



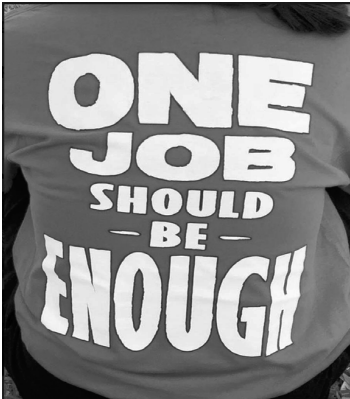
Ka Leo O Kalani

Kalani High School's student-produced publication kaleookalani.org @KalaniLeo

FALL 2018

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At Last! New girls' locker room ready

by Zachary Salas & Kaden Arias de Cordoba

After two years of construction, the new Girls' Locker Room, Athletic Trainers facility, and Wrestling Room opened on the makai side of Kalani High School on Monday, Nov. 19.

The building comes with two storage amenities and a girls' bathroom. There are two other buildings, separate from the main unit, featuring a Judo/Wrestling Room and a girls and boys restroom.

Construction began at the end of the 2016 school year and finished just before Christmas break 2018.

Students have expressed excitement about this new campus spot to kick back, and many can be seeing hanging out during breaks.



The new Girls' Locker Room facility at Kalani High School, which features an athletic training room and Judo/Wrestling space, officially opened Monday, Nov. 19. The landscaped grounds surrounding the building also provide tiered seating for those who come to watch sporting events taking place at the track and on the interior field. Faculty and staff feel it is a great addition to campus and will serve the needs of our growing population. Photo by Kaitlyn Tsuha 2018.

Kalani among Top 100 public schools in U.S.

by Jett Neeley

On Friday, Nov. 9 Principal Otani informed faculty and staff that Kalani was selected for the top 100 best public high schools. Kalani ranked number 88 and was one of two Hawai'i schools to make the list. The other was Mililani at number 87.

The website who creates the rankings is thebestschools.org. They have 11 criteria for choosing which schools make the grade including student graduation rate, student reviews, facilities, clubs, and activities.

Kalani got on the list for many reasons but was singled out for its academics.

"In addition to a classic curriculum, students may choose to take courses that may lead to dual or early college credits," thebestschools.org said. "Kalani High School offers 15+ Advanced Placement courses. The University of Hawaii system has partnered with Kalani High School so that junior and senior students may attend college courses for dual credit."

Students seem to agree that Kalani was deserving of

the award.

"I think it's one of the top academic schools in the state," Kalani Senior Class President Steve Dole (12) said. "I think students who go here are very fortunate to have such a great public education."

Students who have had the chance to attend other local schools say Kalani distinguishes itself.

"The culture is really different from Punahou," Kalani student Elise Miyahara (12), a recent transfer from Punahou said. "I am not surprised because Kalani is actually a real-

ly great school."

The faculty is as impressed as the students.

"I thought it was surprising," Ms. Omura said, a teacher and graduate of Kalani. "My first question was, 'What were the parameters?' I'm also really proud. I think it's deserving, and I think our school has improved in a lot of ways, and it's nice for the students to be recognized."

McKinley High School's student body president, Jett Kaler (12) said he

Kalani continued on 2

51-day strike ends

by Trinh Tran

Starting Oct. 8, about 95 percent of nearly 3,500 hotel workers in Hawaii voted to authorize a strike against several Kyo-ya owned hotels on Oahu and Maui because they felt they were not getting paid enough or at all. The strike lasted 51 days, through the busy Thanksgiving weekend, and ended Nov. 27.

Gemma Weinstein is the president of AiKea Local 5 Union and has been working as a housekeeper in the hospitality industry for 28 years. She says her hours have been cut and she may have to find another job to make ends meet.

Jason Murai, another strike member with Local 5 has been working for three years at Princess Kaiulani Hotel and feels his job is at risk.

"They keep cutting down our hours which we don't have work to do leading us to not get paid our weekly amount and bringing in a subcontractor to take our jobs," Murai said.

