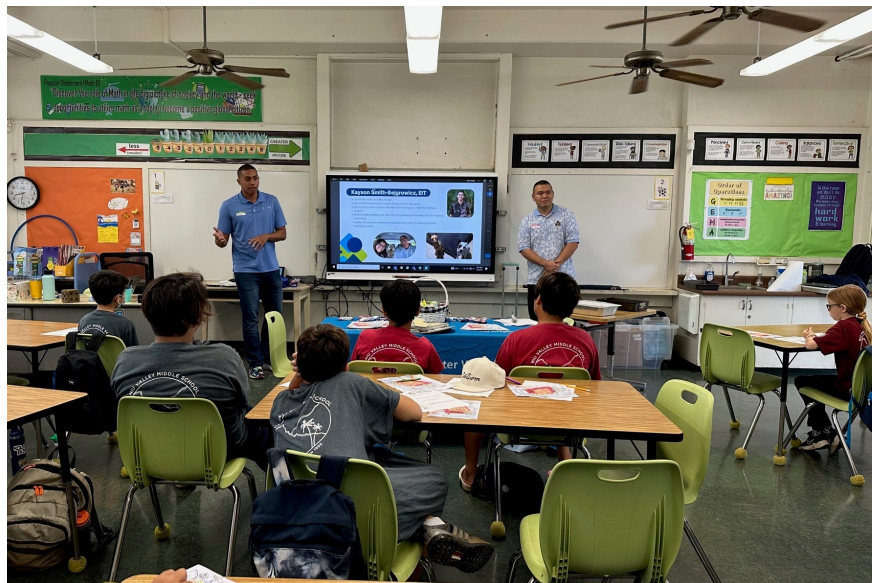


Inspiring Future Water Professionals at Niu Valley Middle School's Career Day

By *Aiko Fajardo, Kayson Smith-Bejgrowicz, and Daniel Koge*
Public Outreach Committee

On April 6, 2023, AWWA-Hawai'i Treasurer, **Aiko Fajardo**, HWEA Student Affairs Committee chair, **Kayson Smith-Bejgrowicz**, and AWWA-Hawai'i Public Outreach chair, **Daniel Koge**, were invited to participate in Niu Valley Middle School's Career Day and talk about the awesome opportunities in water. We shared information about all the hard-working water professionals in Hawai'i as well as the educational requirements and skills needed for various industry positions such as environmental scientists, treatment plant operators, hydrologists, and engineers. Students were also presented with a hands-on creativity design challenge and worked together in small teams to design foil boats and tested how much cargo (pennies) it took to sink their ships. At the end of the day the 6th graders beat the 7th and 8th graders with a total of 278 pennies! "Seeing all the collaboration, innovation, and excitement from all the students in attendance gives me great confidence that the future of engineering in Hawaii will be bright!" exclaimed **Kayson**. This event was particularly special to **Aiko** since both of her keiki currently attend NVMS as 6th graders. "I've been told by various teachers and students that our presentation was thoroughly enjoyed by those that attended" shared **Aiko**. "Many students were sad that they didn't select our session because we were so fun!"



Kayson Smith-Bejgrowicz and Daniel Koge sharing a presentation on careers in water with students at Niu Valley Middle School

Sharing our passion for water was such a rewarding experience and is one that we rarely get to highlight. "Our presentation emphasized that careers in water are often forgotten," said **Kayson**. "To the normal person, water will always flow...if we do our jobs properly. Faucets flow, toilets flush, and everyone is happy."

