

Ka Lau

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Elementary Art Classes Resume

Art classes are once again available to elementary students, and anyone who has walked through the main lobby recently will have seen the result -- a bright collage of color hanging along the stairway. The art program this spring is due to a small group of dedicated parents who approached Hui Kāko'o O Laupāhoehoe (LCPCS's fundraising partner), and asked for help in hiring a teacher one day a week for elementary art classes. Enter Mariana Zopel.



The Stairway, and 2nd-grader Cyriana Souza creating a masterpiece.



Ms. Zopel, who has served as a substitute teacher at LCPCS for several years, has a bachelor's degree in fine arts and art education from a university in her home country of Romania. The teachers, she says, often asked her to teach an art lesson on the days she substituted for them. "I love teaching art," she adds. "This is my passion."

Ms. Zopel's first lesson involved looking at ancient Hawaiian art, or what we see as art today. The bright patterns on the clothing of ali'i in ancient days was created for spiritual reasons as well, Ms. Zopel points out. Part of the lesson was to learn about why and when the chiefs wore ceremonial robes, and what inspired them. Each student chose to decorate the clothing of a chief or a dancer, and created a suitable background on the page.

The kids love art, and appreciate the chance to express themselves through it. "I see so much passion," says Ms. Zopel. "For me, that is the reward."

Dusty Display Case Transformed into Showcase for Community Collections

Check out the display case in the lobby! The dusty trophies have been cleaned and put on display elsewhere in the school, and the display case theme now has the working title "Community Collections." "We wanted something that was for everybody," says Director Nahale-a. "We want our community and our graduates to feel connected." So Director Nahale-a approached parent Dave Herman, who founded a community museum in Brooklyn before moving to Laupāhoehoe, for assistance.

The objective is to provide a space for people's collections, says Dave Herman, which provide "a window into the lives and interests of people who live in the community." The display will rotate as people come forward with ideas.

For the first display, old yearbooks have been used to highlight the history of the school, and the integration of the school into the community. A lot of the photos on display are of the parents, aunts and uncles of students now at the school, pointed out Director Nahale-a, which provides a nice sense of continuity.



A close-up of the new lobby display.

If you have an idea for a display, or if you have a collection of anything you'd like to display-- from local memorabilia to photos to commemorative china-- let the school know!

Calendar

- Today—Kindergarten registration & open enrollment begins
- Wednesday, Feb 18—Save First! Deposit Day
- Wednesday, Feb 18—Manners in Momentum class, grade 6
- Wednesday, Feb 18, 3:00 pm—CSI team to share SY15-16 draft academic plan with interested stakeholders (location TBA)
- Tuesday, Feb 24, 5:30 pm—Governing Board meeting
- Wednesday, Feb 25—Manners in Momentum class, grade 7; SISTAS, grade 8; Bay Clinic, grades 9 – 12
- Saturday, Feb 28, 1:00 pm—Boys' Varsity Volleyball Invitational at Christian Liberty Academy

Don't forget! Use AmazonSmile instead of Amazon.com and a portion of the proceeds from your order will come to LCPCS! It's easy! If you already have an Amazon account, you'll use your exact same Amazon username and password. The first time you sign in, go to the "your account" tab and select "change your charity." In the search box type "Hui Kakoo" and select Hui Kako`o O Laupāhoehoe. Now order away! Once you are set up, it's exactly the same as using the regular Amazon site. Let your friends, family and neighbors know!

Paki's Kūkākūkā

Laupāhoehoe is one of the most diverse places in the country. We have people from a wide array of backgrounds, including different ethnicities, religious beliefs, income levels, and origins of birth. In addition, the length of time families have been in the community ranges from several generations to several days. These differences often come to light in the way we deal with situations— from how to celebrate events and holidays, to the importance of academic achievement, to how to deal with conflict. One of our most important opportunities at Laupāhoehoe Community Public Charter School is to work through any differences we have so that we can celebrate and learn from our rich diversity. By doing so, we can best utilize the many assets and talents that exist in our community, and use them to support and prepare our students to live the best lives possible.

Seasider Spotlight



Concordia Juan

Concordia Juan's is a familiar face around LCPCS. That's because she's been teaching on the Laupāhoehoe campus for some 15 years, helping students whose first language is not English. Mrs. Juan herself came to the US from the Philippines in 1971, so she knows first hand the difficulties presented by the complexities of the English language. At LCPCS, Mrs. Juan both visits individual members of the English Language Learners (ELL) program in their classrooms, and oversees an after-school program for ELL students.

Mrs. Juan moved to Laupāhoehoe in 1974, saying she loves it here. When the plantations closed, she says, her mother suggested they consider moving to the mainland. "Move to the mainland?" she said, in an are-you-crazy tone of voice. "I love this place," she says. "I love my neighbors All my memories are good." She and her husband raised two children here, both of whom graduated from LHES.

Mrs. Juan takes a lot of satisfaction in helping her students succeed at school. A lot of her former students have done really well, she says. "Some are nurses and teachers." She is proud of them, and of what they have achieved. Thank you, Mrs. Juan, for your many years of dedication.