Workers have been in negotiation with Kyo-ya but management has refused to ensure that one job is enough to sustain a family, according to strikers.

Some strikers have worked two jobs for over 50 years, Weinstein said, and they're still unable to afford a house of their own. She says that many hospitality workers are tired of working more hours and earning less. They want to enjoy life and spend time with their families.

"We have been working so hard but hotels are not providing us anything," Weinstein said.

Strike continued on 2



Local 5 union members hold "One Job Should Be Enough" posters in Waikiki on Oct. 9, the second day of the hotel workers strike. Photo by Abby Bustamante 2018.

A huge risk for China

by Eun Ho Kim

By 2020, China’s government plans to implement a social credit system that monitors citizens. This program will track political, economic, and social behaviors and give or deduct points. People with low scores can be banned or blacklisted from certain services such as traveling, entering university, or getting a bank loan. Conversely, citizens with high

“The social credit system takes away the privacy of citizens, and humans have a right to privacy. People will grow increasingly stressed and those who still believe in privacy and individual rights will rebel.”

scores will have access to privileges such as discounts on rent and energy bills.

The Chinese government argues that this system will build trust among Chinese society. They argue that it will curb official corruption, and punish unethical behaviors. Although some

Kalani cont. from 1
has seen Kalani grow over the last four years. He sees the student body making an impact in the future and hopes that McKinley will be able to join Kalani and do the same.

“Kalani High School has proven to be successful in many ways,” Kaler said. “They’ve flourished in academics, thrived in athletics, and [are] known to have a student population filled with excellence and professionalism.”

Strike cont. from 1

Hawaii’s economy is based on tourism, according to Weinstein, and hotel workers help make guests feel welcome and comfortable.

According to the Hawaii State Government website, Hawaii’s economy is expected to continue to grow in 2018 and 2019. Hawaii received 9.3 million visitors last year, putting the Aloha State’s tourism industry on pace for another record-setting year.

“It’s not about us wanting more money to be selfish,” Weinstein said.

Chinese citizens are in favor of it, they should realize how their lives will be limited by a social credit system.

People should not be tagged with a number or restricted from freedom based on how they behave.

Getting blacklisted could bring about a mindset where nothing matters. Crime rates could increase due to stress. When people have no hope, they won’t care about their lives. This could cause chaos throughout the country.

Young people will get stressed out if they are monitored 24/7. Stress can damage people’s thoughts or potentially increase suicide rates.

The system could also mean that the wealthy grow wealthier, and the poor grow poorer.

China is taking a risk by experimenting on its citizens. Officials say that the country needs to build trust and to prevent rebellious actions by individuals. I believe this social credit system will have the opposite effect.

The social credit system takes away the privacy of citizens, and humans have a right to privacy. People will grow increasingly stressed and those who still believe in privacy and individual rights will rebel. It will make citizens into robot-like humans that live the same boring life.

Weinstein feels proud that people are joining together to stand up for what they believe in.

Murai feels that if people don’t work together to help solve this problem now no one will be able to afford to live in Hawaii.

“We want more money because we can’t live in Hawaii if we’re only making what we’re making now,” Weinstein said.

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Dating: Then & Now

by Jayden Park

The way people date is changing. Today, most dating is done through apps or online sites, and it’s changing the way we come to know and interact with each other. It’s easy to hide behind a screen and not show your true self when you text or chat over the internet.

A popular app we use today is Tinder. This is a location-based dating service where people swipe left or right based on looks alone. If you get a match you can chat.

Tinder was established in 2012 and is used by over 50 million people today. Like other dating apps, when people use Tinder, they text each other rather than talk face-to-face.

If all people are doing is texting or talking online, they don’t see what a person is genuinely thinking or feeling.

In the past, dating



Students often talk to each other using the private messaging function on social media apps like Instagram. Photo by Ka Lea staff 2018.

meant meeting and spending time together in person. Now, it’s turned into “here, have my IG” or “what’s your number?”

