

ALUMNI

Class Notes

Compiled by Alumni Editor Mona K. O. Chock (MEd '77, BS '74 Mānoa). UH campuses are Mānoa, Hilo and West O'ahu. UH Community College campuses are Hawai'i, Honolulu, Kapi'olani, Kaua'i, Leeward, Maui and Windward.

2000s

Regan M. Iwao (JD '00 Mānoa) has joined Goodsill Anderson Quinn and Stifel as a law associate concentrating in litigation.



Stacey Kotani (BA '00 West O'ahu) is secretary of the UH West O'ahu Alumni Association. She has worked for the United States Air Force for 13 years and is secretary for the 15th Communications Squadron.

Lori Kaiser (JD '00 Mānoa) joined Goodsill Anderson Quinn and Stifel as an associate concentrating in corporatelaw and technology.



Byron Shibata (JD '00 Mānoa) is a law professor at Ritsumeikan University in Japan.

1990s

Matthew Burger (BA '97 Mānoa) joined the *Maui News* as a reporter. He was sports editor for the *Moscow Times*, an English-language newspaper in Russia, and an assistant producer/translator for *NBC Worldwide News*.

Mariza J. Cacawa (BA '98 Mānoa) received certification from the National Association of Legal Secretaries and works as a paralegal at the Law Offices of Richard Lee.

Robert Castro (BA '99 West O'ahu) is vice president for community affairs for the UH West O'ahu Alumni Association. Castro, who also attended Leeward CC, works parttime at a nonprofit organization and volunteers at Hawai'i's Plantation Village as a docent.

Jennifer Reid Cervenka (JD '95 Mānoa) is an associate with McGovern Noel and Benik in Providence, R.I., concentrating in litigation, environmental law and regulatory matters. She co-authored an article on Rhode Island's new "Tiered Approach to Remedial Objectives for Arsenic for New England's Environment."

Francis Elaine Chaine (MEd '92, '75, MS '73, BA '69 Mānoa) is a science and chemistry instructor at the College of Micronesia, Pohnpei State Campus. She lives in Kolonia, Pohnpei, with her husband **Jean Paul Chaine** (MSPH '69 Mānoa) and is a member in the American Chemical Society and Sigma Xi.

Roy Chang (BEd '96 Mānoa), a cartoonist for the UHM student newspaper *Ka Leo 'O Hawai'i*, now draws the *Hawai'i Business* magazine feature Pen and Inc.

Julie Ching-Yin Chen (MBA '99, BBA '90 Mānoa) is manager of marketing and public affairs for the Japan-America Institute of Management Science in Honolulu.

Joanne S. M. Ebesu (PhD '98, MA '93 Mānoa) is a senior scientist and research director at Oceanit. The Hawai'i biotechnology group won the federal Innovative Biotechnology Award.

Cindy Goodness (JD '95 Mānoa) and her successful battle with breast cancer are featured in an American Cancer Society brochure "A Women's Guide to Beating Breast Cancer." Goodness completed the Tinman Triathlon.

Marie DeLos Reyes Green (BA '98 Mānoa) works at the Discovery Center in Honolulu. She and her husband Justin have a 15-month-old daughter.

Robyn Greene (BA '90 Mānoa), a member of the UHAA-East, lives in New York City and recently graduated from the New York Police Academy as a certified criminal investigator.

Jessie L. K. Hall (BA '96 Hilo) is an associate with the Law Offices of Richard Lee, specializing in family, real estate and trust law.

Cherell T. Hane (BBA '99 Mānoa) is direct marketing assistant at Hawaiian Host.

Charles Hartman (JD '97 Mānoa) is an associate with the Law Offices of Richard Lee.

Ulla Patricia (Pia) Jordan (BA '90 Mānoa) has returned to Honolulu after 10 years in Hong Kong and New York.

Lisa Linn Kapualokelani Kana'e (MA '00, BS '96 Mānoa), a lecturer at Kapi'olani CC, is recipient of numerous writing awards and performs her poetry and creative nonfiction. Her work appears in *Bamboo Ridge*, *Oiwi: A Native Hawaiian Journal*, *Hybolics* and *Tinfish*.

Matthew Kaopio (BA '99 West O'ahu) paints despite quadriplegia by holding his brush in his mouth. He is a graduate student in the UHM Pacific Asian studies program.

Kristi Karimoto (BA '99 Mānoa) is an account coordinator at AdWorks.

Janalyn Lei Kawato (BS '97 Mānoa) is a junior engineer with Time Warner Oceanic Communications.

Eric Kjellgren (PhD '91 Mānoa) is the head curator of the Pacific Collection of the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Micah Kroeger (BBA '99 Mānoa) is head coach for boys basketball and the varsity program at the Kamehameha Schools.

Burma Y. Lee (BA '99 West O'ahu, '65 Mānoa) is treasurer for the UH West O'ahu Alumni Association. She is a registered dental hygienist. Married for 34 years, she has two children—one attends UH West O'ahu.

