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**We Stand**

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***KONAWAENA  
HIGH SCHOOL***

***Class of 2023  
Commencement  
Ceremony***

***Julian Yates Field  
Saturday, May 20th  
9:00am - 11:00am***

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**As a Pack**

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# 2023 Commencement Program

Master of Ceremonies.....	Randy Morris
Hawaiian Oli.....	Kumu Momi Kaehuaea
Processional.....	<i>Pomp and Circumstance</i> Composed by Sir Edward Elgar
Posting of Colors.....	JROTC
National Anthem.....	<i>Star-Spangled Banner</i> Sung by Renalyn (Grace) Corpuz
State Anthem.....	<i>Hawaii Pono `i</i> Sung by Renalyn (Grace) Corpuz
Acknowledgments.....	Randy Morris
Welcome.....	Principal Ami Akeo
Keynote Speaker .....	Dr. Kimo Alameda
Class President Address.....	Devlyn Kojima
KSG President Address.....	Katherine Wickersham
AVID Graduates.....	Randi Hayashida
AA Degree Palamanui.....	Pearla Ha'alilio
Valedictorians.....	Tyler Jordan Acasio, Aruel Justine Alejandro, Sophia Burgess, Ariel Cohen, Rayne-Siony Domingo, Sonny Fitzgerald, Civic Gomes, Caleb Labo, Isabel Long-McGie, Ava Malinowski, Laulea Noche, Kimber O'Connell, Torrance Ro'onui Satta-Ellis, Ryli Sasaki, Mina Taniyama, Lance Thornton, Jenna Weigelt, Sarah Wood, Tori Yoshihata
Awarding of Diplomas.....	Principal Ami Akeo Announcer Jonathan Nahaku`elua
Changing of the Tassels.....	Devlyn Kojima
Class Song.....	<i>One Day</i> , Matisyahu Performed by the Class of 2023
Alma Mater.....	Class of 2023
Closing.....	Randy Morris



