



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII
SYSTEM

LATE TESTIMONY

BOR Testimony <bortest2@hawaii.edu>

Michael Nakasone

1 message

nakano.kat@gmail.com <nakano.kat@gmail.com>
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Tue, Mar 19, 2024 at 12:18 PM

Aloha,

I am a former student of Michael Nakasone while a student at Pearl City High School. He has had a positive impact on my musical journey and on my life in general. I am happy to hear that he is being considered for a Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters for his lifetime work in music. I am in full support of this. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kathrine Nakano



Testimony for Mr. Nakasone

1 message

Rickey H. Badua <rhbadua@cpp.edu>

Tue, Mar 19, 2024 at 1:47 PM

To: "bor.testimony@hawaii.edu" <bor.testimony@hawaii.edu>

To whom it may concern,

I wholeheartedly support Mr. Nakasone's consideration for an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters. Mr. Nakasone was a tremendous educator I had the privilege of having in my musical youth and in many ways, led me to my successful musical career as a collegiate band director. His impact on music education on Hawaii's youth is a legacy worth acknowledging as the countless hours and passion over several decades has significantly elevated the musical community.

Sincerely,

Dr. Rickey Badua
Associate Professor & Director of Bands
Cal Poly Pomona University

Rickey H. Badua, D.M.A.

Director of Bands|Associate Professor of Music
Cal Poly Pomona University|Department of Music
3801 West Temple Avenue|Pomona, CA 91768
Ph: 909-869-3556|Email: rhbadua@cpp.edu
Website: www.cppbands.com



Michael Nakasone Honorary Degree

1 message

Ku'uilei <kumu66@gmail.com>
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Tue, Mar 19, 2024 at 3:02 PM

Certainly! Here's a draft for Michael Nakasone's honorary doctorate testimony:

To the UH Board of Regents Honorary Degree Committee,

I am writing to enthusiastically endorse Michael Nakasone for the award of an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters. Mr. Nakasone's lifetime dedication and exceptional contributions to music education make him an outstanding candidate for this prestigious recognition.

Throughout his illustrious career, Mr. Nakasone has exemplified the highest standards of excellence, professionalism, and passion for music education. His tireless efforts have inspired countless students, educators, and musicians, leaving an indelible mark on the field.

As a renowned music educator, Mr. Nakasone has demonstrated a profound commitment to fostering a love of music in young people. His innovative teaching methods and unwavering dedication have not only shaped the lives of his students but have also enriched the cultural fabric of our communities as exemplified by his direction of the Pearly City High School Bands and the Royal Hawaiian Band.

Moreover, Mr. Nakasone's leadership and mentorship have been instrumental in nurturing the next generation of music educators. His guidance and wisdom have empowered aspiring musicians, like me, to reach their full potential, ensuring a lasting impact on the future of music education.

In recognition of his extraordinary achievements and unwavering dedication to music education, I wholeheartedly support the award of an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to Michael Nakasone. His lifelong commitment to excellence and his profound impact on music education make him a truly deserving recipient of this honor.

Sincerely,

Ku'uilei Arceo
Band Director
Hilo High School
808-381-9187



Honorary Doctorate recommendation for Michael Nakasone

1 message

Tracia Austin <traciaaustin@gmail.com>
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Tue, Mar 19, 2024 at 5:06 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Tracia Everton Austin and I am married to Dr. Terry Austin, Director of Band Emeritus at Virginia Commonwealth University and University of Hawaii at Manoa Masters graduate. While Terry and I were dating and getting to know one another, he would mention a wonderful teacher he had observed while living in Hawaii. The impression left on Terry made for many conversations over the years. After almost 33 years of marriage and many trips to Hawaii, the Midwest Clinic and American Bandmasters Association events, I can now proudly call the person who was that young and amazing teacher, Michael Nakasone, my friend. Mr. Nakasone has clearly been an important music education leader on the island for decades. His commitment to students, music and community are apparent in his years served at Pearl City, Punahou, the Royal Hawaiian Band and now West Oahu. He wasn't very good at retiring, was he? But he was good at so many things - husband, father, mentor, community leader, cultural influencer, friend as well as teacher. I believe it was those very important commitments that kept him in Hawaii and not pursuing further honors like advanced degrees. His many achievements affected so many for so long that I feel I know no one more deserving of an honorary doctorate from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Mr. Nakasone chose to serve rather than elevate himself and his influences are impossible to count. Please consider him and grant him this honor.