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Hawaii State Science and Engineering Fair

*By Kathryn Yoshimura Muse
Youth Education Committee*

The 66th Hawaii State Science and Engineering Fair was held in person this year and the students did not fail to impress. There were many creative ideas and experiments which made picking only four winners an assiduous task for our judges. At the end of the day, AWWA-HI Section awarded four projects as follows:

\$300 Cash Award, Senior Individual Project - **Cassidy Ibanez**, Mililani High School, "Biomass Powered Desalination Year III: Combustion Tuning by Closed Loop Control System"

\$300 Cash Award, Senior Team Project - **Alexandra Ver & Ethan Reece Pascua**, Aiea High School, "Fueled Up: Identifying the Impacts of the Redhill Fuel Leak Through 16S Metabarcoding"

\$150 Cash Award, Junior Individual Project - **Noah Thompson**, Kailua Intermediate School, "Water Water Everywhere"

\$150 Cash Award, Junior Team Project - **Maya Gonsowski, Andrew Li, & Summer Hall**, Kaimuki Middle School, "Phytoremediation of Water Contaminants Using Aquatic Moss"

We want to congratulate these students on their spectacular projects and their awards. Thank you to all our judges and student participants. We look forward to seeing next year's science projects. §

Water professionals could be recognized to the public as frontline workers - much like police officers, firefighters, and other essential workers because, let's face it – if water isn't flowing, our homes, schools, and communities are all in danger.”



Students participate in foil boat activity

Mahalo to Niu Valley Middle School for the opportunity and to **Ms. Green** for being a gracious host classroom for our presentation and letting us connect with the students. The sooner we get our keiki excited about water, the better our chances are of retaining young talent to bolster Hawaii's water industry and AWWA-Hawaii'i is always looking for new opportunities to inspire the next generation of water professionals. School career day presentations, environmental expos, STEM days, and volunteer service projects are just a few ways we can maintain our presence out there in the community. If you know future opportunities that you'd like us to get involved with, feel free to reach out to our Public Outreach Committee and let's make water great! §



Kayson Smith-Bejgrowicz, Aiko Fajardo and Daniel Koge at Niu Valley Middle School



Chair's Message

By Rich Hopkins
Hawaii Section Chair

Aloha members, Where did the year go? We accomplished many things throughout the year, however, more needs to be done. The Pau Hana at ACE 2023 in Toronto, Canada was very successful. Terrific job **Lorna**.

Next step, Workshops. Our volunteer committee is diligently working on establishing getting our workshop active again. We are looking at August 23rd for our first workshop in Maui. Details to follow.

Section shirts, we are in the process of selling AWWA-HI Section Polo and long-sleeve shirts. Pre-order forms are available on the section website, <https://hiawwa.org/>

Please renew your AWWA-Hi Section membership. This is a valuable tool to expand your knowledge and grow your career in the water industry. Vendors, please add Hawaii as an additional section to your registration. All of this makes our section stronger.

We are looking for volunteers who want to help our/yours/mine association grow and prosper. We know we are all busy, everyone on the existing board is busy, but we have positions that are open and need to be filled. The Hawaii Section is here to serve you.

Lastly, it has been an honor and a privilege to be the AWWA-HI Section Chair this year. I have had the privilege to work with extremely talented and dedicated volunteers to make our section the best. I will be moving to the past-chair position and **Lorna Heller** will be moving into the Chair position. We are looking for volunteers to step up and move in a position or hopefully the vice-chair position. Hopefully, I will recycle to a new position on the board. Participating in the Hawaii Section is rewarding both professionally and personally. Mahalo for what you do in the water industry. See you at the next workshop.§

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Hawaii Section Vision Statement

“AWWA Hawaii Section will be the leading force in the State dedicated to safe drinking water.”

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Director's Message

By *Juanita Reyher-Colon*
Hawaii Section Director



As I complete my term as Director, it is with great pleasure and gratitude that I extend my heartfelt appreciation to every member of the AWWA-HI Section. Your unwavering commitment to the water industry and your tireless efforts in ensuring the sustainability and safety of our precious water resources have not gone unnoticed.

