

Working for you...

SENATOR DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ

State of Hawai'i Senate | District 22

Mililani Mauka ~ Wahiawā ~ Whitmore Village ~ Waipi'o Acres ~ Wheeler ~ Poamoho



OCTOBER 2019

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII CREATIVE MEDIA BUILDING

Chair:
Committee on Ways and Means
Member:
Committee on Education

In 2016 I was able to work with my Senate colleagues to secure \$35 million to build the Academy of Creative Media Building at the University of Hawaii West Oahu (UHWO) campus. Creative media has become one of UHWO's fastest-growing programs since starting with 13 students in 2014. Today, it has more than 12 times that many students enrolled.



By securing the funds needed for the new building, we were able to further invest in the Central Oahu and Leeward communities by relocating the Creative Media Academy from UH Manoa to the new building at UHWO. This allows our students to further their education in creative media right at home.

Creating jobs to keep our keiki in Hawaii is our ultimate goal. Each year, Hawaii invests millions of dollars via tax credits into the film industry. This helps attract blockbuster film productions to Hawaii and provide hundreds of local jobs. Productions such as "Jurassic World" and "Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle" all were shot in Hawaii because of the tax credit. As a UHWO graduate in creative media, our local students will have the skillsets to fill these jobs in Hawaii's film industry.

Last month, my colleagues and I had the pleasure of visiting the construction site and preview the facility. The 40,685-square-foot building will contain a two-story sound stage, production and teaching areas, and another area with faculty space, eSports room, flex classrooms and creative media labs, Foley studio and sound-mixing studio and a 100-seat screening room. There also will be covered outdoor spaces along with an LED wall facing an amphitheater consisting of grassy seating that can accommodate up to 250 people.

Construction is expected to be completed by June 2020. I look forward to seeing this project completed so our students can start taking classes there.



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FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS

County Pothole Hotline
(808) 786-7777
State Pothole Hotline
(808) 536-7852
Public Access Room
(808) 587-0478
Freeway Service Patrol
(808) 841-HELP
Wahiawa Police Station
(808) 723-8700

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A DAY AT LAKE WILSON!

Here's what's happening at Day at Lake Wilson.



2
NOV

Fishing!

8:00 AM



2
NOV

**Make It,
Take It**

8:00 AM



2
NOV

**Park Golf
Demo**

8:00 AM



2
NOV

**Country
Market**

8:00 AM



2
NOV

**Super Far
Paper
Plane
Throw**

1:00 PM

OVER 100 STUDENTS RECEIVE FREE GLASSES



We followed up on our vision screenings by providing students with a pair of glasses! Last month, I worked with Project Vision Hawaii and the Wahiawa Middle School (WMS) to have all 721 students at WMS vision screened. Of the 721 students, 168 (23%) were found to have a potential vision problem, but did not have glasses. 129 students received eye exams, and 109 were prescribed glasses. Last week, we came together and distributed them to the 109 students.

Students with uncorrected vision problems often avoid reading, suffer headaches, and have trouble focusing on class discussions. These symptoms make affected children less likely to reach the important educational milestone of reading proficiency by the end of third grade, making them more likely to fall behind in classes and drop out of school. The problem is particularly prevalent in low-income and rural areas of Hawaii. Having bad vision myself, I personally understand the difficulty that these students may have gone through till now.

Since I've joined the Senate, we've dedicated nearly \$1 million to Project Vision to provide free vision screening. We're focusing on areas with Title I schools to ensure that services go to our most needy students. In partnership with the Hawaii Keiki program, which places a registered nurse practitioner in each school complex, Project Vision Hawaii has provided 48,000 vision screenings, 2,000 eye exams and 1,200 glasses to students in low-income areas on Oahu, Maui, Hawaii, and Kauai Counties.