David K. Link (JD '90 Mānoa) has joined Monnat and Spurrier as an associate. He practices criminal defense and immigration law.

Jerry Linville (MBA '96 Mānoa) is director of alumni relations at the UH Mānoa College of Business Administration and executive director of the Hawai'i Council on Economic Education.

Lisa Matsumoto (MFA '92, BA '87 Mānoa) won the Elliott Cades Award for Literature. Her plays have appeared at Kennedy Theatre, Kumu Kahua and Diamond Head Theatre. She is co-founder of 'Ōhi'a Productions.

Chris McKinney (MA '98, BA '95 Mānoa) received the Elliott Cades Award for Literature for his first novel *The Tattoo*, about a prisoner's recollections of his turbulent youth. McKinney leads creative writing workshops and teaches at Honolulu CC.

Scott Morita (JD '98 Mānoa) has joined Goodsill Anderson Quinn and Stifel as an associate concentrating in litigation.



Carla B. Myers ('92-'94 Kapi'olani) is a paralegal with the Law Offices of Richard Lee. She is certified with the National Association of Legal Secretaries.

Clint Nagata (BArch '93 Mānoa) is an associate with Wimberly Allison Tong and Goo architects. He has designed hotel, residential, spa and convention center projects in Hawai'i and Asia.

Christine Nogami-Engime (MPH '91 Mānoa) is assistant executive director for the Southern New Jersey Regional Early Intervention Collaborative.

Christina M. Oshiro ('99-'00 Kapi'olani, BA '97 Mānoa) is a paralegal/controller at the Law Offices of Richard Lee. She received her certification from the National Association of Legal Secretaries.

Haifu Osumare (PhD '99 Mānoa) is an assistant professor of American studies and dance at Bowling Green State University in Ohio. She received the national Gabriel Dissertation Award. She is a member of the Congress on Research in Dance, American Studies Association and Modern Language Association of America.

Michelle Pethel (BA '99 West O'ahu) moved to Italy with her husband.

Rosalie A. Romo (BBA '98 Mānoa) is a marketing assistant with Hawaiian Host in Honolulu.

Melissa Tanji (BA '97 Mānoa) is a reporter for the *Mauī News*.



Lisa Vargas (BA '96 West O'ahu) earned a Chaminade University master's degree in criminal justice and public administration.

Tracy Timothy Woo (MBA '98 Mānoa) is vice president and chief operating officer for Queen's Health Systems.

Giin Young (BBA '94 Mānoa) is regional account manager for a Malaysian overseas export manufacturer company.

Sarah Chui Wai Yuan (MA '98, MS '91 Mānoa) is a UHM doctoral student in sociology, studying gerontology and population studies.

Steve Zhu (JD '93, Mānoa) runs Naga group, an international business consulting firm in Beijing and Hong Kong.

1980s

Joseph Beason (BA '87 Mānoa) joined Chicago high-tech firm Dantis as creative director.

Larry Beil (BA '83 Mānoa) began work as weekend sports anchor at ABC affiliate KGO-TV in San Francisco.

Laurence Brahm (JD '87 Mānoa) runs Naga group, an international business consulting firm in Beijing and Hong Kong.

Mike Chun (BA '87 West O'ahu) is taking computer classes at North Seattle Community College.

Kenneth Cushner (EdD '87 Mānoa) is associate dean and professor of education in the College and Graduate School of Education at Kent State University. He is the author of books on multicultural education.

Patrick Dolim (BBA '86 Mānoa) is controller with an e-commerce service and software startup in Oakland. He lives with wife Eva and sons, Pierce and Logan, in Vacaville, Calif.

Alton H. Higa (BBA '87 Mānoa) is director of corporate accounting for Aloha Airlines.

Ren T. Hirose (BBA '85 Mānoa) is Hawai'i region director for Starwood Hotels. He is president of TIM International, the School of Travel Industry Management alumni association.

Curtis M. Kam (JD '86 Mānoa) is an attorney with the Law Offices of Richard Lee.

Gregory L. Lui Kwan (JD '82, BA '77 Mānoa) is an attorney at Cronin Fried Sekiya Kekina Fairbanks.

Gabrielle Lee (BA '80 Mānoa) is senior vice president for American Savings Bank.

Howard Lee (BBA '84 Mānoa) is president and chief operating officer of U-Med and chief financial officer of University Health Alliance.

Christopher Kai Noa Lilly (BS '86 Mānoa) is an undergraduate admissions specialist for the UHM College of Business Administration.

Michael Y. W. Lum (MBA '84, JD '81 Mānoa) is vice president of project management and design for Castle and Cooke Homes Hawai'i.

Lynne Nishiura (BA '84 Mānoa) is human resources manager at Island Insurance and a member of the Society for Human Resources Management.



Keone Nunes (BA '83 Mānoa) is a Hawaiian cultural resource educator in Leeward O'ahu. He is a kumu hula, artist, Hawaiian language teacher, protocol leader for the Hokule'a and tattoo artist.

