

**LATE**

**To:**  
HEA

**From:**  
Ikaika Hussey  
Summit Magazine

**In support of SB 2765**

Chairman Taniguchi, Senators Gabbard, Kidani, and Slom, aloha kākou:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2765, relating to the Honolulu Biennial Foundation.

I am the publisher of Summit, Hawaii's global magazine of ideas, style and good living. Inspired by Queen Kapiolani's motto "Kulia i ka nu'u", or "strive for the summit," Summit documents the people, ideas and institutions that are raising the expectations and expanding the reach of our island home. Summit is distributed in 400 retailers and hotels across Hawaii, the US and Japan, and is increasing its reach in Asia, Oceania and Western Europe.

Summit is proud to support the efforts of the Honolulu Biennial Foundation. The upcoming arts festival inaugurates Honolulu as a gathering place for contemporary art from the Americas, Pacific and Asia, fostering intercultural diplomacy and serving to elevate Hawaii's brand and reputation.

The Honolulu Biennial Foundation exemplifies Kapi'olani's motto, and we urge this body to support it directly.

Thank you for your time.

**LATE**

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** HEA Testimony  
**Cc:** [Hoomaikai2@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:Hoomaikai2@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2765 on Feb 16, 2016 13:30PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 16, 2016 12:40:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [testimony\\_2675.pages](#) SB2765

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**SB2765**

Submitted on: 2/16/2016

Testimony for HEA on Feb 16, 2016 13:30PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
maile Meyer	Na Mea Hawaii, Maoli Arts Initiative of Puuhonua Society	Support	Yes

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Aloha Hawaii State Legislature,

I am writing to submit my support for **Senate Bill 2765 Relating to the Honolulu Biennial International Arts Exhibition**, which the 501c3 nonprofit arts organization the Honolulu Biennial Foundation (HBF), is presenting, and for which I am a board member of.

Through the celebration of contemporary art from the Pacific, the United States, and Asia, the Honolulu Biennial Foundation (HBF) presents the Honolulu Biennial, which is an international arts exhibition staged throughout Honolulu that engages with the rich cultural diversity of Hawai'i. HBF operates throughout the year presenting a series of ongoing public programs and educational workshops for the community. There are over 100 different biennial arts festivals in the world – from Sydney to Liverpool, Singapore to New Orleans, and Venice to Beijing. Honolulu Biennial is modeled after these biennials and recognizes the profound artistic, cultural, community-building, and economic impact these international arts festivals can bring to the cities that hosts them.

Presently, it is tremendously challenging for our local creative community to exist as there are very few exhibition opportunities for artists locally, as well as a strong art market and gallery infrastructure. Moreover, artists locally are deserved of greater exposure and broadening their market reach. The Honolulu Biennial is a vehicle to highlight our local talents alongside international ones and will undoubtedly result in increased exposure for our artists due to the ripple effect that the Honolulu Biennial will have on our creative community.

Honolulu Biennial is vehicle to develop and reposition Hawai'i on a global scale as a leading, innovative cultural capital and thriving center in the Pacific, where East and West have historically met. Around the world, contemporary art biennials have transformed cities into thriving hubs for art and culture and result in measurable economic impact via attracting an influx of cultural tourists, positively impacting and diversifying the economy and creative industries. Moreover, in 2014, *The Economist* reported, "for many cities, biennials have become important sources of cultural pride, international recognition and tourism." Biennials in short, are "a big deal and big business, with many cities launching high-profile recurring exhibitions in a bid to attract tourists, commerce, and cultural capital," according to this article.

I have no doubt that Honolulu Biennial will rebrand our city and State as an innovative capital for arts and culture, positively impacting our profile and benefitting the local economy by attracting a new demographic of tourists who previously had not been inclined to travel to our Islands: arts and cultural tourists, a highly coveted demographic as they tend to spend more. The World Tourism Organization notes that "cultural tourism is also seen as a desirable market by many countries and regions because it is

generally high spending tourism, usually undertaken by highly educated individuals who stimulate cultural activity in the destination.”

