

SB 324

Testimony –

Measure Title: RELATING TO AN ART EDUCATION FACILITY.

Report Title: Honolulu Museum of Art; Honolulu Academy of Arts; Grant; Appropriation (\$)

Description: Appropriates moneys from the general fund to provide a grant for the Honolulu Museum of Art to fund an architecturally significant building project that will include studio classrooms, an art education knowledge center, and parking.

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: HEA, WAM

Introducer(s): TANIGUCHI

Honolulu Museum of Art

Testimony Presented Before the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
February 12, 2015, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 224
By Stephan Jost, Director, Honolulu Museum of Art

SB 324 – Relating to an Art Education Facility

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on SB 324, which proposes state support for construction of a building that would expand Honolulu Museum of Art School. Honolulu Museum of Art **supports** this measure.

The Honolulu Museum of Art has created a world-class, community-based art school at the historic Linekona building, located on Victoria Street and bordering Thomas Square to the east. The Honolulu Museum of Art School is at capacity. Community demand for art education has outstripped our physical capacity. We have an urgent need to expand the school in order to meet community need now and in the future.

We have operated the school successfully for over two decades, inspiring thousands of children and adults to create art and make it part of their lives. We have worked to keep the fees to a minimum and to maximize scholarship availability, in order to maintain accessibility for all members the community. Honolulu Museum of Art has raised millions of dollars from private sources over the years to ensure that our community thrives at the art school. Indeed, less than 5% of our budget comes from public sources.

We have been proud stewards of the historic building that we lease from the state. A new, free-standing building behind the current school would expand our classroom space and create a knowledge center with an art library and teacher training and learning resources. This new building, if built on state land, would belong to the State of Hawai'i.

I urge you to support Senate Bill 324. It will allow us to create an asset not only for shaping arts education in Hawai'i, but for building a healthy, creative community.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

Honolulu Museum of Art
900 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96814
808-532-8700

www.honoluluuseum.org

Honolulu Museum of Art
Spalding House
2411 Makiki Heights Drive

Honolulu Museum of Art
First Hawaiian Center
999 Bishop Street

Honolulu Museum of Art
School
1111 Victoria Street

Honolulu Museum of Art
Doris Duke Theatre
Entrance on Kinau Street

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Cc: wkamai001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB324 on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM
Date: Friday, February 06, 2015 12:26:25 PM

SB324

Submitted on: 2/6/2015

Testimony for HEA on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 224

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Wendy Kamai | Individual | Comments Only | Yes |

Comments: The Honolulu Museum of Art School is important to me because : I have been able to take classes that are not readily available elsewhere. It has allowed me to bring an ancient, local art form (Lauhala weaving) to the public. It has allowed me to bring my knowledge of weaving to a challenged population, and share the joy of their success, whether large or small.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Aloha, my name is Tomoki Kobayashi. I am 18 years old and currently a freshman at the University of Hawaii.

I have been affiliated with the Honolulu Museum of Art School since February of 2013. I've had the pleasure of being an art class assistant and occasional videographer for the past two years.

Without a doubt, my greatest benefit of being connected to the school has been my exposure to the various arts and artists. For as long as I have known, the school has constantly been going through changes. There are new exhibits and galleries every few weeks, and every time I walk into the school, I am excited to see what the new theme is.

Last year in April, I was able to view the exhibit, titled "Contact". Taken from the exhibition overview of the event on the museum website, the exhibit was "A contemporary art exhibition that explores the notion of contact as it relates to the Hawaiian Islands, its people, and their experiences. Contemporary artists of all ethnicities and ages delve into a variety of contact-inspired messaging."

Having walked in without any previous admiration or interest in Hawaiian culture or political background, I was in shock. Every single piece was so powerful and carried such a profound message. This exhibit electrified me. It was the most memorable art exhibit I have been to in my life. It made me ashamed to have not known any of these things, despite growing up on O'ahu for all my life. It made me want to learn more about not just the Hawaiian Islands, but also the entire Pacific Ocean.

Currently, I am enrolled in an introductory level Hawaiian studies class at UH through the Hawaiiinuiakea, School of Hawaiian Knowledge. I am also enrolled in an introductory Pacific studies class. I am majoring in filmmaking, and I feel it is my duty to spread the knowledge of the Pacific islands and their culture to a global scale through an audiovisual story. I want to electrify a global audience, as the school's exhibit did to me.

The Honolulu Museum of Art School's resources and people have shaped me to be who I am today. Without the school, I would not have these current interests of communicating the importance of Pacific Islanders and their cultural and political backgrounds, or film studies and filmmaking. By extending the school's resources, our community can benefit by stimulating the senses and minds of Oahu's youth, and help them develop into emerging artists. Mahalo.



HAWAII
STATE FOUNDATION on
CULTURE and the ARTS

No. 1 Capitol District Building
250 South Hotel Street
Second Floor
Honolulu, HI 96813

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TESTIMONY OF
THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE ARTS
February 12, 2015

SB 324

RELATING TO THE HONOLULU MUSEUM OF ART

Chair Taniguchi and members of the committee, I am Jonathan Johnson, executive director of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and I am pleased to offer testimony on SB 324.

The Honolulu Museum of Art, formerly the Honolulu Academy of Art, is undoubtedly one of Hawaii's most significant cultural institutions. Over the years, the SFCA has partnered with the Honolulu Museum of Art on many projects, exhibitions, and events. Indeed, our partnerships are ongoing and our Biennium Grants program currently supports the museum's educational programming.

We admire the ambition and vision that this bill represents furthering arts education and access. Because this is a request for capitol improvement project funds under Chapter 42F, HRS, the SFCA defers to the Public Works Division of the Department of Accounting and General Services for review and recommendation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you on this matter.

**HAWAI`I HANDWEAVERS' HUI
PO BOX 11808, HONOLULU, HI 96828-1108**

TESTIMONY FOR SENATE BILL 324, RELATING TO AN ART EDUCATION FACILITY

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE ARTS
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 12, 2015, 1:30 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 2244

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

The Hawai`i Handweavers' Hui (Hui) is in strong support of S.B. No. 324, which would appropriate funds for an architecturally significant building project to be constructed adjacent to the Honolulu Museum of Art School (Linekona), including studio art classrooms and an art education knowledge center.

The Hui is a nonprofit, 100+-member organization founded in 1953, and has a long association with the Honolulu Museum of Art School (Linekona). Linekona offers three semester-length weaving programs annually, as well as short term weaving, spinning, and dyeing classes through the museum's education program, with Hui members serving as instructors and facilitators. The weaving program at Linekona houses more than a dozen looms and other weaving equipment, and provides one of the few opportunities in the state for the public to learn the craft of weaving. The Hui's library is also housed at Linekona and programs and bi-monthly meetings are held at Linekona.

The Hawai`i Handweavers' Hui is grateful for this multi-faceted support by the Honolulu Museum of Art School. However, the size of the Linekona facility – and the popularity of its many educational programs – means that the space designated for weaving is shared by many other classes and programs. The building envisioned as “Our Museum, Our Community, Our Future” would greatly enhance the ability of the Honolulu Museum of Art School to continue and expand its excellent educational programs and its commitment to the community.

The Hawai`i Handweavers' Hui urges your support for S.B. No. 324.



(b) (5) - DPP (b) (5) - ACP

February 8, 2015


Senate Comm. On Higher Education
Senator Brian Taniguchi
Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

Dear Senator Brian Taniguchi,

We are writing in support of Senate Bill 324 relating to an Art Education Facility. SB 324 is asking the State of Hawaii to invest in a new Honolulu Museum of Art School Annex to keep up with the community's demand. We support the request to appropriate monies from the general fund to provide a grant for the Honolulu Museum of Art School Annex to fund an architecturally significant building project that will include studio classrooms, an art education knowledge center and available parking.

Personally, several of us have had an opportunity to either attend workshops, classes, teach or view artist's work at the Honolulu Museum of Art School. The school's outreach goes far beyond the demand to accommodate the needs in the community and recognize individual's talents and artistic gifts.

We support SB 324 relating to an Art Education Facility.



Christine Ojeda Chang
Hawaii Gifted Assoc., Members
<http://hgafed.org>

cc: Chuanm



TORI RICHARD
HONOLULU

February 9, 2015

Hawaii State Capitol
Room 219
415 South Beretania St.
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Testimony for SB 324

Dear Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts:

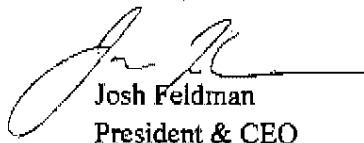
The Honolulu Museum of Art School is important to me because it is critical to ensuring Hawaii's current and future generations of children have access to art education. This is important to me personally, to my business and to the economic future of Hawaii.

As a parent, I have sent my daughter to classes at the HMA School. Art education is a vital part of any child's upbringing and I am grateful the Honolulu Museum of Art School has been there for our family and for other island families. I have personally witnessed how the school can encourage and foster creativity in my own daughter and Hawaii's keiki who have been fortunate enough to attend. However, due to huge demand from the community, the Honolulu Museum of Art School has outgrown the ability to provide enough classes to all who wish to attend. Last summer, children's classes filled up in just minutes, leaving many children without an opportunity to attend.

As a business owner in a creativity-driven industry, our business and our 160 employees look for job candidates that know how to think creatively. With the global economy shifting to being an "idea or knowledge-based economy", now more than ever, the ability to create and to be creative has never been more important in our labor force. Creativity is a fundamental job skill in the 21st century. The Honolulu Museum of Art School teaches creativity and it does it exceedingly well. With art education diminished in our schools, the Honolulu Museum of Art School fills a tremendous vacuum, with incredible efficiency, in providing art and creativity education in our community.

