

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Global Issues  
Speaker Series  
April 22, 2022

**Session 1: 11:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

SDG 1: Ka Po'e o Kaka'ako and Hui Aloha

SDG 2: Mark Noguchi '93

SDG 3: Dr. Darragh O'Carroll '03

SDG 4: Miki Tomita

SDG 5: Sarah Craven '81

SDG 7: Dawn Lippert

SDG 8: Celeste Connors '94

SDG 9: Taylor Darling

SDG 10: Wes Porter

SDG 11: Alex Yee '09

SDG 12: Lia Shipman '91 Colabello

SDG 14: Kanesa Duncan Seraphin

SDG 15: Doug Harper

SDG 16: Clare Connors '92

SDG 17: Denise Espania

**Session 2: 12:35 p.m. - 1:20 p.m.**

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SDG 4: Miki Tomita

SDG 5: Sarah Craven '81

SDG 6: Senator Glenn Wakai

SDG 7: Dawn Lippert

SDG 8: Celeste Connors '94

SDG 9: Taylor Darling

SDG 11: Alex Yee '09

SDG 12: Lia Shipman '91 Colabello

SDG 13: Maxine Burkett

SDG 14: Kanesa Duncan Seraphin

SDG 15: Doug Harper

SDG 16: Clare Connors '92

SDG 17: Denise Espania

## Aura Reyes, Lindsay Ann Pacheco, Cathy Kawano-Ching, James Koshiba '91

Aura Reyes is a co-founder of Ka Po'e O Kaka'ako (KPOK), a houseless community that lived together in Kaka'ako Gateway Park, where she organized community, coordinated service projects and forged relationships between houseless individuals and service providers. Currently, Aura sits on the Board of Directors for Partners in Care, is a member of Hui Aloha and a Housing Affordability Fellow.

Lindsay Ann Pacheco is a co-founder and leader of KPOK. After many years on the street, Lindsay got housed in May 2020, re-enrolled herself in college, and is now pursuing a degree in Social Work while continuing to conduct outreach and advocacy for those who remain houseless.

Cathy Kawano-Ching is a founding member of Hui Aloha, an educator, and life-long learner. Her connections to houseless communities began 11 years ago when working with youth living in homeless shelters and on the streets in Kaka'ako.

James Koshiba is co-founder of Hui Aloha. Formerly, he was Executive Director of Kanu Hawaii, building grassroots movements for sustainability. Born and raised on Oahu, he earned degrees from Brown University and the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

1 NO  
POVERTY





**2** ZERO HUNGER



## Mark Noguchi '93

*Food and Sustainability Curriculum Specialist,  
Punahou School*

Mark was born and raised in Mānoa Valley, O'ahu. As a chef, Mark navigates Hawai'i through the lens of food, always with the intent to gather, connect and harmonize the communities he serves. At He'eia Kea Pier General Store & Deli, his insistence on sourcing hyper-local ingredients garnered national acclaim. Through Taste Table, he helped revitalize the Kaka'ako food scene by providing a space for up-and-coming local chefs, many of whom are now nationally-renowned for their work. MISSION Social Hall & Cafe, Mark's most recent project, was published by Taste Talks as one of the six best museum cafes in North America.

In 2012, Mark and his wife Amanda Corby Noguchi started Pili Group, their life's work. Pili is dedicated to creating a better world through food, education and community.





## Dr. Darragh O'Carroll '03

*Emergency Physician*

Darragh O'Carroll, M.D. is an emergency physician, writer, medical consultant and CNN contributor. Dr. O'Carroll received his emergency medicine residency and medical internship from the University of Southern California + Los Angeles County Medical Center, his medical doctorate from the University of Hawai'i John A. Burns School of Medicine and his Bachelor of Science in Human Physiology from Boston University.

He is a volunteer medical officer for the Polynesian Voyaging Society where he served on the return leg of the Ala Hula Kai O Maleka voyage from San Diego to Honolulu, and medical operations officer for the disaster response agency Team Rubicon, most recently providing disaster relief to the Bahamas in September of 2019 after category 5 Hurricane Dorian.

**3** GOOD HEALTH  
AND WELL-BEING





## Miki Tomita

*Founder and CEO, Education Incubator*

Miki is the Founder and CEO of Education Incubator, a Hawai'i-based nonprofit dedicated to empowering young people, adults and communities to live with passion and purpose in service of a better world.

She has worked in education for 20 years as a teacher, administrator, curriculum developer, and researcher.

Born and raised on Maui, Miki graduated from H.P. Baldwin High School, earned a B.S.E. in Biosystems Engineering at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, and a Ph.D. in Education at Stanford University.

**4** QUALITY  
EDUCATION





## Sarah Craven '81

*Director, United Nations Population Fund, Washington Office*

A policy advocate and attorney with experience in global health and human rights, Sarah currently serves as the Director of the Washington Office of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). She has worked on advocacy campaigns focused on empowering women and girls. Prior to her work at UNFPA, she held positions at the U.S. Department of State and on the legislative staff to U.S. Senators Tim Wirth of Colorado and Spark Matsunaga of Hawaii.

