

Ka Lau

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Our Own Todd Otake Performs at the Kahilu Theater

On Wednesday, December 9, elective teacher Todd Otake took about 30 LCPCS students to what was supposed to have been a concert for several area schools by well-known `ukulele virtuoso Jake Shimabukuro. But due to a scheduling snafu, the performer never showed! According to one student, "we sat there and we waited and we waited and we waited, and then finally this guy came out and apologized, and said that Jake had had breakfast and then gone out for a walk, and no one could find him." So LCPCS's own Todd Otake (has `ukulele, will travel) was invited to get up on stage and perform!! Which he did, to enthusiastic applause, especially from the proud LCPCS contingent.

While the Kahilu Theater was filled to capacity with students, Mr. Otake wasn't phased, and says he thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience. "It was a great thing for me to play on stage again and feel the energy from the audience." He was even recognized later by a little kid in the Waimea KTA who followed him all around the store before summoning up the courage to ask him if he was the famous guy who played `ukulele. Yep, that's our guy!



Todd Otake

Parent Group Meetings to coincide with Family Movie Nights



A parent group is starting up, and will be meeting on the first Monday of every other month. The group has had one formal meeting so far, and minutes from that meeting show that topics covered ranged from ants in the kindergarteners' lunch boxes to the Leadership Team transition. Among other things, it was reported that behavior at LCPCS has improved. There were 89 incidents requiring referral in November of 2014, and just 26 in November of 2015.

The group's goal is to increase parent participation and communication, with the idea that more informed parents are more involved parents. Faculty and staff members also attend the meetings. Business manager Gerry Delgado stressed that parents should come with their thoughts, suggestions and proposals, as in "don't just ask what your school can do for you, but ask how you can help," to very loosely paraphrase a famous historical statement.

Meetings are planned to coincide with Family Movie Nights at the Laupāhoehoe Library, but children must NOT be dropped off at the library without supervision. One parent or guardian must stay with any children watching movies at the library. Movie nights begin at 6:00 pm, and the parent meetings start at 6:30 pm in the school cafeteria.

Calendar

- Wednesday, January 20 – Save First! Deposit Day
- Friday, January 22 — Secondary music students to Kahilu Theater: John Nakamatsu and the Spring Wind Quartet
- Monday, February 1 — Family Movie Night at the Laupāhoehoe Library, Parent Meeting

LCPCS's First Adult Education Class Slated to Begin in February



LCPCS is pleased to announce its first adult education class, which will run from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm Saturdays, February 6, 13, 20 and 27. The class is in woodworking, and will be taught by local master carpenter and furniture-maker Peter Zioli. All levels of experience are welcome. The cost is \$80, and there is a limit of 10 participants. The class is sponsored by the school's fundraising non-profit, Hui Kāko'o O Laupāhoehoe. For more information, contact Don Bryan at toreachdon@gmail.com. Hurry! The class is filling up fast.

Music Festival Planning is Underway

The 11th annual Laupāhoehoe Music Festival will take place on Saturday, April 23 at Laupāhoehoe Point. Event organizers are looking for both craft and food booth vendors. Contact Shantell Urbanozo at 962-2200, or email her at shantell.urbanozo@lcpcs.org for more information.



Seasider Spotlight



L to R: Lorraine Almeida-Leha and her grandchildren: Taliesin Brickwood (pre-K), Ireland Almeida (6th grade), Zealand Brickwood (K), and Kingston Brickwood (1st grade)

LCPCS welcomes Lorraine Almeida-Leha, who will be replacing Liana Honda and Scott Smith as the secondary language arts teacher. (Ms. Honda and Mr. Smith are moving into full-time leadership-team responsibilities.)

Ms. Almeida-Leha is returning to teaching after a long hiatus. She graduated from the UH-Mānoa College of Education with a specialty in secondary English and taught for several years on O'ahu, but then took time off to care for aging relatives. "It was the most blessed, wonderful experience to do that for my family," she said. More recently, she assumed guardianship of four grandchildren, sharing that her daughter struggles with drug addiction. All four are now LCPCS students!

And while she hasn't lived here, she feels a very special connection to this area through generations of family ties to the Maulua ahupua'a. Because of this family tie, Ms. Almeida-Leha says that she feels this area is very significant to her, and she is very grateful to join the LCPCS 'ohana.