

## PRESS RELEASE

## 36th Pac Rim Conference on Disability and Diversity: A Hawai'i Treasure

An annual Hawai'i tradition is back in a new way. This year marks the 36th year for the Pacific Rim International Conference on Disability and Diversity. Completely online because of the pandemic, hundreds of people with disabilities and allies from over 15 countries will gather virtually **March 1st & 2nd, 2021 HST**. There will also be special events at a pre-conference Innovation Celebration Day **February 27th HST**.

The event brings many important speakers to the extended UH community. Among them, Judy Brewer from MIT, Director of the Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI) at the World Wide Web Consortium. She & the WAI team are helping make the web, mobile & other digital technologies more accessible for people with disabilities, & more inclusive for everybody.

Disability rights lawyer and speaker Haben Girma will also speak. Additional speakers include UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Gerald Quinn, & John Tschida, Executive Director of Association of University Centers on Disabilities. There will be more than 50 live events, on demand recorded ones, and poster sessions.

Topics include Online Learning, Indigenous Knowledge, Deaf Community, Wellness, Arts, Education, Employment, Transition, & Family & Community Engagement. The conference also features an International Forum, as well as screenings of the Oscar-nominated short film *Feeling Through*, & the world's longest running disability film festival, Superfest.

Pac Rim is hosted by the Center on Disability Studies (CDS), College of Education, UH Mānoa. CDS helps provide thousands with disabilities & their families, Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders & other underrepresented populations, research, resources, training, skills and knowledge toward full participation & access in daily life.

Information on how to register may be found at: <https://pacrim.coe.hawaii.edu/registration/>

Registration is open until February 24th. Regular registration is \$415, and many discount codes are available, including for people with disabilities and their families, students, K-12 educators, and Hawai'i and Pacific Island Residents.

Learn more and register at: <https://pacrim.coe.hawaii.edu/>.  
Contact information: [prinfo@hawaii.edu](mailto:prinfo@hawaii.edu)

Learn more: <https://cds.coe.hawaii.edu>



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