

JANUARY 2022

# SENATOR GLENN WAKAI

Kalihi • Salt Lake • Foster Village



## The Sounds of Music

The sounds of Christmas rang through the Moanalua Performing Arts Theater on December 18th. The Hawaii Symphony Orchestra (HSO), formerly the Honolulu Symphony, was the first professional organization to rent the \$35 million facility. Sen. Wakai continues working with the HSO to bring another five performances later this year.

Sen. Wakai is reaching out to bring other performances to the theater in the months ahead. The Hawaii Opera Theater and Ballet Hawaii have shown interest in renting the theater later this year.

“Salt Lake is a bedroom community with one strip mall and one church. This beautiful 700-seat theater is transforming Salt Lake into a focal point for culture and the arts,” says Sen. Wakai, “We have a unique opportunity to bring in revenues, so that taxpayers are not burdened with repairing the building in the decades ahead.”



# Building on Success

To build on Moanalua's success, Sen. Wakai and Rep. Ichiyama will be introducing a bill this upcoming legislative session allowing the Department of Education to monetize its facilities. This innovative bill allows the Department of Education to rent out its facilities and raise money for our schools. The bill creates a DOE Commercial Enterprises Revolving Fund that revolutionizes the way in which schools across the state can raise money to improve schools. The new Moanalua Performing Arts Center is a prime example of where this bill would apply to as the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra was the first of many performers to use this space to share their creative talents while expanding the traditional sense of what government facilities can be used for.



# Investing in Our Schools



The Governor released \$1,500,000 for the design and construction for improvements to comply with current Americans with Disabilities Act requirements at Moanalua High School which will help students who need assistance getting around campus.

Radford High School received \$2,000,000 to finance the design and construction for cafeteria improvements. The cafeteria, built in 1956, currently hosts 1,200 students from grades 9-12. It is also utilized by Radford Complex Schools as well as community groups for emergency sheltering, testing, afternoon tutoring, and other events such as plays, music, award banquets and movie nights.

Ongoing improvements ensure that students have quality facilities that support their learning. Salt Lake Elementary is requesting electrical upgrades so they can add more AC units. Cool classrooms help brains focus so keiki can get the most out of their education. Radford High School is requesting an upgrade to their bandroom where students can develop discipline, teamwork and the love of making music together.