



Polynesian Cultural Center

# UPDATE '89

Employee Newsletter

Friday, May 12, 1989

## Head of the Class

## 1989 Sterling Scholars Honored by PCC



*Right: 1989 Sterling Scholars honored during special presentation. Left: President Christensen presents award to Omar Siddiqui.*



A panel of judges selected twelve outstanding Hawaii high school seniors from an initial statewide field of 268, to each receive \$1,000 awards for their excellence in citizenship, leadership and scholarship. In addition, twenty-four runners-up each garnered \$500 in the third annual Sterling Scholar Awards program.

The Polynesian Cultural Center, Hawaii's top paid-admission visitor attraction, each year awards \$24,000 in scholarships to the state's top high school seniors for their achievements in the fields of business education, English, foreign language, general scholarship, homemaking, industrial arts, mathematics, music, science, social science, speech/drama, and visual arts. In addition, the winner in each category receives a beautiful Koa & Crystal trophy designed by Clarence Lee Design.

KITV co-sponsors the Sterling Scholar Awards program.

The Polynesian Cultural Center presents the annual Sterling Scholar Awards program in cooperation with the Hawaii State Department of Education and the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools. Additional corporate sponsors include Aloha Airlines, Pizza Hut Restaurants of Hawaii, and Clarence Lee Design.

"We're very proud of these young people," says James P. Christensen, President & General Manager of the Polynesian Cultural Center, "and we're happy the Polynesian Cultural Center can help them with their continuing education."

Thank you to the many PCC departments that contributed to this program.

## And The Winners Are...

**Business education - Sandi Kawahara, Baldwin.** Runners-up: Fevilyn N. Mariano, Waipahu; and Kammie Endo, McKinley.

**English - Andrew William Graydon, Seabury Hall.**

Runners-up: Erin Hale, Konawaena; and Michele Mie Shirasu, Iolani.

**Foreign language - Valerie A. Weinstein, Punahou.** Runners-up: Dawn Akimoto, Kauai; and Joyce K. Akisada, Aiea.

**General scholarship - Jon K. Fujimoto of Moanalua.** Runners-up: John Bergsma, Kalaheo; and May Leong, McKinley.

**Homemaking - Kim Takazawa, Hilo.** Runners-up: Lisa Hashimoto, Mililani; and Renee E. Takara, Iolani.

**Industrial Arts - Rochelle Nagata, Waiakea.** Runners-up: Andrew Nakamura, Baldwin; and Bobby C.H. Li, McKinley.

**Mathematics - Melissa Aczon, Mililani.** Runners-up: Joseph Laszlo, Kohala; and Ryan Noguchi, Pearl City.

**Music - Julia Chan, McKinley High.** Runners-up: Andrea Kaneko, Moanalua; and Donna Suehisa, Mid Pacific Institute.

**Science - Diane Nagahara, Mililani.** Runners-up: Dean Saito, Kauai; and Lance Utley, Kalaheo.

**Social Science - Kimberly Richardson, Maui.** Runners-up: Omar Siddiqui, Kalani; and Sandra E. Bussen, Moanalua.

**Speech/drama - David D. Foutz, University Lab.** Runners-up: Christina Thodt, Baldwin; and Eric Y. Matsumoto, Damien Memorial.

**Visual arts - Cheryl Andrade, Maui.** Runners-up: Grant G.W. Chun, Moanalua; and Claudia R. Cumes, Iolani.

## May 29: Remember Them

The Memorial Day custom of honoring the dead with flowers dates back to classical times.

In Greece, women relatives crowned their dead husbands with flowers to pay their last respects. In Rome, mourning friends and relatives carried wreaths of flowers to the home of the deceased person, covering his couch with leaves and blossoms.

In the United States women who brought flowers to the graves of soldiers killed in the Civil War were responsible for giving the custom national prominence.

In 1863 women from Columbus, Missouri laid flowers on the graves of both Union and Confederate Soldiers. In April, 1865 women led by Mrs. Sue Landon Vaughn, a descendant of the second President, John Adams, decorated the graves of soldiers at Vicksburg. Then, in June, women in Virginia honored the dead at the Confederate Cemetery for dead soldiers in the South.

The first official observance of Memorial Day was conducted by the Grand Army at Arlington National Cemetery in 1868. However, it was not until years later that the individual states declared Memorial Day a legal holiday. Today, Memorial Day always falls on the last Monday in May, and that means another long holiday weekend.

