



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hawaii Dental Service Foundation Awards Eight Scholarships Totaling \$60,000 to Dental and Dental Hygiene Students

The Hawaii Dental Service Foundation awarded four dental students and four dental hygiene students with Hawaii Dental Service Community Scholarships totaling \$60,000.

“Access to quality oral health care for Hawaii’s families is a priority for the Hawaii Dental Service Foundation and our state,” said **Dr. Diane Paloma**, HDS president and CEO. “By supporting the education of local students and encouraging them to practice in Hawaii, we are investing in the next generation of dental providers to serve our local communities.”

The four dental hygiene students, all of whom are second-year dental hygiene students at the University of Hawaii – Manoa, each received a \$5,000 scholarship. They are:

- **Christine Joy Diza**, of Aiea, who is the daughter of **Emelita and Miguel Diza**;
- **Michelle Leung**, of Honolulu, whose parents are **Gary Leung and Teresa Le**;
- **Janelle Napoleon**, of Kailua, whose mother is **Lisa Walter**; and
- **Cyndie Rayoan**, of Waipahu, who is the daughter of **Andrea Mineshima**.

The four dental student students each received a \$10,000 scholarship. They are:

- **Kylie Carganilla**, of Kalihi, a second-year dental student at Oregon Health & Science University. Her parents are **Janis and Al Carganilla**.
- **Elsa Lin**, of Kapahulu, a fourth-year dental student at the University of Washington. This is the fourth consecutive year that she has been a recipient of a Hawaii Dental Service Community Scholarship. She is the daughter of **Choi Kuan Lin and Wei Xiang Lin**.
- **Sophia Oak**, of Ala Moana area, a third-year dental student at Temple University in Philadelphia. This is her second Hawaii Dental Service Community Scholarship. Her parents are **Rosa and Sun Oak** of Ala Moana.
- **Layke Yamauchi**, of Wailuku, Maui, a fourth-year dental student at the University of Washington. This is his third Hawaii Dental Service Community Scholarship. His parents are **Lynn and Lance Yamauchi**.

The scholarship program was established in 2018 with a \$2 million endowment from the HDS Foundation. To date, the Hawaii Dental Service Foundation has awarded a total of \$205,000 in scholarships. The Hawaii Dental Service Community Scholarship Fund is administered by Hawaii Community Foundation and supports Hawaii residents pursuing a degree in dental hygiene and dentistry.

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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's oral health initiatives include programs such as Seal Away Decay, Dentist by One and Kupuna Smiles. In 2018, the Foundation established the Hawaii Dental Service Community Scholarship Program to support Hawaii students pursuing careers in dentistry or dental hygiene. The Foundation also awards grants to local non-profit organizations for programs and projects that provide oral health education, prevent oral disease, and increase access to dental care for underserved populations. Visit the Hawaii Dental Service Foundation website at www.HDSFoundation.gives.