# Class of 2023

## Candidates for Graduation

Dwayne Abner\*\*

Anela Abran\*\*

Unity Abrojina

Tyler Jordan Acasio\*\*\*

Simon Agosthazi\*\*\*

Jacob Ah Mook Sang

Shaden Ako

Jarom Alani

Xavier Alani

Jasen Alani-Kahananui

Dayton Alaoan

Kapeka Alcain

Aruel Justine Alejandro\*\*\*

Terence Love Alejandro

Iginio Alfons

Michael Alikia

Taimane Alo\*\*

Romelia Ambriz\*

Hezekiah Anahu-Ambrosio\*

Hunter Andrade Wegner

Coral Aniban

Kaezn Antolin\*

Brooke Aragon

Faith Baker\*\*\*

Kyla Balsimo

Kailani Barboza-Wright

Elena Barr

Jaiden Basden\*

Taylor Bear

Emmry Black\*\*\*

Kamaki Blanco-Pua

Ella Branham

Laiken Brown\*\*

Rolinda Bunglick

Sophia Burgess\*\*\*

Anthony Calpito\*\*

Maria Cancino

Lorena Cancino-Magana

Kamalani Catabay

Winry Cigna\*\*\*

Cyrus Citron

Anthony Clark

Isaac Clement\*\*

McKenzie Clifford

Ariel Cohen\*\*\*

Renalyn Corpuz\*\*

Keenan Coupens

Kawena Crane

Elixa Cruz

Landon Dacquel-Shimabukuro

Nakoa Damas\*

Danilo Dapiaoen

Maria Daugherty

Tehani Decker

Kamaile DeMello Navas

Nathand Demers\*\*\*

Rayne-Siony Domingo\*\*\*

Christopher Duffy

James Fabian

Jacob Fernandez-Victor\*\*\*

Sonny Fitzgerald\*\*\*

Chray Flanary

Christian Freitas

Shansea Fujihara-Faavesi\*

Cahryl Funchica

Alex Gandalera\*

Erick Garza-Magana

Carlos Garza-Malagon

## **Class of 2023 Candidates for Graduation** *Continue*

Tayvin Gaspar  
Civic Gomes\*\*\*  
Destiny Gouveia  
Maria Gutierrez-Valdovinos  
Kealiikoa Hanoa\*\*  
Layson Harada  
Jenson Henriques\*  
Kelson Henriques\*  
Tatiana Henriques\*\*  
Ila Henry\*\*  
Taven Hiraishi\*  
Jacob Holt-Uu\*\*\*  
Matthew Hoohuli  
Zi Hao Huang\*\*\*  
Timothy Huerta\*\*\*  
Vyacheslav Huss\*  
Natalie Ann Ii  
Heather Ikeda  
Angel Jimenez  
Megan Joseph  
Thiraphat Kaeopan\*\*  
Nanea Kahananui  
Cody Kahulamu\*\*\*  
Kawelu Kaiawe\*  
Samantha Kaiawe  
Tia Kaiawe  
Cody Kashiwabara  
Braelyn Kauhi\*  
Joshua Kelau  
Cherish Kelekolio  
Kaikoa Kelii  
Eddie Bretty Kihleng  
Braxton Kimitete\*\*  
Devlyn Kojima\*\*  
Marc Baden Kong\*\*  
Kailana Kuanoni  
Charlie Kuwada\*

Caleb Labo\*\*\*  
Mikaela LaMarco\*  
Nolani Lather  
Kamalani Lewi  
Thaya Lewi-Ohashi\*  
Lok Tung Li\*\*\*  
Isabel Long-McGie\*\*\*  
Gustavo Magana-Moreno  
Saul Magana-Vargas  
Kaikea Malina  
Ava Malinowski\*\*\*  
Grant Manalili  
Anaiya Mariano  
Iziah Mariano\*\*  
Xavier Marshall-Nakasone  
Katy Masi  
Faith-Lyn Masuhara-Molina\*\*  
Kamariya Mattos  
Tyler McKane  
Zoi Meech  
Tristin Lyn Mejia-Papalimu  
Alexa Meyer\*\*  
Ash Miller  
Allan Molina  
Daisy Moreno-Gonzalez  
Vini Muasau  
Luka Munoz\*\*\*  
Chase Nagatori  
Nainoa Nakano  
Laulea Noche\*\*\*  
Tahoe Li Obregon\*  
Kimber O'Connell\*\*\*  
Aleesea O'hara\*  
Brandon Omori  
David Ortiz-Strauss  
Josiah Oscar  
Jordan Ouprasith\*

## Class of 2023 Candidates for Graduation *Continued*

Oliver Paaluhi  
Kainalu Pabre  
Yeisi Pacheco-Fuentes\*  
Noah Paio-Kanakaole  
Shalei-Marie Parong\*\*\*  
Kaimana Piko  
JVJ Djodiz Pimentero  
Ariane Georgina Queja\*  
Daniel Ramirez-Godinez  
Alejandra Regalado-Gomez  
Mia Reynolds  
Rheneer Romano  
Hendrick Romias  
Alexis Ruiz\*\*\*  
Betsy Ruiz-Santiago\*  
Fabian Ruiz-Valdovinos  
Tonila Sailaze  
Kaila Salmo\*  
Kealiinoawau Sanchez-Barr  
Evabella Sandberg\*\*\*  
Nayely Sandoval  
Logan Santos-Duterte  
Cesilia Saragosa  
Ryli Sasaki\*\*\*  
Torrance Ro'onui Satta-Ellis\*\*\*  
Jovena Simmons  
Anuheha Spinola\*\*\*  
Spencer Spinola\*\*  
Summit Suzuki  
Sora Takahashi\*  
Pila Taketa  
Mina Taniyama\*\*\*  
Rosalee Tash  
Trevor Terazono  
Lance Thornton\*\*\*  
Treston Tinao\*  
Anthony Torres

Taniyah Tripp-Gouveia  
Riley Tuttle  
Kaiah Uchida  
Trez Uemoto  
Eli-Anthony Uemura  
Chelsea Velez\*\*  
Maria Villegas-Magana  
Ryan Von Kaenel  
Kalanakila Watai\*  
Jenna Weigelt\*\*\*  
Katherine Wickersham\*\*\*  
Ace Williamson\*  
Paul Wong\*\*\*  
Sarah Wood\*\*\*  
Kekai Yamaguchi  
Tori Yoshihata\*\*\*  
Kira Yoshioka\*  
Alii Youderian  
Devin Ziemelis\*\*\*

