitchen (South Africa), Danny Diliberto, 8 hrs.; Hout Bay Primary School Color Run (South Africa), Ms. Mayekiso, 5 hrs.; Greater Worcester Land Trust, Sarah Kogan, 5 hrs.; Community Harvest Project, Wayne Mcauliffe, 3 hrs.; Kakoo Oiwi, Melissa Mau, 5 hrs.; USA Softball, Nicole Miyamoto, 8 hrs.
2023	N/A
2022	WPI Green Team, Gabriel Espinosa 4 hrs.
2021	N/A

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

During junior year, students at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) are required to complete an Interactive Qualifying Project (IQP). The IQP is an intensive group research project that aims to address a real-world problem that lies at the intersection of science and society. These projects can be done either on-campus in Worcester, MA or off-campus domestically or internationally at one of WPI's many project centers around the globe. WPI provides an up to $5,000 scholarship in order to provide more opportunities for students to complete their projects off-campus. At the end of an IQP, research teams produce a deliverable or deliverables in whatever form their project calls for and a research paper that's published on Digital WPI, a digital database that provides global access to work done by WPI students and faculty. From October til December of this year, I had the incredible opportunity to travel to Cape Town, South Africa to complete my IQP with 24 other students – four of which were my groupmates.

To prepare for IQP, we were enrolled in a mandatory class called ID 2050: Social Science Research for the IQP. In ID 2050, we were assigned our projects and project groups, learned methods of research, and began to write our research paper. My team's project aimed to develop a mentorship program for homeless individuals who graduated from a barista skills training program sponsored by The Hope Exchange (THE), a South African non-profit organization, to improve employment outcomes and opportunities post-graduation. Our research led us to design a mentorship handbook that explains what mentorship is, common struggles faced by graduates, helpful practices for mentors, advice from past graduates and employers, and details how to conduct mentor-mentee meetings. The team and I created the handbook by interviewing three program directors and two staff members of THE, seven employed graduates, four unemployed graduates, and visiting sixty coffee shops in-person. We also developed partnerships with businesses at six different locations to provide trainees of the barista skills training program with two-week paid internships to further enhance their skillsets.

The timing of IQP came at a pivotal point in my educational career. Through this project along with the experiences of being in a foreign country, I learned a lot about how the person I am drives the

work that I do. When I envision my future career, I see myself putting relationships with the people who surround me at the forefront of it. People have always told me or echoed that relationships are the foundation of who I am, but I never really saw it until I experienced IQP. Knowing this, I am confident that I'll cultivate or perpetuate a caring culture wherever my career takes me.

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

On the edge of Kaneohe Bay, sits a gray house with a large puakenikeni tree & a pathway that leads to the bay. At the big girl age of 10, I would climb to the top of the puakenikeni tree & feel the wind wisp through my hair while the crashing waves of the bay filled my ears. On some mornings, I would hear the flickering of a green lighter & see my father with a fresh flame born of the flint & flammable fluid near the shoreline. I was a daddy's girl, how could you blame me for only thinking the best of him? Time passed & the drugs took over. I would ask my grandma, "Where's daddy," & she would say, "He's out on the boat." She couldn't tell me he was in jail or drug rehab. I grew up & discovered the truth; my childhood hero never was one & the green lighter's flame burned deeper than I could imagine.

Due to the fact that one parent was missing for most of my life, I had to step up to make my mom's job of raising my sister & I easier. I held myself to a higher standard of being a positive person, unproblematic child, & good student. I would be undercutting the life I've been blessed to live & the person I am if I were to say that this one event shaped the entire path my life has taken so far, but I can't go without emphasizing the significance of its impact.

Growing up, I didn't understand the struggles of my single mother. I knew she had five hangers of Safeway uniforms, two hangers with clothes that fit the bank teller appearance, & drove a minivan who's ceiling was held up by thumbtacks, but I didn't understand. I didn't understand the sleepless nights & early mornings until I got a little older & saw a woman who embodied everything I wanted to be. To this day, she strives to set me up for a life that's better than hers despite all she's sacrificed.

