



"Unfolded by the water are the faces of the flowers." From *Olelo No'èau* by Mary Pukui

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**As 2023 blends into 2024**, let's all give big **MAHALO Nui Loa** to a distinguished and caring group of leaders who had the foresight to launch Leadership Kaua'i. In 2003, they gathered monthly seeking to answer these questions - Who is going to lead our island 5 -10 years from now? How to give leaders a current and historical understanding of Kaua'i before they make decisions that could affect our next seven generations?

Today, 20 years later, we are deeply grateful to our Founders Circle, inaugural executive director Jay Furfaro and esteemed board of directors! Their vision continues to inspire leaders to step up and take the helm to support Kaua'i's people.

Twenty years of leadership development on Kaua'i, results are alumni serving as: Elected public officials – Kaua'i County Mayor; County Council Chair, Vice-Chair and members; volunteers on County Boards & Commissions; appointed roles in County and State agencies; selected executive directors and presidents of non-profits and businesses; business owners; and many more in highly influential positions within their companies and organizations.

**Program Highlights** - 19 adult cohorts, 61 community projects, 6 youth Pi'ina Hoku cohorts, high school leadership curriculum for nearly 2000 students & teachers, online training expansions, coaching, train-the-trainers, collaborations, facilitations and partnership building throughout the islands, statewide and globally.

**LK Annual Class Update:**

- June 2023 graduated 20 leaders who modeled the way on collaborative leadership. They held each other accountable to group values and persevered by relying on their "we can do this" spirit. Two impactful community projects: housing & homelessness - 2023 Landlord Summit, and educational youth videos in their mission to Get Learning with LK Ed.
- September began our 20th cohort with 21 diverse leaders. Imagine seasoned leaders, new supervisors, and island newcomers working to create meaningful community projects. We anticipate a year of *oohs*, *ahhs* and *sighs*, as they dive into making sense of Kaua'i's current issues on employment, tourism, transportation, government and more. Community project topics are financial literacy, westside youth activities, and food security.

Kaua'i's ability to rally quickly during a crisis is a reflection of years of cooperative leadership in the spirit of Aloha. Your support has been tremendous, and we humbly ask for your continued enthusiasm to robustly usher in the next 20 years.

**Me ke aloha mau,  
Char and LK 'Ohana**

*Many hands working together for seven generations to come.*

**INVEST TODAY IN KAUA'I'S FUTURE LEADERS...**  
Leadership Kaua'i has had 20 great years.  
Join us in making a contribution to continue our work for the next 20 years.

**DONATION PLEDGE FORM**

Thank you for this opportunity to ask for your support. We hope the answer is YES! Your generous donations will 1) provide scholarships to ensure diversity is at the table of decision-makers; and 2) help relaunch the youth Pi'ina Hoku program. Encouraging leaders one person at a time!

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SCAN this QR code or visit  
<http://www.leadershipkauai.org/donate>  
to make online & reoccurring donations.

Yes, I would like to donate \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1,000 \$5,000 other \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to Leadership Kaua'i

Leadership Kaua'i is a 501(c)(3) non-profit

**HERE IS WHAT SOME OF OUR  
LK 2023 GRADUATES HAVE TO SAY**



Maryjane Akuna, Valerie Barko, Christopher Cappello, Miles Carroll, Alexandria Cordero-Webster, Nikki Cristobal, Kawai Gampon, Casey Haynes, Cindy Kauanui, Kawai Newport-Kilauano, Dylan Okada, Royce Ramos, Rachel Secretario, Jie Shen, Genevieve Silva, Sonny Sousa, Cyrus Tumbaga, Ashton Varner, Esther Yadao & Tyler Zust.

***"I learned that friction, while often unwelcome, can be necessary for progress."***



"During my time in the Leadership Kauai Adult Program, I formed a deep and meaningful connection with my classmates. Together, we had the opportunity to learn from and engage with influential leaders within our community.

Most importantly, we held each other accountable for the values we promised to uphold as individuals and as a cohort. LK helped me realize my potential for personal and professional growth. Despite coming from various backgrounds and organizations, my classmates all shared a common drive to improve themselves, their industries, and the community that surrounds them. I learned that friction, while often unwelcome, can be necessary for progress. I am grateful for the opportunity to have been part of this incredible experience."

**~Kawai Gampon, LK '23  
Program Manager, Catholic Charities Hawai'i**



"Leadership Kauai has played a pivotal role in shaping the person I am today and has significantly contributed to my personal and professional growth.

The experience of connecting with like-minded individuals, all open to sharing their struggles, has fostered a sense of teamwork that is truly exceptional. I am deeply honored to have been a part of this program. I encourage everyone to consider Leadership Kauai as it is an enriching experience that goes beyond expectations. You'll be amazed at the invaluable connections you'll make and the lifelong friendships that will become an integral part of your journey."

**~Maryjane "Mj" Akuna, LK '23  
YWCA, Director of Human Resources and Fund Development**



"Enrolling in Leadership Kauai was a transformative experience. The program's insightful curriculum and inspiring mentors guided me to discover my leadership potential.

I gained valuable skills, forged meaningful connections, and now feel empowered to make a positive impact in both my professional and community endeavors. Thank you, Leadership Kauai, for cultivating leaders with purpose and passion."

**~Genevieve Silva, LK '23  
Supervisory Recreation Specialist,  
Naval Bureau- MWR**

**Join us in Honoring 20 years of Extraordinary Leaders & Launching the Next Generations  
Festivities begin at 5:30pm on Saturday, April 27, 2024 at  
Kauai Philippine Cultural Center, Lihue**



**Since 2004 outcomes and results:**

- 61 community projects touching and improving the lives of over 35 % of the residents and visitors islandwide
  - 95 % of our alumni are more engaged in their community after completing their class
  - Many of the 350 Alumni have lead roles in many non-profit, government agencies, schools and private sectors
- Your Participation and Contributions Made These Opportunities Possible!**

*Mahalo Nui Loa*

to our sponsors and donors for believing in our programs to bring out the best in your leaders.