Summa Cum Laude: \*\*\*

Magna Cum Laude \*\*

Cum Laude \*

*Congratulations on earning  
your high school diploma.  
Today with your classmates,  
you have become alumni.  
You will always be part of the  
Konawaena `Ohana.  
Go Wildcats!*



## 2023 Scholarship Recipients

<b>Tyler Acasio</b>	University Hawaii Manoa Academic Merit Scholarship, Kona Visayan Club Scholarship
<b>Emmry Black</b>	Manoa Academic Merit Scholarship
<b>Sophia Burgess</b>	Rotary Club of Kona Mauka, AAUW, Hawaii Citizen Scholars Award
<b>Isaac Clement</b>	Northern Arizona Founders Gold Award, Kona Visayan Club Scholarship
<b>Anthony Calpito</b>	Northern Arizona Founders Gold Award
<b>Keenan Coupens</b>	Ellsworth Community College Athletics
<b>Rayne- Siony Domingo</b>	University of Oregon Summit Scholarship, Central Pacific Bank, Gustav & Faiaso Hannemann Leadership Awards, Tante & Araceli Urban Foundation, Kona Visayan Club Scholarship, Col. Ellison S. Onizuka Memorial Scholarship
<b>Civic Gomes</b>	Northern Arizona University Founders Gold Award, Panthera Edge Foundation Kona Scholarship, Kona Lions Club-Community Service Award, Kona Waena Scholarship Foundation
<b>Destiny Gouveia</b>	Na Ho'okama a Pauahi
<b>Taven Hiraishi</b>	West Valley Athletics
<b>Timothy Huerta</b>	Coe College Trustee Scholarship, National Kohawk Award , Coe College Impact Award, Coe College Grant
<b>Braelyn Kauhi</b>	Rotary Club of Kona Community Foundation - Ron & Kathy Hawkes Vocational Scholarship, College of Southern Nevada Athletics
<b>Kawelu Kaiawe</b>	George Fox Merit Scholarship, George Fox Need Grant, George Fox Visit Experience
<b>Devlyn Kojima</b>	Minds Move Mountains, Na Ho'okama a Pauahi, Kamehameha Schools C/01956 Scholarship, Kamehameha Scholars
<b>Charlie Kuwada</b>	West Valley Athletics
<b>Caleb Labo</b>	Kamehameha Scholars
<b>Lok Tung Li</b>	University of Hawaii at Manoa Opportunity Grant
<b>Isabel Long-McGie</b>	Willamette Institutional Award
<b>Tristin Lyn Mejia-Papalimu</b>	Palamanui KS Scholars

# 2023 Scholarship Recipients

<b>Faith-Lyn Masuhara- Molina</b>	Grand Canyon University Faculty Scholarship, Priority Registration Award
<b>Tahoe Li Obregon</b>	Konawaena Scholarship Foundation, Kona Visayan Club Scholarship
<b>Kimber O'Connell</b>	Hawaii Rotary Youth Foundation, AAUW, Delta Kappa Gamma Rho, Sandra Taosaka Future Teacher Scholarship
<b>Ariane Georgina Queja</b>	Konawaena Foundation Art Scholarship
<b>Shalei-Marie Parong</b>	Chaminade University Merit Scholarship
<b>Evabella Sandberg</b>	Hawaii Community College Tuition Waiver
<b>Betsy Ruiz Santiago</b>	Denny's Hungry for Education Scholarship
<b>Ryli Sasaki</b>	Dell Scholars Program, Provost Achievement Scholarship, Hawaii B Plus State Scholarship, Rotary Club of Kona Community Foundation - Jim & Sis Bedingfield Lions Club of Kona- Mildred Imai Memorial Scholarship
<b>Torrance Ro'onui Satta-Ellis</b>	Heisman High School Scholarship, Hawaii Rotary Youth Foundation Scholarship, Honsador Lumber HS Hero Award, Na Ho'okama A Pauahi Scholarship, Takitani Scholarship, HAH- PERD Scholarship, Kenneth O Doris Rewick Grant, Equitable Excellence Scholarship, Pacific University Academic Scholarship, Elks National Found- ation, Kona Japanese Civic Association Lions Club of Kona Scholarship, Tante & Araceli Urban Foundation, Luana Hospitality Group, Wayne Big Dog Joseph Scholarship, Konawaena Foundation English Award, Roy Fujimoto Senior Scholarship, Kamehameha Scholars, Sandra Taosaka Future Teachers Scholar
<b>Anuheha Spinola</b>	Lions Club of Kona - Scholarship Award
<b>Mina Taniyama</b>	University of British Columbia Outstanding International Student Award, Lions Club of Kona - Rose Elfman Ross Memorial Scholarship, Rotary Club of Kona Mauka, Kona Visayan Club
<b>Lance Thornton</b>	University of Arizona Distinction Award
<b>Trez Uemoto</b>	West Valley Athletics
<b>Anthony Torres</b>	George Fox Athletics
<b>Chelsea Velez</b>	Highline Community College Athletic Scholarship
<b>Jenna Weigelt</b>	UH Manoa Opportunity Grant, UH Manoa Academic Merit Scholarship, Fukunaga Business Scholarship, Kona Japanese Civic Association, Rotary Club of Kona Mauka
<b>Katherine Wickersham</b>	Franklin University Merit, Franklin 2+2 program, Konawaena Scholarship Foundation,
<b>Tori Yoshihata</b>	UH Manoa Merit Scholarship