2001 Distinguished Alumni



Standing from left: Haruyuki Kamemoto, UH President Kenneth Mortimer, Robert Katayama and Danny Rescue representing Jack Fritz. Seated from left: Naleen Andrade, Rie Wong representing her late husband Edwin Wong, Lydia Tsui and Linda Fernandez representing her late husband Kane Fernandez, recipient of the UH Alumni Association President's Award (see page 26).

Naleen Naupaka Andrade (BA '76, MD '82), who chairs the John A. Burns School of Medicine's Department of Psychiatry and the board of trustees at Queen's Medical Center, successfully lobbied Congress to pass the Native Hawaiian Health Care Act. **Jack S.**

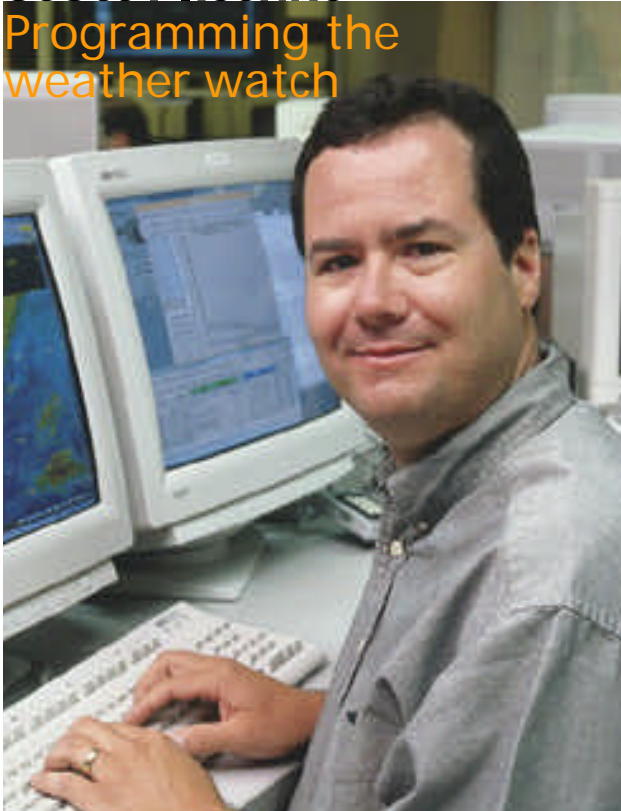
Fritz (BA '73, JD '79), speaker of the Federated States of Micronesia Congress for the past 10 years, helps guide his nation toward stability, political maturity and economic development. **Haruyuki Kamemoto** (BS '44, MS '47) is a professor emeritus of the university's Department of Horticulture and recipient of the UH Regents' Medal for Excellence in Research; his dozen dendrobium orchid and anthurium varieties and growing techniques helped build Hawai'i's tropical flower industry.

Robert N. Katayama (BA '50), president of Kapolei Holding Corp., served

in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, pursued an accomplished law career and is an active supporter of Hawai'i's Japanese-American veteran and cultural groups and the UH law school. **Lydia L. W. Tsui** (BBA '75), president of Panda Travel, has supported a variety of community efforts, including the Hurricane Niki Relief Fund, McKinley High School Scholarships and UH athletics as well as serving on the police commission and helping start neighborhood watch programs. The late **Edwin S. N. Wong** (BA '51) was chair, president and chief operating officer of Waterhouse, Inc. He was a lifetime member of the UH Alumni Association; co-founder of the Na Koa football booster club; chair of the UH Foundation Board of Trustees and member of the School of Travel Industry Management Advisory Board.

Scott Plischke

Programming the weather watch



If there's a tornado in Texas, Scott Plischke will let you know. A 1988 alumnus of UH Mānoa's meteorology program, the O'ahu native is now senior forecaster for the National Weather Service in Amarillo, Texas. His responsibilities include daily forecasts and tornado and severe weather warnings for the Texas and Oklahoma panhandles.

Because of his location in "Tornado Alley," Plischke sees a lot of rough weather. During one season he tallied 70 tornadoes. On one intense shift in June 1995, his team monitored 20 confirmed tornadoes, some with winds up to 260 miles per hour that sent pickup trucks and factory roofs swirling hundreds of feet into the air.

"It keeps the job interesting," Plischke says. "I've had tornadoes right outside my house. I've seen two near Amarillo. I would have seen three, but I was busy putting out the warning."

As a meteorologist, Plischke finds tornadoes, hail and strong wind fascinating. However, that doesn't blind him to the damage they can cause. "I get very concerned for my family (wife Carla and 3-year-old son Sean) when I'm at work and watching the weather heading towards Amarillo." Ironically it was a 1992 snowstorm that

caused him the most trouble. Heavy snow and 45-mile-per-hour winds piled a roof-high snowdrift against his garage door. "It took three days to dig a path through the snow to get my car out," he recalls.

