



# MidWeek

This column by Senator Michelle Kidani was published in the MidWeek **CENTRAL VOICE** section on Wednesday, July 18, 2018.

## Celebrating success!

Is your family – like mine – finding that the summer months are especially busy, even without the normal school-year routine? My calendar has included a number of opportunities to recognize several neighbors for their outstanding accomplishments and service to our communities. Here are a few highlights:



It was an honor to meet mixed martial arts (MMA) world champion **Angela Lee**, her sister Victoria, and their parents Ken and Jewelz at the United MMA Gym in Waipio last week. I visited them to present a congratulatory certificate from the Senate to Angela for successfully defending her ONE Championship MMA title. It was Angela’s third title defense after becoming the youngest female MMA world title-holder in the atomweight class in 2016. She and her brother Christian are both Mililani High School graduates who bring distinction to the Trojan Nation and our central Oahu communities, and they are both instructors at the Waipio gym with their parents.

### **Three-time ONE atomweight MMA champion Angela Lee**

Later in the week, I attended the gala fundraising event for Ukulele Festival Hawaii, at which I presented a scholarship check to **Quaid Seu**, Mililani Class of 2018, who will be enrolling at UH Manoa in the coming semester. Quaid has been a student at Roy Sakuma’s ukulele studios in Mililani for 12 of his 18 years. He has performed for seniors at The Plaza in Mililani, worked as a teacher’s aide at Mililani Mauka Elementary, and was active in the Key Club and Japanese National Honor Society programs at MHS. His goal? To become a dermatologist. I’ve supported the Ukulele Festival’s scholarship program for several years, always helping to select deserving Mililani students taking the next steps in their academic journeys. Best of luck, Quaid, and mahalo to mom and dad **Kathleen** and **Derek Seu** for their support of your successes!



### **Quaid Seu, Mililani Class of 2018 Ukulele Festival Hawaii Scholarship recipient**



### **Glan Allan Manio Future scientist!**

I learned this month about another outstanding Mililani student, **Glan Allan Manio**, Class of 2019, who represented Hawaii at the Congress of Future Science and Technology Leaders in Massachusetts earlier this month. Glan was nominated to participate by Nobel physicist and Director, National Academy of Future Scientists Dr. John Mather. Glan is following in the footsteps of his sister Lanail, who received the same honor three years ago. Proud mom **Gail**, dad **Allan**, and sister Lanail all traveled to the mainland with Glan to share in this milestone achievement. Congratulations!

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Most Mililani Middle students and teachers are back on campus on the school's multi-track calendar. As teachers were preparing to re-open their classrooms, I stopped by to recognize a group of nine mentors who have dedicated 20-23 years of service to the Hawaii Challenger Center in Kapolei. Thousands of public and private school science students have celebrated the spirit of discovery at the Center over the past quarter-century and found it to be an ideal and inspirational way to learn science and math knowledge and skills.

We are so grateful for the contributions of time and talent by teachers such as these nine - **Carrie Hata, Yvonne Kauihou, Michael Nishiki, Lynn Yoshioka, Glory Ann Kama, Amy Kim, Paul Sasaki, Laurie Sogawa, and Diane Awana.** Mahalo to you and Center Director **Liane Kim** for your commitment. They all say they're looking forward to the next 25 years!



***Mililani Middle School teacher/mentors  
Recognized for their more than 20 years  
of service to the Challenger Center  
learning program***

Kudos to the Mililani Bronco under-11 All Stars baseball team! They're in California this week to represent the State of Hawaii in the Pony Zone Tournament. Coach **Calvin Kaneshiro** tells me that Just a month ago, the team won the regional tournament championship here in Hawaii to be selected for the California round. They're proud to note that this is a co-ed team; we wish them good luck and look forward to hearing about their tournament experience!



**Primary Election Day ~  
Saturday, August 11  
General Election Day ~  
Tuesday, November 6**