## Tribute to Lily Kama Upon Her Retirement

One of the Center's "Living Treasures" has retired after 12 years of employment. Lily Kama, long-time quilter, first at the Hawaiian Village, then the old Shop Polynesia Marketplace, and most recently the Mission House, was honored with a farewell celebration on Saturday the 15th of April. An employee who loved her work, Lily, will be remembered for her informative, sparkling lectures, her busy hands which have quilted hundreds of wall hangings. "Grandma will be remembered for her loving comradere with fellow employees, past and present."

Lily will not only be leaving a legacy of hard work and dedication in the art of quilting, but she will also be leaving her quilt patterns which the Center has used since she began working here. The designs, some quaint like the lei seller, and others traditional like the breadfruit, have delighted Center guests who bought them. Not only has Lily made 22 inch gift quilts for the Center VIP's, she has also made large bed-sized quilts for General Authorities and heads of nations.

We will miss Lily as a fellow-worker. Her contribution to the art of quilting and to the Center's popularity will be remembered for many years. On behalf of those who have loved Lily we say to her: "Mahalo nui loa."

**Congratulations to Lose & Pila Kaufusi  
on the birth of their 8 lbs., 12 oz., 22"  
baby boy, last Tuesday, May 9, 1989!!!**



*Princess Pilolevu Tuita and  
family take a quite break during  
eventful tour of PCC.*

## The Royal Visit Princess Pilolevu Tuita at Polynesian Cultural Center

On Thursday, April 27, 1989 Her Royal Highness Princess Pilolevu Tuita and her husband, The Honorable Ma'ulupekotofa Tuita, High Commissioner to the United Kingdom, Ambassador to the United States, and three of their daughters visited the Polynesian Cultural Center.

President & Sister Christensen and Manase Nau, Chief of the Tongan Village, hosted Princess Pilolevu Tuita and her family in an afternoon of activities fit for a king. They enjoyed the Pageant of the Long Canoes, then embarked upon a canoe tour of all the villages. They were presented with gifts and watched cultural dances from each village. After the Ali'i Luau they enjoyed the evening show, "This is Polynesia."

Thanks to all who helped to make this visit truly enjoyable for the Princess Pilolevu Tuita and her family.

## **In Praise Of Mothers...**

Happy mother's day to working moms who say mixing business with babies is a pleasure. Sure the hours are long, the days are unpredictable, the work tiring, but "ah" the rewards of motherhood more than compensate. Children are the most fulfilling joy that can happen in a mother's life.



## Promo Team Well Received in Seoul, South Korea

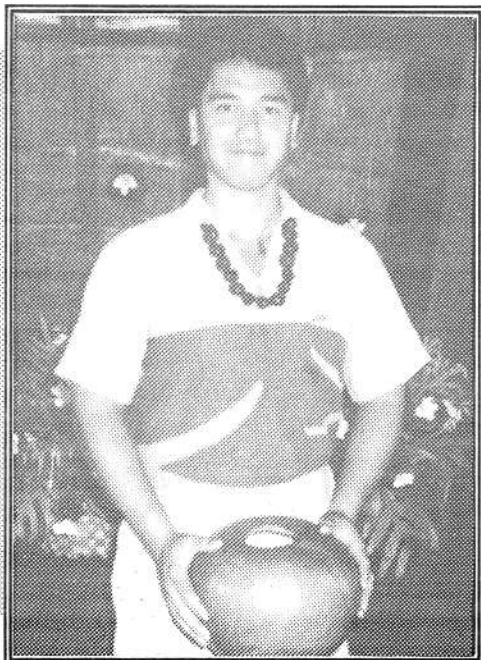
Early Saturday morning, April 22, 1989, 16 employees of the Center left for Seoul, South Korea, for the first-ever promotional tour there. They spent a total of 9 days in Korea, with a full schedule that included performing for hundreds of travel, media, and government officials, as well as performances for the U.S. military base, and a special performance for members of the church and missionaries serving in Korea. Overall, it was a huge success and the group can feel proud of the groundwork they laid for the expanding Korean market. Because of the Promo Teams great work there have been many offers to repeat the trip again next year.

On behalf of Osamu Ozaki, Managing Director for Eastbound Sales, we would like to thank every single member of the Promo group, Ellen Gay, Larry, John, Dofi, Benny, Jolene, Aurie, Della, Trina, Tina, David, Billy, So'o, and of course Emily, for all of their hard work, effort, and dedication which made this promotional a huge success. We also wish to thank Bryan Bowles, Jack Uale, Sione Pasi, the instructors, and many others who worked long hours. We look forward to next year when we can take even a larger group to promote the Center in Korea. "IN FRONT OF THEM ALL."