Accurate and timely predictions are key to preventing injury and death in such situations. So Plischke created a computer program, Xnow, to compose, format and disseminate forecasts more efficiently. It provides a variety of graphical applications and can transmit information to a single county or a global audience. Forecasters across the country use Xnow on a daily basis. In recognition, Plischke received the American Meteorological Society's Francis Reichelderfer Award for "the development of software packages that enable forecasters to prepare weather products for the public in a timely and efficient manner." He also received the U.S. Department of Commerce Bronze Medal—the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's highest honor—for contributing to "the efficient preparation of modernized weather forecasts and services."

Forecasters across the country use Plischke's weather reporting software daily

"Being honored by the American Meteorological Society has been the highlight of my career," says Plischke, who has also received recognition from the National Weather Service for his work on other computer programs.

Plischke recalls his time at UH fondly. "I was very fortunate," he says. "The classes were small so we could get one-on-one instruction. I really appreciated it." He participated in UH's Cooperative Education program, which combines class instruction with relevant work experience. "It started my career," Plischke says. "My service with the National Weather Service goes back to when I was a sophomore in college." He worked alongside meteorological technicians gathering and disseminating data for the Honolulu forecasters.

Plischke's local roots—he's an 'Aiea High School graduate and the great-grandson of Portuguese immigrants—made moving to the small town of Scottsbluff, Neb., a difficult post-college adjustment. But his co-workers were kind and invited him into their homes. He married in 1992 and moved to Amarillo two years later.

He has experienced other changes as well. His field has seen major advances in the technology of meteorology. "When I started in Honolulu, we had Teletypes," he recalls. "Since then we've evolved to having everything computerized. I've seen 1950s-era radar replaced by Doppler radar. There have been pretty significant changes in the past 15 years." His Xnow program is part of the progression that incorporates technology into the business of weather watching. ☺

—by Heidi Sakuma, a UH Mānoa journalism and English major

Oh, Brother!

Roger Chang good-humoredly refers to the Chang Gang by alphabet soup (six BBAs, four CPAs, one PhD, one MBA and a BMW) or by the numbers (four accountants, two financiers, one fashion merchandiser and one economist). Either way it adds up to a UH family fraternity. Seven brothers are Mānoa graduates. Roger Chang (BBA '86), Whitney Chang (BBA '88), Alan Chang (BBA '90) and Darrin Chang (BBA '00) studied accounting. (Roger later received a doctorate in education from the

University of Southern California.) Michael Chang (BBA '93) earned his degree in finance. Kenneth Chang (BA '85) earned a degree in human resources and Hiram Chang (BA '92) studied

economics, later earning an MBA from Chaminade University. The eighth, David Chang, completed his BBA in finance at San Jose State University after attending Kapi'olani CC in 1991.

Credit their parents Meelin and Jack Chang with emphasizing the importance of a good education. "It was always homework first," Roger says. "They really stressed school." They certainly set the example of working hard. Roger estimates that Meelin, from Hong Kong, and Jack, from China, spent 84 hours a week operating their restaurant, Jack's Chop Suey near Farrington High School, and another 10–15 hours on related paperwork at home. "We only saw them in the early morning and late at night," Roger recalls. Now it's geography—six brothers live in California—that makes family get-togethers difficult.

Even in college the brothers didn't hang out together on campus, but they enjoyed college life. Roger particularly remembers playing basketball every Friday afternoon at Klum Gym. "As I think about it, I'm smiling. My friends and I would have a team, and we would challenge the dorm team. It was a real battle. To be honest, I think our team lost more, but we played hard."

Roger, an accountant for Paradise Beverages in Waipahu, calls UH "a good training ground. It helps you to find what you want." He followed his brother Kenneth's advice: Do something you enjoy; make sure you can see yourself doing it 20 years down the road. "I like what I'm doing. I made the right choice."

—by Keiko Kiele Akana-Gooch, a UH Mānoa journalism major



The Chang brothers (top row from left) David, Darrin, Michael, Hiram and (bottom from left) Kenneth, Roger, Whitney, Alan, all studied at UH

Sharon Pacheco (MBA '82, BBA '80 Mānoa) is vice president of corporate audit at Pacific Life in Newport Beach, Calif.

Peter Palisbo (BS '81 Mānoa) works on Navy shipboard electrical systems in the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard Planning Yard in Washington. He performs with Heleakalā Crater Boyz and teaches 'ukulele classes.

Jody (Bambacus) Rafalowski (MEd '82 Mānoa) moved to Virginia after the birth of her first child in 1995.

Linda Rose (JD '86 Mānoa) is an adjunct law professor at Vanderbilt University Law School and principal shareholder in The Rose Immigration Law Firm of Nashville, Tenn.

Susan Scott (BBA '81 Mānoa) is acting CEO of Panda Travel's online affiliate, Get2Hawai'i.

Trudy K. Senda (JD '83 Mānoa) was appointed a district court judge on Kaua'i.

John L. Uson (BArch '87 Mānoa) is an architect with Riecke, Sunland and Kono. He helped coach Mililani High School girls soccer.

