

Ka Lau

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Mural Madness



L to R: Maria Equihua-Sanchez (6th grade) and eighth-graders Aliza Gonzales and Kristyle Asato work on the story of Laupāhoehoe Point's creation.

What combines artistic vision, history and cultural connection?? Murals! And they are popping up in several places in and around LCPCS.

There are two mural projects wrapping up about now. One set of murals, at the Laupāhoehoe swimming pool, is the product of a middle-school elective course taught by LCPCS middle-school teacher Carrie Edgil.

The elective students, composed of 6th, 7th and 8th-graders, started with basic art lessons (good technique, color basics, design, etc.), and then canvassed the community for ideas. Next they made sketches, and met in groups to discuss visions and goals.

The class then split into two, creating one mural on the makai wall of the pool, and one at the entrance. The makai mural shows a wave coming into a fish hook, a kalo leaf, and the sun's rays, which symbolize the spirit of the community, and our love and dependence on the ocean, said Ms. Edgil. The entrance mural depicts the formation of Laupāhoehoe Point.

The class was supported by a \$1,000 grant from the Hilo Rotary Club, and the murals are the end result of several years of planning by Hui Kāko'o O Laupāhoehoe and community organizers. Mahalo also to Sherwin Williams, for donating paint.

The second set of murals, in the upper LCPCS campus, has been sponsored by Hui Mālama i ke Ala Ūlili, a community non-profit created to help young people reconnect with local history and tradition (mo'olelo). It's the same group that runs the Koholālele Forest in makai Pa'auilo, where many LCPCS students have explored historical and cultural connections to the 'āina.

Lead artist Haley Kaliliehu has now helped install murals at Honoka'a High School, Pa'auilo and LCPCS, all depicting various scenes from the life of Chief 'Umi-a-Līloa. 'Umi was based primarily in Waipunalei around 350 years ago. "'Umi was a really significant leader because



L to R: Clare Salomom-Torres, Jeneshia Nachac-Lawrence and Jareese Amaral, all juniors, pause in their work on 'Umi's life story.

he was so humble and generous,” says Ms. Kailiehu. His guidance helped established a reliable and constant food supply so that his subjects had time for recreational pursuits like surfing.

“Art has the power to transform people and communities...it’s the coming together, the convergence of generations, ideas, knowledge,” Ms. Kailiehu said. “Through these experiences, we share stories and create new ones together.”

Director’s Message



I moved to Hawaii in January 2017 and right away began to experience the aloha in our community. From finding a home to live in, to being invited into the homes of LCPCS families and community members at large, I have been blessed by the generosity of the people in Laupāhoehoe and the neighborhoods we serve from Pepe‘ekeo to Pa‘auilo.

In this season of giving, and in the tradition of our community, I invite you to consider supporting the growth of one of our flagship Industrial Arts programs, the Wood Shop. For the first time in many years woodworking has been a part of the regular day curriculum. The cost of the instructor and the materials was not a part of the 2017-18 budget, but I felt it was a priority to provide this opportunity to our students. If you are still thinking of an end-of-the-year giving opportunity, I invite you to join me in making a donation to the Wood Shop program. If you want to support other aspects of the school operations and curriculum, then make you can make your end-of-the-year donation to the LCPCS General Fund.

Thanks to the confidence and support of the Board of Directors, I have been offered and accepted a contract through January 2020. I look forward to leading our efforts to engage students in authentic, relevant and rigorous academic work, while encouraging their creativity and problem solving skills through project-based learning. Thank you for all you have done to make this an amazing year! 2018 is going to be even greater! Go Seasiders!!!

Seasider Spotlight



Jill Doying

She kind of snuck in under the radar, but Jill Doying now plays an instrumental role in the LCPCS front office. Her official title is “Administrative Support Specialist,” which mostly means assisting Director Garcia, Business Manager Del De Los Santos, and Office Manager Tracy Jardine. She also does what she calls “the boring stuff,” like reconciling credit cards and cutting checks. However, Ms. Doying is also on hand to take on special projects, like coordinating the recent student trip to Japan. “If it wasn’t for her, that trip would never have happened,” said Ms. Jardine. We can only imagine what pulling it all together must have entailed! How many sets of passports again?

Ms. Doying grew up in Canada, and first came to Hawai‘i to attend BYU in Lā‘ie, O‘ahu. There, she fell in love with Hawai‘i, and took classes in Hawaiian arts, culture and history. She came to LCPCS in January of 2017 after a diverse career on the mainland, with skills in banking, grant proposal writing, and crisis intervention. Thanks for handling all “that boring stuff” and a lot else besides, Jill!