



ISLAND INSURANCE

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

Bonnie Tabor, principal of **Waikiki 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 this year's award which recognizes outstanding school principals across the state and their efforts to provide high-quality learning opportunities for their students.

A principal at Waikiki Elementary for nine years, Tabor has guided the school as it evolved into a "mindful" institution. To supplement a "mindful" focus, she formed a partnership with the University of Hawaii Department of Philosophy to develop a Philosophy for Children program. Through interactive lessons, professors help students think philosophically about complicated issues including bullying, divorce and war.

(more)

Tabor also encourages her students to be “mindful” of their environment and to be involved in their community. With the help of parents and community members, she launched two garden projects on campus, Aina in the Schools and Waikiki Project Green. Students have the opportunity to care for a fruit orchard and organic garden, and sell its produce at an after-school farmer’s market open to the community.

“Her efforts to make a school a place where students are treated as valuable human beings has crystallized her goal of making the education of children a shared mission,” said Eva Pointe, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, University of Hawaii MEdT Program. “This has resulted in every adult in the school feeling responsible for every child.”

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.

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