Based on consulting with Dr. Eugene Tian, Chief Economist for DEBT and using formulas provided by Hawaii Tourism Authority, **HBF is projected to welcome 42,500 visitors and have an economic impact of \$49.7 million dollars on the local economy with the Honolulu Biennial that launches in 2017 and will run for 8 weeks in a variety of public, private, and institutional spaces.**

Honolulu Biennial will be the first, international contemporary visual arts event in Hawai'i, complementing other robust signature events in the industries of film, fashion and food for our State and is a welcome addition to the variety of festivals and signature events we already offer.

#### **BENEFITS TO THE STATE OF HAWAI'I:**

- Reposition Honolulu and Hawai'i as a cultural capital for international and national arts and cultural tourists, who tend to be highly educated, higher net worth individuals, thus resulting in economic growth in the creative industries and tourism sectors;
- Activation of Honolulu and neighbor islands' public buildings and spaces (particularly underutilized spaces) with vibrant, contemporary art;
- Offer free access to contemporary art, educational public programs and cultural exchange opportunities for our residents – increasing their quality of life and enriching holistically the art scene locally;
- Positive PR for the State of Hawai'i on a national and international level as an innovative and creative place due to HBF's strategic media and PR plan.

HBF has presented public programs and exhibitions both locally and nationally to build our audience in anticipation of the inaugural Honolulu Biennial in 2017, which will be curated by Fumio Nanjo, a renowned contemporary arts curator and Director of Tokyo's Mori Art Museum. Nanjo's participation is a tremendous honor for our State as he is one of the most important curators in the world and due to his involvement there is much interest in our festival from major industry stakeholders globally.

Throughout the year, HBF serves our community by directly offering programming for locals as well as raising awareness of Hawaii's artistic talents. **Since 2014 HBF has served a local audience of over 2,500 with our exhibitions and public programs and a national audience of over 31,500.**

To make Honolulu Biennial happen, we need your support for this festival – we have been able to accomplish a tremendous amount of work so far due to our dedicated, core founding team, board of directors, advisory board, volunteers and interns,

**HONOLULU  
BIENNIAL  
FOUNDATION**

however, 2017 is upon us and direct cash support is required to ensure that Honolulu Biennial is a tremendous success. I hope that you will vote to support **Senate Bill 2765 Relating to the Honolulu Biennial International Arts Exhibition.**

**Mahalo nui loa for reading this testimony!**

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bruce Lorange', written in a cursive style.

Bruce Lorange  
General Manager – T Galleria Hawaii

**LATE**

Li Lundin  
7730 Kalohelani Place  
Honolulu, HI 96825  
Email: [venicedehi@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:venicedehi@hawaii.rr.com)

Feb. 14, 2016

**Re: Senate Bill 2765 relating to the Honolulu Biennial International Arts Exhibition**

I am writing in support of the \$250,000 grant to be appropriated for the Honolulu Biennial Foundation for the March 2017 inaugural international arts exhibition.

I have been a resident of Honolulu since 1998. Born in Taiwan, married a US State Department foreign service officer, I lived overseas and Washington, D.C. until my husband retired in Hawaii in 2001. His last position was Public Diplomacy Adviser to the Commander, U.S. Pacific Command.

Professionally, I am an art journalist and recently published a book on Hawaii's history, arts and culture for Chinese readers. I also work as an independent curator. In 2008, I collaborated with the Art Gallery of the University of Hawaii, Manoa on an international textile exhibition titled "Writing with Thread: Traditional Textiles of Southwest Chinese Minorities," which traveled to Wisconsin and Santa Fe.

While my husband was posted in Tokyo at the American Embassy, I worked with Mrs. Walter Mondale (Joan) closely on the Art-in-the-Embassy Program. She welcomed Japanese to the Ambassador's residence to see the work of American artists. I witnessed the effectiveness of cultural diplomacy in promoting cross cultural understanding and helping American artists play a role on the international stage. If she were still with us, she would undoubtedly be a strong supporter of the Honolulu Biennial International Art Exhibition.

Joan Mondale, as the former vice president's wife and honorary head of the Federal Council on the Arts and Humanities, had great insight into art and politics and made a remark that I will never forget: **Politics can live without art, but art cannot live without politics.**

This rings true in the Honolulu Biennial's case. 65% of international biennials are initiated and sponsored by the government, such as the Venice Biennale, began in 1895 to promote tourist economy for the city; the Gwangju Biennial in Korea, started in 1995, to declare the city as a site for democracy; the Singapore Biennial began in 2006 to establish an art center in Southeast Asia, to name a few.