# Notable 2023 Graduates

## TOP TEN PERCENT

Tyler Jordan Acasio	Zi Hao Huang	Torrance Ro'onui Satta-Ellis
Aruel Justine Alejandro	Timothy Huerta	Ryli Sasaki
Sophia Burgess	Caleb Labo	Mina Taniyama
Ariel Cohen	Isabel Long-McGie	Lance Thornton
Rayne-Siony Domingo	Ava Malinowski	Jenna Weigelt
Sonny Fitzgerald	Laulea Noche	Sarah Wood
Civic Gomes	Kimber O'Connell	Tori Yoshihata

## ACADEMIC HONORS

Tyler Jordan Acasio	Civic Gomes	Shalei-Marie Parong
Simon Agosthazi	Taven Hiraishi	Torrance Ro'onui Satta-Ellis
Aruel Justine Alejandro	Cody Kahulamu	Ryli Sasaki
Taimane Alo	Braelyn Kauhi	Anuheia Spinola
Sophia Burgess	Braxton Kimitete	Mina Taniyama
Emmry Black	Devlyn Kojima	Lance Thornton
Anthony Calpito	Caleb Labo	Kalanakila Watai
Renalyn Corpuz	Isabel Long-McGie	Jenna Weigelt
Isaac Clement	Ava Malinowski	Katherine Wickersham
Ariel Cohen	Alexa Meyer	Sarah Wood
Rayne-Siony Domingo	Luka Munoz	Tori Yoshihata
Jacob Fernandez-Victor	Laulea Noche	Devin Ziemelis
Sonny Fitzgerald	Tahoe Li Obregon	
Alex Gandalera	Kimber O'Connell	

## CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION HONORS CERTIFICATE

Sophia Burgess	Cody Kahulamu	Jenna Weigelt
Civic Gomes	Tahoe Li Obregon	Devin Ziemelis
	Shalei-Marie Parong	

## STEM HONORS CERTIFICATE *Science, Technology, Engineering & Math*

Caleb Labo	Jenna Weigelt
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## **AA IN LIBERAL ARTS THROUGH HCC-PALAMANUI**