People hide behind

screens because they aren’t confident in the way they look or act, or they are simply scared.

People also use fake images and pretend to be someone they’re not. Which can lead to “catfishing.”

Catfishing is when someone puts false information about themselves on a dating site to deliberately mislead. When you finally meet in real life, they are not the person they’ve said they were or you’ve read about on their profile.

What is the point of dating if you never want to

meet the person in real life? We are isolating when we should be working harder to see each other.

The ugly truth

by Zachary Salas

It is no secret the wrongful killing of unarmed blacks occupies its fair share of media airtime, from the tragedies of the killings themselves to the player protests in the NFL and Black Lives Matter (BLM) activists.

In 2016, police killed 17 unarmed black; 88 others who possessed a weapon other than a firearm were also killed. This was the same year Colin Kaepernick started his anthem protests and the BLM movement began to gain national attention.

Everyone agrees that the use of lethal force on unarmed blacks needs to be solved. The spotlight, howev-

er, belongs on a more prevalent and pressing issue in the black community.

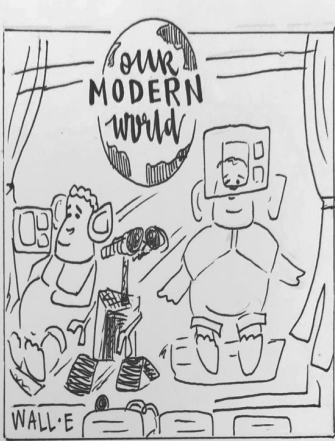
The ugly truth is, black-on-black violence is the true demon. In 2015, 2,644 blacks were murdered and 2,380 of those, over 90%, were perpetrated by other blacks. Every day there are multiple victims, and this is a tragedy that fails to be addressed by media outlets, BLM, and our politically voiced athletes. The very ones claiming to be the only advocates for the oppressed are not helping them by ignoring this issue.

In Chicago alone, this year 357 blacks have been killed and another 127 unknown. This number is a disturbingly large majority of the 524 total, and the year has yet to end. In 2016, a total of 795 people of all ethnic backgrounds were killed in Chicago — that is more than two people a day and, while the number has dropped, many deaths still occur.

Black-on-black violence deserves more attention, and we must acknowledge it, di-

agnose it, and help solve it. You may think there is nothing we can do, but bringing a spotlight to this issue is where we start.

While the killings of unarmed blacks is still an issue, the blind eye many have turned to black-on-black violence is a disservice to the black community. Every year thousands more die, and we continue to bicker over the stupidest things, completely ignoring what is right in front of us. It’s time we address the issue: black-on-black violence is an ugly truth and a threat to black communities.



by Alana Nakafuji 2018.

Policy Statement

Ka Leo o Kalani is a quarterly publication produced by students who are enrolled in News Writing at Kalani High School. The newspaper serves a circulation of 1,400. The content reflects the views of its writers, columnists, and contributors. Material may only be reprinted with permission. Please see advisor Brooke Nasser.

A holiday classic... with a twist

by **Trustan Kekauoha**

Every year Ballet Hawaii puts on their own exciting version of The Nutcracker. This year's production is inspired by Mary Dominis, the wife of American trader, John Dominis, who arrived in Honolulu on April 23, 1827. Mary Dominis hosted the first Christmas Tree lighting in Hawaii at Washington Place in 1858. Her son, John Owen Dominis, married Queen Lili'uokalani on Sept. 16, 1862.

The holiday show will give audiences all the traditional aspects of The Nutcracker... with a twist. The dances will depict the relationship between Mary

Dominis and the last queen of Hawaii, Queen Lili'uokalani. Audiences can expect exciting dances that include many tricks as dancers soar across the stage telling their version of this holiday classic.

The performance is a wonderful delight to watch. It definitely puts you in the Christmas spirit and keeps you wanting more. The Nutcracker's overall production is thrilling for the audience to watch.

"It's a really fun show to go to if you like to watch dance," Madison Quartero (10) said. "It's also a good family-friendly environment."