For your reference, I compiled a **list of interesting facts and figures about the global growth of cultural institutions and the impact of culture on the economy.**

- The **Venice Biennale**, the world's 1<sup>st</sup> biennial which originated in 1895, was conceived to boost the tourist economy. It has been held 56 times.
- The most visited biennial in the 1990s was the 1995 Gwangju Biennial, **1,640,000** visitors. **Please note: Gwangju was a rural area of mostly farmland in southwest Korea. The only "fame" the city had was the Gwangju massacre of 1980.**
- The most well funded biennial was also the **Kwangju Biennial**, average budget over **USD12 million**. It is currently one of the top 5 in the world in terms of scale, quality and impact. The 2014 biennial drew **620,000** visitors. The revenue is more than **5** times that of the budget, if each tourist's expenditure is only \$100. The real number is of course much higher.
- **Art in LA 1945-1980**, a collaboration among 68 arts organizations in Southern California launched in Oct 2011 to Mar 2012, generated **\$281 million** for the local economy.
- GLOBAL TOURISM grew in 2011-2012 by 4% with more than 700 million travelers, with expected 1 billion travelers in 2012/2013, and reaching 1.8 billion by 2030.
- In 2012 American museums received 850 million visitors, says the American Alliance of Museums. That is more than all the big-league sporting events and theme parks combined.

#### Conclusion:

**Hou Hanru**, one of the world's top five most sought curators, said: "Governments understand that what makes cities economically viable is the new consumer culture that is based on culture, arts and tourism. Rather than dwindling owing to saturation, biennials will burgeon as long as urbanization continues apace."

Upon appointment by the Honolulu Biennial Foundation as the Curatorial Director, **Fumio Nanjo**, remarked, "Honolulu is a city that is a compelling site for a new biennial with its strong ties to the Asia-Pacific region."

Indeed, the Honolulu Biennial International Art Exhibition will be the first in the Pacific Islands region. The math is there and the time is now.

Respectfully submitted,

Li Lundin



#### Sources:

Source: <http://www.aaa.org.hk/>

<http://media.unwto.org/en/press-release/2012-09-12/international-tourism-track-hit-one-billion-end-2012>

*The Economist*, Dec 2013

LATE

February 14, 2016

Aloha to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts, Brian T. Taniguchi:

I am writing to offer my **strong support for Senate Bill 2765 Relating to the Honolulu Biennial International Arts Exhibition**. The Honolulu Biennial, the first contemporary art festival of its kind, will be delivered by the 501c3 nonprofit arts organization, Honolulu Biennial Foundation (HBF) in 2017.

My name is Joshua Tengan and I am from Pauoa Valley in Honolulu, Hawai'i. Two years ago I moved home to Honolulu after pursuing a graduate degree in Art Museum and Gallery Studies: Curatorship at Newcastle University (UK). I spent nearly three years in England, where I lived, worked, studied and was fully immersed in a society in which a vast majority of art and culture institutions are publicly funded. It was a truly enriching and rewarding experience and I was encouraged to know that government could support art and artists in this way.

The importance of having a biennial *of and for* this city is of great importance, not just for the contemporary art community, but for the greater community at large. The cultural and economic impact that biennial has is undeniable. The economic impact that the Honolulu Biennial will have during its 8-week run is projected at over \$49 million dollars – which is substantial.

For a long time, Hawai'i has battled 'brain drain' due in part to low-wages and a high cost of living. However, since moving home in 2014, and especially in more recent months, I can see the tides turning. I myself represent a generation of young people from Hawai'i who have and continue to make their way back home from the diaspora because of the forward steps Honolulu is taking culturally and economically. Yet, Honolulu is still in desperate need of a more sustainable art economy where artists, curators, dealers, critics, academics, writers, institutions, with art audiences and the general public, can all flourish together. A contemporary art biennial for our city is of paramount importance in supporting this critical need.

Your support for this festival will have a profound impact on our art scene and economy, as well as promote access to contemporary art and educational programs through free, public community programs that are integral to the Biennial. HBF's leadership team — KJ Baysa, Isabella Ellaheh Hughes, Katherine Tuidier — have consistently shown their capacity to deliver art events on a world-class level, exemplified through their prologue exhibition *Chain of Fire* as well as bringing famed international artist, Yayoi Kusama's "Footprints of Life" installation. They have also shown their ability to develop relationships and high-caliber partnerships, ranging from the Hawaii International Film Festival, the Pacific and Asian Affairs Council, and Art Explorium, locally, to MoMA PS1 and Asia Contemporary Art Week in New York, as well as the Seattle Art Fair.