She educated me with the perspective that the land is my chief and I am its servant. As humanity & technology have evolved, there's been a great loss of respect for the land & exploitation of the sustenance it provides. By studying civil engineering, I aspire to find ways to build a sustainable bridge between humanity, technology, & the environment while utilizing my culture as a building block. I recognize that inspiration exists all around - from serene mountaintops to the elementary keiki from Kaneohe who I taught how to make marshmallow snowmen. The simplicity of a child's smile, their artistic abilities, and unwavering dreams are more than enough reasons to seek out a path to protect their future and incite change.

With the gift of financial support, I'll be able to graduate college & be a trailblazer for young Native Hawaiian girls who aspire to change the narrative. I will also support my mom by graduating with little to no debt, in a sense that I can repay her. Not in monetary terms, but rather let her cherish the time she has on earth with little worry because she is my hero.

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 51687

Home Island: Hawaii **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: University of Hawaii at Manoa

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** 2nd year in college

Field of Study: STEM **Specific Program or Major:** Biology

EFC: $3,597.00 **COA:** $12,186.00 **Remaining Cost:** $8,589.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

My career goal is to become an anesthesiologist. I have chosen this path because of the need for more native Hawaiians in the medical field. I was to be able to cater and give back to native Hawaiians who do need medical care but refrain because they're aren't many Hawaiians. By choosing this career path, I can give back to my community in a way that will make them feel safe and welcome.

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

2023	Kako?o ?Oiwi, 4 hours
2020	Kako?o ?Oiwi, 4 hours

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

Volleyball and volunteering in the community, particularly on a lo?i, have contributed greatly to my personal development and comprehension of the targeted career. The lessons obtained in volleyball, which include, teamwork, leadership, and perseverance, have in a way affected my educational

pursuit and increased my confidence to practice medicine. The sport also taught me how to keep on striving to achieve my goals and work with other people, which are useful skills to have in the medical field and outside of it. On the other hand, when I volunteered at the lo?i, I was able to appreciate my Hawaiian ancestry and contribute to protecting the land and the people around me. Helping in the lo?i developed an understanding of environmental conservation and cultural values which stands out to me as something that I want to utilize in my career as a physician in the future. From these experiences, I have come to understand that for me an envisaged career in medicine will not always be looking at biomedical techniques but also people and how to take care of them and the broader environment to which they belong.

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

Being raised by a single parent has been tough as there have been some economic challenges that have influenced my educational and personal life. As the only earner in the family, my mother had to put in a lot of effort and sometimes even worked more than one job just to support us. Still, there were times when we had a hard time affording the necessities like rent, bills, and food. Because of these financial restrictions, I got a job and stopped participating in certain other hobbies to engage in tasks that would help the family. This juggling act was sometimes quite overwhelming given the fact that I had the obligation of not only performing well in school but was also expected to help contribute to my family. In applying for financial aid, I learned that there are multiple financial resources. One of them is scholarships and grants. I also worked part-time while studying, so I mastered multitasking and properly distributing my time between work, studies, and family. My source of guidance and inspiration has been my mother who has taught me a great deal about how to stand strong in challenging situations and I have utilized this wisdom in working on my academics even when getting money was a struggle. This overt and satisfying fact has given me hope to push through difficult times and rely on the strength that I have. Although this has not been easy in terms of having to work harder, I would always remember, it was about securing a better future for myself and my family.

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 51803

Home Island: Hawaii **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** Never attended college/1st year in college

Field of Study: STEM **Specific Program or Major:** Mechanical Engineering

EFC: $12,405.00 **COA:** $55,878.00 **Remaining Cost:** $43,473.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

Growing up on Molokai, I learned the importance of problem-solving and figuring out how things work. On our small island, when the water lines break, the electricity goes out, and the floor sags, you don't wait around for someone to fix it. You figure it out yourself. I remember the first time I wired up lights and outlets in a shack my family was building. I got that up and running using electrical tape, rubber gloves, and wire caps. As the lights flickered on, I felt accomplished, but more importantly, I felt a sense of curiosity. I wondered how all these components came together to make something work. This moment was a turning point in my life as I realized that my career goal was to become an electrical engineer.

For several years, the goal of becoming an engineer was vague. I thought it was fascinating, but I didn't truly understand its place in my life and society. That would change as I saw more of what engineers can do for communities.