To our Executive Board and Board of Trustees, I extend my sincerest mahalo for your invaluable contributions. It is because of your collective efforts that our section continues to thrive and make a positive impact in the water industry. Your unwavering commitment to excellence, innovation, and sustainability sets the standard for our profession, and I am proud to have such dedicated individuals as part of our community. I also want to express my sincere appreciation to all the volunteers, committee members, and conference organizers who devote their time and energy to organizing events, sharing knowledge, and promoting professional development within our section. Your hard work and dedication are essential to the success of our organization, and we are incredibly grateful for your contributions.

The challenges we face in the water industry are significant, but your resilience, expertise, and determination continue to drive us forward. The work you do every day, whether it's ensuring clean drinking water, implementing sustainable practices, or advocating for responsible water management, makes a tangible difference in the lives of countless

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Hawaii Section Mission Statement

“The AWWA Hawaii Section is dedicated to the promotion of public health and welfare in the provision of drinking water of unquestionable quality and sufficient quantity. AWWA Hawaii Section must be proactive and effective in advancing the technology, science, management, and government policies relative to the stewardship of water.”

individuals and communities.

As we move forward into the future, I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead. The Water 2050 initiative presents a chance for us to shape the future of our industry, and I encourage each and every one of you to get involved. Your insights, perspectives, and ideas are invaluable as we navigate the path towards a sustainable and resilient water future.

It has been an honor to have represented Hawaii on the AWWA Board of Directors for the past three years and an even more incredible honor to have served as a Vice-President of the AWWA. In closing, I want to reiterate my sincere gratitude to each member of the AWWA-HI Section. Your hard work, passion, and unwavering dedication drive us forward. Together, we will continue to positively impact the water industry and ensure the well-being of our communities.

Thank you for all that you do, and here's to a successful and fulfilling year ahead! §

SAVE THE DATES
October 25-27, 2023

**59th Annual Hawaii'i Water Works
Association Conference**

Mālama I Ka Wai
Take Care of the Water

Mauna Lani, Auberge Resorts Collection
Kohala Coast, Hawaii'i Island

Registration to open August 2023
hwwaconference2023@gmail.com

Working for Water at the 16th Annual Mauka to Makai Expo

By Daniel Koge
Public Outreach Committee

Highlighting the importance of being good land and sea stewards, the 16th Annual Mauka to Makai Environmental Expo was held on April 15th, 2023 at the Waikiki Aquarium and hosted over 2,500 conservation-conscious keiki and parents. A free event to the public, AWWA-Hawai'i Public Outreach Chair, **Daniel Koge**, joined over twenty other conservationist, environmentalism, and sustainability organizations to promote appreciation, mindful use, and protection of our island's limited resources. In addition to sharing how AWWA supports all water professionals throughout the state, our display booth included an engaging hands-on activity for the keiki to learn what it takes to get water into their homes. Using a lever action pump attached to an aquifer bucket, keiki had to "work for their water" by pumping water up from the aquifer into an elevated water tank, which then used gravity to flow water down through underground pipelines and into their homes. Many participants didn't realize it took so much hard work from water professionals to move water, so it was great to educate the keiki and parents alike about the components of a water system. Keiki were also taught that, once used at their house to wash hands, cook, the toilet, or shower, water is treated and returned to the underground aquifer over the course of many years through the water cycle. The mesmerizing activity caught the attention of many attendees; we could barely keep up and people were lining up, eager to work for water!



AWWA-HI Section booth at the Mauka to Makai Expo

The event was short lived, but we hope the message of water appreciation and how water gets into their homes inspired the keiki to be mindful whenever they see a water tank up in the mountain or open the tap. Thank you to water industry partners Hawaii State Department of Health, Clean Water Branch; City and County of Honolulu, Storm Water Quality Division; and Waikiki Aquarium for continuing to host and sponsor this awesome community event! §

[continued on page 8](#)

New AWWA Hawaii Section Members

Please welcome the following new members who joined the Hawaii Section in the first quarter of 2023:

Noah Szenderski	Sang Woo Kim
William Cockman	Viliame Vuetibau
John Stufflebean	Sara Lin
Ortaine Acidera	Michael Benavente II
Adam Mundy	Jay Santos
Edward Nonaka	Stephen Bonfield
Christopher Kealoha-Hall	Matthew Hoover
Janoah Osborne	Micah Finnila
Quentin Galuteria-Soares	Ray Quintanilla
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YP Summit Recap & YP Update

By Camille Gozum
Young Professionals Committee Chair

In March 2023, Young Professional, **Camille Gozum** and **Shannon Black**, from the HWEA and AWWA Hawai'i Section had the opportunity to attend the AWWA and WEF YP Summit in Sacramento, California. The conference was exciting, overwhelming, but also full of hope as we discussed how we could solve our world's water challenges.



Young Professionals, Kathryn Yoshimura Muse, Camille Gozum and Shannon Black, attend the 2023 YP Summit

The YP Summit is an annual three-day event filled with exciting activities. The first day was dedicated to a pre-summit activity, which is typically an outdoor or community service event. This year, the activity was a tour held at the Echo Water Project. The second day was divided into two leadership workshops – the AWWA YP Leader Training Day and the WEF Emerging Young Professionals Leadership Workshop with a networking reception at the end of the day. **Camille** attended the AWWA training while **Shannon** attended the WEF training. During the AWWA training event, AWWA CEO, **David LaFrance**, taught us why we need to create a personal marketing plan and explained how to create it. **Mr. LaFrance** shared anecdotes and lessons which helped us realize that this plan can give us a framework on how to reach our goals. Next, the young professionals had a group discussion and listed the characteristics of what we think a great leader should be. Some of the traits we agreed on are: great communicator, empathetic, open minded, progressive, and able to engage in tough conversations. This activity made us contemplate the values we will need to develop as an aspiring young leader. Lastly, YP Chairs from the various sections gave us input on how to engage new members and retain existing ones.

Some ideas include holding fundraisers to sponsor more YP's to attend the YP Summit, themed networking events, and providing free valuable training to operators and students.

The last day of the summit was full of engaging presentations from knowledgeable professionals. **Mr. Mark Knudson**, who shared a presentation on 'Multi-Purpose Tools for Water Pros'. Next, **Mae Stevens**, a water lobbyist, and founder and CEO of the Safe Water Voters, taught all of us how to be an effective water advocate. Then, **Adam Tank**, a founder, author, podcaster, and speaker, gave a fun and engaging presentation on how to create our own marketing plan. To close the conference, we had a networking event where we made new friends from all over the country.

[continued on page 10](#)

YP Update:

It has been a great pleasure and honor to hold the position of YP committee chair this past year. I have learned so much from so many incredible individuals from AWWA-HI Section. I hope that the events I helped coordinate in the past year were enjoyable and beneficial to all the YP attendees. It is now time to pass the baton and welcome our new chairs this year.

*Chair – **Shannon Black**, Haley Aldrich*

*Co-Chair – **Siu Fung Tang**, NAVFAC Pacific*

*Secretary – **Vivian Au**, EKNA Services*

*Community Service – **Scott Fukuhara**, Aqua Engineers*

*Social – **John Sadorra**, Limtiaco Consulting Group*

Outreach – Vacant

*Please be in the look for announcements of our upcoming events. If you know of any YP's who want to be included in our mailing list, please email **Vivian Au** at vau@eknahawaii.com. If you have any questions regarding the YP committee, please contact **Shannon Black** at SBlack@haleyaldrich.com.*

-Camille Gozum §

California water districts expand world's largest potable reuse system

AWWA Connections Article

The world's largest advanced water purification system for potable reuse just got even bigger, as a joint project of the Orange County Water District (OCWD) and the Orange County Sanitation District (OC San) completed an expansion earlier this year that can provide enough water for a million people.