So please accept my **strong support of Senate Bill 2765**, the Honolulu Biennial Foundation and the Honolulu Biennial 2017.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

Joshua Tengan



**LATE**

Hawai'i State Legislature  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Sara Mayko  
3022 Hinano Street  
Honolulu, HI 96815

February 15, 2016

To whom it may concern at the Hawai'i State Legislature,

I am writing to submit my support for **Senate Bill 2765 relating to the Honolulu Biennial International Arts Exhibition**, which the 501c3 nonprofit arts organization, the Honolulu Biennial Foundation (HBF) is presenting.

I am very excited about the work the HBF is doing through presenting and launching a new, signature event for the State of Hawai'i, **the Honolulu Biennial**. In 2017 Honolulu and greater Hawai'i will join the ranks of other major cities by having the state's first international arts biennial showcasing local artists alongside international artists.

Through my work in public relations with Anthology Marketing Group, I have had the opportunity to collaborate with the HBF on the Foundation's pre-biennial marketing and programming. The Hawai'i Visitors and Convention Bureau (HVCB) and HBF collaborated in hosting a reception to celebrate the Foundation's historic participation in the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Asia Contemporary Art Week (ACAW) in New York, November 2015. HBF presented Native Hawaiian and contemporary artist, Maika'i Tubbs in conversation with Adjunct Curator of New Media Arts at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York City, Christiane Paul. Tubbs' work is primarily inspired by his cultural heritage and also raises awareness on locally resonant and globally relevant ecological issues.

From my direct experience with the HBF, I can attest to the strong interest from the arts community both nationally as well as locally in the Honolulu Biennial International Arts Exhibition. I am certain that the Honolulu Biennial will be a boom for the State of Hawai'i – as we welcome a new demographic of visitor to the Islands: art and culture tourists who are looking for experiential travel opportunities and moving beyond experiencing Hawai'i as a "fun in the sun" and "beachy" destination. This new demographic will have a ripple impact on our economy and reposition the State as a leading, innovative cultural capital and thriving center in the Pacific, where East and West have historically met.

Around the world, contemporary art biennials have transformed cities into thriving hubs for art and culture and result in measurable economic impact by attracting an influx of

cultural tourists, positively impacting and diversifying the economy and creative industries. In 2014, *The Economist* reported, “for many cities, biennials have become important sources of cultural pride, international recognition and tourism.” Biennials in short, are “a big deal and big business, with many cities launching high-profile recurring exhibitions in a bid to attract tourists, commerce, and cultural capital.”

Presently, Hawai‘i is a challenging place for artists to live and thrive as the Islands are distanced from the global contemporary arts infrastructure. The Honolulu Biennial will bring the art world to Hawai‘i and the benefits for our artists will be profound. As an arts enthusiast, I admire and appreciate the HBF’s commitment to serving the local community by making contemporary art accessible. The Honolulu Biennial will serve as an important vehicle for the local community to have access and exposure to the contemporary arts, new ideas, and different cultures.

I have no doubt the Honolulu Biennial will rebrand Honolulu and the State of Hawai‘i as an innovative capital for arts and culture, positively impacting and benefitting the local economy, as well as offering tremendous visibility and exposure for our local creative community. I sincerely hope that you will vote to support **Senate Bill 2765 relating to the Honolulu Biennial International Arts Exhibition.**

Warmly,

Sara Mayko  
203.843.2055

**LATE**

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HEA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [pamelalichty@gmail.com](mailto:pamelalichty@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2765 on Feb 16, 2016 13:30PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 15, 2016 9:05:13 PM

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**SB2765**

Submitted on: 2/15/2016

Testimony for HEA on Feb 16, 2016 13:30PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Pamela Lichty	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As art lover and collectors and as people who love to visit cultural and art events in different parts of the world, we strong support this bill to appropriate funds for a Hawaii Biennial Art Show. Many visitors these days are interested and visit places to see cultural attractions and not just for our (wonderful) sand and sea. We think this world class art show would be a strong draw for cultural tourism. At the same time of course it would be an immense benefit to those of us who live in Hawaii - including students of all ages. We urge the Committee to pass this bill out to WAM. Mahalo.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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**LATE**