After being allowed to volunteer on a project to devise ways to detect unexploded ordinances, I saw how engineering could benefit society and save lives. Through this project, I helped research and develop different detection strategies in historical bombed sites, such as Kahoolawe and Makua Valley. I started to understand the deeper meaning of engineering for me. Later, I volunteered for another engineering project, providing internet and electricity for Hawaiian Homesteads back home on Molokai. I saw firsthand how these solutions improved people's lives. This project completely changed my outlook on engineering. It wasn't just about tinkering with technology but empowering my community with the tools for education, quality of life, and connection. Therefore, my ultimate career goal is to return

to Hawaii after my education and uplift the Lahui as an electrical engineer specializing in rural infrastructures.
To achieve this goal, I plan to pursue a degree in electrical engineering. I intend to gain hands-on experience through internships and research opportunities. Moreover, I intend to prioritize Hawaii-based internships/research to gain more skills relevant to Hawaii. I also plan to form relationships with local organizations and professionals. By combining education, hands-on experience, and passion for engineering, I hope to successfully design and implement innovative systems that address critical challenges, from reducing energy costs in underserved areas to creating sustainable solutions for future generations.

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

Freshman	ILH Swim team, JV; ILH Judo, JV; Math team, member; Molokai Fishpond, volunteer;
Sophomore	ILH Wrestling, Varsity starter; Math team, member; AYSO, Volunteer Ref; Mark cuban AI bootcamp, member; Molokai Fishpond, volunteer;
Junior	ILH Judo, Varsity Starter; Math team, member, AYSO, Volunteer Ref; JESSE Internship, Electromagnetic Lab Member; Molokai Fishpond, volunteer; Hawaiian Island Creation, Sales Associate;
Senior	ILH Wrestling, Varsity; ILH Judo, Varsity; Math team, Social Committee; AYSO, Volunteer Ref; Molokai Fishpond, volunteer; IEEE, project volunteer; Hawaiian Island Creation, Sales Associate;

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

In a past internship, I was lucky to meet a UH student named Andrew. I casually mentioned that I grew up in Molokai, and he gave me an incredible opportunity to join a project that provided electricity and internet access to Hawaiian Homesteads in Molokai.
Hawaiian Homesteads are lands set aside by the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act to allow Hawaiians to return to their ancestral lands. However, homesteads on Molokai are excessively bare. Often, the land is underdeveloped and needs more internet or electricity. I saw these issues firsthand growing up on the Hoolehua homesteads. I was lucky enough to live in a HECO-connected home, yet many families I grew up with didn't have that same luxury. The homesteading community of Molokai needs help because, without access to the internet or electricity, many families are stuck living more challenging lives with less ability to move up in society. Motivated by the families I used to know and my connection to the community, I eagerly joined.
When I arrived on the project, many solar systems had already been installed, so my job dealt with improving internet access. On Molokai, I'd find ways to spread the signal from one Starlink to

multiple households using line-of-sight transmitters and receivers. Considering the foliage and distance between households, I'd have to install these receivers in creative places. I would love to say things would go smoothly every time, but that wasn't the case. Sometimes, dense foliage blocked the path, or antennas were misaligned. On one occasion, a homeowner, Uncle Brian, and I had to duct tape a ten-foot pole to the top of a shipping container to get a stable signal. When I showed Uncle the wonky contraption, his face simply lit up. He could finally talk to his family on the outer islands, and his kids could attend online classes.

Moments like these made me realize that each new connection was more than a technological achievement but a pathway to opportunity. Helping four households and around twenty residents taught me how technology could bridge the divides of systemic inequality. Growing up on Molokai, I witnessed these issues, and contributing to a solution so close to home filled me with a sense of purpose. Most importantly, I now understand that I can make a difference. I don't have to be powerful or wealthy or have extraordinary resources. I just need the initiative to go out there and do it. Moving forward, I plan to pursue opportunities in engineering to combine technical skills with my desire to make a difference.

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

Our family of six was never wealthy, but we made ends meet because my dad was hunting, fishing, and growing food to feed our family. However, my dad was severely injured at work in 2019 and needed over a year and a half of physical therapy and surgery. He could not work or help with our food as a film grip. Then, as my dad healed, COVID-19 restrictions began, killing the film industry overnight. Living off one income was difficult for my family. These struggles have persisted as my dad works on/off because the industry is still slow, and his injury still limits him. Living on a single income was and is complex. My parents made the tough decision to pay for food and other bills with credit. As a result, our bills are over a hundred thousand dollars.

