# GOV. MSG. NO. 603

# Ho'opi'ookalani Balaz



# Education:

2012: Leilehua High School Graduated with High School Diploma 2020: Leeward Community College: Academic Subject Certificate in Writing 2022-2023: MCH Lend, Certificate of Completion

#### Work Experience

2021: Next Gen Ambassadors, RCUH 2023-Pres.: Project Assistant Manager, Special Olympics Hawaii

# <u>Volunteer:</u>

2019: Alzheimer's Association Walk 2020: Best Buddies Hawaii Friendship Jam 2021: Special Olympics Hawai'i: Health Messenger Ambassador

# **Professional Organizations:**

2018-Pres.: Hawaii Self-Advisory Advocacy Council (SAAC) Officer
2018-Pres.: Athlete, Special Olympics Hawaii (SOHI)
2018-Pres.: Board Member and Ambassador, Best Buddies Hawaii
2020-Pres.: Member, Tammy Evrard Counseling (TEC)
2019-Pres.: Member, Global Health Messenger, and Toastmasters Hawaii
2021-Pres.: Member, Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC).

Select Projects:

2024-Pres.: Gardening Club, Special Olympics Hawai'i

### Presentation Highlights

2023 Day at The Capital, Self-Advocacy Advisory Council.
Social Media posts for Next Gen Ambassadors in 2021
Opening Ceremonies for 2022 and 2023 State Summer Games.
2021 Best Buddies' Friendship Jam.
2023 HABA Convention.
Webinar as a Special Olympics Health Messenger in 2021.

Awards and Honors

Champion Of the Year for 2021 and 2022 for Best Buddies Friendship Jam Certificate of Appreciation for participation in 2021 Best Buddies Friendship Jam <u>References:</u> Zosimo Arista, Jr., MSW State Program Specialist and Liaison for the Self-Advocacy Network Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Dan Epstein, CEO Special Olympics Hawaii (SOHI)

Tammy Evrard, Tammy Evrard Counseling (TEC)

Dr. Pokii Balaz, Director of Strategic Initiatives Center for Innovation