Support of SB 324 would help the Honolulu Museum of Art School expand its mission to foster creativity not only in our children, but for future generations of Hawaii's keiki.

Sincerely yours,



Josh Feldman
President & CEO



THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2015

COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION & THE ARTS
Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair

2/12/2015
Rm. 224, 1:30 PM

SB 324
Relating to Arts Education Facility

Chair Taniguchi and Members of this Committee, my name is Jean E Rolles in support of SB 324.

This bill provides funding for the Honolulu Museum of Art, which is in need of expanding its education programs to meet the current demands and prepare for the future. Learning through various media awakens the mind in another way and transforms lives.

The funding in this bill is for a building project to provide much needed additional studio classrooms, an art education knowledge center and parking. This will assist the State by giving opportunities for art programs that have sadly disappeared in our school system.

Additionally this will enhance programs offered for the community as well as the visitor industry. As an example, we recently featured a wonderful display of Hawaiian artists and Hawaiian woods which appealed to both visitors and kama'aina.

Mahalo for allowing me to provide support and I urge your passage of SB 324.

Sincerely,

Jean E. Rolles
Trustee, Honolulu Museum of Art
Vice President, Community Relations

February 10, 2015

Senator Brian Taniguchi
Chair Senate Committee on
Higher Education & the Arts

Dear Senator Taniguchi,

I would like to first of all thank you for your years of service for the people of Hawaii and also with helping the Honolulu Museum of art over the years. I am privileged to serve as a trustee on the board of the museum. I started there as a volunteer and became docent and now to serve as a trustee. I take my responsibility of being a trustee seriously and with the help of everybody and the State of Hawaii especially to follow the mandate on which the museum was created. Mrs. Charles Cooke realized that the children of Hawaii were special and needed to find out about the cultures of other nations as this lovely group of islands are so isolated from the rest of the world. So art education has always been a priority of the museum. Unfortunately Linekona is bursting at the seams. Classes get filled up very quickly, there is a need for expansion and the museum is willing to take on further responsibility to do that. We will need the help of the state and so bill S B 324 asks the State of Hawaii to invest in a new annex to our existing art school to help keep pace with community demand.

My children are all adults. I m writing now as a concerned grand mother and great grandmother. With the proper guidance we will build a facility that every citizen can be proud of, after all the museum is a part of the capital district.

We hope you and your committee will think hard about this to enhance the lives of the children now and future generations to come.

Much Aloha,



Indru Watumull
Trustee
Honolulu Museum of Art

**Testimony Presented to the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
February 12, 2015, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 224
By Rev. Dr. Pamela Redding**

**SB 324 – Relating to and Art Education Facility
Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee**

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on HB 324, which proposes state support for construction of a building that would expand Honolulu Museum of Art School. I support this measure.

The Art School is important to me because it embodies my sense of community and community identity is at the heart of what all peoples of Hawaii hold dear as a core value. As people testify in support of SB 324, you will hear many quantitative values, lots of totals of classes and individual children and adults served and successful programs. I spend a lot of time at the school myself and I can testify that the evidence is in that all of this is true. But the reason I support the use of public funds to expand the facility is far more personal. The Honolulu Museum of Art School is in every way committed to nurturing the qualitative life that can only happen when people of every age and experience are brought together in an atmosphere where they are wanted, where people care. The Art School surrounds everyone who enters with safety – creative safety, emotional and spiritual safety and of course, physical safety. It is a place my children and my friends and I come to grow and to learn, but most of all feel they belong. It is not unusual to hear that this place has changed someone’s life. Investing in a facility where there is more room for the many programs and interests of people diverse in every way is an investment in the Hawaii of the future. Honolulu Museum Art School is a place where people come to know each other and value not only the gifts they already possess but also what we can become – together.

This has been my experience. Tonight I will probably not sleep well because I am always too excited about my watercolor class tomorrow morning. When I arrive I will find the parking lot triple parked because there are so many active programs at the Museum and School filled to capacity. My class is over full and I will struggle to find table space in the room for a seat, my paints and paper. But I am one of the lucky ones because my class filled in the first hours of registration and there is a long waiting list of people who will never get off the list to sit where I am. The teacher is first class and known for the way his students’ artwork improves quickly and consistently over time. I have spent hours preparing my painting, not only because I enjoy it but because my classmates will be excited to see what I have created and I am equally excited to see their work. We will critique the smallest of details and yet everyone will leave feeling supported. I know if I have to miss, I will start getting text messages and then calls wondering if I am alright and asking about my children by name. The truth is that even as the Honolulu Museum and School expands the sense of community feels close. There is always space on a wall where our work, edgy or conservative will be displayed and celebrated with a big party. I should have expected this when I got my first end of class survey and the key question was whether I felt included in the Art School Community. Art deserves support as a safe place to build community. Building expansion expands opportunity for all in a healthy Hawaii.

From: beach808 <beach808@yahoo.com>
Date: February 10, 2015 at 2:31:17 PM HST
To: Betsy Forrest Robb <brobb@honolulumuseum.org>
Subject: Linekona expansion testimony

Pls.

Present this Testimony to the "Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts" SB 324 -
Art Edu. Facility
on February 12, 2015, 1:30 p.m.
Conference Room 224

Honorable Chair Taniguchi,
revered Vice Chair Inouye, and respected Members of the Committee!

We had 21,000 school children visiting the Museum last year and the interest is growing steadily. Hawaii is one of the top leading Art Museums in the US already. All this is Especially, Thanks to our incredibly foresighted and flexible Education Dept. One can imagine the impact it will have on our future generations. Our Classes are now including Math, Science, Engineering, Technology. It is not anymore limited to brush strokes and painting materials. We are gearing our Art Classes towards Observation and the expansion of Awareness in young minds, as well as fitting it to the Schools requirements.

Pls. Support the Senate Bill 324 to expand our urgently needed Teaching Facility. A new Art school - i.e. Linekona Expansion - makes sense, not only because of the value it would provide for our community, but also because it would be a state-owned building on state land. "Honolulu Museum of Art" leases land under the current school from the State of Hawaii. Thank You very much for the opportunity to voice my opinion in support of this Bill!

Edith M Runner
Docent since 1998 c/o
Honolulu Museum of Art

Beach808@yahoo.com
[808-271-4103](tel:808-271-4103)

Testimony concerning SB 324

The Honolulu Museum of Art (HMA) and Art School are important to me for the following reasons.

It was founded by a woman who knew how valuable an arts education and world wide cultural awareness is to a diverse population living on an island. From creating and expressing in the arts comes understanding and problem solving.

I have been a Docent at the HMA for 21 years. That position has allowed me to share my art knowledge with the schools and community and to give back.

In addition to my college degree (BFA from UH) I have taken many art classes at the Art School and have grown as an artist.

Encouraged by the Art School and provided with physical space I have purchased all the equipment needed - about \$15,000. start up - for a Hand Paper Making Center. Professional hand paper making is now being taught at Yale and Stanford. Paper was invented in 105 AD by the Chinese. Paper has profoundly affected people the world over with documents, books, records, music and many art forms.

Having class rooms, studio space, and a resource knowledge center is vital to expand the HMA's commitment to art education and hands on learning. With my Paper Making Center, I have given back to the community that has nurtured me. It is my hope that the legislature will do its part and help fund a needed extension of the HMA Art School.

roscoeallison@yahoo.com
808-436-8769

Aloha, Allison Roscoe
818 S. King St. #1807
Honolulu HI 96813

RE: SENATE BILL 324 -TESTIMONY of an ARTIST/Teacher

Dear Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts,

Quincey Jones said: "Art is the soul of the nation"

I have been closely connected with the Honolulu Museum of Art for 30 years, as an Art Teacher for children K-12, as well as facilitator of Professional development workshops for teachers at Linekona and currently at Spalding Gallery. The Museum is a place to celebrate art in a way that connects us all. I have a lifetime of stories about the invaluable impact art has had on the lives of children and their families. Currently I have a severely autistic student from Japan (speaks no English) who has been in my classes for 3 years and now creates his own art that he sells at the gift shop to sustain his family and himself. Art speaks a universal language.

The Museum is my second home where I thankfully come to teach, learn, and be inspired as a participant in many art classes, an Artist in many art shows there, and a parent of 3 children who have enjoyed art classes over the years as well as the Museum experiences. My lifelong friends and colleagues from the museum are dedicated supporters of the arts and share dynamic art from their hearts! I always come away with something new to think about.

Growing up in New York and graduating from Cooper Union School of Art and Architecture, I was used to rich and diversified art experiences and wanted those to be a part of my family's life when I moved to Hawaii. I commuted from the Big Island where I raised my children to the Honolulu Museum for classes and for my sanity. It has always been a welcoming refuge for me, and although I teach at Hanahau'oli School and Punahou School, I love my classes that I teach at the Museum all day Saturdays because I am happily surrounded by children and artists/ educators that honor what is truly important to our lives.

Please invest monies in the new Honolulu Museums's new annex to further broaden the impact the wider community so that all can benefit from what art can develop in a human life. Continue to infuse creativity and innovative thinking in our keiki!

Lauren Okano
Art Specialist
Hanahau'oli School
Punahou School
Honolulu Museum of Art at Spalding Gallery
808-222-4844

Testimony Presented to the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
February 12, 2015, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 224
By Allaine Kelly

SB 324 – Relating to an Art Education Facility

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on HB 324, which proposes state support for construction of a building that would expand Honolulu Museum of Art School. I **support** this measure.

The Art School is important to me because I have learned so much; drawing, painting, ceramics, art history and watched my son's delight when he discovered drawing and painting in classes available at the art school. With so many art programs being cut from schools, this is an important resource needed for our keiki.