Ariel Cohen

## **HAWAIIAN LIFESTYLE CERTIFICATE HCC- PALAMANUI**

Samantha Kaiawe      Braxton Kimitete      Tristin Lyn Mejia-Papalimu

## **SEAL OF BILITERACY RECIPIENTS**

Simon Agosthazi

Lok Tung Li

Zi Hao Huang

Betsy J. Ruiz Santiago

Thiraphat Kaeopan

Maria Yolanda Villegas Magaña

## **ALL AROUND WILDCATS FOR THE CLASS OF 2023**

Rayne-Siony Domingo

Torrance Ro'onui Satta-Ellis

## **OUTSTANDING WILDCATS FOR THE CLASS OF 2023**

Sophia Burgess

Devlyn Kojima

## **KONAWAENA ATHLETICS SCHOLAR**

### **ATHLETES OF THE YEAR**

Lance Thornton

Mina Taniyama

## **KONAWAENA ATHLETICS WILDCATS OF THE YEAR**

Rayne-Siony Domingo

Torrance Ro'onui Satta-Ellis

## **2023 ACTIVITY PINS**

Emmry Black

Lok Tung Li

Lance Thornton

Sophia Burgess

JVJ Djodiz Pimentero

Trez Uemoto

Kamalani Catabay

Ariane Georgina Queja

Jenna Weigelt

Renalyn Corpuz

Ryli Sasaki

Katherine Wickersham

Sonny Fitzgerald

Torrance Ro'onui Satta-Ellis

Paul Wong

Civic Gomes

Anuheia Spinola

Tori Yoshihata

Devlyn Kojima

Mina Taniyama

Kira Yoshioka

## **AVID**

*Advancement Via Individual Determination*

Emmry Black

Betsy Ruiz-Santiago

Sarah Wood

Timothy Huerta

Ryli Sasaki

Tori Yoshihata

Isabel Long-McGie

Trez Uemoto

Kira Yoshioka

Faith-Lyn Masuhara-Molina

Kalanakila Watai

Laulea Noche

Katherine Wickersham

# 2023

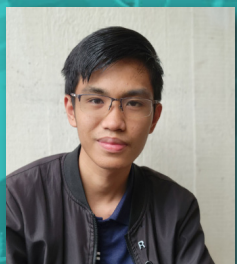
## Valedictorians

*The Class of 2023 valedictorians persevered through the pandemic by not losing sight of their personal academic goals. They challenged themselves in honors and advanced placement classes and enrolled in college level courses. This extraordinary group of young people also excelled in athletics, the arts and took on community leadership roles. Our Wildcat 'Ohana is proud of all their accomplishments.*



"I'd like to give a very deserved thank you to my friends, classmates, family, and teachers who were there to support me and my education. It was a long and grueling 4 years, but CLASS OF 2023 WE MADE IT! I would also like to give a big thank you to my Ninjas who stayed by my side, and Mr. Allred and Ms. Hiro, who always gave me their guidance."

**- Tyler Jordan Acasio**



"First and foremost, I'd like to express my gratitude to those who have assisted me along this journey, especially to friends and family. The support that each of you have provided has long been the reason why I've worked so tirelessly to achieve my goals. Now, as my final high school year comes to a close, I look forward to celebrating my accomplishment with you all. Thank you."

**- Aruel Justine Alejandro**



"I first want to thank my parents and family for loving and supporting me in all that I strive to do. To the Konawaena Community, thank you for the support, encouragement and love I've had the privilege of growing up in. These past 4 years have been invaluable and contain memories I will cherish forever. I will always be proud to call myself a Wildcat."

**- Sophia Burgess**



"I am honored to be a part of this school and am honored to be surrounded by wonderful students and staff. I am grateful for my parents who have supported me throughout my educational journey. I would not be where I am today without their love and encouragement. Thank you to everyone who I formed connections with, I love you and I'm excited to see where life takes you!"

**- Ariel Cohen**



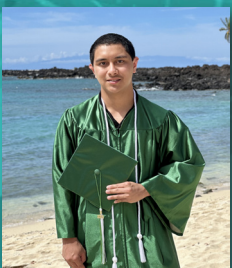
"I am filled with gratitude and appreciation for my family, teachers, friends, coaches, community, my nana, and especially my mom and dad. All of the love and support has guided me tremendously in attaining this lifelong achievement. Forever thankful for all of the memories and experiences I've had thus far, it has shaped me to who I am today. Congratulations to the Class of 2023! Much love & God Bless."

**- Rayne-Siony Vineta Domingo**



"Congratulations to the Class of 2023 for making it through high school, despite all of the strange times and challenges we have faced. Thank you to all my friends and people I have met on the way that have given me many memorable experiences. I especially want to thank my loving parents who have pushed me to be who I am today. I wish everyone the best!"

**- Sonny Fitzgerald**



"I'd like to thank everyone for standing by me when things were grim and when things were at their peak. I will forever be class of 2023 and I couldn't be more thankful for everyone at Konawaena who made this possible. If it was not for you, you wouldn't be reading this. To the friends that stood by me to the end, I am truly grateful for everything you are!"