The financial struggle doesn't just mean limits like hand-me-downs are the norm, conserving electricity, water, and gas, stretching our meals, and "MacGyvering" anything that breaks; it also means a real emotional burden. The struggle strained relationships and caused an atmosphere of financial uncertainty. Despite this, my parents still wanted my brothers and me to have more academic, extracurricular, and athletic opportunities, but there wasn't money for "extra."

As the eldest of brothers, I want to succeed and set a good example. These struggles make me work harder around my challenges. Without the means to afford tutoring/prep courses, I used free sources, such as YouTube and Khan Academy, to learn. I've also sought out any opportunity to receive fee waivers and assistance. I could participate in programs with help, such as JESSE, AI camp, and EEE internships to supplement my education. I am also

genuinely grateful to Kamehameha Schools for priceless opportunities. I made it a goal to participate in challenging classes, math teams, and sports to experience and learn as much as possible. I know I have been given much, and I plan to succeed and give back when possible.

I also learned many life skills to help provide for my family. My dad taught me how to hunt deer and pig, fish for hee and reef fish, and grow kalo, uala, and other crops. It's hard work but rewarding to help nourish others. I also know how to fix almost anything with duct tape, scrap wood, or bondo.

In addition to academic efforts, I've worked part-time to contribute to my family's financial efforts. Balancing academics and sports with a part-time job has been a struggle, but I've grown to embrace it as part of my journey. Many nights, I'd come home from a long shift exhausted, only to study for a test and finish homework due the following day. I feel blessed by this experience, though, as I feel satisfaction from helping my family, and I have learned many life skills such as time management, getting along with people from many walks of life, and business skills. This was difficult, but I knew staying focused on my studies was the only way to create a better future for myself and my family.

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – O'ahu Region Scholarship

2025-26 AY Pauahi Foundation Candidate Profile

Foundation ID# 52165

Home Island: Oahu **HS Name:** Kamehameha Schools Kapalama

Intended College/University for Fall 2025: University of Hawaii at Manoa

Enrollment PH Status: Full-Time **School PH Level:** Re-entry or returning to college

Field of Study: Social Sciences & Public Health **Specific Program or Major:** Psychology

EFC: $7,607.00 **COA:** $12,186.00 **Remaining Cost:** $4,579.00

(HS = High School, PH = Post-High)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

What career do you see yourself in 10-15 years and what life experience(s) has helped you realize this career goal?

Hawaii has a deep feeling of community, which I witnessed growing up. We all assist one other in big and small ways, whether at a family reunion, community event, or neighborly chat. Despite our close-knit communities, many residents deal with mental health, substance misuse, and socioeconomic issues. I want to use my psychology degree to solve these challenges, promote well-being, and support my community's families.

The choice to study psychology is personal. I watched how cultural stigma and lack of resources prevented mental health concerns from being addressed in my multi-generational Hawaiian family. Like many others, my family struggled with mental health, and I found that a lack of professional care typically caused bigger problems in relationships, schooling, and well-being. These events inspired me to study psychology and work in human services to help people, families, and communities with similar difficulties.

I know Hawaii's culture complicates mental health and human services. Hawaii has a diverse population of native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, and individuals from other cultures, which affects mental health treatment. Intergenerational trauma from colonization, displacement, and economic hardship often compounds modern difficulties, including mental health issues, substance misuse, and family instability. I believe that recognizing these cultural differences and using psychology techniques can help me serve my community.

A psychology degree will equip me to address my community's mental health issues. Developmental psychology, counseling, and clinical practice will teach me how to help

others with emotional discomfort, trauma, or mental health illnesses. I'll specialize on counseling or social work to use psychology to help people and families.
Advocating for vulnerable groups including children, the elderly, and individuals with addiction or mental illness is crucial to human services. My psychology background will prepare me to work as a counselor, case manager, or social worker. I want to collaborate with local family support, mental health, and addiction rehabilitation organizations. I believe therapy, support groups, and community-based programs are essential to resolving Hawaii's alcohol and methamphetamine problems. Besides these direct services, I wish to promote mental health care policies that increase access, especially for impoverished groups and rural places where services are scarce. I also love infusing cultural competency into my work to make mental health treatments accessible, courteous, and relevant to Hawaii's diverse populations. I hope to improve my community and family in numerous ways by using my psychology degree:

List of all extra-curricular activities, sports, clubs, community service projects, etc. both on- and off-campus.

