



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
18TH PACIFIC CENTURY FELLOWS CLASS SELECTED

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(Honolulu, Hawaii, August 20, 2023) The Pacific Century Fellows Program is pleased to announce the selection of its 18th class of Fellows, comprised of 37 outstanding and talented men and women.

The Pacific Century Fellows, modeled after the prestigious White House Fellows program, is the signature activity of the nonprofit organization, the Fund for the Pacific Century. Founded in 1996 by former Honolulu Mayor Mufi Hannemann, the Pacific Century Fellows Program has gained in prominence as Hawaii’s landmark leadership training program. It encourages and enhances civic participation by bringing together a diverse group of individuals who, through the course of the program, build lasting networks and learn about the issues and challenges facing our community.

This year, 37 young leaders were competitively selected by a blue-ribbon panel of judges to represent the individual and professional diversity of Hawaii, including government, small- and large-businesses, education and health, non-profit and corporate enterprises. Members of the cohort showed strong intellectual and leadership abilities in the early and mid-stages of their careers and, most importantly, demonstrated the potential to make significant contributions to the islands in the future.

Hannemann, a former White House Fellow (1983-84), said, “With our 18th class of Fellows, we continue to build on the cadre of just over 500 bright and energetic alumni who will make contributions to the betterment of Hawaii and the Pacific region in the years to come. The judges are to be commended for selecting this group from a pool of outstanding applicants from our community. During the Program, fellows will be connected with senior policy-makers

and community leaders, and engage in discussions that cultivate an open exchange of ideas and knowledge. Coupled with site visits, fellows will also interact with other emerging leaders in the Pacific through our working relationship with the East-West Center and the alliance with the Marianas Chapter of the Pacific Century Fellows Program. The overarching goal is to nurture relationships among individuals who are committed to exploring creative and constructive solutions to far-reaching challenges, positively influencing the quality of life in Hawaii.”

Those selected include:

Patrick Branco	Director of External Affairs and Communications, Hawaii Green Growth
Clarice Casamina	Vice President, House of Finance, Inc.
Eric Chen	Senior Vice President, Bank of Hawaii
Jonathan L.W. Ching	Director of Government Relations, Kaiser Permanente
Travis Clegg	Chief Operating Officer, Hawaii Pacific Health
Brandon Dela Cruz	Director of Marketing, L & L Franchise, Inc.
Lawrence Duenas	Executive Director, Alzheimer’s Association
Raquel Guss	Director of Strategy and Operational Excellence, ALTRES
Brooke Guth (Maui)	Director of Operations, Maui Jim Sunglasses
Barney Po`okela Hanson	Fire Captain, Honolulu Fire Department
Michelle Hee	Director of Communications & Public Relations, Iolani School
Kim Ide-Foster	Partner, Chun Kerr LLP
Jordan Inafuku	Partner, McCorriston Miller Mukai MacKinnon LLP
Harrison Ishida, Jr.	Senior Vice President, Trinity Investments
Brandon Kamigaki	Manager, Servco Pacific Inc.

Ryan Kamo	Principal Architect, Design Partners, Inc.
Leinaala Kanana	Chief Community Health Services Officer, Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center
Jonathan Kaneshiro	Vice President, Oahu Waste Services, Inc.
Robert Roy Kelley	Vice President, Avalon Development Company
Trish La Chica	Representative, Hawaii State House of Representatives
Jennifer Lau	Executive Vice President, Finance Enterprises
Erica Mau-Schank	Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Vibe Creative Marketing
Tessa Munekiyo Ng	Vice President, Munekiyo Hiraga
Daphne Okunaga	International Business & Design Lead Teacher, Pearl City High School
Meagan Ostrem	Environmental Planning and Community Outreach, U.S. Navy
Todd Pang	President, Caring Manoa
Amanda Pump	Chief Program Officer, Child & Family Services
Edwin Quan	Vice President, Bank of Hawaii
Laura Sanders	Executive Director, Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association
Jeremy Shorenstein	Planning and Development Manager, Kamehameha Schools (effective 8-31-23)
Kristopher Speegle (Hawaii)	Owner, Nako Kai Insurance Professionals
Kapiolani Street	Project Engineer, Castle & Cooke Homes Hawaii, Inc.
Reyn Tanaka	Vice President, WKF, Inc.
Ronald Tran	CEO, WCIT Architecture, Inc.

James Twigg-Smith

Agriculture Division Manager, Pacific Biodiesel
Technologies LLC

Dean Uyeda

Senior Vice President, First Hawaiian Bank

Alexandra Wroe

Vice President, Queen's Health Systems

The program will begin with a two-day retreat on October 27-28, 2023, featuring a series of seminars and discussions, and participants will have an opportunity to help plan their agenda and schedule for the upcoming year.

During the year, fellows will take part in at least one day-long session each month to investigate critical issues facing Hawaii in such areas as crime, education, environment, the military, and the economy. Additionally, fellows will be afforded personalized, professional executive coaching to round out their fellowship experience!

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