



Kapaia Foundation

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Preserving and promoting the rich history of Kapaia Valley

Issue #22

Tyler Tanaka, Kapaia Foundation's 2022 Scholarship Recipient



Dennis Fujimoto, The Garden Island Photo

Tyler Tanaka with his giant check, flanked by his parents, Glenn & Doreen Tanaka & swimming supporters Susan Miura, Coach Curt Colby & wife Marie. Also present, Kapaia Foundation members and friends, Kimo St. John, David Monasevitch, Laraine Moriguchi; Mason, Tamra & Niko Moriguchi; Roy, Mia, Titus & Ezra Goo; Christine & Russell Nonaka; Darin, Spence, Ethan & Ellie Nonaka.

On July 24, a gorgeous Sunday afternoon in Kapaia Valley, Kapaia Foundation members and friends gathered to meet, greet and present its annual scholarship award to Tyler Tanaka, son of Glenn & Doreen Tanaka.

As a student at Kapaa High School, Tyler was on the Principal's List for 4 years, maintaining a cumulative GPA of 4.03. Ranked 15 in his class of 203, Tyler is a STEM, CTE and Academic Honor Graduate.

Tyler was a KIF Swimming All-Star from 2018-2022. His dedication to swimming has earned him many awards, including being the Hawaii Senior Champion for the 100 yd breaststroke in 2021 and the Hawaii Age Group Champion for the 200 yd breaststroke in 2022. To top off all of Tyler's swimming accomplishments, he is Swim Kauai Aquatics 1650 yd Freestyle Record Holder.

Tyler is a freshman at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, WA, pursuing a degree in Nursing. He looks forward to returning to Hawaii to use his nursing skills to improve the lives of others.

The Kapaia Foundation Scholarship was created to recognize the dreams of sugar plantation era immigrants for the success of their descendants. Tyler's ancestors immigrated to Hawaii in the early 1900's to work as laborers in the pineapple plantation. Like the sugar plantation laborer, Tyler's family dedicated their lives to the betterment of Hawaii's economy and created a diverse, inclusive and welcoming community.

Tyler's scholarship essay is attached below, or can be accessed on our website at www.kapaiafoundation.com

“I’m Searching for my Grandmother’s Birthplace”



L-R: Russell & Christine Nonaka, Tony & Kim Pineda, Kimo St. John, Doreen Wataya

“Her birth certificate indicates she was born in Kapaia in 1915. I appreciate any suggestions that you could provide,” wrote granddaughter Kimberlee to kapaiafoundation@gmail.com. Thus became a delightful genealogy project for Kapaia Foundation!

Kimberlee Pineda’s great grandparents journeyed from Madeira, Portugal to Hawaii with their 3 young children in 1906. Francisco Gouveia worked for Lihu’e Plantation Co. for more than 10 years. During this time, 7 more children were born, including Philomena, Kimberlee’s grandmother. Eventually, the family moved to Oahu.

Kimberlee, born and raised in California, and husband Tony, visited Kaua’i for the first time in October with the sole purpose of seeing where her family lived. Kapaia Foundation members were excited to meet and share a very special place with the Pineda’s. We shared pictures and stories and took a walking tour across the swinging bridge, down Kapaia Road, where the Gouveia’s, devout Catholics, attended church.



On the walking tour of Kapaia Camp, posing under the more than 100 year old false wiliwili tree. Immaculate Conception Church in background.

L-R: Laraine Moriguchi, Tony & Kim Pineda, Mason & Niko Moriguchi

We fellowshiped with a local style potluck lunch highlighted by Chef Kimo St. John’s exquisite cuisines. Positive vibes permeated throughout Kapaia Valley!

Kapaia Foundation’s mission is to preserve and promote the rich history of Kapaia Valley. We welcome and encourage any project related to our mission!



Kimo St. John & Tony Pineda discussing places to see & things to do on Kaua’i

Do you have a project you would like to pursue? Kapaia Foundation is available to support and assist you!

Ex:

Share your Oral History

Lead a Historical and/or Flora & Fauna Walking Tour

Organize and/or lead a Genealogy Workshop

Create & lead a Grounds & Bridge Maintenance Team

Etc., etc.!

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Thank You for your support!!

Mahalo to all Kapaia Foundation Members and Supporters

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Tony & Kimberlee Pineda 100

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Kapaia Foundation membership is open to anyone wishing to support the intent and purpose of Kapaia Foundation. Kapaia Foundation is a purely voluntary association whose primary source of funding is through donations and grants. Kapaia Foundation does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, age, religious affiliation, handicap, national origin, or other personal factor.

(PDF printable file attached)

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