2024	Mauka to Makai Club
2023	Halau Kuiwailehua
2022	Halau Kuiwailehua
2023	Kids for Kids

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY(S):

Discuss either an on- or off-campus activity that you've participated in that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or your career goal.

For the entirety of my life, hula, the traditional Hawaiian form of storytelling and dance, has been a vital component of who I am. I have gotten a deeper understanding of myself as well as those who came before me by participating in the mele, oli, and movements that are associated with my culture. In addition to these achievements, I have also been given the chance to compete and perform alongside my 'Ohana. At the age of four, my mother introduced me to the world of Hawaiian chant and dance. Since then, my sister has joined us, also participating in hula. Because I place a high value on cultivating and maintaining relationships with my family, it is extremely valuable to me to have an extracurricular activity that I am passionate about and enables me to do so. As a result of my involvement in hula, I have also had the opportunity to contribute to and aid the younger generation in Hawaii and my community in developing a deeper connection with the Hawaiian culture. Whether through teaching, assisting, volunteering, or backstage performance preparations, I have been presented with numerous possibilities to give back to my community. Having participated in different competitions, including the Kaua?i Mokihana Hula Festival and the Hula ?Oni E Hula Festival, I have had the opportunity to experience the exhilaration associated with hula competitions. My participation in these events has not only provided me with chances to improve my cultural ties but has also taught me valuable lessons regarding discipline, humility,

perseverance, and hard work. The practice of hula has also contributed to my development of a deeper awareness of who I am. This experience has shown me that I am capable of doing great things if I am willing to put in the effort and maintain my determination throughout the process. Additionally, it has helped me understand my passion for storytelling and continues to teach me more about my values. The fundamental nature of hula, which is a Hawaiian form of storytelling, has also assisted me in comprehending and recognizing my affinity for aiding in the protection of mental health for native Hawaiians.

Describe the financial circumstances or hardships you have faced. Consider the following questions as you craft your response: What specific financial challenges have you encountered on your path to college? How have these financial hardships affected your academic and personal life? What strategies or resources have you utilized to manage or overcome these financial challenges?

Growing up in a single-parent household with limited financial resources, I faced a variety of challenges on my path to higher education. My mother has always worked tirelessly to provide for me and my brothers, but even with her best efforts, the financial strain of supporting our family on one wage has been an enduring reality. I learned to deal with financial instability at a young age, and it has had a huge impact on both my academic and personal lives. While these hurdles were often daunting, they also pushed me to develop resilience, resourcefulness, and a deep appreciation for the opportunities that education provides.

One of the most important financial problems I've encountered on my journey to college has been a lack of finances to cover tuition, textbooks, and living expenses. As a result, I had to work part-time during high school and college to help cover some of these expenses. Balancing employment and academic duties has frequently proven tough. I've had to give up study time or extracurricular activities to work extra hours to pay for necessities like textbooks or transportation. This juggling act has not only had an impact on my academic achievement, but it has also left me with little opportunity to participate in social events or internships that would have enhanced my college experience.

On a personal level, financial constraints have hindered my ability to interact with friends or participate in activities that many college students take for granted. Social gatherings, weekend getaways, and even something as simple as going out for coffee or meals with friends frequently felt like indulgences I couldn't afford. These financial constraints often made me feel alone and disconnected from my peers, who appeared to have more financial resources. Despite these problems, I've learned to approach life with tenacity and ingenuity, and I've discovered ways to deal with the financial troubles I've encountered.Growing up in a single-parent household with limited financial resources, I faced a variety of challenges on my path to higher education. My mother has always worked tirelessly to provide for me and my brothers, but even with her best efforts, the financial strain of supporting our family on one wage has been an enduring reality. I learned to deal with financial instability at a young age, and it has had a huge impact on both my academic and personal lives. While these

hurdles were often daunting, they also pushed me to develop resilience, resourcefulness, and a deep appreciation for the opportunities that education provides.
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