The expansion project for the [Groundwater Replenishment System](#) (GWRS) increased treatment capacity from 100 to 130 million gallons per day (MGD). The facility now recycles 100% of local reclaimable wastewater flows, maximizing water recycling efforts in the region. (Pictured right, an aerial view of the system expansion site.)

The GWRS's advanced water purification facility (AWPF) takes secondary treated wastewater from OC San and treats it to drinking water standards through microfiltration, reverse osmosis, ultraviolet light, decarbonation, and lime addition. The product water is sent to injection wells and recharge basins that replenish the groundwater basin with new water. Cities in north and central Orange County pump this water out through production wells to deliver to residents in their cities as tap water.



"The success of this project stems from the original vision from board members from both agencies (OCWD and OC San), OCWD staff involvement, reporting from engineering/process consultants, and advisory groups that studied and validated the science and engineering concepts," said Sandy Scott-Roberts, GWRS program manager. "Additionally, the investment in public outreach at the very early planning phase was crucial to educate the public and community about GWRS and to show them that implementing a project like this is safe, will help Orange County reduce reliance on imported water, and help keep water rates low."

The \$284 million expansion project was funded through a variety of sources, including a low interest loan of \$135 million from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Water Infrastructure Finance & Innovation Act (WIFIA), a program that AWWA helped craft and champion through the legislation process.

Because two-thirds of California's population lives in the southern part of the state where less than one-third of the state's precipitation falls, it's important for water agencies to work together to solve long-term water supply challenges and decrease dependency on imported water, Scott-Roberts explained.

OCWD and OC San have worked together for more than 40 years to provide a reliable, environmentally sustainable supply of safe, clean water with the GWRS project.

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"Projects like GWRS, with two completely separate agencies involved, really benefit from the collaboration and support from the board of directors and upper management staff from the two agencies," said Scott-Roberts. "For this project, OCWD and OC San created a joint steering committee on which board members from both agencies participated. This board level support would be encouraged to the staff level and helped ensure all were working together to get the project completed."§

Volunteers Needed for "Make a Splash 2023" Event

Public Outreach Committee

The Kaua'i Department of Water cordially invites you and your team to be a part of the 2023 Make a Splash (MAS) with Project Water Education for Teachers (WET) Festival on Friday, September 15th in Lihue! This annual signature event is an award-winning water education extravaganza that gathers all water partners, non-profit organizations, schools, parents and teachers to learn and discover water through hands-on, interactive activities. Find more information at <https://hiawwa.org/upcoming-events>

Department of Water
County of Kaua'i

project WET
WATER EDUCATION TODAY

Department of Water & Project WET Hawaii presents

Make a Splash

WITH PROJECT WET FESTIVAL
A water education festival for Kaua'i's 5th graders.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 15, 2023
8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
in Lihue, Kaua'i

REGISTRATION & WAIVER FORM REQUIRED

REGISTER BY
AUG. 4, 2023

Newsletter Advertising

The Hawaii Section of the American Water Works Association (AWWA) is currently seeking advertisers for its quarterly newsletter. Advertising provides a direct message to a population of over 600 members state-wide who are in need of the products or services being advertised. Although we have switched to electronic distribution of the newsletter, we feel that there is still equal benefit to advertising in the electronic newsletter as with the printed newsletter. In addition, advertising in the electronic newsletter can be in full color.

Please be aware that advertising in the newsletter is available only to businesses related to the drinking water field. Please also note that all advertisements will be submitted for review and approval by the AWWA Hawaii Section Board of Trustees for ad content.

Item Number	Ad Size	Ad Size (w x h)	Cost Per Issue
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To advertise in the AWWA Hawaii Section Newsletter, simply complete the application form below.

Ads must be in a "camera ready" form, as a *.jpeg or *.tif, and must have a minimum resolution of 225 dpi – maximum resolution of 300 dpi.