Edward K. Weber (BS '83 Mānoa) is a software tester at Data Channels and jazz musician in Bellevue, Wash. His wife **Carol Banks** (BA '86 Mānoa) edits an RV magazine and writes an online entertainment column.

Eric K. Yeaman (BBA '89 Mānoa) is chief financial officer for Kamehameha Schools.

1970s

Judith Boyle Chun (BBA '70 Mānoa) is chief financial officer of Island Insurance. Her professional affiliations include the Hawai'i BusinessHealth Council and Society of Human Resource Management, and she is past president and national director of the Risk and Insurance Management Society.

Michael E. Connor (PhD '72 Mānoa) is a tenured full professor at California State University Long Beach and licensed psychologist focusing on children's issues and diversity.

Marvin Dang (BA '74 Mānoa) was appointed to the American Bar Association's Standing Committee on Group and Prepaid Legal Services.

Carla J. deJesus ('78-'81 Mānoa) is director of sales and marketing at the Law Offices of Richard Lee.

Patricia Kimoto Gause (BA '73 Mānoa) is director of financial management with the Department of Defense. She received the Secretary of Defense Medal for Meritorious Civilian Service in January.

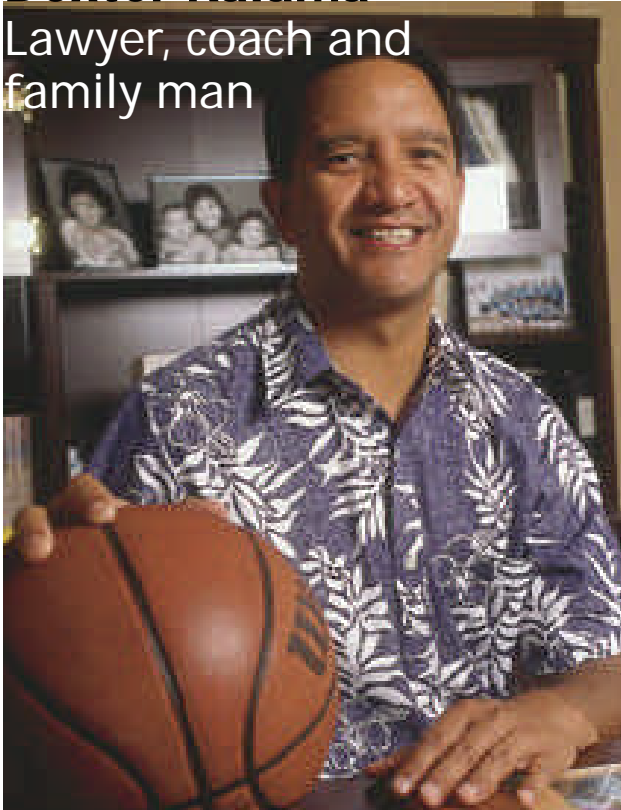
Warren Haraki (BS '72 Mānoa) works for TRW in Los Angeles as a senior staff engineer.

Eric Hee (BS '78 Mānoa) is vice president of Engineers Surveyors Hawai'i.

Cynthia Tsung Hui Jou (MS '76 Mānoa) worked for the Abbot Diagnostics Division and recently served as a scientist in the hematology instrument business in Santa Clara.

Dexter Kaiama

Lawyer, coach and family man



When attorney Dexter Keamoku Kaiama isn't pursuing worker's compensation or personal injury claims from his Century Square office, he is likely to be in—or on—court. The 1986 William S. Richardson School of Law graduate is equally comfortable filing motions or calling a pick 'n' roll.

"My extracurricular passion is basketball," explains Kaiama, a native of Kamuela, Hawai'i. "I love to play and coach basketball." He led the Sacred Hearts Academy women's basketball team to a 5–7 record in 2000, his inaugural year as head coach. Among the five wins were back-to-back buzzer beater victories over perennial state powerhouses Punahou and 'Iolani.

"I started coaching junior varsity at Kamehameha when my eldest daughter entered seventh grade," he says. "I became interested in learning to teach the game and had the good fortune to work under then head coach Al Apo. I quickly discovered that it was not so easy to convey my personal experience, awareness and understanding of basketball to young ladies just beginning to learn

the game." He found re-learning the game and improving communication a necessary but worthwhile effort. "There is great personal satisfaction in teaching a young person, seeing the young person learn and understand your teaching, and then watching as he or she successfully applies what he or she has learned."

Kaiama aspired to be an attorney from a young age. As a child, he heard stories about how his father lost one of his personal possessions for lack of knowledge about the law. "My dad told me to learn the law so that I would be assured that no one could pull the wool over my eyes," he recalls.

