



ISLAND INSURANCE

F O U N D A T I O N

## News Release

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Contact: Sandy Siu (808) 564-8475  
ssiu@islandinsurance.com  
Island Insurance Companies or  
Wally Zimmermann (808) 275-3001  
[wally@brightlightmarketing.com](mailto:wally@brightlightmarketing.com)  
Bright Light Marketing Group

## Koloa Elementary Principal named as finalist in \$25,000 School Leadership Award

**Debra Lindsey, principal of Koloa Elementary School** was named a finalist in the **2011 Masayuki Tokioka Excellence in School Leadership Awards**.

One Hawaii public school principal will receive \$25,000 (\$15,000 towards a school project of his or her choice and a \$10,000 personal cash award). The recipient of this year's award will be announced at the Public Schools of Hawaii Foundation dinner on April 29, 2011 in Honolulu.

The award, which is named after Island Insurance founder Masayuki Tokioka is underwritten by the Island Insurance Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Island Insurance Companies. 11 public school principals from across the state are finalists for the award which recognizes outstanding school principals across the state and their efforts to provide high-quality learning opportunities for their students.

Lindsey has been a principal for 14 years, five of which have been at Koloa Elementary School. Spending time in the classrooms, Lindsey identified the need for effective instructional skills training. The teachers then underwent intensive training and coaching on skills such as collecting and analyzing data, aligning curriculum to standards, and using technology for learning. The program was so effective that the school moved out of restructuring within two years, received the Continuous Improvement Award from the State of Hawaii and is now identified as a model school for the Department of Education's Literacy and Learning framework.

(more)

“Principal Lindsey has lead Koloa Elementary School in a manner that has measurably improved the school climate and achievement levels,” said R. Chris Town, M.Ed., former Deputy District Superintendent of Kauai. “She has been a proactive leader who is trusted and respected because of her transparent dedication to quality teaching and learning.”

The Island Insurance Foundation was established by Island Insurance Company, Ltd., Hawaii’s largest locally owned and managed insurance carrier, offering a full range of property and casualty protection. Founded in downtown Honolulu in 1939, Island Insurance has been serving Hawaii’s families and businesses for over 70 years and is the only Hawaii-based company to be recognized as one of the Top 50 property & casualty insurance companies in the nation by the Ward Group for three consecutive years. Island Insurance has earned financial strength ratings of “A” (Excellent) from A.M. Best Company and an “A” (Strong) rating from Fitch Ratings. For more information, visit its website at: [www.islandinsurance.com](http://www.islandinsurance.com).

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