This year's choreogra-

pher is Septime Webre and the conductor is Ann Kritinsky. Webre is a well-known choreographer originally from Washington Ballet who recently worked with Hong Kong Ballet.

"I think it's fun to see everything come together," Runon Tabuchi (10) said. "The choreography, the costumes, and the music all come together on one stage. I feel like you can tell how much work was put into the overall production."

Ballet Hawaii's winter show at Blaisdell is definitely something local audiences should see during the month of December.



High school students in the U.S. spend more time on homework than those in other countries. In the U.S. students are assigned up to 17.5 hours of homework per week, according to a survey of 1,000 teachers by the U.S. News & World Report. Many teachers feel it is necessary to assign homework. However, according to a new study, homework doesn't equal better test scores. In Finland, students are assigned "only about three hours of homework a week" and Finnish students scored the sixth highest in the world in reading and 12th highest in math on the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). Photo and caption by Kenneth Wong 2018.

'Hate' is revolutionary

by **Joleeya James**

The Hate U Give starring Amandla Stenberg and KJ Apa has everyone raving about how great they are as an on-screen couple. But also has everyone talking about the racism that the movie focuses on.

The film follows 16-year-old Starr Carter (Stenberg), who lives a double life. Starr 1: her home life in Garden Heights, a poor black community and Starr 2: her school life in a rich white community. Starr's separate worlds get complicated and intertwined as she witnesses the shooting and death of her childhood friend, Khalil Harris, at the hands of a white police officer. Starr must choose if she wants to keep silent or speak up about the tragedy of her friend.

While Starr's mother, Lisa, wants to keep her safe by keeping quiet about Garden Heights and a gang run by King, her father, Maver-

ick, wants her to speak up and shine a light on police brutality against black people and social justice saying "I didn't name you Starr by accident."

The Hate U Give focuses on change and what is going on in the world today. Even though it is labeled a young adult fiction novel, it represents real events like the shooting of Trayvon Martin, Jordan Edwards, Terence Crutcher, Philando Castile, and Walter Scott. All of these shootings were years ago but they still leave marks on our hearts and fear in our minds.

This film, based on the novel by Angie Thomas, gives an important message to its viewers that minorities need to come together and stand up to police brutality and social injustice. It shows that nobody is going to fight our battles and instead of sitting around waiting for a change we need to make the change happen. I believe that everyone should see this movie and shine a light on the darkness.

What is Art in the modern world?

by **Jett Neeley**

Recently, the New York Times published an opinion piece called "Red Dead Redemption is True Art." I highly recommend you read it but for those who refuse, it's about how Red Dead Redemption 2 (RDR2) transcends the medium of video games to become a classic of storytelling, and how it is an example of video games changing.

I agree with all the points that Peter Suderman makes in his article, none more than the charge that RDR2 stands up to titans of entertainment like *The Godfather*, and *The Searchers*. These are both classics in filmmaking, and in art. They were able to transcend their field and become something more than movies. I believe RDR2 has done the same thing, even though it won't be considered a classic by the wider public.

Roger Clark, the actor who brought the main character Arthur Morgan to life in RDR2, believes some video games are art.

"I think it's the content that determines that not the medium," he said.

New video games are being released that not only advance storytelling, but that push the boundaries of what was thought possible technically by creating living worlds the player gets to experience.

"They are becoming more intricate, immersive and mature than ever before," Clark said. "It is a rapidly expanding way of storytelling, one where the audience is a willful participant experiencing their own unique version of the narrative and not just a spectator." Notice how I didn't call Clark a voice actor? That's because he, and all the other actors who worked

on this project, did extensive performance capture.

"It was acting, a lot more than solely voice," Clark said. "Everything you see in the game was recorded and captured by the cast in much the same way theatre or film is performed or recorded respectively."

Clark, as well as the other actors, worked in a dimensionally accurate set while wearing motion capture suits. They recorded sounds simultaneously, making this much more similar to a movie than any video game. Roger Clark not only did what a normal actor does for a movie but he also performed in a booth like a traditional voice actor.