Now is the time to invest in a new Art School annex, providing flexible, dynamic, indoor-outdoor spaces that keep pace with the demand for learning at all ages. Today, most classes are filled to capacity. Last summer, the 2014 Summer Art Camp for children sold out in 18 minutes.

A new, free-standing building behind the current school would expand our classroom space and create a knowledge center with an art library and teacher training and learning resources. New classes in glass, wood shop, painting, and new media would be available to the community.

State investment in a new art school makes sense, not only because of the value it would provide to our community, but because it would be a state-owned building built on state land. Honolulu Museum of Art leases land under the current art school from the state of Hawai'i. The historic Linekona building is owned by the state and operated by the museum. A new building, if built on state land, would also belong to the state of Hawai'i.

Please support Senate Bill 324. The school is an important part of my community, and state investment will help ensure its value and utility to Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
Re: Senate Bill 324 relating to Art Education Facility at Linekona School

STRONGLY SUPPORT

Honorable Chair Tanaguchi, Vice Chair Inouye and members of the committee:

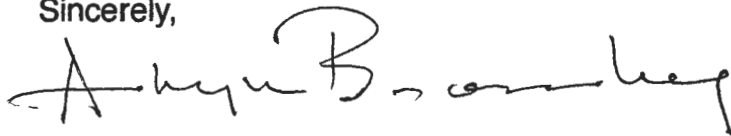
Thank you for the opportunity to voice support of SB 324. As a retired educator in the arts at the University of Hawaii, Manoa and at Leeward Community College, I have first-hand experience of the benefits of art education to all members of our society. Through art education, we all learn to "think outside the box" and to expand our ability to think creatively. The arts not only contribute to a visual richness, but lay a foundation for solving problems and providing solutions to other aspects of life.

At the Honolulu Museum of Art, where I am currently a docent, our ability to meet the demand of the community to provide art classes is limited by our facility. Linekona School classrooms are filled to capacity, and there are waiting lists for hopefuls who have been promised a chance to enroll at another opportunity.

I support the building of new classrooms at Linekona to address a real community need.

Thank you for your positive consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Allyn Bromley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "A".

Allyn Bromley, Professor Emeritus
University of Hawaii, Manoa

address:
2207 Mohala Way, Honolulu, HI 96822
abromley@hawaii.rr.com

Testimony Presented to the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts

February 12, 2015, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 224

By: **Amanda Lei Perron, MLS, teacher-librarian Le Jardin Academy, active member and volunteer docent of HMoA**

SB 324 – Relating to an Art Education Facility

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on HB 324, which proposes state support for construction of a building that would expand Honolulu Museum of Art School. I **support** this measure.

The Art School is important to me **as an educator** at Le Jardin Academy because our teachers and students utilize HMoA and the Art School to supplement experiential learning throughout the curriculum by attending various See Art-Make Art tours. In addition, the HMoA School's Lending Library supports student learning through their outreach program of lending artifacts and various cultural items to our school library and classrooms. **As an individual**, the Art School supports my professional development and personal growth through art knowledge and therapeutic artwork projects.

Now is the time to invest in a new Art School annex, providing flexible, dynamic, indoor-outdoor spaces that keep pace with the demand for learning at all ages. Today, most classes are filled to capacity. Last summer, the 2014 Summer Art Camp for children sold out in 18 minutes.

A new, free-standing building behind the current school would expand our classroom space and create a knowledge center with an art library and teacher training and learning resources. New classes in glass, wood shop, painting, and new media would be available to the community.

State investment in a new art school makes sense, not only because of the value it would provide to our community, but because it would be a state-owned building built on state land. Honolulu Museum of Art leases land under the current art school from the state of Hawai'i. The historic Linekona building is owned by the state and operated by the museum. A new building, if built on state land, would also belong to the state of Hawai'i.

Please support Senate Bill 324. The school is an important part of my community, and state investment will help ensure its value and utility to Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

Sincerely,

Amanda Lei Perron, amanda.perron@lejardinacademy.org

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Cc: dcroot88@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB324 on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 4:33:07 PM

SB324

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HEA on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 224

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Carol Root | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: The Art School is important to me because I have worked with the Honolulu Museum of Art (HMA) since 2011. I am an Education Docent and spend over 50 touring hours a year introducing Art to School Children. What has been so rewarding and necessary is seeing light bulbs going off in children when they make a connection to the art. Many have never seen an original work of art. Many have never picked up a paint brush or felt clay or been encouraged to express themselves through art. Schools have been concentrating on core curriculum of Science and Math leaving Art as an afterthought thinking it has no relation to academic childhood development. What I see is that there are many different ways children learn and exposure to making art incorporates the core curriculum. One has to use math and science to figure out how to create anything. Where are our children to go to explore these alternative ways to learn? To have available more space and teaching room for students to discover different avenues of expression will be invaluable. These students today are our future. If they are not exposed to art in the academic venue, our Museum and Art School provide the basics of learning and opens doors in their minds and future. Lets make sure as many people as possible in our community can take advantage of what The Art School has to offer.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Testimony Presented to the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
February 12, 2015, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 224
By Carol Young

SB324 – Relating to an Art Education Facility

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on HB324, which proposes state support for construction of a building that would expand Honolulu Museum of Art School. I support this measure.

Now is the time to invest in a new Art School annex, providing flexible, dynamic, indoor-outdoor spaces that keep pace with the demand for learning at all ages. Both of our 9-year old twin sons enrolled in art classes at the Honolulu Museum of Art School for two summers in a row. They thoroughly enjoyed the rich art experiences that they were provided and they were given many opportunities to explore different types of art media that resulted in them developing an appreciation for the arts. Due to the limited number of spaces available, we had to make sure that we signed up as soon as registration opened to ensure that our sons could register before the classes were filled to capacity.

Sadly, with the rigor of Common Core State Standards, Art education is one of the lowest priority subject areas that schools currently focus on. Our sons rarely have art classes at school. On average, they've probably had no more than five art lessons per year at best! Having a new Art School annex would enable the Honolulu Museum of Art School to expand their curriculum so they can, in turn, offer learning opportunities to children and adults!

A new, free-standing building behind the current school would expand classroom space and create a knowledge center with an art library and teacher training and learning resources. Teachers would also benefit from furthering their professional development through training and having access to learning resources.

As a former Project Director for an after school program, we were fortunate to have the Honolulu Museum of Art provide rich, meaningful art enrichment activities for many of our students throughout our complex for the past five years. Their art instructors provided art lessons during our after school, Saturday, and summer programs and they created many happy and memorable experiences for our students from Kindergarten to 9th grade! Our students yearned for these art classes and they often asked when they would have another art class. The quality of the Honolulu Museum of Art School's programs and instructors are top notch and I will highly recommend that we continue to offer their art enrichment classes to our students during our extracurricular programs at my current school.

New classes in glass, wood shop, painting, and new media would be available to the community. I would be very interested in registering my entire family if these

classes were offered by the Art School. It's so hard to find these types of classes offered here in Hawaii. People in Hawaii are at a disadvantage compared to many other states since we have very limited choices and access to a variety of learning experiences when it comes to STEAM (Science Technology Engineering Art and Math).

Please support Senate Bill 324. The school is an important part of our community, and state investment will help ensure that we continue to keep the arts alive especially for our future generations here in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

SB 324

Regarding Art Education Facility

I plead with you to support the expansion of the Art Education Facility of Honolulu Museum of Art School Annex.

I have taken many classes at the Art School, what a great resource. I have not been able to enroll in classes because they fill up sooo quickly. If I don't sign up on day one or two – I may not get to be in the class I want to attend. My children have also participated in classes and with fewer art classes in schools, we are dependent on the Art Museum of offer art opportunities for our keiki.

With expansion, they will be able to offer more classes and have room for more participants. Please support this proposed expansion.

Carole Iacovelli

1376 Kainui Drive

Kailua, HI

From: [Phil Whitney](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Subject: SB 324
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 1:14:03 PM

Senate Bill 324 – Relating to an Art Education Facility February 12, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 224

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

Testimony submitted By

Carolyn K. Whitney,

Thank you for the chance to ask for your support on the construction of a building to expand the Honolulu Museum of Art School. I certainly support this measure.

As a docent at the HMA for many years I have well noted the importance of art education for children, as well as for the teachers and parents who often accompany them. A new building behind the current Linekona building would greatly add to the art experience - many of the classes there are filled to capacity now. Also library facilities on art and new classes in painting, wood shaping, glass, etc. would be available to the whole community as well as the children. I understand that Linekona building which currently serves as the art school is owned by the state. And a new building on state land here would also belong to Hawaii state.

With the current great emphasis on science and math, art and music education are not finding many places in the regular public school schedules. This is a shame – not all kids have the interest or the brains to excel in important these skills. Art can be of great importance to those who don't, as well as to the others who welcome the chance to benefit from the many types of art enrichment which could be offered in a larger setting – i.e. another building on the site.

A personal interest – for many years I gave a lot of varied art tours in the main museum to children who were challenged in many ways – blindness, autism, mental retardation, deafness, etc. They do not come for tours any more under a special category to serve their special needs. Art they loved! Many improvements were seen over the weeks, or even great enthusiasm if they could only be there for an hour. These special children would be so grateful for the increased space for art which a new building could offer them.

