

# SB 324

## Late

## Testimony

**Measure Title:** RELATING TO AN ART EDUCATION FACILITY.

**Report Title:** Honolulu Museum of Art; Honolulu Academy of Arts; Grant; Appropriation (\$)

**Description:** Appropriates moneys from the general fund to provide a grant for the Honolulu Museum of Art to fund an architecturally significant building project that will include studio classrooms, an art education knowledge center, and parking.

**Companion:**

**Package:** None

**Current Referral:** HEA, WAM

**Introducer(s):** TANIGUCHI

# Honolulu Museum of Art

Testimony Presented Before the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts  
February 12, 2015, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 224  
By Wesley T. Park, Trustee, Honolulu Museum of Art

SB 324 – Relating to an Art Education Facility

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the Honolulu Museum of Art to express my strong support for Senate Bill 324, to expand the Art School. The Art School is important to many children and adults, and it holds special significance in my life.

I first learned about the museum in second grade, when I attended Lincoln Elementary—which is now the museum’s Art School—in the 1940s. None of my classmates wanted to visit the museum, it was sacred grounds to them. I was excited by all the artwork and returned many times with various classmates.

Thirty-three years ago, good friend Sam Cooke told me about his grandmother and her efforts to build the Honolulu Academy of Arts (now Honolulu Museum of Art) for the community, so all children could have access to different cultures. Sam was appointed Chairman of the Academy’s Board in 1981. His intention was to develop a Board that would reflect the different cultures in the community, and he asked me to join the Board to help him gradually change the influx of people in the community to the Board. And that is how a Kalihi boy like me got involved.

Today, Linekona connects children and adults to exceptional art education experiences at both the museum and at the Art School. The museum has played a huge role in my education and in my life, and support from the State of Hawaii will help future generations have the same cultural opportunities the museum offered me. Thank you for your kind consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,



Wesley T. Park  
Trustee  
Honolulu Museum of Art

Honolulu Museum of Art  
900 S Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96814  
808-532-8700

[www.honoluluuseum.org](http://www.honoluluuseum.org)

Honolulu Museum of Art  
Spalding House  
2411 Makiki Heights Drive

Honolulu Museum of Art  
First Hawaiian Center  
999 Bishop Street

Honolulu Museum of Art  
School  
1111 Victoria Street

Honolulu Museum of Art  
Doris Duke Theatre  
Entrance on Kinau Street