"Some of the work was done in a booth, much of the in-game dialogue whilst riding to missions for example," Clark said. "The actor is in a booth with headphones and a mic and records whatever lines are on schedule for that day."

In addition to all that, he and the rest of the cast worked with one of, if not the longest scripts ever at 2,000 pages.

"I don't think there are many scripts as large as this," Clark said. "I worked on the project for 5 years and recorded about 90,000 lines of dialogue (so I'm told). It is not dissimilar to 5 seasons of an hour length television series but in one game."

Because RDR2 chooses to tell its story through the medium of video games it won't receive the praise it deserves. Some video games are still stigmatized. Even people who work in the industry recognize a prejudice against them.

"There is a stigma that is beginning to fade," Clark

acknowledged. "Many still regard it as for children and of no social or critical value with too much violence. There are still many video games out there that support this stereotype but things are changing rapidly."

Battle Royale games like Fortnite, though fun, perpetuate the idea that games are for young male audiences, that games have no story and are all about killing. But over the last decade more and more games have been made with stories for more mature audiences.

"They are loaded with human, [and] nature themes and have already commercially surpassed Hollywood films as far as revenue is concerned," Clark said. "With articles like the one in the New York Times, the misconception that video games are mindless entertainment for children is being put to bed further."

It's unfortunate that my grandparents, who love movies and great storytelling, will never experience the modern epic that is Red Dead Redemption 2. For them, video games consist of solitaire and poker on the iPad.

However, I take solace in the fact that just as my grandpa has shown me movies like *Rear Window* and *Bridge Over the River Kwai*, I one day will be able to hand my children or grandchildren the story of Red Dead Redemption.

"People scoffed at radio, then film, then film with sound, then television, it's a generational thing I think. Many new things are resisted by the status quo," Clark said. "Time will always tell. Video games aren't going anywhere."



In Kaimuki, thirteen traffic signal boxes commonly targeted for graffiti are getting makeovers in an art project run by streetARThawaii. The colorfully painted boxes appear along Waialae Avenue from 17th Ave. to 8th Ave. Many of the artists involved live in the area. Photo and caption by Lucy Fagan 2018.



Kalani student-athletes Kamalu Kamakawiwo’ole and Shelby McDaniel attended the National Letter of Intent signing ceremony at the Convention Center Wednesday morning. Kamakawiwo’ole will attend the University of Utah and McDaniel signed for the University of Cumberland in Kentucky next year. Athletes from Hawai’i public and private schools who will be playing Division I basketball, soccer, softball, and baseball were there to make their commitments official. Caption by Serena Wong. Photo by Tsulan Kamakawiwo’ole 2018.



Tip-off! Kamalu Kamakawiwo’ole fights for the ball during a Varsity game against Kamehameha in the Black and Gold Classic at McKinley on Nov. 9. Kalani players from left to right are Daesha Viela, Heidi Kishaba, Kamakawiwo’ole, and Alayna Akiona. Photo by Serena Wong 2018.

Fall Sports Roundup



Varsity Football secured their first win of the season over McKinley, 22-16 on Homecoming night, and ended with a 2-5-0 league record. Girls Volleyball finished at 3-8 overall. Boys Cross Country repeated as OIA Champs and placed 4th at States. Girls Cross Country finished 3rd at OIAs. Seven Kalani Boys Air Riflery players made it to OIAs and four made States. Many of last year’s winning Girls Air Riflery team graduated but the 2018 team still finished strong at 5-3-0. Cayde Age-na-Shirai placed 12th at the State Bowling Championships and Brianne Lee placed 9th. Competitive Cheerleading placed 8th in the Medium Division at States. Boys Soft Tennis doubles teams Ryu Young and Trevyn Dobashi and Girls Lana Lubecke and Maya Manaligod both placed 4th at OIA East. Doubles players were also named 2nd Team All Stars. Reporting by Ka Leo staff. Photo by Tiana Chu 2018.