She received degrees from Macalester College, Cambridge University (UK) and Georgetown University Law Center where she was a Public Interest Law Scholar.

In 2021, she was named one of Apolitical's 100 most influential people in gender equality.

**5** GENDER  
EQUALITY





## Senator Glenn Wakai

*Hawaii State Senator, District 15*

Glenn Wakai is in his second term as a Hawaii State Senator, following eight years in the State House of Representatives. He is the current chair of the Senate's Committee on Economic Development, Tourism, and Technology, vice chair of the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs, and is a member of the Committees on Human Services and Ways and Means.

In 1991, Glenn began a career in television news by working as a reporter/anchor in Guam and Saipan. He later returned home to work for KHON-FOX2 and KHNL NBC 8. After 11 years in news, Glenn set aside his microphone to pursue his passion for public service. In November 2002 he was elected to the Hawaii State House of Representatives and was re-elected in '04, '06, and '08. Outside of the legislature, he runs a non-profit organization, Reach out Pacific (REPAC), which takes surplus medical and educational equipment to Pacific Islands and sits on a number of boards within the community.

**6** CLEAN WATER  
AND SANITATION





## 7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



## Dawn Lippert

*Founder and CEO, Elemental Excelsior*

Elemental Excelsior is a global climate technology investor and non-profit impact organization.

In 2020, Dawn received the UN Global Climate Action Award, recognizing her contribution for “Pioneering a New Funding Model for Climate Tech.” She is a board member of Climate Real Impact Solutions II, a climate-focused special-purpose acquisition company.

Dawn was named a Grist 50 Fixer in 2019, served as a 2015 Omidyar Fellow, and was honored with the 2015 C3E Award from the U.S. Department of Energy and the Clean Energy Ministerial. She is passionate about inclusion in technology, and in 2010 founded the non-profit organization WiRE (Women in Renewable Energy).

Dawn graduated cum laude from Yale University with a B.A. in Environmental Studies, and received her Master’s degree from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Management.



## Celeste Connors '94

*Executive Director, Hawai'i Green Growth*

Ms. Connors has twenty years of experience working at the intersection of economic, environment, energy, and international development policy. Before joining Hawai'i Green Growth, she was CEO and co-founder of cdots development LLC, which works to build resilient infrastructure systems and services in vulnerable communities.

She previously served as the Director for Environment and Climate Change at the National Security Council and National Economic Council in the White House where she helped shape the Administration's climate and energy policies, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). She held positions at the U.S. Mission to the UN, served as the Climate and Energy Advisor to the Under Secretary for Democracy and Global Affairs at the U.S. Department of State, and worked for City of New York.

Ms. Connors grew up in Kailua.

**8** DECENT WORK AND  
ECONOMIC GROWTH



**9** INDUSTRY, INNOVATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE



## Taylor Darling

*Co-founder Santa Cruz Green Builders*

Taylor grew up on the island of Kauai and loved constructing things from a young age, designing and building a tree fort that included a drawbridge, living room, kitchen, screened porch, and garage, and eventually helping his parents build their family home. While attending college, he studied sustainable building methods and made the connection that better buildings could solve some of the worlds problems with housing, pollution, and energy use.

After graduating, he founded a company, Santa Cruz Green Builders, with his brother-in-law. 14 years later, the company has grown into a design/build firm, that focuses on green building for residential and commercial projects.



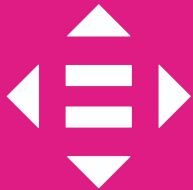
## Mag. Judge Wes Reber Porter

*United States District Court*

Judge Wes Reber Porter began his career as a Trial Counsel for the Judge Advocate General (JAG) Corps in the United States Navy stationed at Pearl Harbor. He then worked as a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Hawaii handling civil matters filed against the United States. Judge Porter next served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Hawaii, a Senior Trial Attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice's Criminal Division, Fraud Section, in Washington D.C., and an enforcement attorney at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission in its San Francisco Regional Office.

Before his appointment, Judge Porter also served in academia as a tenured law professor and the Director of the Litigation Center at Golden Gate University School of Law in San Francisco, and as a visiting professor at the Richardson School of Law. He remains active in education and the community.

**10** REDUCED  
INEQUALITIES







## Alex Yee '09

*Coastal & Water Program Manager  
City and County of Honolulu Office of Climate Change,  
Sustainability and Resiliency*

Mr. Yee joined the City and the Resilience Office in March 2021. Prior to joining the office he worked in the Sea Level Rise unit for the California Coastal Commission, where he worked with numerous coastal city governments to enact sea level rise adaptation policies. With the office, Alex is leading development of Honolulu's climate adaptation strategy: Climate Ready O'ahu.

Alex is active within the American Planning Association at the national level, holds a masters in Urban Planning from the University of Southern California's Sol Price School of Public Policy, and a BA in International Relations and Chinese from Tufts University.