Sincerely,

Tracia Everton Austin, Casting Assistant
Anne Chapman Casting



MN Honorary Doctorate

1 message

Christopher Otsuka <ctotsuka13@gmail.com>
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Tue, Mar 19, 2024 at 9:35 PM

Hello,

I am writing in support of Michael Nakasone receiving an honorary degree for his work in the field of music education. I am a UH graduate and a current music teacher at Pearl City High, and his work really paved the way for myself and many others in the field. His work while teaching brought the Pearl City High band program national and international recognition, and he was the driving force behind the construction of the Pearl City Cultural Center (recently re-named the Michael D. Nakasone Performing Arts Center), that benefits thousands of students every year through concerts and performances. I personally see Mr. Nakasone as a role model for what is possible in the field of music education, and am lucky to have his help and his advice when needed. I hope that you will vote to award Mr. Nakasone the honorary doctorate because of his work over the years for the benefit of Hawaii's students, and music education in Hawaii.

Thank you,
Chris Otsuka



Oral Testimony for Michael Nakasone

Chadwick Kamei <ckamei@hawaii.edu>

Tue, Mar 19, 2024 at 2:39 PM

To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Cc: Elden Seta <eldenseta@gmail.com>

Hi,

I am submitting this testimony for Thursday's BOR meeting as I plan to also present this orally to the board. Please let me know if there are any questions about this.

Mahalo,
Chad
808-384-6693



Kamei Testimony for Nakasone Honorary Degree.pdf

3543K

PEARL CITY HIGH SCHOOL
MUSIC PERFORMING ARTS LEARNING CENTER

CHADWICK Y. KAMEI, DIRECTOR OF BANDS
CHRISTOPHER OTSUKA ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR / CHRISTOPHER F. LOPEZ, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
2100 HOOKIEKIE STREET/ PEARL CITY, HI 96782
PH: (808) 307-5655 / FAX: (808) 453-6521

March 19, 2024

To the Members of the University of Hawaii Board of Regents:

I am writing in support of the agenda item to confer the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters to Mr. Michael Nakasone.

Throughout his illustrious career, Michael dedicated his time and energy to music education and the people of Hawaii. He began his career at Wahiawa Intermediate School, then moved to Mililani High School, and eventually transferred to Pearl City High School where he spent most of his teaching career. Michael was selected as the 19th Bandmaster of the Royal Hawaiian Band and used this appointment to further the educational outreach of the ensemble. After his retirement from the Royal Hawaiian Band, he returned to his educational roots, teaching at Punahou, Campbell, Pearl City, and the University of Hawaii West Oahu.

Maestro Nakasone also conducted the Hawaii Youth Symphony II, which provided many more students to learn about music through his guidance. Earlier this month, members of the prestigious American Bandmasters Association, which Michael is a member of, attended their annual convention in Washington DC. We were able to secure a few moments with Representative Jill Tokuda and within our conversation she reminisced about her playing under Maestro Nakasone's direction at the Youth Symphony. Another component of the convention was to hear our United States military service bands. Unbeknownst to Mr. Nakasone one of his former students was onstage performing as an enlisted member of the United States Coast Guard Band. When we approached his former student, they were overjoyed with his presence at the concert. These recent interactions are just a fraction of the positive and joyous exchanges that I have witnessed throughout my time conducting with Maestro Nakasone. Many of his former students will credit him as someone that helped guide their trajectory in life.