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HEA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [tom@tomsewell.com](mailto:tom@tomsewell.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2765 on Feb 16, 2016 13:30PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 15, 2016 4:07:30 PM

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**SB2765**

Submitted on: 2/15/2016

Testimony for HEA on Feb 16, 2016 13:30PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tom Sewell	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Here is my testimony regarding Senate Bill 2765 - Honolulu Biennial International Arts Exhibition This biennial will put Hawaii in the spot light of the art world. The organizations ( Dr. Baysa, Isabella Hughes and Katherine Tuider) have the knowledge, the energy and the important connections to fulfill the dream of finally having such an exhibition here in Hawaii. Fume Nanjo is an internationally recognized and respected curator with a long list of accomplishments. I strongly recommend you give this important Bill total support. The biennial will bring visitors from all around the globe and will help make Honolulu a major culture destination. Tom Sewell Artist Haiku Sewell was presented "The Annual Award of Excellence" by the United Nations Society of Artists and Writers for his "Enigma of the Mill". A multimedia video installation celebrating the "art of industry" featuring Maui Sugar mills. Maui HI 02/15/2016

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Honolulu Biennale

My Testimony to the hearing for SB 2765

I would like to present my testimony to this crucially important Hawaii State government meet Senate Bill 2765 Relating to the Honolulu Biennial International Arts Exhibition, which is put on by the 501c3 nonprofit arts organization, Honolulu Biennial Foundation (HBF)

Dear State Legislature:

I am artist, Mark Kadota. My artwork has been exhibited at the Venice Biennale in Venice Italy in 2009. The Venice Biennale has for over a century been one of the most prestigious cultural institutions in the world. Established in 1895, the Biennale has an attendance today of over 370,000 visitors at the Art Exhibition. People from all around the world attend this event and the global news coverage is extensive.

I have attended quite a few of these events as well as other global art exhibits. I see the audience that it attracts and how these events grow as cultural destinations.

I can see that here in Hawaii, it could open our tourism to a new group of people. Hawaii already is a beautiful destination and by increasing more cultural events it not only renews interest but makes it a multi level experience. The whole community ends up profiting from such events.

It brings Hawaii into the 21 century by exhibiting edgier artwork and ideas. This can create a global dialogue and redefines Hawaii as a more multi interest destination.

The audience it attracts are people who enjoy good food, artwork, music, dance and film. They are a group that Hawaii has yet to tap into. I feel this is an important opportunity for Hawaii.

Thank you,

Mark Kadota  
87-530 Hakimo Rd  
Waianae, HI 96792

808 668-1870  
[mfk@Markkadota.com](mailto:mfk@Markkadota.com)  
[www.x.markkadota.com](http://www.x.markkadota.com)

**LATE**

Sonny Ganaden, Esq.  
1531 Makiki St. #301  
Honolulu, HI 96822  
[eganaden@hawaii.edu](mailto:eganaden@hawaii.edu) (808)294-9949

To: Senator Briah T. Taniguchi, Chair  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

HEA February 16, 2016 1:30 P.M. Conference Room 224

**Testimony In Support of SB 2765 Relating to the Honolulu Biennial International Arts Exhibition**

Aloha Chair Taniguchi,

I submit the following testimony **In Support** of SB 2765. I am a member of the Board of the Honolulu Biennial Foundation, a practicing attorney in the state of Hawaii, Artist at the Museum (Artist in Residence) with the Honolulu Museum of Art (2015) and an Instructor at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, teaching a course titled Art and Social Change.

Historically, arts communities, and arts festivals, have created solutions to political problems. Examples abound in the history of the United States. In the 19th Century, investment in World Fairs and infrastructure for arts performances made Chicago and New York City vibrant, exciting, global hubs of trade and new ideas. The Arts was a major component of New Deal economic recovery from the Great Depression, preserving and promoting more equitable conceptions of nationalism. In Hawaii, the Hawaiian Renaissance, and the concerts and events that happened during the period, led to the revival of Pacific indigenous art forms that continue to be celebrated.