Alex graduated from Punahou School in 2009.

**11** SUSTAINABLE CITIES  
AND COMMUNITIES





## Lia Shipman '91 Colabello

*Managing Principal, Plastic Pollution Solutions*

Lia Colabello develops and manages award-winning sustainability initiatives for organizations with a focus on reducing single-use plastic, pursuing Climate Neutral and B Corporation certifications, implementing circular economy strategies and engaging entire brand ecosystems in these efforts. She is the Managing Principal of Planet+Purpose Solutions (PPS), a women-led, B Corp Certified boutique consulting practice that spans an immense variety of organizations and industries. By launching organizational sustainability strategies, and establishing product and packaging stewardship initiatives, Lia and her team accelerate solutions to some of the world's greatest environmental challenges.

Lia was inspired by the power of the intersection of brands and purpose after working around the world with international sports organizations including the PGA TOUR and World Surf League, and later with ocean conservation organizations including the Surfrider Foundation and the 5 Gyres Institute to address the rise of plastic pollution.

**12** RESPONSIBLE  
CONSUMPTION  
AND PRODUCTION





## Maxine Burkett

*Senior Advisor to Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry;  
Visiting Professor at Harvard Medical School's Department of Global  
Health and Social Medicine*

Maxine Burkett is a Senior Advisor to Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry at the Department of State and a Visiting Professor at Harvard Medical School's Department of Global Health and Social Medicine. At the State Department, Maxine's portfolio includes climate migration, climate security, environmental justice, bilateral relationships with island nations, and issues related to Indigenous Peoples. At Harvard, she advances research on climate justice and health. Maxine is also a Professor of Law (on leave) at the William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawai'i.

Maxine received her B.A. from Williams College, cum laude, which awarded her the Bicentennial Medal for Distinguished Achievement in 2016, and Exeter College, Oxford University. She received her J.D. from Berkeley Law, University of California.

**13** CLIMATE  
ACTION







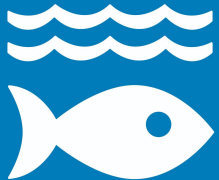
## Dr. Kanesa Duncan Seraphin

*Director, University of Hawai'i Sea Grant Center for Marine Science Education*

Dr. Seraphin is Director of the University of Hawai'i Sea Grant Center for Marine Science Education. Her research background includes biology of hammerhead sharks and science education research. She loves telling ocean science stories and produces the Voice of the Sea television and online series.

In her free time, Dr. Seraphin is an ocean athlete. Prone paddleboarding and bodyboarding are her favorite ocean sports. She has solo paddleboarded the Moloka'i channel 15 times and competed in 3 Pipeline bodyboard contests.

14 LIFE  
BELOW WATER







## Doug Harper

*Executive Director, Mālama Maunalua*

Doug has served as the Executive Director of Mālama Maunalua for 4 years. Mālama Maunalua works extensively across all ecosystems of the Maunalua region to help restore the bay's marine resources.

Prior to his work with Mālama Maunalua he spent 8 years as a Coastal Management Specialist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA).

15 LIFE  
ON LAND





**16** PEACE, JUSTICE  
AND STRONG  
INSTITUTIONS



## Clare Connors '92

*United States Attorney for the District of Hawaii*

Ms. Connors currently serves as the United States Attorney for the District of Hawaii. As the top-ranking federal law enforcement official in the State, she oversees an office responsible for prosecuting federal crimes related to national security, public corruption, drug trafficking, violent crime, child exploitation, complex fraud matters. Previously, she served as the 16th Attorney General of the State of Hawai'i where she was the chief legal and law enforcement officer of the State, responsible for providing advice and counsel to state executive and legislative branches, investigating and prosecuting state and federal crimes, and initiating civil enforcement actions.

Raised in Hawai'i, she graduated from Punahou School and Yale College ('96). She served for three years as the Operations Coordinator for the City of New York, Parks & Recreation Department before attending Harvard Law School. She began her legal career as a trial attorney prosecuting federal crimes, first with the U.S. Department of Justice's Tax Division in Washington, D.C., then in the U.S. Attorney's Office in the District of Hawaii.

Ms. Connors has been active in both the state and federal bar associations, and was the pro bono coordinator for the United States District Court for the District of Hawaii.



## Denise Espania

*Director of Mālama Honua Public Charter School*

Denise Espania's teaching career spanned Pre K through 12th grade, general and special education, from Washington to Hawai'i. In 2004, Denise left the classroom and moved into post secondary education. After enjoying her time as an educational researcher and teacher educator, she returned to K-12 as a school administrator at an elementary and then a middle school.

Following her time in higher education, she worked as an educational consultant at Envision Learning Partners, supporting schools as they created structures and instructional practices that engaged students and teachers in deeper learning through performance assessment. Denise is humbled and honored to be the founding school leader of Mālama Honua Public Charter School.

**17** PARTNERSHIPS  
FOR THE GOALS

