

SENATE PRESIDENT DONNA MERCADO KIM

April 2013



Serving Hawai'i's
Senate District 14

Encompassing the
following
communities:

*Kapalama
Alewa
Kalihi Valley
Ft. Shafter
Moanalua Gardens
Moanalua Valley
Halawa
Aiea*



Senate Celebrates Annual Education Week

March was education month at the Legislature, and the Senate kicked off its annual week-long celebration at the State Capitol. This year's celebration included events to educate the public on numerous education programs as well as a chance to engage with policymakers. During House and Senate Floor Sessions, legislators honored various individuals and schools, such as district teachers of the year, principals of the year, and Hawaii Blue Ribbon Schools.

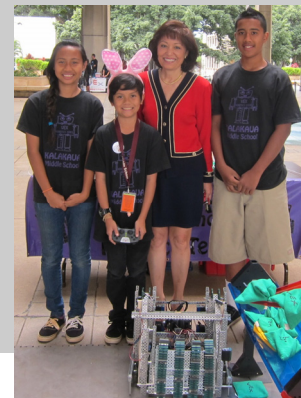
Some highlights included:

- Robotics Teams from various schools demonstrated in the State Capitol Rotunda
- University of Hawaii featured their health related programs
- Hawaii Public Charters organized several roundtable discussions
- High School students engaged in the legislative process by learning about it, then testified on resolutions before the Senate Committee on Education.

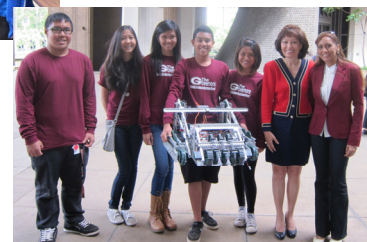
The event was organized by the Senate Committee on Education.



Left: Farrington HS 9th grade class; Right: Farrington HS Robotics



Above: Kalakaua Middle Robotics; Left: Moanalua Middle Robotics



MHS Band Goes to Carnegie Hall

Moanalua High School Symphony Orchestra played at Carnegie Hall in New York City, one of our country's most prestigious musical performance venues. Ninety-one fellow musicians, under the baton and guidance of their band teacher Elden Seta, performed an Easter Sunday concert. The school's symphony orchestra holds the distinction of being the first student orchestra in the country ever to be formally invited to perform at Carnegie Hall by the Carnegie Hall Corporation in 1998.

This was Moanalua's third invitation to perform at Carnegie Hall. The first was in 1998 and the second in 2005.



Medal of Honor Ceremony

The Senate and House of Representatives met in a joint session to award the Hawaii Medal of Honor. This honor is awarded on behalf of the people of the State of Hawaii to an individual who has been killed in action while serving our country as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. Recipients of the Hawaii Medal of Honor include members of the United Armed Forces, the United States military reserves, and the Hawaii National Guard, who were residents of the State of Hawaii, attended an educational institution in Hawaii, or was stationed in Hawaii by order of the United States Department of Defense. This year 19 fallen service members were honored.

Families of the recipients from around the country were invited to attend this very special ceremony to accept the medal. Following the ceremony, a private reception was held for the families and members of the Legislature.

Right: Wife and daughter of Master Sgt. Travis Riddick, hold back tears as they accept the Hawaii Medal of Honor on his behalf. (Photo by Lance Cpl. Nathan Knapke)



Funds Released for Schools

The following schools received funding for capital improvement projects:

- Aiea Intermediate—\$253,777
Phase 1 for campus drainage improvements and waterline replacements
- Kalihi Uka—\$90,550
Restroom renovations for Building A



Upcoming Community Events

- April 5—Art at the Capitol, 5:00—7:00 pm
- April 6—Aloha Aina Day at Moanalua Middle School, 9:00 am—12:00 pm
- April 12—Aiea High School Family Fun Fair, 4:00-9:00 pm



Left: Jose Cuisia, Jr., Philippine Ambassador to the U.S.

Below: Consul General Toyoei Shigeeda



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