



Kapaia Foundation

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Preserving and promoting the rich history of Kapaia Valley

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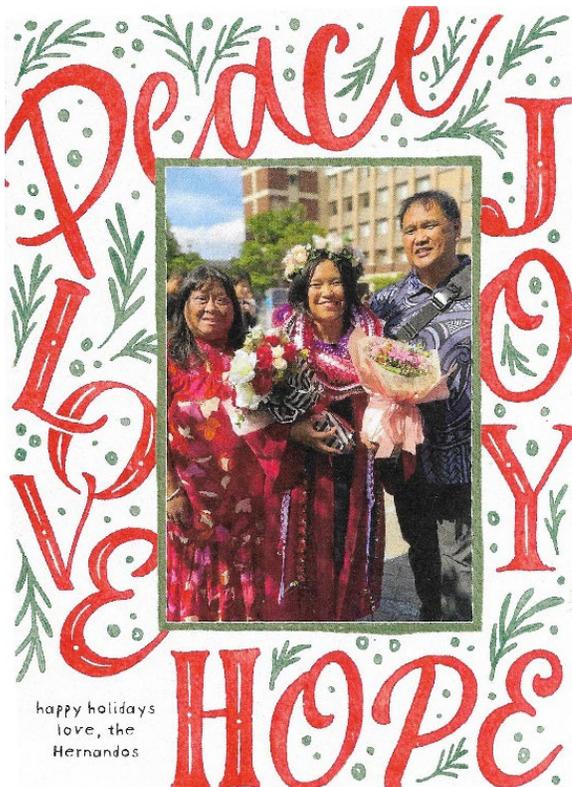
Ryleigh Hernando Graduates from College!

Lihu'e, HI December 2025 Best Christmas present for the Hernando family! Kapaia Foundation is pleased to announce that its 2021 scholarship recipient, Ryleigh Hernando has graduated from Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University in Japan. Ryleigh earned a Bachelor of Business Administration from the College of International Management.

The Kapaia Foundation Scholarship was created to recognize the dreams of sugar plantation era immigrants for the success of their descendants. Following is an excerpt from Ryleigh's scholarship essay, written in 2021:

"From humble beginnings, it would be an honor to receive the Kapaia Foundation Scholarship to further my education at Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University in Japan. It is closer to my roots in the Philippines and I hope to interact with many cultures around the world learning the fundamentals of business and return home with that knowledge; to assist my community. As my ancestors traveled many miles across the world, I too will travel in pursuit of my educational dreams for a better tomorrow."

Kapaia Foundation congratulates Ryleigh Hernando as she reaches her goals and continues her journey in life, making her ancestors proud along the way.



Aysha Berry is at UC Berkeley

Kapaia Foundation's 2025 scholarship recipient, Aysha Berry, is now enrolled at UC Berkeley. She reports that fantastic roommates and new friends from the Global Environmental Themed Housing (GETH) program have made her transition from high school to college both smooth and enjoyable.

Aysha's classes are challenging, but she is confidently managing the materials and staying on top of her coursework. Outside of classes, Aysha is exploring environmentally-focused research clubs and volunteer opportunities. Additionally, she is eager to contribute to a more inclusive and engaging community and has applied for the role of VP of Marketing with the Clark Kerr Residence Hall Association.



Aysha, enjoying time with one of her dormmates. Aysha Berry photo



Sather Tower, one of UC Berkeley's most well-known symbols. It is the 2nd tallest freestanding clock and bell tower in the world. Aysha Berry photo

Happy Holidays from Kapaia's Inagaki / Doi Family



More than 60 descendants of Yotaro & Yoshi Inagaki (Doi) gathered in Kapaia Valley for a family reunion in July. Yotaro and Yoshi immigrated to Hawaii from Japan in the early 1900's. The family lived in Huleia, Lawai, Kamaloa, and Kapaa before settling in Kapaia. Their oldest son, Jack Doi, was the proprietor of Kapaia Garage & Gas Station, now the Koa Store. Daughter, Lillian (Mizuno) was a seamstress & homemaker. Daughter Edith (Ishii) worked at First Hawaiian Bank and son, David owned and operated David's Body and Fender Repairs in Kapaia, now Sunrise Coffee. Their youngest child, Larry, proudly served his country in WWII and was a computer specialist for the U.S. government. Some of Yotaro and Yoshi's descendants still live in Kapaia.

Kapaia Foundation Volunteer Opportunities

Kapaia Foundation is offering its members and supporters some much needed volunteer opportunities in 2026.

- 1. The Visitor Industry Charity Walk is one of Hawaii's largest fundraising events, supporting local nonprofits across the state. Kapaia Foundation needs a volunteer to chair this project. Responsibilities include organizing a committee to apply for the grant, attend meetings, solicit donors, organize fundraisers etc. This year, Kaua'i Visitor Industry Charity awarded \$6,000 to Kapaia Foundation. A special mahalo to Corporate Sponsor, SIGNart, for supporting and partnering with Kapaia Foundation, making the generous award possible. Our goal for 2026 is \$10,000. The more we participate and fundraise, the more we will receive!*
- 2. SIGN ART is having a Visitor Industry Charity garage and lunch sale fundraiser on February 7, 2026. SIGN ART would appreciate Kapaia Foundation's help in the following ways:*
 - a. Donate items for the garage sale.*
 - b. Invite family, friends and acquaintances to the event.*
 - c. Manpower help at the sale.*
 - d. Help with preparing and serving lunches*
- 3. Koinobori Kaua'i 2026. After 13 years, we have accumulated a lot of windsocks in need of repair. Also, the lush vegetation surrounding the swinging bridge needs to be tamed. There is enough work for everybody, whether it be with needle and thread or weed wacker and sickle! Workdays are planned for March 21, April 18 and April 25 from 8am-12pm. Lunch will be provided on all days. If you have questions or want more details, please email kapaiafoundation@gmail.com or text/call 808 639-3606.*
- 4. Bridge maintenance volunteers needed to sweep leaves and debris. Ongoing project!*



Mahalo to all Kapaia Foundation Members and Supporters

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Russell & Christine Nonaka

Mel & Patsy Rapozo

David & Georgina Takemoto

Randal & Debbie Ihara Valenciano (In Memory of Muneo & Hatsuko Ihara, my paternal grandparents who were proprietors of Ihara Store in Kapaia)

Marisa Valenciano (In Memory of Grandpa Richard Ihara, born and raised in Kapaia)

Doreen Wataya

Donna Yano

JoAnn Yukimura

Sustainer

ABG Properties Management Corp

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One Time Gift

Allen Mizuno \$100

Your membership makes our organization stronger. The stronger we are, the more we can do! Your support is appreciated. Membership is free. Just fill out and return the membership form.

Membership...Includes public support listing, email announcements and open invitation to all meetings, events and activities. Benefactor membership...includes all of the above benefits, plus donor recognition at every opportunity (unless donor advises otherwise).

Kapaia Foundation membership is open to anyone wishing to support the intent and purpose of Kapaia Foundation. Kapaia Foundation is a purely voluntary association whose primary source of funding is through donations and grants. Kapaia Foundation does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religious affiliation, handicap, national origin, or other personal factor.

(PDF printable file attached)

YES! I would like to preserve and promote the rich history of Kapaia Valley.

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- _____ **Contributor Lifetime \$0 - \$99/yr donation**
- _____ **Sponsor Membership \$100-499/yr donation**
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Print, mail to Kapaia Foundation 4453 Laukini Rd. Lihu'e, HI 96766

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Kapaia Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit association. Your donation is tax deductible.

