

HOLY NATIVITY SCHOOL 2008–2009 ANNUAL REPORT



Character. Heart. Excellence.

A group of children of various ages are jumping joyfully on a sandy beach at sunset. They are silhouetted against the bright, low sun, with their arms raised in the air. The ocean waves are visible in the background, and a few sailboats can be seen on the horizon under a cloudy sky.

I am a teacher who wonders about the possibilities harnessed within the heart of a child.— Dawn Yonamine, *Chaplain/Curriculum Coordinator*

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Message from the Head of School and the Board of Trustees

Dear Friends of Holy Nativity School,

The Holy Nativity School community is formed by common interests, passions and values in a setting that develops character, heart, and excellence in our children. Our school's educational environment is vibrant with purpose. Holy Nativity School is a place where children feel connected – a place where they learn, develop and make life-long friends. It is a place they will fondly remember long after they have recognized their role in the global community.

What makes our school such a special place is you. Together as alumni, board members, parents, teachers and friends, you have devoted portions of your lives and livelihood to ensure that our children receive not only exceptional academic and character preparation, but also the facilities and tools to accomplish that work.

In the past several years, the generous commitment of the Holy Nativity School community has provided for many improvements that transcend what tuition alone could not provide. This includes computers and interactive whiteboards in classrooms, electrical efficiencies, and other facility improvements throughout the campus. And most notably, these funds provide access to a Holy Nativity education for deserving families.

Thank you for your commitment and dedication to our Little School in the Valley. Your investments of time and resources continue to transform the lives of all who gather together in this remarkable place.

With gratitude and aloha,



Jamie F. Long
President,
Board of Trustees



Robert H. Whiting
Head of School



*I teach to share the
importance of social skills
and team work!*

— Cindy Fainberg, *Physical Education Teacher*

Our Story

As with every place in Hawai'i, Holy Nativity School has a connection to the ancient history through the land.

The generous land donation from the children of Senator and Mrs. Robert Hind became the site of the present-day church and school. Wailupe Circle across the way was one of the few spots where kites or "lupe" could be flown in ancient times. What a perfect place for an elementary school!

The church itself, and subsequently the school, actually began in one of the old buildings – a stable of sorts – of the Hind-Clarke Dairy on the site that is now 'Āina Haina Elementary School. It was the dedicated members of the Church of the Holy Nativity who made Holy Nativity School a reality, under the energetic guidance of Reverend John J. Morrett.

In the same way that Hawaiians were guided by their values and respect for the land, Holy Nativity is rooted in the values of the Episcopal tradition and a solid school program for the elementary years.

Over time, we have built our own traditions, and endeavored to preserve the peace and calm of a time when cows wandered the land and kites flew over the ocean.



Character. Heart. Excellence.



*Teaching is about lingering over the poetry, delighting in discovery,
and being transformed by the journey. — Heather Lum, 6th Grade Teacher*

Our Mission

Holy Nativity School is dedicated to excellence in education within a small and personalized environment. Built upon the qualities of respect and inclusion as exemplified in the Episcopal tradition, Holy Nativity School values each child's individuality as it develops principled citizens who recognize their role in a global community.

Our School Community

Holy Nativity School is a private, co-educational day school, located in 'Āina Haina Valley in East Honolulu, serving children from three years old through grade six. Our students exhibit good character, respectfulness, and inquisitiveness. As our school song states, they are committed each day to becoming "a better me." The faculty supports each child in this endeavor by creating a stimulating, personalized and challenging learning environment. The partnership of students, families, faculty, staff, administration, school board, and church allows Holy Nativity School to truly succeed as a school of excellence.

Our Curriculum

The integrated, research-based curriculum is developmentally appropriate and aligned with national standards. Small group and individualized instruction in a nurturing environment contribute to the quality of the program. In addition to classroom teachers who provide a solid foundation in the core subject areas, students also attend Music, Art, Religion, Computer Technology, and Physical Education classes weekly with our specialist teachers. Teachers work collaboratively, insuring a seamless transition between grades, maximizing the cumulative effect of instruction. Our strong academic program is balanced by a profound respect for the individual's role in creating compassionate communities, global and local.

Holy Nativity School is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, and is a member of the Hawai'i Association of Independent Schools, National Association of Independent Schools, Hawai'i Council of Private Schools, National Association of Episcopal Schools, and the Council for Spiritual and Ethical Education.