**- Civic Gomes**



"I want to thank my parents for helping me all throughout my years of schooling. Without them it wouldn't be possible. Even though this was my first year at Konawaena, I have had many great experiences, making new friendships and playing sports. I am grateful to my teachers and I will take what I have learned here along with God's help and the support of my family. God Bless!"

**- Caleb Labo**



"I would like to thank every teacher, peer, and coach for their guidance they provided me with during high school. I would not be where I am today without your support. I'm excited to see where all of our journey's take us. Congratulations class of 2023!!"

**- Isabel Long-McGie**



“The biggest thank you to my family, with you I had the best upbringing fathomable. Special shout out to my dad for teaching me to live one day at a time and helping me aspire to get rich. Without him I wouldn’t be gettin outa here. Love you Dad! Big ol thank you to the Ninjas, Sensei Wu, and Lance Jr. for being W-friends. CONGRATS CLASS OF 2023!!”

**-Mina Taniyama**



“My high school journey wouldn’t have been complete without the support from my friends and family. Thank you everyone who has been by my side. I wouldn’t be where I am to today without it. The past four years have been memorable and don’t regret a single moment. Congratulations Class of 2023!”

**- Lance Thornton**



“It’s been a crazy 4 years, years full of hard work, frustration, anguish, confusion, and disappointment, but also years of satisfaction, profound growth, love, deepest of friendships, and adventure. That’s life. This journey, and the input of so many, has made me who I am. Mahalo to the Konawaena community.”

**- Jenna Weigelt**



“As our senior year ends, I would like to thank my parents and my sister for their continuous support. Also, mahalo to the teachers who have gone above and beyond to advocate for our education. I hold immense gratitude for every person I have met and the opportunities at Konawaena. I am very eager for us all to embark on our journeys and discover where life takes us.”

**- Sarah Wood**



“Thank you to all of my teachers that supported me throughout my high school career. I would like to thank my family for always being there for me and giving me endless amounts of compassion and support in achieving my goals. I love my Konawaena family and all that are a part of it. I am excited to see the class of 2023 start their new lives and achieve great things!”

**-Tori Yoshihata**





“I want to thank my family for always giving me the opportunity to pursue the things that make me happy and a chance to lead my high school career down the path that I thought was best. I also want to thank my friends for being by my side during uncertain times when I struggled. My years at Konawaena were filled with happiness and blue skies and I’m so excited for the future!”

**- Ava Malinowski**



“I am forever grateful for all the love and support I received from my teachers, family, and friends. These past four years have been filled with countless memories and experiences that have helped me grow into the best version of myself. I thank everyone who has been a part of my journey and I am looking forward to what’s in store for me in this next one.”

**- Laulea Noche**



“COVID in 2020, the death of my dad in 2021, and in 2022 Mauna Loa erupted. We live in uncertain times but we continue to rise above it and keep going. As these chapters close, new ones open. Our community and family rally around us to help us through them. But mostly, it was my parents that helped me to become the person I am today.”

**- Kimber O’Connell**



“Words cannot express how grateful I am to have such a loving and supportive ohana. I would like to thank my family, friends, teachers, and classmates for their uplifting thoughts and actions throughout my high school journey. All of you contributed to my success in reaching this unforgettable milestone. Congratulations to the Class of 2023! I can’t wait to see what our future has in store for us!”

**- Ryli Sasaki**



“Congrats Class of 2023, we did it! It’s been an exciting experience being able to make and share memories with you all. I’d like to thank and deeply appreciate my friends, family, and staff that made everything possible for today. Special thanks to my parents. You both are such an inspiration to me daily. If you’re reading this.. find me and throw a shaka! ALOOHAA!”

