



ISLAND INSURANCE
FOUNDATION

News Release

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

Suzanne Yamada, principal of **Palisades Elementary in Pearl City** 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 Palisades Elementary for eight years, Yamada believes it is her responsibility to provide the best resources that meet the needs of students, parents and teachers. Yamada also recognized the importance of providing students with the opportunity to interact with updated technology, as a method of engaging and motivating them to learn. She purchased computers, installed wireless technology, and offered online reading and writing programs for students to use at home as well as at school.

(more)

“Not only has Mrs. Yamada opened the doors of our school to the community, but she also shows extreme concern and compassion for our students,” said Lisa Ynigues, Vice Principal of Palisades Elementary School. “She will tutor students on a one-on-one basis afterschool and during school breaks if students need extra help and she will also pick students up from their home if they cannot get to school.”

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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