After receiving a UHM bachelor's degree in political science in 1979, "it was either become an attorney or run for office," he jokes. The UH School of Law faculty instilled academic and personal discipline. In the quarry below the present law school, Kaiama honed his basketball know-how in Klum Gym. "There were some extremely athletic and talented basketball players hanging around Klum. The level of competition was very high, and you had to learn and develop your game if you wanted to stick around." A three-on-three intramural team he played on was seeded eighth in an island-wide tournament and upset its way to the championship. "I am the adult I've become in large part because of my total experience as a UH student," he says.

Kaiama's primary focus is on his family. **Manu Kaiama**, his wife of nearly 20 years and a UH alumna, is an instructor with the College of Business Administration and director of the Native Hawaiian Leadership Project. He first saw her in the reading/listening room in Campus Center and met her on the basketball court behind the campus apartments. "I was immediately hooked, and she's been 'breaking my ankles' ever since," he says, using a basketball metaphor.

"I love my relationship with my kids," he continues, smiling at the family photographs over his desk. Mehana, the eldest, graduated from Kamehameha this year. "I believe all parents wish for their children to be better people than the parents are. With Mehana, I know that to be true." He sees kind and true hearts and limitless potential in the younger four. "We all have our faults and failures, my children and I included, but Mehana, Haweo, Kohala, Nae and Kala are the greatest source of happiness and pride for Manu and me." 🍷

—by Peter Boylan, a University and Community Relations summer intern

It's not so easy to convey personal experience to young ladies just beginning to learn the game

Eugene Imai (MBA '71, BA '58 Mānoa), senior vice president for administration at UH, was inducted into the McKinley High School Hall of Honor.

Yi-Her Jou (PhD '76 Mānoa) is a scientist and business development manager for a small chemistry instrument company and general manager for a Silicon Valley Internet company and several start-up businesses.

Cheryl Kalaau (BS '78 Mānoa) is district manager of ADP in Hawai'i.

Ray Kamikawa (BA '74 Mānoa) returned to the Honolulu law firm Chun Kerr Dodd Beaman and Wong after more than five years as state tax director.

Maurice Kaya (BS '70 Mānoa) is an energy and technology administrator with the Hawai'i Department of Business Economic Development and Tourism.

Shelley Kaya (BS '72 Mānoa) is a facilities managing engineer with the U.S. Navy at Pearl Harbor.

Leslie Kobata (BBA '78 Mānoa) is ADP Hawai'i district manager for major accounts.

Harold Koda (BA '72 Mānoa) is curator-in-charge of the Costume Institute at the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Nestor A. Longbooy (BFA '79 Mānoa) is vice president of asset management for the Shidler Group in Honolulu.

Clyde G. Minn (BBA '71 Mānoa) is director for hotel planning and operations for Walt Disney Attractions Japan. He recently opened Disney Ambassador Hotel near Tokyo Disneyland. Wife and fellow alum **Hilda**

Minn is vice president of Executive Search International, specializing in hospitality.

Bryce Miyasaki (BS '73 Mānoa) is project manager with Fletcher Pacific Construction.

Michael J. Nugent (BA '77 Mānoa) is a real property appraiser with the Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Land Management.

Alan Ong (BBA '73 Mānoa) is senior vice president for operations and projects for the Asian-based Equatorial hotel chain.

Savio Pang (BBA '71 BA '70 Mānoa) is president of Regency Tours and Travel, Honolulu.

Barbara Ann Peterson (PhD '78 Mānoa), a professor at Oregon State University, published *Notable Women of China*.

Sandra Pierantozzi (BEd '78 Mānoa) was elected vice president of Palau.

Kok Kian Poh (MS '72, BS '70 Mānoa) manages Agensi Perjaan Mingway and World-Link Human Resources, manpower recruitment and human resource development companies in Malaysia.

Mohd Rosly Selamat (BBA '79 Mānoa), who also attended UH Hilo, helped organize the Commonwealth Games in Malaysia.

Gary Shimamoto (BS '71 Mānoa) is president of Integrated Construction.

Robert Tasaka (BS '70 Mānoa) is a project engineer at Ralph Inouye Company.

Jeffrey Miles Smith (PhD '70, MA '67 Mānoa) is vice president of research with Mattson Sunderland Research and Planning Associates in Honolulu.

James L. Uson (BA '78 Mānoa) works for UPS and coaches the Mililani High School girls soccer team.

Jose "Joe" Uson Jr. (BA '77 Mānoa), district sales manager with Pacific Guardian Life, was recently in East Timor, Indonesia, as a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves. A life member of the Go For Broke Association, he and his wife Gerry have two sons, Jed and Matthew.

Dennis Watanuki (BS '73 Mānoa) is president of Integrator, a print and direct mail company in Honolulu.

Eric Yamamoto (BA '74 Mānoa), William S. Richardson School of Law professor, received a Gustavus Myers Outstanding Book Award for *Interracial Justice: Conflict and Reconciliation in Post-Civil Rights America*.

Jill Yamashiro ('74-'75 Leeward) is claims procedures and training coordinator for Island Insurance. She is involved in Club 100 and Sons and Daughters of the 100th Battalion.