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AWWA Library

The library is maintained by the AWWA Hawaii Section for use by its members. If you are interested in viewing any of the following literature, please contact hiawwa@gmail.com.

- 2011 Annual Conference - Opening Genl Session videos
- A Century of Safe Drinking Water
- Air Valves: Air Release, Air/Vacuum, and Combination, 2nd Edition (M51)
- Activated Carbon: Solutions for Improving Water Quality
- Aquifer Storage and Recovery (M63)*
- Avoiding Rate Shock: Making the Case for Water Rates
- AWWA 2002 Annual Conference Videos
- AWWA and the Consumer Confidence Report
- AWWA M/DBP LT2 Stage 2 Training Toolkit
- Backflow Prevention and Cross Connection
- Basic Microbiology for Drinking Water Personnel, 2nd Edition
- Basic Chemistry for Water & Wastewater Operators
- Careers in Drinking Water
- Case Studies in Source Water Protection
- Computer Modeling of Water Distribution System (M32)
- Condition Assessment of Water Mains (M77)*
- Desalination of Seawater (M61)*
- Design and Construction of Small Water Systems
- Developing Rates for Small Water Systems
- Disinfectants and Disinfection By-products: Understanding the Proposed D/DBP Rule (2 tapes) with accompanying handbook
- Disinfection of Pipelines and Storage Facilities Field Guide
- Distribution System Requirements for Fire Protection, 4th Edition (M31)
- Distribution Valves: Selection, Installation, Field Testing, and Maintenance, 3rd Edition
- Drought Preparedness and Response, 2nd Edition (M60)*
- Ductile-Iron Pipe and Fittings, 3rd Edition
- Field Guide to SDWA Regulations
- Flexible Membrane Covers and Linings for Potable Water Reservoirs, 3rd Edition (M25)
- Forecasting Urban Water Demand, 2nd Edition
- Guide to the Filter Backwash Recycling Rule
- Handbook of Public Water Systems, 2nd Edition
- How Water Works - a Typical Water System Poster
- How Water Works - an interactive Tour CD
- How Water Works - Conventional Water Treatment Processes Poster
- How Water Works - Residential Use
- HWEA presents Water Recycling in Hawaii
- Hydraulic Modeling and GIS
- Inside the Weather
- Installation, Field Testing and Maintenance of Fire Hydrants (M17)
- Introduction to QualServe
- Lead and Copper Rule Compliance: How to Conduct a Corrosion Control Study (2 tapes) with accompanying handbook
- Let's Talk Safety Talks
- Math for Distribution System Operators
- Math for Water Treatment Operators: Practice Problems to Prepare for Water Treatment Operator Certification Exams
- Maintaining Water Quality in the Distribution System
- Membrane Applications for Water Reuse (M62)
- Modeling Water Quality in Distribution Systems, 2nd Edition
- Natural and Engineered Solutions for Drinking Water Supplies
- Operator Certification Guide - 5th Edition
- Operator Math Made Easy
- Our Water Cycle DVD
- Overview of Environmental Laws and Regulations
- Plain Talk about Drinking Water - 5th Edition
- Planning for the Distribution of Reclaimed Water, 4th Edition (M24)
- Practical Manual of Groundwater Microbiology, 2nd Edition
- Public Affairs for Water Utilities
- Pump Selection and Troubleshooting Field guide
- PVC Pipe – Design and Installation, 3rd Edition (M24)
- Rehabilitation of Water Mains, 3rd Edition (M28)
- Risk and Resilience Management of Water and Wastewater Systems
- Safety First: Night Work
- Safety First: Water Main Repair DVD
- Safety First: Work Area Traffic Control
- Safety Practices for Water Utilities
- Secrets to Success: How to Prepare for Operator Certification
- Seizing the Initiative: Section and Member Utility Involvement in the SDWA
- The Business of Water: A Concise Overview of Challenges and opportunities
- The Evolving Water Utility

AWWA Library

The library is maintained by the AWWA Hawaii Section for use by its members. If you are interested in viewing any of the following literature, please contact hiawwa@gmail.com.

