



hawaii pacific gerontological society

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HPGS 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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HPGS has open enrollment for new members throughout the year. Current HPGS members may renew for 2022 any time online at www.hpgs.org or print the form and pay with a check.

The Hawaii Pacific Gerontological Society distributes monthly newsletters and hosts three general membership meetings.

HPGS encourages all members to submit articles, email the board with suggestions for speakers, and/or volunteer on a committee.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



RICK TABOR
PRESIDENT

Our hearts were warmed on September 15 by a few of our scholarship awardees and Governor Ige at our HPGS General Membership Meeting. My take-away was, Governor Ige is a very nice man, so grounded and generous with his time. He is appreciative of our Kūpuna, workforce needs and people's desire to age-in-place. We were truly blessed to have our scholarship awardees and Governor Ige as our speakers.

Our 6th Annual Scholarship Fundraiser is posted and ready for registration and donations. HPGS is honoring Executive Office on Aging, Hawai'i's Long Term Ombudsman State Director, John McDermott for his devotion since 1998. He assembled a star cast of volunteers, and we truly are honoring Hawai'i's Long-Term Ombudsmen. Please join us on Zoom Thursday November 3rd at 5:30pm. In other words, it's registration and donation time: <https://hpgs.org/scholarship/>

Special Shout Out to HPGS Director, Dr. Poki'i Balaz who was selected as an Obama Foundation Scholar for the 2022 to 2023 academic year. Poki'i was chosen the first scholar leader from Hawaii to participate in the program. She is one of 30 emerging leaders from around the world who will study at Columbia University. Congratulations Poki'i!

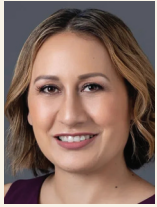
"I don't believe in spooks and demons
I think that should be understood
But there are always more trick-or-treaters
Then there are kids in the neighborhood."
Paul Curtis

Happy Halloween!
Rick Tabor
2022 HPGS President

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of HPGS is to increase awareness of and interest in the field of gerontology by providing networking and educational opportunities, as well as scholarships, to Hawaii's workforce or other interested parties, in which to support the creation of needed policies and programs that will enhance the quality and age-friendly services to our Kūpuna in Hawaii.

HPGS NEWS



HPGS Director **Dr. Poki'i Balaz** was chosen last month as the first scholar from Hawaii to participate in the Obama Foundation Scholar program

for the 2022 to 2023 academic year for having a passion of serving the kupuna population. This program is made up of 30 emerging leaders from around the world. Poki'i is with at the Columbia University program, which also offers a hands-on curriculum of leadership development, networking activities and more in hopes that scholars can expand their work when they return home and make a positive difference in their communities.

With the honor that Poki'i Balaz received as the Obama Foundation Scholar, **Kathy Wyatt**, HPGS Director for five years, has been voted as the HPGS President-Elect. She will be the 2023 HPGS President, with a very busy year as the Biennial HPGS Conference will be held on September 7th and 8th at the Ala Moana Hotel. (use a "Save the Date")

And speaking of the 2023 HPGS conference, the co-chairs are HPGS President **Rick Tabor** and HPGS Past-President **Eileen Phillips**, with every board member on a sub-committee. **Sherry Goya**, HPGS Executive Director, will be on all committees, but welcomes any interested HPGS member to join either the Awards, Budget, Exhibitors, Marketing, Posters, Speakers, Sponsors or Volunteers sub-committee. Contact Sherry via email at sgoyallc@aol.com or call 808-722-8487.

The Honolulu Star-Advertiser had their tabloid of "The Best of Everything - Hawaii's Best 2022" that were voted by readers. HPGS would like to congratulate the 1st place winner **The Plaza Assisted Living** for the "Senior Living Facility" category, and the Finalist **15 Craigside/Arcadia**.

HPGS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

A big MAHALO goes out to Governor David Ige for taking time out of his busy schedule to be the keynote speaker at the HPGS General Membership Meeting on September 15th. He had a prepared speech that talked about Hawaii being #1 in life expectancy and that Hawaii's men have an average of 78 years, being 8th in the country. For women in Hawaii, they do much better, living an average of 84.72 years. The Governor was also proud of how Hawaii's families take care of their Kupuna, as his mother lived to be 99 years old.