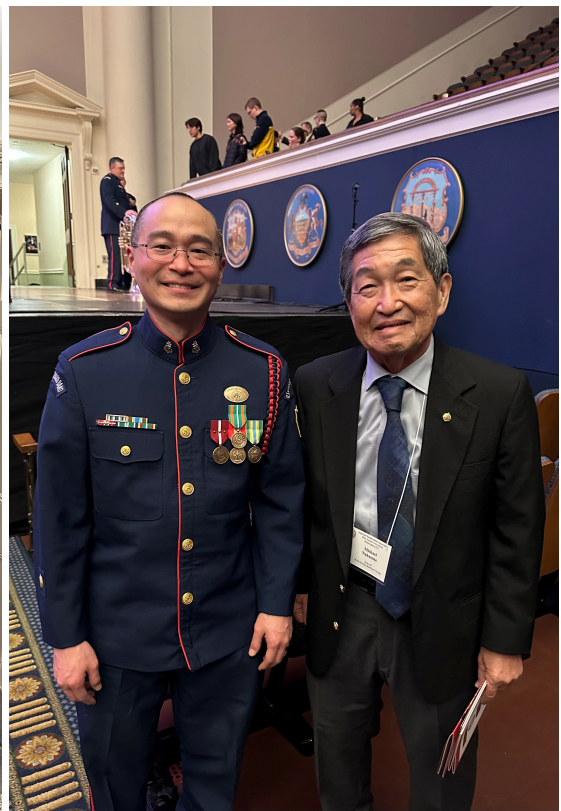
Maestro Nakasone spent his entire career pursuing musical excellence and providing Hawai'i's students with an exceptional music education. He has guided many in our field to pursue their dreams and to work for the betterment of our State and the people of Hawai'i. It is my pleasure to be able to ask that you bestow the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters to Maestro Michael Nakasone for his lifetime of work in music education for Hawai'i.

Sincerely,

Chadwick Kamei

Chadwick Kamei
Band Director
University of Hawai West Oahu

Director of Bands
Pearl City High School





Michael Nakasone Honorary Doctorate

1 message

Glenn Shigeta <glsshigeta@gmail.com>
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Tue, Mar 19, 2024 at 10:40 AM

Dear Regents,

My name is Glenn Shigeta. I am 68 years old, and play as an adult community member in the UH West Oahu Band. As a member of the band, I do know Mr. Nakasone personally, and I feel just with this experience he is deserving of the honor. If you add on the fact that he is an alumnus of the University of Hawaii, his years of teaching music in Hawaii, both public and private, and band master of the Royal Hawaiian Band, I truly feel it would be extremely disappointing if he were to be denied the honor.

I trust that you all will do the right thing.

Yours truly,
Glenn Shigeta



Honorary Degree Recommendation - Michael Nakasone

1 message

Andrew Ching <chinga021@gmail.com>
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Wed, Mar 20, 2024 at 3:17 PM

To whom it may concern,

My name is Andrew Ching, and I am the band director at Wai`anae Intermediate School. I am also the past president of the O`ahu Band Directors Association. I am writing to express my strong support for Mr. Michael Nakasone's Honorary Doctorate. I have known Mr. Nakasone for many years, and I consider him to be an outstanding musician, educator, and person. His legacy as a band director spans generations and he has impacted many thousands of students. Even though he is well into his retirement, Mr. Nakasone remains an active leader in the local and national music community. Most meaningfully, Mr. Nakasone still takes the time to mentor and nurture inexperienced educators like myself, in the hopes that he can continue to support the music community and enrich the lives of future music students. Mr. Nakasone is a man with true Aloha Spirit and is more than deserving of the Honorary Doctorate.

Mahalo,
Andrew Ching
Band Director
Wai`anae Intermediate School



Mr. Nakasone's honorary doctorate testimony

1 message

Ericson Elaydo <ericson3e@gmail.com>
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Wed, Mar 20, 2024 at 11:23 PM

Hi,

I would like to put in my support for Mr. Nakasone's Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters. His work in music education is wonderful and passionate, and it is outstanding showmanship of his skills, and his passion.

Thank you,
Ericson Elaydo



Mr. Michael Nakasone Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters

1 message

Dan Honda <hondad007@gmail.com>
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Wed, Mar 20, 2024 at 11:47 PM

University of Hawaii Board of Regents,
my name is Dan Honda. I am currently a community band member with the University of Hawaii - West Oahu Band. I am totally in support of having Mr. Michael Nakasone confirmed and presented with a Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters.

The achievements Mr. Nakasone earned and received during his career in music education is reflected in the thousands of students, teachers, and community members who benefited from the sharing of his knowledge. Today Mr. Nakasone continues to give of himself as he shares his knowledge and love of music as one of the band conductors for the University of Hawaii - West Oahu Band.

Thank you so much!

Sincerely,
Dan Honda / community band member