The Importance of Utility Membership
Water Audits and Loss Control Programs, 4th Edition
(M36)
Water Conservation Communications Guide
Water Conservation for Small and Medium-Sized
Utilities
Water Conservation-Oriented Rates: Strategies to
Extend Supply, Promote Equity, and Meet Minimum
Flow Levels
Water Conservation Programs -A Planning Manual, 2nd
Edition
Water Distribution Operator Training Handbook
Water Infrastructure at a Turning Point: The Road to
Sustainable Asset Management
Water Main Disinfection and Dechlorination
Water Operator Certification Exam Prep
WSO: Water Transmission and Distribution
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Awards

Ken Kawahara

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Paul Scott

Engineered Systems, Inc

Conference

Carly Kaneko

Austin, Tsutsumi & Associates, Inc

Diversity/Young Professionals

Camille Gozum

GHD

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Finance

Aiko Fajardo

Aura Hawaii LLC

Fuller Award

Ken Ota

Core & Main, Inc

Legislation/Regulation

Kawika Uyehara

County of Hawaii, Department of Water Supply

Membership

Jordan Oue

Aqua Engineers, Inc.

Membership

Sean Shigenaga

Honolulu Board of Water Supply

Newsletter

Jessica Agsalda

The Limtiaco Consulting Group

Nominating/Scholarship

Cliff Lum

Aqua Engineers, Inc

Operators' Training

(Vacant)

Pacific Rim

Dean A. Nakano

Brown and Caldwell

Public Outreach

Daniel Koge

Honolulu Board of Water Supply

Research/Technology

(Vacant)

Scholarship

Ken Ota

Core & Main, Inc

Scholarship

Shaun Yoshizawa

Core & Main, Inc

Small Water Systems

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Pulama Lanai

Strategic Planning

Lorna Heller

Honolulu Board of Water Supply, Water Conservation Section

UH Manoa Student Chapter Subcommittee

(Vacant)

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Adrienne Fung

AECOM

Water Reuse

Lorna Heller

Honolulu Board of Water Supply, Water Conservation Section

Website

Joanna Seto

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Jeremy Kimura

Commission on Water Resource Management, DLNR

Workshops/Safety

Barry Pollock

Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9 Water Division

Youth Education

Kathryn Yoshimura Muse

Honolulu Board of Water Supply



Upcoming Calendar of Events

September 15, 2023

County of Kaua'i, Department of Water
"Make a Splash" Event
Lihue, Kaua'i

October 25-27, 2023

59th Annual Hawai'i Water Works Association (HWWA)
Conference and Golf Tournament
Hawai'i Island

February 21-22, 2024

2024 Pacific Water Conference
Honolulu, O'ahu

Membership Rates

Individual Active: \$222

YP: \$99 (for the first year)

Operations/Admin: \$75

Student: \$20

[Sign up here](#)

Hawaii Section Website and Email Address

The Hawaii Section website is www.hiawwa.org
Please visit the website for the latest information
about the Section.

The Hawaii Section email address is
hiawwa@gmail.com

Please include "Attention: [insert person's name
or position/committee]" in the subject line.

Editor of this Issue:

Jessica Agsalda
c/o The Limtiaco Consulting Group
1622 Kananui Street
Honolulu, HI 96817
Email: jessica@tlcgohawaii.com

Newsletter Articles

AWWA members are welcome to submit articles
for the Newsletter. Please contact the editor for
information.

Submissions for the Summer Newsletter are
due by
Friday, August 11, 2023

Production Information Newsletter

The American Water Works Association Hawaii
Section newsletter is published to inform its
members of Section and International AWWA
activities, meetings, educational opportunities and
other matters of interest to the water community.

The mention of trade names for commercial
products does not represent or imply an
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