



The Honorees

Our 2015 honorees are aptly described by the phrase, *“the best of best.”* Their professional accomplishments allow each of them to stand at the top of their fields as each has reached the pinnacle of success. Their life-long commitment to service-giving is indicative of why they are so deserving of the Kina’ole Award. It is our privilege to recognize each of these recipients for perpetuating the spirit of Kina’ole in all that they do.



Sharon Mahoe was at Moanalua High School for over twenty years, teaching Spanish, American Studies, Hawaiiiana, and Hawaiian language. She was hired in the second year of Moanalua High School's existence and was instrumental in helping to build the solid foundation on which the school now rests. She, along with Ray Fujii, was a co-advisor to the Class of 1978. She also served at the Coordinator of the Central Oahu Teaching Center, as a foreign language resource teacher for the DOE, and as a Legislative Assistant to the late Senator Spark Matsunaga. Ms. Mahoe is best known in the educational community for serving as the HSTA President for 4 years and the Executive Director of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board for 12 years. She retired in 2009 and now spends her days traveling, caring for her four cats, and running NK Promotions, a promotional products firm.



Raymond Fujii is fondly remembered by many as the Moanalua High School Class Advisor for the classes of 1978 and 1982. He taught Science at MoHS for 12 years after a three year stint at Leilehua High School. After MoHS, he went into school administration. He retired in 2011 after almost 40 years of service to the Hawaii DOE. He is best known in the community as the beloved Principal of Makalapa Elementary School, having served there for almost 20 years. He also held administrative positions at Kohala Elementary and High School, Dole Intermediate, Moanalua Elementary, and Moanalua Middle School. He and wife Chiaki are the proud parents of four successful children, all Moanalua High school graduates...Robert ('90), Dennis ('92), Nancy ('93), and Michael ('96).



Brian Kang is a proud graduate of the Moanalua High School class of 1986. He is a partner in the law firm of Watanabe Ing LLP. As a student, he was a member of one of the first mock trial teams at MoHS. Since 2006, he has served as one of the attorney coaches for the MoHS Mock Trial Team that has won the Hawaii State Championship for the last five years. He is especially proud that at last year’s National Championship, the team won the inaugural Larry Bakko Professionalism and Civility Award, which recognizes the team that best exemplifies professionalism, civility, integrity, honesty, fair play and respect for others. In addition to helping his alma mater, he has served on the SCC at Queen Lili’uokalani Elementary School, the SCBM at Moanalua Elementary School, and the DOE Central District Advisory Council. He is currently a member of the Kaimuki Neighborhood Board. Brian is a graduate of UH Manoa (B.A. Journalism) and Santa Clara University School of Law (J.D., magna cum laude). He and wife Lianne (MoHS class of 1987) are proud parents of two daughters, Melissa and Natalie.



David Suzuki is a 1989 graduate of Moanalua High School. He is currently a partner at the law firm of Burke McPheeters Bordner and Estes. He was on the MoHS Mock Trial team that won the state championship in 1989. He, along with Brian Kang, has served as an attorney coach of the MoHS Mock Trial Team that has won five consecutive state championships. In 2012, he helped guide MoHS students to a first place finish in the prestigious Edison Miyawaki Moot Court Competition sponsored by Loyola Law School. He has also volunteered as the photographer for the MoHS Music Program since 2000, documenting band and orchestra performances and accompanying the groups to Japan and Carnegie Hall. He is a regular presenter at the MoHS Career Fair. David’s two brothers are also proud MoHS graduates, Paul (1978) and Michael (1980).