**- T.N. Ro’onui Satta-Ellis**



# CLASS OF 2023

## **Class Officers**

### **Senior Year: 2022-2023**

Class President - Devlyn Kojima

Vice President- Sophia Burgess

Vice President - Jenna Weigelt

Secretary- Rayne Domingo

Treasurer: Torrance Ro'onui Satta-Ellis

Historian- Faith-Lyn Masuhara-Molina

### **Junior Year: 2021-2022**

President: Devlyn Kojima

Vice President: Sophia Burgess

Vice President: Ariel Cohen

Secretary: Katie Wickersham

Treasurer: Torrance Ro'onui Satta-Ellis

Historian: Jenna Weigelt

### **Sophomore Year: 2020-2021**

President: Sophia Burgess

Vice President: Torrance Ro'onui Satta-Ellis

Vice President: Anela Abran

Secretary: Rayne Domingo

Treasurer: Tatiana Henriques

Historian: Devlyn Kojima

### **Freshman Year: 2019-2020**

President: Sophia Burgess

Vice-President: Torrance Ro'onui Satta-Ellis

Vice-President: Anela Abran

Secretary: Rayne Domingo

Treasurer: Tatiana Henriques

Historian: Devlyn Kojima

## **CLASS FACTS**

**Colors:** Teal and White

**Mascot:** The Wolf

**Flower:** Ohi'a Lehua

**Motto:** " We Stand as a Pack"



## MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL AMI AKEO

*You are about to embark on a journey of a lifetime. Remember to stay true to yourself and live a life that you can be proud of. No goal, no dream, is too out of reach, or too impossible to strive for. The skills and lessons you've learned here at Konawaena High will become more useful and valuable as you move forward. When you get tired or disheartened, learn to rest, or change direction, but do not quit. Not even a pandemic that shuts down the world could stop you!*

*Wherever you go, whatever you do, know that there are people who care about you. You are my first graduating class as your principal and I believe in you. I am excited to see where your journeys will take you. Congratulations! Once a Wildcat, ALWAYS a Wildcat!*

## REMEMBRANCE

The Wildcat `Ohana would like to recognize retiring educator Helen Luta for inspiring Konawaena High School students to achieve their goals. We wish Ms. Luta all the best on her next chapter in life!

Also this year, we mourn the lost of long-time pillar of our Wildcat community Alex Cadang. Mr. Cadang was a teacher, administrator, martial arts instructor and a friend to all.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Class of 2023 would like to express our gratitude to all our educators grades K-12 who supported us to be here today. We would also like to acknowledge the class advisors, the graduation committee, administration & support staff for helping with today's commencement ceremonies.

Michelle Abe  
Principal Ami Akeo  
Tina Alcain  
Bobbie Awa  
Dan Curran  
Jeffrey Duggan  
Erica Ferguson  
Craig Fuller  
Karina Hernandez  
Randi Hayashida  
Renee Hashimoto  
Ashley Hirowatari  
Momi Kaehuaea  
Luana Keanaaina  
Danny Kahikina

Cindy Knowles  
Kellye Krug  
Kristine Kuwada  
Weston Lamoreaux  
Viviana Martinez  
Christopher Munjar  
Jonathan Nahakuelua  
Leigh Nakamura  
Travis Nakayama



John Naki  
Michelle Obregon  
Ernie Okumura  
Chris Pascual  
Jim Puakela  
Jean Riley  
Molly Satta-Ellis  
Sylvia Tayamen  
Ashley Thoma  
Archie "Brad" Thoma  
Amelia Thorne  
Polina Vyazovkina  
Heather Wickersham  
Evyn Yamaguchi  
Kip Yamamoto

**Hulō Konawaena, Hulō iā ‘oe  
Hulō Konawaena Ha‘aheo Hawai‘i  
Mele Kākou nei  
Kaikamahine ‘o Wahinekapu  
Kupa ‘ia kou inoa!**

**Iā ‘oe ka heke o nā Kona  
Kai ‘ōpua i ka la‘i  
Kūnou mākou i ko ‘alo  
‘Ōlelo ho‘ohiki mau.**

**Ipu kukui lamalama  
I ke ahi wela ē  
‘Alaka‘i a mau loa,  
Hulō Konawaena, Hulō iā ‘oe**

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## **Alma Mater**

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**Hail Konawaena pride of Hawai‘i,  
We thy children sing.  
Daughter of Pele, Mauna Loa cradled,  
Make us worthy of thy name.**

**To thee, oh jewel of the Konas,  
Jewel within the island jewel.  
We thy loyal sons and daughters,  
Pledge our lives, our hopes and aims.**

**May the light of truth you’ve kindled  
burning bright as Pele’s fires  
Lead us on throughout the ages,  
Hail Konawaena, Hail to thee!**