Thank you again for your consideration in hearing testimony for the passing of SB 324.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Cc: chall310@earthlink.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB324 on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM
Date: Saturday, February 07, 2015 1:19:45 PM

SB324

Submitted on: 2/7/2015

Testimony for HEA on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 224

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Catherine Hall | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: I strongly believe that monies should be given to the Honolulu Museum of Art to expend the art school. I take one or two courses every term and believe that they have significantly improved by life. I am also studying to be a docent to give tours to school children. The Museum is a key player in art education for children in this state. With cut backs on art education in schools, its role is even more vital than ever. Also, if we want future generations to appreciate art and to have creative minds then we need to support art education such as that provided by the Museum. Now you have to register the first day as an adult to get the classes you want. Registration for the summer art program for children is full after 18 minutes. An expansion of the art school space is critical to make these programs available to more of our keiki.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Cc: cmilevinson@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB324 on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM
Date: Monday, February 09, 2015 3:27:44 PM

SB324

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for HEA on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 224

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Cathy Levinson | Individual | Comments Only | No |

Comments: As an active docent at the Honolulu Museum of Art, I strongly support the expansion of Linekona, nka Museum School, to provide more art classrooms for students and adults, teacher training, library space, and parking which are all sorely needed. Enhancing the quality of education and therefore the quality of life for more students, parents and teachers of Hawai'i is of prime importance for the health and future of Hawai'i. Thank you, Cathy Levinson

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FAX 808 586-6461

From: Cecilia Doo <gcdoo@yahoo.com>
Subject: Bill for Honolulu Museum of Art SB 324
Date: February 11, 2015 7:17:14 AM HST
To: sentaniguchi@capitol.hawaii.gov



Dear Senator Taniguchi,

We have been life time members of the Honolulu Museum of Art for nearly 40 years and vounteered as a docent guide for 17 years. We strive for a better Hawaii by serving the community of all ages and ethnic backgrounds.

Please vote in support of the Honolulu Museum of Art bill. SB 324

Cecilia and Gene Doo and family (15).

Cecilia + Gene Doo & family

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Cc: chughes@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB324 on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 6:28:07 AM

SB324

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HEA on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 224

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Charlene Hughes | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: The Arts are so important. It is through the Museum of Art and through The School of Art that art can be a part of our children's lives. I support Senate bill # 324 Charlene Hughes, docent at HMA

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February 11, 2015

Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 219
415 South Beretania St.
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts,

I am writing on behalf of the Honolulu Museum of Art School to ask the State of Hawai'i for SB 324 to invest in a new Honolulu Museum of Art School annex. Having another facility will provide more students the opportunity for more classes to be offered. This is important to me because I have found the art school to be a good foundation for my son's development in his art talents. I have watched his progress through the years and I am very proud of all his creations that he has made while at the Art Academy. I encourage every child the opportunity to attend facilities like this. It helps develop their talents and encourages confidence in their artistic abilities. This would also encourage younger students to continue taking classes at the academy and help them develop their potential to become world famous artists some day.

Sincerely yours,

Cheryl Palakiko

February 10, 2015

Re: Senate Bill 324 Relating to an Art Education Facility

Dear Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye and Members of the HEA Committee:

There are many important reasons to support this bill. Among them are:

1. Honolulu needs to enhance its identity as a cultural center, not just a place with great weather and beaches. The Honolulu Art Museum is a treasure. It is one of the finest small art museums in the world. Improving HMA will enhance Honolulu's community and reputation.

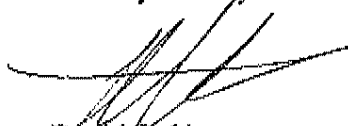
2. The Honolulu Museum of Art ("HMA") with limited resources, already gives more tours to school children than the National Gallery in Washington, DC, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Museum of Modern Art, both in New York City – **combined**. HMA is rated #2 in the country in per capita tours for school children. HMA's resources and space for education are already fully utilized. Our community needs to expand those resources. HMA needs it, and our children need it. Our community will benefit from expanding HMA's educational resources.

3. Not only will passage of this bill help HMA fulfill its educational mission, it will also help establish Thomas Square with the Concert Hall, HMA and Linekona as a center for the arts, and make Thomas Square a physical and visual statement that Honolulu is a cultural center.

4. This bill is not seeking to improve anything other than the State of Hawaii's own property. The state owns Linekona. This bill will provide education not only for our children, but for the entire community, including many seniors. It will give all of us a place to study and create art. It will enhance the value of state property. It is an investment in our future that will enrich our community for generations to come.

Please support SB 324.

Thank you for your courtesy in considering my testimony.



David F. Simons

Testimony Presented to the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts

February 12, 2015, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 224

From: Deborah Bocken 1288 Ala Moana Blvd apt8B Honolulu, HI 96814

SB 324 – Relating to an Art Education Facility

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

SB 324: requesting state support for construction of a building to expand Honolulu Museum of Art School.

I know that you all are aware of the slashing of art programs in the public schools. This lack of opportunity for Hawaii's children to expand and express their creativity has negative consequences: hence, the importance of The Art School. You can reverse this lack by supporting the Art School annex. Today, most classes are filled to capacity. Last summer, the 2014 Summer Art Camp for children sold out in 18 minutes.

A new, free-standing building behind the current school would provide classroom space, create a knowledge center with an art library and teacher training and learning resources. New classes in glass, wood shop, painting, and new media could be offered.

State investment in a new art school is logical since this would be a state-owned building built on state land. The Honolulu Museum of Art leases land under the current art school from the state of Hawai'i. The historic Linekona building is owned by the state and operated by the museum. A new building, if built on state land, would also belong to the state of Hawai'i.

Thank you for your consideration of the impact your vote can have and the importance of supporting Senate Bill 324.

Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
February 12, 2015, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 224
SB 324 Relating to an Art Education Facility

Dear Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee,

We are writing in enthusiastic support of SB 324 Relating to an Art Education Facility. During the summer of 2011, when our daughter Robbie was 12 years old, she spent three weeks of the summer in the half day program at the Honolulu School of Art (“HSA”). We were looking for a summer activity that would be amusing and supplement the once a week art classes she was getting at school, but got much more than ever expected.

During the three week program, Robbie met and worked with children from other schools and neighborhoods, an experience she would not have had otherwise. Her teachers, all working artists themselves, were excellent - patient, informed, fun, inspiring. It was eye-opening for Robbie to meet and listen to people whose lives were devoted to making art.

The students worked individually and collaboratively in groups to design and create a group image. She was exposed to a multitude of different media and methods -- ceramic, paint, collage, drawing. Each project had a specific object or goal, and the students learned to finish projects within an allotted time frame. When she brought her art pieces home each week, we could see her sense of accomplishment and pride in having worked through a project to completion. She was as proud of her own work as the piece 8 or 9 of students worked on together. And, she was delighted when her teacher discussed with her the reasons he had selected the pieces of hers to be in the final show. That summer, Robbie gained real confidence in her abilities as an artist and in life.

As a final note, it is surprising to learn how many adults have never had a chance to be exposed to art or visit an art museum. When children learn about art, their parents learn too. Please support the expansion of the HSA so that many, many of Hawaii’s children and families can experience the joys and enrichment that their excellent programs and facilities offer right here in the midst of our community.

Deborah L. Kim
James J. Bickerton
4088 Kulamanu St. Honolulu, Hawaii 96816
Email: debbiekim@hawaii.rr.com

February 11, 2015

Testimony Presented to the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
February 12, 2015, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 224
By Deborah G. Nehmad

SB 324 – Relating to an Art Education Facility

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on SB 324, which proposes state support for construction of a building that would expand Honolulu Museum of Art School. I wholeheartedly **support** this measure and encourage the Committee to join in this support.

I am a practicing artist whose work is strongly represented in the SFCA collection, a current and former member of the board of the Honolulu Printmakers, a long time docent at what was The Contemporary Museum and now the Honolulu Museum of Art and a parent. I have spent many hours at the School, both taking classes and giving tours of exhibitions. Over the years, I have personally witnessed the impact that the art classes have had on students of all ages who have no other opportunity to express the creative side of themselves. I have seen wounded veterans look at art and try their hand at doing something that engages a different part of their brains. I have watched children proudly show their parents their masterpiece that is exhibited in an art gallery. Every time I'm at the school, I see and sense magic happening. But I also see how cramped and insufficient the current campus is.

There is a dire need for more classroom capacity. Current class enrollment is limited and if you don't know the way the system works and how quickly you must enroll, your child misses that opportunity. As budget constraints have forced public schools to virtually eliminate arts education, the services provided by the Art School and the Museum have become even more vital to providing a well rounded education to the children of this state. SB 324, which provides state support for the expansion of the Art School, would represent an important commitment by the state to its keiki.

Please support this bill. Do what is right for the keiki.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my support for this measure.

Deborah G. Nehmad
www.deborahnehmad.com

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Cc: dondrake@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB324 on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 11:39:44 AM

SB324

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HEA on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 224

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Donald Drake | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: To Whom it May Concern, I would like to voice my strong support for SB 324. My daughter has been taking classes at the Art Academy every year for more than 10 years. She has benefited greatly from the enthusiastic and professional guidance she has received from the staff there, and so have many of her friends. This is a wonderful institution, and one that is becoming increasingly important as art classes are reduced in availability at public schools. I urge you to provide resources to enhance the Art School's ability to give our children the opportunity to learn to express themselves through art. Sincerely, Don Drake

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TO: Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair

FROM: Duane Preble, Emeritus Professor of Art, UHM

RE: Senate Bill 324 - Relating to an Art Education Facility

Thurs. February 12, 2015 - 1:15 pm Conf. Room 224 Copies to members.

SUPPORT

Chair Taniguchi and Members:

My name is Duane Preble, Emeritus Professor of Art, UH Manoa.
I strongly support SB 324.

