

HAIS Student and Teacher Recognition Awards

HAIS Educator of the Future Award & Student Award: HAIS Vision Award

The Hawai'i Association of Independent Schools is proud to announce two new awards available to member schools. The purposes of the awards are to:

- Recognize the unique accomplishments of students and staff in HAIS member schools;
- Establish a direct relationship between HAIS and its member schools;
- Provide high school students with an external award that can be used for college applications or job placement;
- Provide staff members with external recognition for their accomplishments.

Award Information:

- Each participating school will receive a plaque with blank name plates for both the staff and student award. It will be the school's responsibility to have the name plates engraved.
- Each winner will receive a certificate from HAIS signed by the Executive Director and Board Chair.
- Each winner will receive a personal letter from the HAIS Director.
- Award recipients' names and schools will be published on the HAIS website, e-news, and other publications.

When: Each award can be presented annually to one staff member and one student.

Eligibility:

- **Student award:** The recipient must be a full-time high school junior or senior from an HAIS member school. Some schools may present the award to a junior who, upon returning for his or her senior year, serves as a role model to other students. Some schools may choose to present the award to a graduating senior to be presented at an awards ceremony or graduation. Please note that, in its first iteration, this will be a high school award only. Once established, we may consider other appropriate awards for middle or elementary school students.
- **Staff Award:** Besides meeting the award criteria, the recipient must be a full or part time staff member from an HAIS member school.

Application Process:

- Winners are selected by each individual school. HAIS will review each application to ensure the recipient meets the criteria.
- The school must complete an application form that includes a brief statement describing how the winner meets the award criteria.
- Applications are available throughout the year. On the form, the school includes the presentation date.
- Schools are welcome to invite HAIS staff members to present the award, in person, at graduation or award ceremonies.

Application Forms:

[HAIS Vision Award Application Form](#)

[HAIS Educator of the Future Award Application Form](#)

Cost: An initial charge of \$75 (per award), which includes: engraved plaque with blank name plates for the school; certificate for the winners; personal letter; winners published in HAIS communications.

Award Descriptions:

HAIS Vision Award - HAIS Vision: To support member schools, and other organizations, in preparing all students for the challenges of life and social responsibility.

The winning student must demonstrate how he or she has furthered the HAIS vision by: preparing himself, herself, and/or others for the challenges of life and social responsibility.

Criteria includes:

Diversity: The winner celebrates the gifts of each person and creates spaces where all people are respected and honored; leads others through intentional activities that create and celebrate diversity; and is willing to explore and make themselves vulnerable in order to challenge accepted societal norms.

Social Justice: The winner cares about justice for humans and all living things; is conscious of the far reaching effects of their actions; and works for justice at the local and/or global level through direct service and social change, such as political action, community organizing, or advocacy.

Leadership: The winner makes exceptional contributions to the community through leadership; helps those they lead create a vision and move through change based on group values; leads within the framework of the school and other communities; and makes positive contributions through intentional planning and effort.

Care: The winner demonstrates genuine care for others in their attitude, interaction, and involvement; acts with care toward others, and demonstrates self care.

Integrity: The winner demonstrates a commitment to fostering citizenship, integrity, and ethical behavior. Recipients must be involved in activities that promote integrity through social justice, peace, religious, racial, and/or cultural harmony, have the ability to inspire and lead others to distill their values, actively display principles and ideals translating into actions, and are committed to the ethical dimensions as related to the core values fostered at the school.

Educator of the Future Award:

The HAIS Educator of the Future award supports and echoes the National Association of Independent Schools principles for teachers, which are to:

- Promote initiatives in equity and justice, global perspectives, and educational technology so that these elements have an even greater profile in schools of the future.
- Research new approaches and develop capacity to access best thinking and practices.
- Project and predict new ways of teaching and learning.
- Capitalize on new technology for teaching, learning, and communicating.

Winners must meet the following criteria:

Leadership: successfully led a school or community to engage with, design and implement a solution for a significant need, problem or challenge.

Creativity: questioned the status-quo and seized an opportunity to develop a new program, system, etc. that creatively furthered the strategic mission of the organization.

Culture: promotes a culture of questioning, positivity & optimism, risk taking and discovery focused on constant improvement within the organization.

Delivery: exhibits excellence in communicating by engaging stakeholders with the innovative initiative in both clear and compelling ways.

Impact: able to share an engaging explanation of the immediate and longer-term impact the innovation had on the organization to support and inspire innovative practice within the independent school community.

Additional questions or more information: please contact Robert Landau at rlandau@hais.us