Annual Fund for Excellence • August 1, 2008 – July 31, 2009

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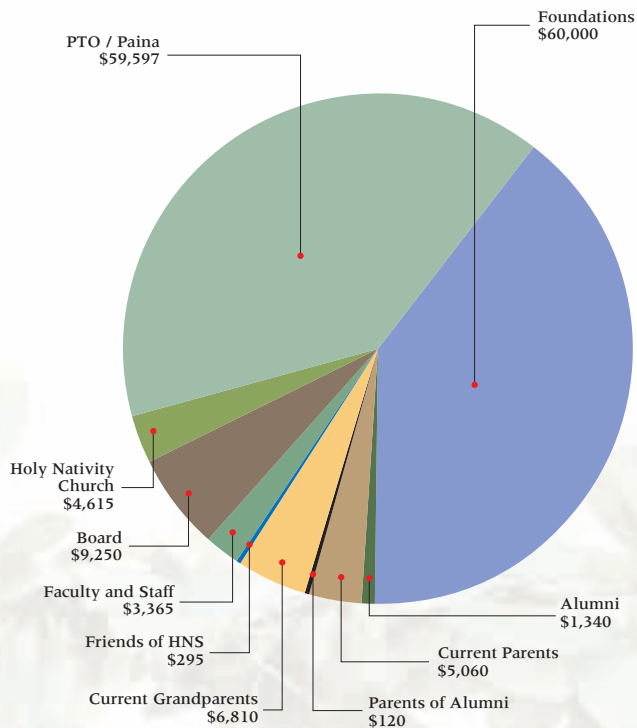
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Foundations for Excellence


Atherton Family Foundation
Samuel N. and Mary Castle Foundation
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*The Annual Report is published annually by the Development Office of Holy Nativity School. Every effort is made to ensure that it is accurate and complete for the 2008/2009 fiscal year. If you note errors or omissions, please accept our sincere apology and contact us so that we can make appropriate corrections.

Charitable Giving Revenue Sources



TOTAL CHARITABLE GIVING REVENUE: \$150,452

A close-up photograph of a blonde woman, likely a teacher, and a young boy with dark hair, both wearing white shirts, focused on a craft project. They are sitting at a table with a clear plastic bin filled with colorful pipe cleaners (red, yellow, purple, blue, green). The woman is on the left, leaning in and smiling slightly as she works. The boy is on the right, looking down intently at his work. The background is softly blurred, showing hints of a classroom or activity room with green and yellow elements.

*I have yet to
find a superior
path to happiness
than being true to
myself. Each day
I strive to pass
this along to the
children I teach.*

— Staci Frerichs,
Pre-Kindergarten Teacher

Parent Teacher Organization

We are so blessed with an active and committed Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). A dedicated group of parents work tirelessly throughout the year to raise the many needed resources to support our school. From our laptop computers and interactive whiteboards, to financial aid support and more, we are grateful for their many contributions.

PTO Officers for the 2008-2009 School Year

Traci Nobrega, President

Karen Lattanzi, Vice President

Mel Hicks, Treasurer

Kim Becker, Secretary

Pā'ina 2009 and Holy Nativity School's 60th Diamond Anniversary

Holy Nativity School celebrated its 60th anniversary. To commemorate this diamond anniversary, Karen Lattanzi chaired The Little Jewel in the Valley, held on Friday, March 6, 2009 on Osco Field under the stars. The silent and live auctions featured students' artwork and class quilts, among many other fabulous donated items. The combined effort of many volunteer parents, teachers, students, faculty and staff created an evening that reflected the beauty of our "Little Jewel in the Valley."

I am passionate about my volunteer work at the school. I can't think of a better way to directly benefit my three children and the entire Holy Nativity ohana. — Traci Nobrega, PTO President



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The background of the page features a soft-focus image of several large green leaves with prominent veins, creating a natural and serene atmosphere.

Giving

Educating a child requires more than a great faculty and curriculum – it requires generous involvement. Parents, grandparents and others who care about your child’s education are encouraged to actively participate in the daily life at Holy Nativity School and provide financial support beyond tuition.

This partnership of financial support, active participation, and a school with a clear mission and vision spells success for the students who are entrusted to us. Holy Nativity School relies on the support and involvement of our entire community – including board members, parents, alumni, faculty and staff, grandparents and former parents.

We depend on our community’s generosity to supplement the school’s resources to ensure academic excellence. Tuition only covers approximately 75% of the school’s operating expenses and the remainder is dependent upon the generous donations from our parents, grandparents, alumni, parents of alumni, board members and the community at large.

I teach because I want children to be the best they can be. In any way that I can draw out their strengths and strengthen their weaknesses, I feel blessed and am fulfilled. — Petey Kaneshiro, Kindergarten Teacher and Parent of Alumnae



Ways You Can Give

You can support Holy Nativity School with an outright gift as part of our annual giving program, a pledge to our upcoming capital campaign or with a planned gift such as naming Holy Nativity School as a beneficiary under your will. Online donation opportunities are also available.

For more information please contact Linda Lewis Ezuka, Development Director, by phone at (808) 373-3232 x117, fax (808) 377-9618, by email lezuka@holynativity-hi.org, or by mail 5286 Kalaniana'ole Highway, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96821.

Education is an extraordinary profession. I am grateful to be entrusted by others to teach and care for those who are most precious ... their children.

— Kelly Goheen, *Asst. Head of School/Director of Admission*

A teacher takes a seed of promise, tends it with encouragement, and watches as it grows... knowing that one day it will be the fruit that feeds the world.

— Stanell Koanui, *Keiki Co-Op Teacher*



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