The Honolulu Museum of Art (formerly the Honolulu Academy of Art) has provided art education for Hawaii's citizens since 1922. Anna Rice Cooke, the museum's founder, and her friends took original works of art out to schools so children could learn about and be inspired by the arts of many cultures. Since that early beginning the museum has given art education to children and adults in a wide variety of ways. In addition to hands-on classes, museum tours, and programs in schools, the museum's specialists helped write Hawaii's first art curriculum and initiated one of the first Art Lending Collections for teachers offering students the chance to touch items such as masks, ceramics, carvings, clothing and shoes from around the world.

My work with the museum began in 1961 when I was a UH graduate student. I taught summer classes for children and worked in the Lending Collection. More recently, from 1994 to 2004, I taught Professional Development classes for teachers at the Museum. It is confirming when teachers from all over the state who took those classes make a point of telling me years later how much they and their students have benefitted from what they learned.

In addition to the museum's many school outreach programs, classes in the Museum's Art School are full and in increasing demand. Through scholarships, children from all economic groups are accommodated.

Given that the museum has done so much art educational work for the State of Hawaii for 93 years, I believe it is reasonable for the State to provide some of the funding for an expanded art education facility.

ELIZABETH RICE GROSSMAN

9 February 2015

Senator Brian Taniguchi
Chair, Senate Committee Higher Education and the Arts

Dear Senator Taniguchi:


I am writing to you and your committee in support of SB 324, and I am honored to do so!

Hawaii needs a center for art education and knowledge that is easily accessible in our community. Demand for service at Linekona has expanded dramatically in recent years. To be able to offer additional art classrooms that would allow our keiki and adults to work in glass, woodshop, painting and new media would be very welcome. Exposure to art has proven to improve outcomes and especially so when people actually do art.

Providing a library resource that would lend books to public school teachers as well as provide community spaces, which would include a classroom for teacher training, would make a big difference to a legion of people.

Please support SB 234.

Respectfully,


Elizabeth Rice Grossman

From: [Sen. Brian Taniguchi](mailto:Sen.Brian.Taniguchi)
To: taniguchi1 - Russ
Subject: FW: Testimony for SB 324
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 8:28:03 AM

From: Ellen Owens [<mailto:owens@mcowens.com>]

Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 8:10 PM

To: Sen. Brian Taniguchi

Subject: Testimony for SB 324

Testimony Presented to the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
February 12, 2015, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 224
By Ellen Owens

SB 324 – Relating to an Art Education Facility
CHAIR Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on HB 324, which proposes state support for construction of a building that would expand Honolulu Museum of Art School. **I support** this measure.

The Art School is important to me because it would allow all people to learn a variety of art techniques, while allowing them to visit the Museum of Art to learn about the history of the technique, and allow them to expand with imagination their own ideas of art and what it should look like. An expansion of the current art facility would allow for more and better classes for people, especially the children of Honolulu.

Now is the time to invest in a new Art School annex, providing flexible, dynamic, indoor-outdoor spaces that keep pace with the demand for learning at all ages. Today, most classes are filled to capacity. Last summer, the 2014 Summer Art Camp for children sold out in 18 minutes!

A new, free-standing building behind the current school would expand our classroom space and create a knowledge center with an art library and teacher training and learning resources. New classes in glass, wood shop, painting, and new media would be available to the community.

State investment in a new art school makes sense, not only because of the value it would provide to our community, but because it would be a state-owned building built on state land. Honolulu Museum of Art leases the land under the current art school from the State of Hawai'i. The historic Linekona building is owned by the state and operated by the museum. A new building, if built on state land, would also belong to the State of Hawai'i.

Please support Senate Bill 324. The school is an important part of my community, and state investment will help to ensure its value and utility to Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

February 11, 2015

Brian Taniguchi
Committee Chairman
Senate Committee of Higher Education and the Arts

Dear Senator Taniguchi,

I am writing in support of Bill 324-Relating to an art education facility

I have been teaching art in Hawaii for over 30 years, many of which were at the Honolulu Museum of Art, then called the Honolulu Academy of Arts. I started teaching way back when the classrooms were downstairs in the main museum. I remember when they acquired Linekona school. There was no air conditioning in the classrooms and let me tell you, it was hot in those classrooms during the summer session! Still, the classes were full of kids.

The Honolulu Museum of Art is a unique school because it is staffed with teaching artists. Not only the instructors, but also the administrators are active artists. While many fine art teachers teach an academic approach to art, an artist can pass down to students a creative passion and show them how to think like an artist. I cannot think of a better way to give back to the community.

Simply, the Honolulu Museum of Art School is a wonderful place. I love working there. Many artists like myself, return to work there, certainly not because of the pay which could be vastly better, but because we like the creative and easy atmosphere. It is a welcoming place and really, it is the only game in town. Expanding the school is the best news I've heard in a long time.

Sincerely,



Fae Yamaguchi

3669-A Woodlawn Drive
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

Ph 988-4673
366-3384

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Cc: feliciafelix@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB324 on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM
Date: Thursday, February 05, 2015 5:12:47 PM

SB324

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for HEA on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 224

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Felicia Felix | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: Please pass SB324. Hawaii's future artists need encouragement to depict our life in Hawaii as seen through the eyes of these children. These processes, encouragement and promotion of art and art history makes a person more introspective, more well rounded and brings culture and aloha to the world. Please support this effort to enrich the lives of children through art, music and theatre.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Cc: fymjsmith@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB324 on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM
Date: Sunday, February 08, 2015 4:45:37 PM

SB324

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for HEA on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 224

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Fred and Marilyn Smith | Individual | Comments Only | No |

Comments: As docents at the Honolulu Museum of Arts for the past 12 years, we have been both “teachers” and students exploring the world of the arts and finding in that experience richly rewarding to us personally and to those with whom we have worked and learned. We also have been students in courses at the Art School, learning about and working hands-on in various media. The School serves the young and the old, the beginner as well as the professional, giving students the opportunity to learn about art and the role it plays in our everyday lives, and to actually participate in the joy of its creation. Its outreach programs take arts education into the classroom and introduce our young people to the importance and pleasures of the arts throughout the year. As a result, the success of the school in the last several years has generated increasing demand for its offerings. As SB324 proposes, an expanded facility would bring the school additional classroom space, new offerings in the arts, special programs and training space for Hawaii’s public school teachers, and access for teachers to the Museum’s library and lending collection. It also includes a additional badly needed parking space to accommodate students as well as visitors to the Museum. We think this is worthwhile endeavor, and ask your thoughtful consideration for this important proposal in support of arts education in Hawaii.

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February 10, 2015

Senator Brian Taniguchi
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

via fax: 586-6461

Dear Senator Taniguchi;

As a member of the Honolulu Museum of Art and a volunteer in the Museum's Art School, I support S.B. 324 Relating to an Art Education Facility.


My first memory of the Museum began in the fourth grade with a tour of an art exhibition and of my fascination with the colors and composition of one particular painting which I still remember almost sixty ago.

Although my working career was in business, I have attended many art courses at the University of Hawaii, Honolulu Community College and of course the Honolulu Art Academy in my spare time. Besides having very professional instructors, the Museum School provides a range of courses for keiki on through seniors that are oriented to the enjoyment of learning verses structured academics.

With the perceived loss of art education in the public schools, the physical expansion of the Museum School should provide more access for all ages to quality art education at an affordable price with the bonus that much of the new revenue generated with a larger school will remain in the local economy.

Combined with the Museum School's collaboration with public schools and other educational institutions, the benefits to the whole island ohana will surely make this endeavor a long-term success.

Sincerely yours,



Fred Takakuwa

670 Prospect St., # 708; Honolulu, HI 96813

Senator Brian Taniguchi

I write this in support of SB324 Relating to an Art Education Facility

My husband and I have happy childhood memories of time spent at the Honolulu Museum of Art then called the Academy of Arts. Our struggling Japanese middle class families sacrificed to send us to these classes. We sent both our sons and recently our grandson to art classes. Three generations have had art experiences at the Museum that we would have not gotten anywhere else.

Art is now such a small part of the Public School curriculum; it is imperative that we provide places for children to have art experiences. The classroom teacher is usually not equipped to teach art. All the materials and equipment needed as well as the preparation time required, makes it almost impossible for most classroom teachers to manage an art project. Success breeds success and for some students that have little success in the three R's, Art can lead the way. The Honolulu Museum of Art School through our Art Lending Collection benefits classroom teachers and through them all students.

Art classes at the Museum Art School are not only for children, but also for the mentally and physically challenged as well as seniors and any one interested in trying to learn a skill. Art crosses the generations and brings joy, happiness and self worth.

Thank you,

Gail M. Toma

This is from an Art Specialist who taught Studio Art and Introduction to the Visual Arts at Leeward Community College in Waianae for eight years.. Then the course was cancelled and Digital Photography and Hawaiian Studies was placed in its lieu. During the 8 years, approximately 200 students interacted with me in the fine arts. Every semester, I took students to the Honolulu Museum of Art. These were adults, some of them parents already. Most had NEVER been to the Art Museum. They loved every moment and were so excited about the experience. We need to offer every opportunity we can to local people who live on a tiny island in the middle of the Pacific. Thank God to Anna Rice Cooke for establishing the Art Museum years ago, as well as Spaulding House. Please pass SB324! Mahalo loa,
Gladys de Barcza, Ph.D.

Testimony Presented to the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
February 12, 2015, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 224
By Hannah Slovin

SB 324 – Relating to an Art Education Facility

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on HB 324, which proposes state support for construction of a building that would expand Honolulu Museum of Art School. I **support** this measure.