Brian K. Yomono (BA '74 Mānoa) is with the Law Offices of Richard Lee in Honolulu.

Don Yorimoto (BS '74 Mānoa) is a mechanical engineer with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Books Yuen (BS '74 Mānoa) is an executive assistant at the Honolulu Board of Water Supply.

1960s

John Arizumi (BS '68 Mānoa) is president of Carrier Hawai'i.

Surajit K. De Datta (PhD '63 Mānoa), director of Virginia Tech's Office of International Research and Development and associate dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, was named a fellow and awarded the International Service in Crop Science Award by the Crop Science Society of America.

Fred Honda ('62 Mānoa) is general manager of the Halekulani Hotel in Waikiki.

Karen Mendyka Huff (BEd '65 Mānoa) retired from Evanston Township High School, where she taught physical education and coached track and field, and Northwestern University, where she was assistant track and field coach. She won the Illinois Senior Olympics in the javelin, shot-put and discus and qualified for the 2001 national Senior Olympics in Baton Rouge.

Lawrence N. C. Ing (BA '63 Mānoa) received Maui's Humanitarian of the Year award. He is an attorney with Ing Horikawa

Kuwada Jorgensen. Ing and Betty, his wife of 35 years, have four children.

Allan Kaya (BS '64 Mānoa) works at Hickam Air Force Base as a general engineer.

Daniel Koenigsberger (BA '68 Mānoa) is chief investigator for the California Department of Insurance Criminal Investigations Branch, Fraud Division.

Herb Minakami (BS '60 Mānoa) is chief of the Planning and Engineering Division at the Honolulu Board of Water Supply.

Gary A. Okamoto (BA '66 Mānoa) is president of Queen's Health Systems.

Mel Okazaki (BA '60 Mānoa) moved to Las Vegas with his wife Emily to start 'Ohana, a bimonthly regional magazine designed to keep islanders informed about Island news.

George Shintani (BS '66 Mānoa) is a supervisory mechanical engineer at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard.

Wesley Takemori (BS '68 Mānoa) is a mechanical engineer at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard.

1950s

Kane S. Fernandez (BBA '58 Mānoa), who passed away this year, was honored posthumously with the UH Alumni Association President's Award.

Son of E. K. and Rose Fernandez, the businessman, showman and community leader joined the family business after a stint in the Navy and became president and chief executive of



Fernandez Entertainment. He received the Hawaiian Business and Professional Association O'ō Award for Outstanding Hawaiian Businessman and served on the boards of the Boys and Girls Club, Hawai'i Theatre Center, the Bishop Museum, Variety School and the UH Foundation.

1930s

Jennie Fong Chock (BA '36 Mānoa), retired Chinese teacher, is a member of the UH Alumni Association and the Community Church of Honolulu. All her children are UH alums—**Herbert** (BS '62), **Sherwood** (BA '63), **Jan** (BS '67) and **Lisa** (BFA '67).

Send Class Notes information to ur@hawaii.edu or **Mālamalama, BA 2, 2444 Dole St., Honolulu HI 96822**. Please include the campus(es) you attended and year(s) you graduated and indicate if your name has changed.

Patrice Tanaka Putting Value in PR



When she graduated with a degree in journalism in 1974, Patrice Tanaka had no idea that she would become the CEO and creative director of a thriving New York public relations agency. Now she counts American Express, Godiva Chocolatier and Charles Schwab among her company's clients and has affiliates in cities from Beijing to Barcelona.

The Castle High School graduate was enthusiastic about attending Mānoa. "It was so different from high school in an exciting way," she says. On the first day of newswriting class, Professor Serrell Hillman assigned a story on deadline, Tanaka recalls. "We were all trying to be clever and creative. The next session, he critiqued them aloud. When he read the other student's work, you could understand what he was saying, but when he read yours it was mortifying. But those of us who remained really learned how to write clear, compelling news stories under deadline pressure. It was great."


Tanaka moved to New York in 1979 and worked for a small public relations company that was later purchased

by an advertising firm. She led a group of colleagues in a management buyback in 1990, founding Patrice Tanaka and Company, also known as PT & Co. "I've had only one job since moving to New York more than 20 years ago, but that job has changed so dramatically that it seems like I've had three different jobs," she muses.

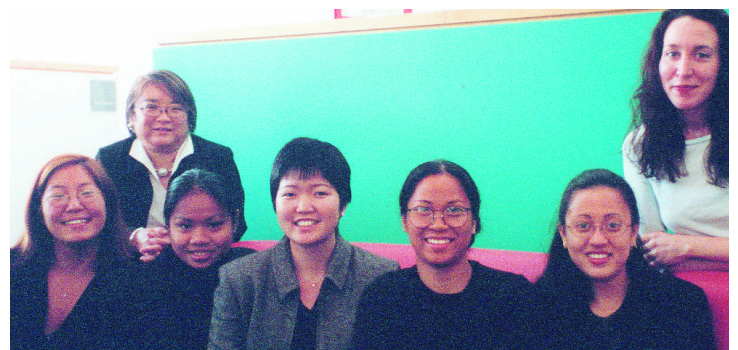
PT & Co. has grown more than 700 percent, won 150 industry awards—including the Public Relations Society of America's Silver Anvil, *Inside PR* magazine's Creativity in Public Relations Award and the Women in Communications Clarion Award—and been named "1 Most Creative Agency" nationwide by *Inside PR*. Tanaka likens her work to "playing 24 different, intriguing board games."

