



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HDS Foundation Gives \$80,000 in Scholarships to Eight Dental School Students to Support the Future of Oral Health

Honolulu, Hawaii — Investments in oral health education today will improve access to dental care in Hawaii for generations to come. The HDS Foundation, the state's only philanthropic organization solely dedicated to improving access to oral health care, promoting oral health education, and reducing oral health diseases, recently awarded \$80,000 in scholarships to eight Hawaii students attending dental schools in other states. Each student received a \$10,000 scholarship toward their tuition.

"The HDS Foundation is dedicated to ensuring that communities across the state have healthy smiles. For HDS, part of this commitment means funding scholarships and other programs to support our local workforce," said Dr. Diane Paloma, HDS president and CEO. "We hope that one day, these students will return to Hawaii and serve the state that nurtured them."

The dental students who received scholarships include:

- **Nicole Bui**, of McCully-Moiliili, a second-year student at Roseman University of Health Sciences College of Dental Medicine. This is Bui's second HDS scholarship;
- **Catherine Holt**, of Manoa, a second-year student at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry;
- **Richard Hong**, of Makiki, a second-year dental student at the University of California San Francisco School of Dentistry. This is Hong's second HDS scholarship;
- **Hailey Kawamura**, of Hawaii Kai, a first-year student at Loma Linda University School of Dentistry;

- **Kylie Manser**, of Ala Moana, a first-year student at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry;
- **Lauryn Shinno**, of Kailua, a third-year dental student at the University of California Los Angeles School of Dentistry. This is Shinno's third HDS scholarship;
- **Juliana Tomita**, of Salt Lake, a fourth-year dental student at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry. This is Tomita's third HDS scholarship;
- **Grace Wee**, of Kaneohe, a third-year dental student at the University of the Pacific Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry in San Francisco. This is Wee's third HDS scholarship.

The HDS Foundation also awards dental hygiene scholarships for students attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa or University of Hawaii Maui College. The dental hygiene scholarships will be awarded next month.

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About the Hawaii Dental Service Foundation

The Hawaii Dental Service Foundation was established in 1986 by Hawaii Dental Service to improve oral health in Hawaii. The Foundation focuses on oral health education, preventing oral disease, and increasing access to dental care for underserved populations.

In 2018, the Foundation established the Hawaii Dental Service Community Scholarship Program to support Hawaii students pursuing careers in dentistry or dental hygiene and to increase access to oral health care.

The Foundation also awards more than \$2 million in grants to local nonprofit organizations for oral health programs and projects annually. Its oral health initiatives include programs such as Seal Away Decay, Dentist by One, Kupuna Smiles, and Smile Makers.

Visit the Hawaii Dental Service Foundation website at www.HDSFoundation.gives.