The Art School is important to me for many reasons, but the two that stand out in my mind are very simple. The first reason involves an experience I had 44 years ago with the then Linekona art teachers who came out to team teach with teachers at a summer enrichment program held at Kahuku Elementary School. They worked with the students alongside the teachers (I was a classroom teacher at Kahuku) and taught us how to make every child feel like an artist. The second involves my own child's joyful engagement in an art class at Linekona designed for parents and toddlers. It's very simple that any program that brings a strong sense of self and joy to young people should be supported.

Now is the time to invest in a new Art School annex, providing flexible, dynamic, indoor-outdoor spaces that keep pace with the demand for learning at all ages. Today, most classes are filled to capacity. Last summer, the 2014 Summer Art Camp for children sold out in 18 minutes.

A new, free-standing building behind the current school would expand our classroom space and create a knowledge center with an art library and teacher training and learning resources. New classes in glass, wood shop, painting, and new media would be available to the community.

State investment in a new art school makes sense, not only because of the value it would provide to our community, but because it would be a state-owned building built on state land. Honolulu Museum of Art leases land under the current art school from the state of Hawai'i. The historic Linekona building is owned by the state and operated by the museum. A new building, if built on state land, would also belong to the state of Hawai'i.

Please support Senate Bill 324. The school is an important part of my community, and state investment will help ensure its value and utility to Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

Senator Brian Taniguchi
Fax 808 586-6461
February 11, 2015

Testimony to The Senate Committee on Higher Educations and the Arts - in favor of SB324

I support and urge the Committee to vote in favor of SB324 for the following reasons:

1. I believe the future of our State and our Country is in the hands of our youth. The arts place a vital part in the education of our young. I have seen the correlation of music and drawing and academic success in both of my two children who have become fully realized and successful adults. I believe the funding an art education facility will play an important role in the future of our young people.
2. With the cut backs in art programs in our public schools, a new art education facility can fill the gap for this important aspect of helping our youth realize their full potential. The Museum has a good track record in reaching out to the youth in our community to encourage their artistic explorations.
3. The State has established it commitment to the Arts through the Hawaii State Foundation on Culture and the Arts. While the recent November 2014 audit indicated the Foundation needed to improve its management and performance, the Honolulu Museum has proven management and educational personnel in place.

I have been taking adult classes at the Linekona annex for about 8 years. Both the classes and the many fellow artists with whom I have become friends have enriched my life considerably. The art classes sponsored by the Museum are a wonderful resource for our community - for both the young and the more senior members of our Ohana.

In summary, I believe a new Museum art school annex would be a great asset to the community. I urge the Committee to approve SB324.

Thank you.

Herbert Lee, Jr.
Ph 536-6137
ghi@lava.net

Written Testimony Presented to the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
February 12, 2015, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 224
by Howena Hiu Reinker

SB 324 – Relating to an Art Education Facility

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on HB 324, which proposes state support for construction of a building that would expand Honolulu Museum of Art School. I strongly **support** this measure.

The Art School has been an important part of my life through childhood and as an adult. As a student in elementary school, I attended art school in the basement of the Honolulu Academy of Arts during summer vacations, taking classes in drawing and painting and puppet making. The experience taught me self-confidence and gave me a lasting appreciation for art. As an adult, I have taken watercolor painting and life drawing classes and even exhibited a few of my own paintings in the Linekona building. Now that I'm retired, I still take an occasional class at the Art School, as well as volunteer as a docent for the Honolulu Museum of Art. Some of my favorite tours are the "See Art Make Art" tours that give students an opportunity to view works of art at the Museum and then walk over to the Art School to create their own work of art.

Now is the time to invest in a new Art School annex, providing flexible, dynamic, indoor-outdoor spaces that keep pace with the demand for learning at all ages. Today, most classes are filled to capacity. Last summer, the 2014 Summer Art Camp for children sold out in 18 minutes.

A new, free-standing building behind the current school would expand our classroom space and create a knowledge center with an art library and teacher training and learning resources. New classes in glass, wood shop, painting, and new media would be available to the community.

State investment in a new art school makes sense, not only because of the value it would provide to our community, but because it would be a state-owned building built on state land. Honolulu Museum of Art leases land under the current art school from the state of Hawai'i. The historic Linekona building is owned by the state and operated by the museum. A new building, if built on state land, would also belong to the state of Hawai'i.

Please support Senate Bill 324. The school is an important part of my community and is providing art education that enriches our children's learning experience. State investment will help ensure its value and utility to Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.



SB 324 Testimony from Jackie Mild Lau of Sculpture Out Of Hand

To The Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts:

The Honolulu Museum of Arts School is the de-facto center of visual art learning, creation and display in the State of Hawaii. Classes for children, adults and school groups, workshops, meetings, exhibitions and performances fill this building 16 hours a day, most days of the week. And while Neighbor Island artists have to make extra effort to visit, their work is frequently on display and offered for sale in organized juried shows held in the main and upstairs galleries.

“Linekona” its popular moniker, has expanded in its reach and scope continuously since its reopening as an Art school in the early 1990’s. I recall when jewelry classes were held only on Thursdays in a room it shared on other days with classes as young as kindergarteners. Large pieces of furniture and wall partitions were shifted each week to accommodate classes so popular they would fill up in less than a day (this before online registration) with would be students in tears at missing the opportunity to take these classes. A storage closet was emptied, a dedicated jewelry lab founded and daily classes opened for a wide range of happy students.

Having a shared facility allows printmakers to use large presses and processes that would be out of reach to individuals. A ceramics lab does the same for clay artists. A burgeoning glass program needs a dedicated space for it to meet the needs of its students and increase the safety of the spaces it shares with others. Other media and programs could be supported if only there was space to house them. Sometimes classes have been held outdoors or off site because of space limitations.

The Art Center is a community builder limited only by its space, the funding and imagination of its benefactors. I encourage the committee to support funding an annex to the Honolulu Museum of Art School. It benefits reach well beyond the lives of its individual users.

Testimony Presented to the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
February 12, 2015, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 224
By **Jody Schucart**

SB 324 – Relating to an Art Education Facility

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on HB 324, which proposes state support for construction of a building that would expand Honolulu Museum of Art School. I **support** this measure.

My first memory of the Art School at the Museum is as a 5 year old taking classes in Art. Now I work as a volunteer Docent taking children through the Museum on tours. The school tours that I have been part of are full and the teachers have remarked that they would like to include more tours but there are no openings much of the time. The new Art School will mean that more kids will be able to participate. The tours and art classes encourage children to develop creative thinking and problem-solving skills that are easily applied to every day life. Please keep our children in mind when discussing this bill.

Now is the time to invest in a new Art School annex, providing flexible, dynamic, indoor-outdoor spaces that keep pace with the demand for learning at all ages. Today, most classes are filled to capacity. Last summer, the 2014 Summer Art Camp for children sold out in 18 minutes.

A new, free-standing building behind the current school would expand our classroom space and create a knowledge center with an art library and teacher training and learning resources. New classes in glass, wood shop, painting, and new media would be available to the community.

State investment in a new art school makes sense, not only because of the value it would provide to our community, but because it would be a state-owned building built on state land. Honolulu Museum of Art leases land under the current art school from the state of Hawai'i. The historic Linekona building is owned by the state and operated by the museum. A new building, if built on state land, would also belong to the state of Hawai'i.

Please support Senate Bill 324. The school is an important part of my community, and state investment will help ensure its value and utility to Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

Sincerely,

Jody Schucart

Testimony from John M. Hara

For SB324

Re: Expanded Art School for Honolulu Museum of Art

February 11, 2015

Some reasons why Honolulu Museum of Art School is important to me as an architect.

When I look back through my early art education, I realize that I was born at a time in Hawai'i when art education had begun to reach the children of all of the territory. My great and life- long love of art started at what was then the Honolulu Academy of Arts which had embarked on creating a comprehensive outreach program of teaching art to all of the children of the Territory of Hawai'i whatever their ethnic or social class background might be. It was the mission of Mrs. Cooke who dedicated her life to the education in art that she believed each child could benefit from.

From a very lively and curious child holding a long handled brush with great interest, I became excited by painting and by the time I was a teenager, I found a great anchor in the arts of people and places that I longed some day to see. My world had become larger to my delight and benefit. I could say that the boy who became an architect began to think about what something beautiful was all about because of those early years with dedicated teachers who believed in teaching students what was possible.

Expanding the Honolulu Museum of Art School makes great sense to me.

Submitted by John M. Hara, John Hara and Associates, 1018 Kemole Lane, Honolulu Hawaii, 96826

Email: jmh@jhara.com phone: (808) 955-1151

**Testimony Presented to the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
February 12, 2015, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 224
By Kathleen F. Walsh**

SB 324 – Relating to an Art Education Facility

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony on HB 324, which proposes state support for construction of a building that would expand Honolulu Museum of Art School. I support this measure.

As part of the kama' aina community, I value the enormous commitment of the Honolulu Museum of Art and the Art School to ALL keiki of Hawai'i. Art education for Hawai'i's keiki is one of the primary missions undertaken by the Museum and School. That education includes the wonderful opportunity at the School to allow keiki to explore the joys of making art—of bringing another dimension of learning to their lives and to the lives of the families with whom they will share their art experience. Art enhances and enriches the lives of all our keiki—and making and sharing art should not be a function of whether a particular school (or school system), community, or individual family can "afford" it, or be precluded from participating due to limited availability. Learning about and making art is part of our multi-cultural heritage. Just as we value athletic endeavor for our keiki's physical well-being and psychological maturation, so also should we value the role of art education in the expansion of our keiki's intellectual and emotional horizons!


Now is the time to invest in a new Art School annex, providing flexible, dynamic, indoor-outdoor spaces that keep pace with the demand for learning at all ages. Today, most classes are filled to capacity. Last summer, the 2014 Summer Art Camp for children sold out in 18 minutes.