PT & Co. also receives praise for its cause-related marketing campaigns, such as Avon's Breast Cancer Awareness Crusade, Coors Brewing Company's "Literacy. Pass It On" and Liz Claiborne's program addressing family violence. "In 1991, no other corporation in America was involved in domestic violence," Tanaka says. "That's why we wanted Liz Claiborne to bring the issue out of the closet and make it safe for other companies to get involved in ending domestic violence."

The company also contributes on its own. In 1996 PT & Co. created Acts of Love and Kindness, a program in which New York City PR agencies donate time and resources to charitable organizations in New York City on Valentine's Day. Internally, it makes employee morale an utmost concern. The company's Web site states: "Because work sometimes intrudes upon our employees' personal lives, we, in turn, allow their personal lives to sometimes intrude upon their work." Employee amenities include flexible work schedules, benefits and a meditation room.

"As a brand, PT & Co. stands for three things," Tanaka says. "Creating great work, creating a great workplace environment and creating great communities that work." 

—by Heidi Sakuma, a journalism and English major at UH Mānoa



UH Mānoa public relations students (seated from left) Jennifer Douglas, Flordeliza Lamug, Teri Yanagawa, Ariene Ablang and Heidi Sakuma visited Tanaka and assistant Maureen Stammers in New York last fall. PT & Co. has 45 employees, over \$5.5 million in revenues and affiliates in Europe, North America and Asia. See www.ptanaka.com.

Clayton Amemiya Painting with fire



A foreign service posting in Okinawa introduced Clayton Amemiya to a lifetime passion. Armed with a bachelor's degree in Asian studies from UH Mānoa, he went to work at the U.S. Consulate in Okinawa in 1972. One day a co-worker invited him to a plant nursery. The owner's son, potter Seisho Kuniyoshi, had a studio on the property. "It was a chance meeting. He showed me around his studio, and something about Seisho's work touched me. I ended up buying several pieces," recalls Amemiya.

Attracted by something simple, raw and beautiful in Kuniyoshi's work, Amemiya sought his help to learn the craft. "I had a very humble beginning in pottery. At first my interest was in making a set of dishes for myself," he says. "Seisho and I didn't have a traditional teacher-student relationship. We were close in ages and were really more like friends." Kuniyoshi introduced Amemiya to

the anagama, a traditional Japanese kiln that produces distinctive pottery.

Amemiya completed his UHM master's degree in history in 1976, but his love of pottery remained strong. He had his first exhibition in 1980—works fired in a gas kiln. Pursuing the look that only an anagama firing can produce, Amemiya enlisted Kuniyoshi's assistance in 1986 to build a traditional kiln on the Big Island of Hawai'i.

An anagama is basically a long tunnel. Amemiya's anagama is 12 feet long and 4 ½ feet wide and tall. Flame is drawn from one end of the kiln out the other. Amemiya spends four days tending the fire.

In the collaboration between the potter and the fire, the potter dictates the speed and intensity of the fire, and how he positions the pieces determines how each is glazed. As the flame travels through the kiln it paints the pottery. "A finished piece displays the interaction between earth (clay), fire and wind (flying ash)," says Amemiya. Since no two pieces are exposed to the same fire and ash flow, no two pieces look exactly the same. "You don't get that type of variation with a gas kiln."

While exhibiting in Tokyo, however, Amemiya observed that his work was indistinguishable from that of Japanese potters. He felt his pottery didn't reflect his island home, and he set about to change that. The surfaces of his pieces now evoke flowing lava and sand patterned by ocean currents. "Living in a rainforest environment on a volcano influences my work," he says.

Amemiya has added another local twist to Japanese tradition. He uses Big Island wood—ohia, keawe, koa and lichee—to fire his kiln. "Hilo is still very much like old-town Hawai'i, and my friends assist in my efforts. For example, a furniture maker I know gives me koa that he can't use, and recently a monastery called me after they pruned their lichee trees," Amemiya says.

It was that old-town community feeling that motivated Amemiya to open his own gallery, Rain, in downtown Hilo. "Rain is a great way to meet people. When I sell my pieces through other galleries I don't have any interaction with the people who buy them. At Rain I have that personal contact. I'm always humbled when people come in and buy something from me." ☺

Rain is located at 86 Mamo Street, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720; call 808 934-9134 or 808 959-5767.

—by Tracy Matsushima (BA '90, Mānoa), a publication specialist in University and Community Relations

**Amemiya
infuses
Japanese
tradition
with local
twists**