HPGS President Rick Tabor touched upon the Ombudsman legislation that the Governor recently signed into law, expanding the Ombudsman office to five staff members across Oahu, Kauai, Maui, Hilo and Kona.

On a personal note, HPGS Executive Director Sherry Goya asked the Governor about his plans after he leaves office. She has known him for over 20 years since her brother is Senator Les Ihara, Jr. and David is also a member of her family's Okinawan club. Sherry said that he can be on their softball team; and since she teaches tennis for St. Andrew's Priory and uses the "Governor's tennis court," he could help feed balls! But seriously, the Governor said that he and his wife Dawn will visit their children on the Mainland first, then do more traveling, and he wants to go back to school to learn of the new things being taught in the engineer field.

RECONNECTING WITH SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES



Tani Kagesa (2020)

Since graduating with an MSW in May 2021 **Tani Kagesa** immediately started her first social worker job. She wrote: "The HPGS scholarship has impacted my life immensely! I've been privileged to work with hundreds of clients since graduation and my love for kūpuna continues to deepen. When I see them get better and thrive in their golden years, it brings me such joy! Amazingly, I'm also debt free. Thanks to the many generous donors and members of HPGS! I am so grateful for your support. Mahalo piha!"

EVENTS

International study tour on active aging slated for Oct 2023 in Singapore and Korea. By Cullen T. Hayashida, Ph.D.
Pass It On Network Liason and Founding Board Member at Active Aging Consortium Asia Pacific (ACAP)
Program Website: <https://bit.ly/agingtour>

ELDERCARE WORKER TRAINING AWARD

HPGS is pleased to announce a training awards program designed specifically for persons currently working with, or planning to work with, older adults. These awards will provide tuition assistance for workers who enroll in credit or noncredit courses and certificate programs, which enhance their knowledge and skills in areas related to aging. Selected programs can be either in local classroom settings or online. Visit <https://form.jotform.com/220825985500053> for more information and apply. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.



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6th ANNUAL HPGS FUNDRAISER

Thursday, November 3, 2022, 5:30pm
Zoom link to be sent to registered attendees.

Honoring

John McDermott



The Hawaii Pacific Gerontological Society is honoring John McDermott for his undying devotion to Kupuna and their families throughout the state of Hawaii and our nation. John went from grammar school to the University of Notre Dame, arriving in Hawaii as counselor and assistant chaplain at the Hawaii State Hospital in May 1985. Wishing to remain in Hawaii, John went on to work at Hale Kipa, Chaminade, University of Hawaii, Catholic Charities, Maunalani Nursing Home, and Hale Nani Rehabilitation and Nursing Center.

It was in August 1998 that John’s journey as the Hawaii State Long-Term Care Ombudsman began. As the Ombudsman, he advocates for the wellbeing and safety for Hawaii’s elder population, with attention to those that reside in long-term care and assisted living facilities. His greatest achievement since taking his position was to have five full-time state ombudsmen

for Neighbor-Islands (Kauai, Maui, Hilo, Kona and one more for Oahu) made a part of the State budget. That goal was fulfilled when the Governor signed that legislation into law in July 2022.

He continues to fight for prevention of elder abuse and neglect, resident veterans, long-term care initiatives, nursing home staffing requirements, reducing language barriers, elder prisoners, increasing the personal needs allowance, and end-of-life decision making.

The 2022 HPGS fundraiser will remain virtual, as it has been for the past two years. All proceeds will support HPGS and the scholarship fund. Donations may be made online at www.hpgs.org from now until November 30th by clicking on the “Donate” button. Those who wish to write a check should complete the form below and mail to HPGS, P. O. Box 3714; Honolulu, HI 96812. HPGS a nonprofit 501(c)(3) association. If there are any questions, please contact Sherry Goya, HPGS Executive Director, at 808-722-8487 or sgoyallc@aol.com.

CUT HERE

Contact Name: _____
Company (Optional): _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State _____ Zip _____
E-Mail: _____ Phone: _____

Mail this form and check payable to HPGS to P. O. Box 3714 • Honolulu, HI 96812

To pay by charge card, go to www.hpgs.org and use fillable form.

Donation made for the HPGS Scholarship Fund in the amount of
 \$50 \$100 Other \$ _____ Please email me the Zoom link to attend on November 3rd

To learn about Hawaii Pacific Gerontological Society, please check out www.hpgs.org