A new, free-standing building behind the current school would expand our classroom space and create a knowledge center with an art library and teacher training and learning resources. New classes in glass, wood shop, painting, and new media would be available to the community.

State investment in a new art school makes sense, not only because of the value it would provide to our community, but because it would be a state-owned building built on state land. Honolulu Museum of Art leases land under the current art school from the state of Hawai'i. The historic Linekona building is owned by the state and operated by the museum. A new building, if built on state land, would also belong to the state of Hawai'i.

Please support Senate Bill 324.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.



Kathleen F. Walsh
7780 Waikapu Loop
Honolulu, HI 96825

2/11/15

Dear Senate Committee on Higher
Education and the Arts,

I am writing on behalf of the Honolulu
Museum of Arts Educational program.
As a father of two young children I
see the arts as a vital part of education.
When I say "arts" I mean beyond just
painting, drawing, and making things with
your hands, I feel the more important
and vital take away message is what
these children are making with their minds.
The studies have shown what a creative
education can do for a developing brain,
however, traditional school systems have not
embraced the concepts proven to be effective
by the research. We have an opportunity
to truly make a difference in the way a
child can think, problem solve, and ultimately
succeed within any occupation, not only
in the arts but in a multitude of other
professions such as business, medicine, law,
and education. By expanding the arts
educational foundation at the Honolulu Museum
of Art we can begin to create a world
class creative education that our youth
need and deserve. With classes filling up
at breakneck speed we need to expand,
add more classrooms and world class
facilities, and offer more opportunities for
students so we can open the door to
every persons creative potential. Thank you
for your consideration. Sincerely, Kelly Sueda

February 11th 2015

Dear Senator Brian Taniguchi, and The Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts,

I am writing on behalf of the Honolulu Museum of Arts educational program. As a father of two young children I see the arts as a vital part of education. When I say "arts" I mean beyond just painting, drawing, and making things with your hands. I feel the more important and vital take away message is what these children are making with their minds. The studies have shown what a creative education can do for a developing brain, however traditional school systems have not embraced the concepts proven to be effective by the research. We have an opportunity to truly make a difference in the way a child can think, problem solve, and ultimately succeed within any occupation, not only in the arts but in a multitude of other professions such as business, medicine, law, and education. By expending the arts educational foundation at the Honolulu Museum of Art we can begin to create that world class creative education that our youth need and deserve. With classing being filled at breakneck speed we need to expand, add more classrooms and world class facilities, and offer more opportunities to students so we can open the door to every persons creative potential. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kelly Sueda
KeliySueda@gmail.com

Hello,

My Name is Kelsey Hughes and I am writing a testimonial in Support of the Senate Bill 324 for the Expansion of the Honolulu Museum of Art School.

I have been coming to the Art School for different reasons for over 10 years. I took classes at the Art School when I was in middle school, I got a job as an assistant to the Young Artists Classes when I was in high school (a job I had throughout collage) and currently I am the full time Registrar in the Administration Office at the Art School.

I love the variety of classes offered at the Art School and I was first introduced to printmaking at the Art School, which eventually became my favorite medium to work in and was the focus of my BF degree in Collage. I have continued to grow as an artist and learn new things and I have made some of my best life long friends here. I have a lot to thank the Art School for. Working at the Art School, I have seen over the years the positive influence that the Art School has on students of all ages and I know with the expansion that we can continue to reach more people and inspire more lives.

Thank you,
-Kelsey Hughes

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Cc: iceecoffee@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB324 on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 12:29:21 PM
Attachments: [Honolulu Museum of Art School Annex.pages](#)

SB324

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HEA on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 224

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Lani R Tesoro | Individual | Support | No |

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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DATE: February 10, 2015
TO: Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
FROM: Leslie Ann Munro, Ed.D., Professor Emeritus, Leeward Community College
SUBJECT: Senate Bill 324- Relating to an Art Education Facility

MY POSITION ON BILL 324: I am submitting this letter as written testimony **IN FAVOR** of Bill 324.

Please give full support to Bill 324 so that the Museum School can continue to expand its incredible programs. I have been impressed with the expansion of classes and programs over the last eleven years.

I have been taking classes at Linekona since Spring 2004, the month after I retired from Leeward Community College as a Professor of English. All my life, I had dreamed of being able to draw and paint. I asked an art teacher colleague, James Goodman, how I should start. He said, "Take a drawing class." I said, "From whom?" He replied, "From Anthony Lee at Linekona." So I did. Jim, by the way, has also long taught at the Museum School.

What an incredible experience! I just looked through my collection of drawings and paintings, done in classes and workshops by Anthony Lee, James Goodman, Chuck Davis, George Woollard, and Mark Norseth. These incredible artists and teachers enhance the reputation of the Museum School. And while I will probably never be a famous artist, that's okay. I am impressed with my own improvement and especially appreciate both my current instructor, Anthony Lee, and the convivial classmates that make attending every Wednesday morning a joy. As I tell Anthony: Who needs expensive therapy when we have this class to renew us every week? I have been in Anthony's watercolor class since Spring 2006.

I am not the only senior citizen who finds an outlet in the Museum School. And those who are still working squeeze in night classes or even arrange their schedules so they can attend a day class. That is how much they value the guidance they get from the faculty.

One recurring pleasure is the periodic hallway shows of children's work. They create delightful art pieces. Art has been shown to be a particularly effective tool for academic and personal growth, as I am sure the Committee is aware. How I wish I had had such an opportunity when I was their age. A recent show even highlighted artwork by those facing various mental challenges. Their show demonstrated that talent need not be limited by society's definition of one's abilities.

Please give the Museum School the support it needs to continue to expand its reach into the community via its offerings, the wonderful classes and workshops offered by exceptional artists. All the students, from senior citizens to school-age children, will benefit. As will the community at large as people learn to see the world from the

perspective of art, which so beautifully enhances our ability to think through solutions to the difficult problems facing society.

Testimony Presented to the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts

February 12, 2015, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 224

By Elizabeth Cooper Lowrey

SB 324 – Relating to an Art Education Facility

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on SB 324, which proposes state support for construction of a building that would expand Honolulu Museum of Art School. I **support** this measure.

The Art School is important for both children and adults in our community. As a middle school English teacher in both private and public schools in Hawaii, I have seen the importance of art in the lives of children. In my classes, I have seen how children who were barely able to express a concept in words, articulate a deeper understanding when given an opportunity, to address the same concept through art. I have observed children who were marginalized socially or academically, find an outlet through art. I have also observed children, well adjusted in every way, find satisfaction and joy in the creation of an artwork.

Art should be at the center of everything we do. It serves us as individuals when we create art or enjoy the art others have created. It serves us as a community, making our lives richer when is a part of our daily lives. Art is woven into our lives through our own practice or through the work of others. Art is problem solving, art is structure, art is science, art is experimentation, art is history, art is culture, art is fun!! Art is a way of turning the way we see things, inside-out! Art is not elite! It is and should be available to all. With more pressure in schools, as well as our daily lives to spend precious time working on computers, it is even more important to create a balance. As we become more and more of an electronic push-button society, we need to have the opportunity to really work with our hands, the way every civilization has since the beginning of time.

I was lucky to have an artistic mother who made sure we had art supplies and art education as we grew up...not every child or adult is that lucky. Providing the opportunity, is also providing the environment in which a child or adult can grow with guidance and encouragement. It is providing a space which is conducive to creating art, a space which can be used from one generation to the next. As a child, I took classes from Juanita Kenda at the Honolulu Academy of Arts, as an adult, I take classes across the street at Linekona along with my husband. Our daughter, now 43 and a high school history teacher and mother of two boys, took classes through the academy program as a child, and now, when time permits, as an adult. Her son, age 11, is currently taking a cartooning class at Linekona and is finding new ways of expressing himself. Art spreads itself across generations, in our family...it spans three generations.

Many people feel that the age of exploration is over, but with art...exploration of a new world through paint, clay, glass, pencil, pen, fibre, wood, paper, ink, carving...is just a step away! Open the doors to a more creative world...and let the exploration begin!

Now is the time to invest in a new Art School annex, providing flexible, dynamic, indoor-outdoor spaces that keep pace with the demand for learning at all ages. Today, most classes are filled to capacity. Last summer, the 2014 Summer Art Camp for children sold out in 18 minutes.

A new, free-standing building behind the current school would expand our classroom space and create a knowledge center with an art library and teacher training and learning resources. New classes in glass, wood shop, painting, and new media would be available to the community.

State investment in a new art school makes sense, not only because of the value it would provide to our community, but because it would be a state-owned building built on state land. Honolulu Museum of Art leases land under the current art school from the state of Hawai'i. The historic Linekona building is owned by the state and operated by the museum. A new building, if built on state land, would also belong to the state of Hawai'i.

Please support Senate Bill 324. The school is an important part of my community, and state investment will help ensure its value and utility to Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

Elizabeth Cooper Lowrey

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Cc: lindalahlers@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB324 on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 9:24:48 AM

SB324

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HEA on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 224

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| linda Ahlers | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: I strongly support this bill to invest in expansion of the art school at the Honolulu Museum of Art. It will be a resource for all the community and especially for the Children of Hawaii. Art is important to carry on the culture and to further delve lop our society. The school has a long history of providing art education and this center which cannot be built without public support. Please vote yes to support this initiative. Thank you.

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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Testimony
On
S.B. 324
Relating to an Art Education Facility
Before the
Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
Thursday, February 12, 2015
1:30 p.m.
By
Lynn C. Fox

To the Honorable Brian Taniguchi Chair, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Lynn C. Fox. I am a retired private sector Licensed Mental Health Worker. Thank you for the opportunity to testify **IN STRONG SUPPORT for Senate Bill No. 324** which asks the State of Hawaii to invest in a new Honolulu Museum of Art School (HMAS) annex to help keep pace with the community's increasing demand and need for art education and training programs and space for both youth and adults.

