

Hawai'i Island Portuguese Chamber of Commerce

August 2025 Newsletter



Time to Celebrate!



It's time to celebrate and thank those who have brought us to where we are today. This newsletter features our 3 non-profit entities, all busy engaging in their respective missions. Chamber membership has increased by 20% and we welcome others who have an interest in our business and economy to join us. Our Scholarship Fund awarded three \$2000 scholarships in June, investing in our commitment to furthering the education of tomorrow's leaders. Saudades, our Portuguese Cultural and Educational Center, is one month from site work completion and has garnered two new Founding Donors in the process. And, our Founders Gala, held each year on the date closest to the arrival of Hawaii's first immigrant Portuguese families (September 28, 1878), will be held on Saturday, September 27th at the Fairway Grill in Hilo and honor our Mayor, Dr. Kimo Alameda, for his Outstanding Leadership; receive a special presentation from the family of the late Wayne Subica and honor his contributions to the documentation of Hawaii Island's history and the Portuguese culture; and recognize our 2025 Founding Donors.

Mahalo Nui, Archie Hapai III, HIPCC President, 2019-2026

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- 2- 2025 Scholarship Fund Awards, 2025 Founders Gala
- 3- 2025-2026 Installation of Officers and Board of Directors
- 4 - UPCOMING EVENTS: Founders Gala, September 27, 2025, 5:00 p.m. Fairway Grill, Hilo, HI

2025 Scholarship Fund Awards

Each year the Hawai'i Island Portuguese Chamber of Commerce (HIPCC) awards three \$2,000 academic scholarships to qualified college and university students. Congratulations to the 2025 HIPCC Scholarship winners:

- Peyton Botelho, a graduate of Kamehameha Schools-Hawai'i, will be attending Seattle University majoring in Psychology
- Kaia Fujinaka, a graduate of Waiakea High School, will be attending California Polytechnic State University majoring in Kinesiology
- Charlie Silva, a graduate of Waiakea High School, will be attending Eastern Washington University majoring in Biology



Peyton Botelho



Kaia Fujinaka



Charlie Silva

In the past 30 years, the HIPCC Scholarship Fund has given over \$148,000 to women and men to pursue the goal of higher education.

Billy Andrade, Scholarship Committee Chairman

Creating a Legacy: Preserving & Sharing Hawai'i's Portuguese Culture
Hawai'i Island Portuguese Chamber of Commerce Cultural & Educational Center



Come and Join us

2025 Founders Gala

Saturday, September 27, 2025

Fairway Grill, 340 Haihai St., Hilo, Hawai'i

5:00 p.m. No-Host Cocktails & Silent Auction
6:00 p.m. Dinner | 7:00 p.m. Awards to Honorees
8:30 p.m. Boa Noite & Aloha

Music by Dexter Venato

FOR TICKETS & RESERVATIONS CONTACT:

Jean Alves (808)938-9283 | alvesj002@hawaii.rr.com

Founding Donors Table of 8: \$10,000
Mid-Voyage Founders Table of 8: \$5,000
Saudades Table of 8: \$2,500
Individual Seats: \$110

RSVP by Wednesday, September 17, 2025

HIPCC Cultural & Educational Center is a 501(c)(3).
Donations support the furnishing, equipment and operation of our Saudades Center and are tax deductible.



2025-2026 Installation of Officers & Board of Directors

On Friday July 25, 2025 the Hawai'i Island Portuguese Chamber of Commerce (HIPCC) and HIPCC Cultural & Educational Center held its Installation Dinner at the Ponds Restaurant in Hilo. Micah Alameda, Executive Assistant to Mayor Kimo Alameda, installed the 2025-2026 Officers and Directors of the Hawai'i Island Portuguese Chamber of Commerce (HIPCC) and HIPCC Cultural & Educational Center. Officers and Directors took the Oath of Office. Family and friends of the Chamber and Center were in attendance to witness and celebrate the installation of Officers and Directors.



2025-2026 Officers & Board of Directors

Hawai'i Island Portuguese Chamber of Commerce (HIPCC)		HIPCC Cultural & Educational Center	
Archie Hapai III	President	Marlene Hapai, Ph.D.	President
Jackie De Luz Meyer	1 st Vice President	Cheryl M. Ramos, Ph.D.	Vice President
Michael Tavares	2 nd Vice President	Steven Sylvester	Treasurer
Steven Sylvester	Treasurer	Margaret Lucas	Secretary
Margaret Lucas	Secretary	Jean Alves	Director
Jean Alves	Director	Stella Calio	Director
Stella Calio	Director	Gordon Ching	Director
Gordon Ching	Director	Brenda De Luz Campbell	Director
Brenda De Luz Campbell	Director	Gerald De Mello	Director
Marlene Hapai, Ph.D.	Director	Archie Hapai III	Director
Cheryl M. Ramos, Ph.D.	Director	Michael Tavares	Director

August 2025



HIPCC

P.O. Box 1839

Hilo, HI 96721

Website: www.hipcc.org

The 3 Arms of our Chamber continue to fulfill our Goals with the Chamber addressing Business and the Economy; the Scholarship Fund and Center, Education; and the Center, our Portuguese Culture.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**September 27, 2025 - Founders Gala, 5:00 p.m. Fairway Grill
340 Haihai Street Hilo, HI 96720**