Kayttie is a world champion!

by Serena Wong

Kayttie Nakamura attends Kalani High School and is a Commissioner for the Class of 2020. She also has a 4.1-grade point average and a full class-load that includes AP English.

And she’s a World Champion.

Nakamura won gold in the Double Mini-trampoline competition at this year’s World Age Group Competition (WAGC) in St. Petersburg, Russia Nov. 11-16.

“It feels very surreal,” she said. “I feel very satisfied with the results because it’s been something that I have been working towards for years and never thought would happen. For it to finally become a reality is just a dream come true.”

She has been competing in WAGC for the past three years and has never placed higher than fourth. This year, she used her previous performances as motivation to win.

“Every year I got fourth place for the same event and it was incredibly frustrating,” Nakamura said. “Last year, I only missed the medal by one-tenth, so going into this season, making the U.S. team and medaling was my number one goal.”

Sydney Senter is Nakamura’s best friend and has been one of her teammates for the past seven years. Senter claims she always knew Nakamura was capable of winning a world championship title.

“She was unlucky for the past few years missing the medal by one place, but I knew her time would come,” Senter said. “She was really nervous about medalling going into this competition, but I knew that she’d do it.”

This year, Nakamura felt a lot of emotions entering the WAGC.

“Going into the competition I was very overwhelmed and stressed because I was worried about how my performances were going to be,” Nakamura said. “After I finished, I felt like I was finally able to relax and have fun. But at the same time, I made sure that I reflected on and analyzed my performances so that I could figure out how to improve for next season.”

Nakamura had to take

advantage of her competitor’s mistake in order to claim the World Championship title.

“The Russian was winning and I was in second place after everyone performed their first routine,” she said. “She made a mistake on her last routine, so it was my chance to make up points and try to earn a medal.”

Nani Vercruyssen has been coaching trampolinists for 13 years and has been Nakamura’s assistant coach for six. She thinks Nakamura is unique because, from a young age, she has been performing higher difficulty skills.

“I am overjoyed and so proud of what she has achieved,” Vercruyssen said.

pete in trampoline at the age of eight because her parents wanted her to try another sport besides soccer.

“It was more fun than soccer, for sure,” Nakamura said. “I like the fact that it’s so unique from every other sport. It’s not every day you see people doing death-defying tricks on a trampoline or trying to stick a landing coming out of a difficult flip on a mat.”

According to Nakamura, hard work and long, 15-hour practice-weeks are the reasons for her success.

“I didn’t have as much natural talent as the other girls that did the sport, so I had to work a little harder



After placing fourth for the last three years, Kalani’s own Kayttie Nakamura is the new 15-16 age group Double Mini world champion. Nakamura represents Team USA in the 2018 World Age Group Competition in St. Petersburg, Russia. Sydney Senter from Hawai’i Baptist Academy placed second and Elizaveta Galtsova from Russia placed third. Nakamura will be competing in the individual trampoline on Saturday, Nov. 17 and synchronized trampoline on Nov. 18. Photo courtesy of Kayttie Nakamura 2018.

“Especially after overcoming chronic injuries this season.”

Even with all of her success, Nakamura had multiple obstacles she had to deal with while competing.

“I had shin splints, SI joint pain, and knee pain,” Nakamura said. “I went to physical therapy to rehabilitate some of my injuries, but I mostly had to deal with the pain during practices and competitions because there was no time in the season to take a break.”

In 2014 at the age of 11, she made her first WAGC team and, in 2017 at age 14, Nakamura was named the youngest senior national team member.

She started to com-

than them to be at the level I wanted to be at,” she said.

The world champion is proud of her title and remains humble.

“Winning hasn’t really affected me,” she added. “I’m still the same person that I was before I left for Russia.”

Now that Nakamura’s longtime goal has been checked off, she already has a new one in mind.

“Next year I am trying to make the World Championships team and compete for a spot at the Olympics for our country,” Nakamura said. “If our country is able to earn the spot, then I am going to try to earn the individual spot for the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo.”