The reciprocal effect that an international fine arts event will have on community is well-outlined in the request prepared by the organization. In the span of a few short years, the Honolulu Biennial Foundation has organized as a non-profit, and created important partnerships with local, national, and international organizations. These partnerships will ensure that forthcoming event is a success, and a worthy investment by the state of Hawaii. Hawaii, and Honolulu, deserves a publicly-accessible exhibition worthy of the diversity of our local community.

Mahalo,

Sonny Ganaden

From: **Jodi Endicott** jodiendicott@gmail.com  
Subject: Testimony.  
Date: February 16, 2016 at 11:46 AM  
To: **Masami Teraoka** mteraoka@hawaii.rr.com, **Masami Teraoka** geishapope@gmail.com  
Cc: **Jodi Endicott** jodiendicott@gmail.com

**LATE**

JE

2016-02-14

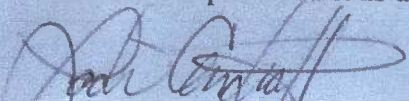
Dear State Legislature:

This testimony is to request your of Senate Bill 2765 Relating to the Honolulu Biennial International Arts Exhibition as the purpose of this historical event is to showcase our arts to global audience. The successful execution of the Honolulu Biennial will position Hawaii as an arts leader as it will connect the world through the arts. This event will create an identity for the art being created by artists in Hawaii, in the same way that Hawaiian music and culinary arts became known on to a worldwide audience.

**This global forum will create an expanded economy and cultivate support of Hawaii's artists and arts organizations. This is especially important as the majority of the income generated by an artist working in Hawaii goes directly back into the local economy.**

In addition, the Honolulu Biennial will also provide educational opportunities for our state's students, residents, and tourist communities. As a public artist with many sculpture installations on Oahu, I can attest to the impact public art has on a local community. It starts a conversation between residents and tourists, parents and children, teachers and students. It connects them and creates a shared experience that ties them to this special place we call home. It also fosters a questioning of "why" the art work is there, what it means, how it was built and what it is made of. The art of the Honolulu Biennial will provide an unforgettable learning opportunity to anyone who interacts with the presented art works. It will invite its audience to ponder the "why", the science, engineering, historical and social aspects that make up an artwork. **It's this interactive questioning and unforgettable educational experience that the Honolulu Biennial will spark in the minds of its audiences, that being, students and parents, Kapuna and teachers as well as the residents and visitors of our state. We need more creative thinkers to solve the world's problems and viewing art is one way to develop such creativity.**

The Honolulu Biennial will have a significant impact on the future of the arts of Hawaii and will foster many educational and economic opportunities for all involved. Please support Senate bill 2765. The future of Hawaii's arts and education depends on it as does our ability to bring our art to a global platform.



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LATE

- > Subject: Ron Kowalke in support of Honolulu Biennale
- >
- > Senator Taniguchi,
- > I have recently received notice from your office that a bill is being
- > proposed for a Honolulu Biennale venue in the near future.
- >
- > I would enthusiastically support that proposal because my wife and I were personally invited as guests of the Polish Pavillion Director during the summer of 2006 in Venice, Italy.
- > The Venice Biennale is most likely the most famous and has the longest record of all international exhibitions.
- >
- > We were invited for the preview event weekend for international journalists, art critics, museum personnel and administrators, plus art publication personnel during the summer of 2006.
- >
- > The dazzling weekend preview was formatted for international art critics, museum directors, curators and art publication personnel, plus eighty plus international artists.
- >
- > The general public which numbered in the thousands were scheduled
- > after a weekend of interviews with curators and conferences.
- >
- > We had the unique experience of meeting the Polish artist chosen to
- > represent Poland and having lunch in the wooded area surrounding the eighty international pavilions.
- >
- > The Polish Pavillon Director, Pawel Sosnowski represents my work in his Warsaw gallery.
- >
- > Suffice it to say, our unique experience was highly informative and professionally advantageous.
- >
- > We enthusiastically endorse and support a Hawaii Biennale and willing
- > to partly finance publications and general expenses needed to operate the program.
- >
- > An international event with established curators would without a doubt
- > bring thousands of interested art collectors and the curious from both East and West which I'm convinced would be highly advantageous to our visitor industry.
- >
- > Sincerely,
- > Ron Kowalke
- > Professor Emeritus
- > University of Hawaii
- > Art Department
- > Manoa Campus
- > Honolulu, Hawaii