Scott J. Bradshaw,  
Account Sale Manager,  
Eastbound Sales.



**PCC Promo Team  
Shares  
Polynesia in  
the 'Land of the  
Morning Calm.'**



### Manoa Named Employee Of The Month

Kaipo Manoa was honored recently by the Village Operations Management as outstanding employee for the month of March. He was cited foremost for his outstanding and consistent work record. According to his supervisor, Keith Awai, Kaipo set an excellent example to new and old employees for promptness in his attendance, cordiality to his fellow workers and guests, honesty and respect, musical talents, creation of a variety of woven items, and supportive leadership in daily activities and special events.

Congratulations are extended to Kaipo, honored for his contributions during March, he has always maintained an outstanding record of service and dedication in the Hawaiian Village.

# If You're A Mother Read This:



**Ken  
Macatiag**

*Buy Her a dozen roses and  
give her a great big kiss.*



**Rosa  
Lefau**

*I will cook her a mother's day  
dinner and give her the day off.*



**Jeong  
Dongwon**

*Just have a lot of love for mom.*



**Kalani  
Kanahele**

*I would grant her every wish.*



**Mike  
Tuia**

*Love her.*



## This is How Some of Our PCC Employees Plan to Express Their Appreciation to MOM This Mother's Day...



**Benny  
Kai**

*What I am today is my mom's gift to me, what I will become is my gift to her.*



**Sonny  
Alono**

*Send her a special card.  
Without her I will not be here.*



**Bryan  
Bowles**

*I would tell my mom, thank you for always encouraging and supporting me in whatever I wanted to do.*



**Pauline  
Siufanua**

*Cook and clean house for her.  
Give her the day off.*



**Keenan  
Kanahele**

*I will express my love to my mom by loving my wife.*

## In Loving Memory of Samita Iosua

After retiring from the LDS Church Janitorial Services, Samita Iosua was hired on April 19, 1982 as a Security Guard at PCC. He was employed by the Center until the time of his parting.

Samita worked as day-shift guard for 7-years. Most people remember Samita as the "big, kind-hearted guard, who was always smiling and always had something good to say."

When inspired by the spirit he was always there to help others in their time of need. He would sometimes be moved to give sound advice to a fellow officer, or even to his supervisor and manager. We will always remember when he quoted scriptures pertaining to any topic.

Samita has had an excellent attendance record. You could always count on him being to work on time. His starting time was at 6:00 a.m. He would sometimes be at work as early as 5:30 a.m. One time, as his daughter dropped him off, she asked "Dad, are you on a special assignment today?" Samita replied, "No, my regular starting time is at 6:00 a.m." "Dad," said the daughter, "it's not even 5:00 a.m. yet!"

He then said, "That's O.K., I'll just go and read a book, and you can go home." This man truly enjoyed his work and was in every way a dedicated individual and a great asset to the department and company.

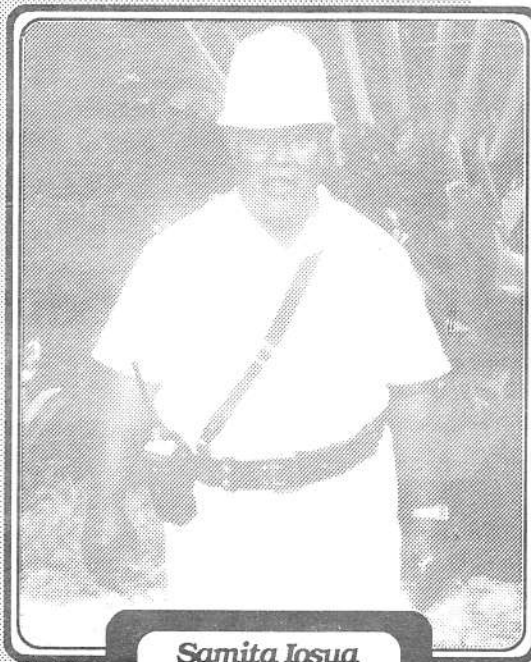
We, his comrades of the PCC Security Department, will truly miss him. His knowledge, wisdom and sweet personality will always prevail and be as an example to all of us.

He will always be in our hearts and minds, forever.

To his beautiful wife and family we say, "Thank you for sharing with us a beautiful man who loved his work, his family and his church. May you all continue to carry out his work in the church and may the Lord's choicest blessings be upon all of you, forever!"

- Newman Lake, PCC Security Manager

Services will be held: Saturday, May 13, 1989; Viewing 8:00 - 9:30 a.m.; Service 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. at the Laie North Stake Center,



Samita Iosua  
1916-1989

## Some Theories About Polynesian Procrastination

by Rubina Forester

**Theory A:** Polynesian procrastination is rooted in the unchanging nature of the Polynesian's past. Each day's experience was not much different from the next. On small islands the possibility of a serious overwhelming change was remote. Therefore, procrastination did not really affect them so putting off things became an acceptable attitude.

**Theory B:** Putting off things was part of the general philosophy of Polynesian societies. For example, the Maoris have a saying: "Tai hoa!" meaning wait on, why hurry, it will still be there tomorrow. The Polynesians promote procrastination, but European-based philosophy says it is sinful. Leaving tomorrow to tomorrow relieves stress and promotes a calmness and acceptance of today's contributions.

**Theory C:** Polynesians as a whole learned to conduct their lives on a day-to-day basis mainly because each day's main focus was food gathering and catching fish. If they did not work to obtain the day's necessities then they had nothing to eat. So if they waited until the day or the next he found himself too late for some fresh fish or fat pigeon. Therefore focusing on tomorrow was counter-productive. Tomorrow then became an idle saying which the Polynesians repeated so much that they took the saying to heart and began to practice what they preached.

To our readers: We would like to welcome any responses to the subject of Polynesian Procrastination. What is your theory? Please let us know.



## May Day Celebration

This past week guests and employees alike enjoyed the May Day activities presented by the Villages. Beginning Monday, May 1st and ending Saturday, May 6th, there was singing after the Villages Farewell at the Gazebo area. The "Village People" sang May Day melodies and songs written especially by Pulefano Galea'i for PCC programs such as "Face to Face" and "PCC, My Polynesia, My Home." The response of the guests to the enthusiasm and energy of the serenaders was repeated in such comments such as "Weren't they great!" and "The spirit of Polynesia is indeed alive and well at the Center."

Friday's Lei and Headband Contest proved one of the very best the Center has ever undertaken. Each category was well-represented by creations artistically done in fresh flowers and leaves. Special congratulations are extended to the Tongan Village for their winning the over-all entry, a lei woven together by Eseta Toelupe.

The decorated canoe contest was received with much applause and accompanying oohs and aahs by those viewing including both visitors and fellow employees. The participating villages and Guest Services are all to be commended for their outstanding canoe entries. The winning canoe, decorated by the Samoan Village, was honored for its use of red hibiscus and yellow plumeria and for the costumes on their models made from fresh flower petals.

Special thanks are extended to everyone who made May Day Week a celebration to remember.



# PCC Lauded as Great Host...

**Dear Friends:**

**Mahalo for the great service you all provided for our wonderful Chinese visitors of the ZHENG HE. It was a great success!**

**Letters have been flowing in from the community. The following are letters from Rear Admiral Chadwick and the Hawaii Chamber of Commerce which I thought you might all enjoy.**

**Aloha,  
James P. Christensen  
President/General Manager  
The Polynesian Cultural Center**

**Dear Mr. Christensen:**

I want to express my thanks for your most generous support in hosting the members of the PLA(N) in conjunction with the recent port visit of ZHENG HE to Pearl Harbor.

The time spent at your center was certainly one of the highlights of the crew's visit.

Your personal guided VIP tour for RADM Yang and party was truly above and beyond the call of duty.

As Commander, Naval Base, Pearl Harbor, I take great comfort in the support that I can count on from members of the civilian community such as yourself. The visit of the ZHENG HE was a very significant step in the development of international relations between the People's Republic of China and the United States. The opportunity you made available for the visit to your center substantially contributed to the success of this "first" visit.

Again, my thanks to you, and your lovely wife, Metta for all your efforts.

**Sincerely,  
S. K. Chadwick, Rear Admiral,  
U.S. Navy**

**Dear Mr. Christensen:**

The members of the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii join me in applauding the efforts which you have put forward in the last week to honor and welcome the visiting Chinese ship Zhiang He and her crew.

We thank you and all of your hardworking supporters for your effort, dedication, and support of this important project. We know you have made a significant contribution to our state and our country, and in a larger sense, to improved international relations with the People's Republic of China.

We look forward to working with you on similar projects in the future.

**Sincerely,  
Robert B. Robinson, President**

**Trivia Answers: A-Tony Haiku; B-Chuck Rivers; C-David Kawika Kelekolio; D-Lose Kaufusi; E-Keleka Lombard; F-John Muaina; G-Rubina Forester; and H-David Hannemann. Winner: Ula Leiataua, Customer Service Manager. Verdetta Kekauaokalani.**