I have personally been associated with HMAS for over 11 years as an adult potter and glass fusion student. From a professional perspective, and my own experience, I can confirm that HMAS has continued to provide on-going high quality learning and education experiences for both youth and adults in a supportive environment for the community.

In order to continue to enhance HMAS' services to meet the community's growing art education/training/learning needs, it is necessary that the Committee and the Legislature support this request for funds to build a

new free standing building behind Linekona to provide much needed space to house:

- a “Knowledge Center” for Art Education, .i.e., a library with 55,000 volumes, a lending collection for community teachers, and community spaces including a classroom for teacher training; and
- New art classrooms for students (youth and adults) to work in glass, wood, painting and new media.

HMAS’s art education role in the local community is vital to our citizens and the continued development of a well rounded educated cultured society in Hawaii.

Thus, I Strongly Urge the Committee and the Hawaii Legislature to support Senate Bill No. 324.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

Lynn C. Fox

3625 Nuuanu Pali Drive

Honolulu, HI 96817

Phone: (808) 590-2231

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Cc: lyoshioka@clearwire.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB324 on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 4:30:28 PM

SB324

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HEA on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 224

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Lynn M. Yoshioka | Individual | Comments Only | No |

Comments: My two children have been participating in the art program at Honolulu Museum of Art for more than a decade. They have gained not only the skills and knowledge of an artist, they have enriched their lives with the friends that they have made, and the support that they have received from the staff. Although my children have moved on, expanding the art school would benefit many more students with new classrooms and a library for public school teachers.

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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Written testimony Presented to the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
February 12, 2015, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 224

By Mary McGowan

SB 324 – Relating to an Art Education Facility

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on HB 324, which proposes state support for construction of a building that would expand Honolulu Museum of Art School. I **support** this measure for several reasons.

- 1) Currently the Museum's Art School simply does not have the capacity to keep up with the Honolulu community's demand for classes, which increases every year.
- 2) At a time when funding for art classes in public schools has been cut back, expanding the art school is more important than ever.
- 3) A State's support for the arts is directly correlated with the success of a community overall.
- 4) Funding for the museum is a win-win for the State. The State will own the building and the land. The expansion of the art school will contribute to the good reputation of the museum, which in turn will result in attracting more tourists (and locals) to visit the museum, which in turn supports the State of Hawaii in being a stronger world-class travel destination.

Please support Senate Bill 324. The school is an important part of my community, and state investment will help ensure its value and utility to Hawai'i.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of this measure.

Testimony Presented to the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
February 12, 2015, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 224
By NANCY MIWA

SB 324 – Relating to an Art Education Facility

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on SB 324, which proposes state support for construction of a building that would expand Honolulu Museum of Art School. I **support** this measure.

The Honolulu Museum of Art School is important not only to me but to the greater community of Hawaii. As schools across the country have cut back on studio art programs, we need a professional outlet to educate our children on drawing, painting, ceramics, and so many other ways for the creative mind to express itself and prepare for future occupations. My own son, an architecture student, knows the value of having readily available drawing classes.

Now is the time to invest in a new Art School annex, providing flexible, dynamic, indoor-outdoor spaces that keep pace with the demand for learning at all ages. Today, most classes are filled to capacity. Last summer, the 2014 Summer Art Camp for children sold out in 18 minutes.

A new, free-standing building behind the current school would expand our classroom space and create a knowledge center with an art library and teacher training and learning resources. New classes in glass, wood shop, painting, and new media would be available to the community.

State investment in a new art school makes sense, not only because of the value it would provide to our community, but because it would be a state-owned building built on state land. Honolulu Museum of Art leases land under the current art school from the state of Hawai'i. The historic Linekona building is owned by the state and operated by the museum. A new building, if built on state land, would also belong to the state of Hawai'i.

Please support Senate Bill 324. The school is an important part of my community, and state investment will help ensure its value and utility to Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

Dear Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts,

My husband and I are writing to ask you to support SB 324 to invest in a new Honolulu Museum of Art School annex to keep pace with the community demand. We have been avid participants and supporters of the Art School at HMA. We have seen the changes that the art programs have made in the lives of community members both young and old. It has changed the lives of so many youngsters, giving them a safe place to spend their non-school and summer hours, and an opportunity to explore a creative and enriching education. Students graduate from schools now with few practical skills or understanding of how to problem solve. Exposure to art techniques teaches them practical skills, ways to use their hands, new ways to look at their surroundings, and critical thinking when they have to put these skills to work. Ultimately they will use this expanded knowledge in their futures directly or indirectly.

As a retired person, it has changed my life completely as I have been taking courses in at Linekona. For years I wanted to take a metals course but never had access or the time to dedicate to it. I have found a new and exciting interest that I could not pursue when I was younger. I take classes with teenagers and young parents (who bring their children to Linekona to learn art skills while they are also learning new art forms) as well as retired individuals from all walks of life who have had few opportunities to continue their own life long learning pursuits. HMA Art School provides inspiration, camaraderie, and a sense of place that is not available in most communities.

The art programs are now in such demand that classes fill up within minutes of the time they are posted. That means that many who would like to take a course cannot because of a lack of capacity. An annex to the Art School would be highly utilized and greatly appreciated by the community.

Thank you for your consideration and support for the important role of arts education to the community.

Sincerely,
Noreen and David Mulliken
2969 Kalakaua Ave
Honolulu, Hawaii

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Cc: stylus@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB324 on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 11:53:07 PM

SB324

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HEA on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 224

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Pam Takeda | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: Dear Senator Taniguchi and members of Committee on Higher Education and the Arts, My name is Pam Takeda and I am a volunteer with The Honolulu Museum Art School's "We Be Weave", a program dedicated to adults aged 25 to 50 plus with medically diagnosed special needs. It is a place where students make art that gives them a daily sense of purpose and discipline, in an environment they cannot find elsewhere in the community. Through the medium of art our students find joy in their accomplishments and together find camaraderie and support for one another. The woven art our students create are offered for sale through the Museum School's Sale and by doing so teaches an important lesson of sustainability, that we can all do things to support ourselves however small. We are grateful to the community for the support it has extended to us and I urge you and our legislature to support Senate Bill 324 in order that we may continue to teach this lesson. We ask for your compassion and we thank you for your consideration. Sincerely, Pam Takeda Mililani, HI

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Testimony Presented to the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts

February 12, 2015, 1:30pm, Conference Room 224

By **PAMELA HONBO** *Pam Honbo*

SB 324 – Relating to an Art Education Facility

Chair Brian Taniguchi, Vice-Chair Lorraine Inouye and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to ask for your support of SB 324 which asks for State support for the construction of a building for the Art School of the Honolulu Museum of Art.

I know the Honolulu Museum of Art takes very seriously, its responsibility to further Art Education in the State of Hawaii. I acknowledge that our State Department of Education curriculum cannot provide enough Art Education .

Because of the Art School's limited facilities, art classes and especially children's art programs are turning away far too many potential students.

Without enough opportunities for Art Education in the lives of young, developing students; or adults seeking ways to satisfy their creative pursuits and improve their marketable skills; all the way through retired seniors in need of expanding their minds and souls; **WE ARE MISSING OPPORTUNITIES TO NURTURE MORE PEOPLE.**

Let's remember that art is a means to unify people in pursuit of a more beautiful and more humane society.

The Honolulu Museum of Art School is a ready-magnet for providing Art Education and its outreach programs have been making a difference. It needs more space to reach and teach more children and adults.

Your attention to this matter and your kokua is greatly appreciated.

S.B. 324 - Relating to an Art Education Facility
Hearing: Thursday, Feb. 12, 2015, 1:30 p.m.
Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
Testimony of Sheryll Kresnak

IN SUPPORT

Honorable Brian Taniguchi, Chair
Honorable Lorraine Inouye, Vice Chair
Members of the Higher Education and the Arts Committee

Dear Senators Taniguchi and Inouye and Members of the Higher Education and Arts Committee,

Please pass SB 324, Relating to an Art Education Facility. The Honolulu Museum of Art, formerly the Academy of Arts, has enriched children for generations. Its classes bring together children whose parents come from all walks of life, connecting them with a shared joy of creative expression. The children in the Museum's classes are enriched by both the techniques and lessons they learn, as well as by enjoying the company of their classmates. Growing up learning how to express themselves in positive, constructive ways through art helps children become contributing citizens as adults. Art makes for a happy, memorable childhood, and the Honolulu Museum of Art has touched thousands of children's lives.

The HMA also gives adults a soothing, satisfying, and pleasurable endeavor and productive use of time. Doing something fun gives grown up students something to share with their friends and puts delight in their hearts after working hard at their jobs all week.

Funding an Art Education Facility will expand the ability of Honolulu Museum of Art to reach out to children and adult students, and give these individuals a wonderful way to use their time and energies. The HMA needs to keep its tuition affordable for students, so raising capital by hiking fees is not an option. Using discretionary tax revenue for this purpose is socially enriching, in the way that Mayor Frank Fasi would have done. Please support and pass SB 324 and help the Honolulu Museum of Art enhance the lives of Oahu's residents. Thank you.

Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
February 12, 2015, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 224
SB 324 Relating to an Art Education Facility

Dear Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee,

I have firsthand experience with the art school at the Honolulu Museum of Art (“HSA”) because I took the summer school program there four years ago when I was in 6th grade. I am writing in support of Bill SB324 Relating to an Art Educational Facility because I believe that all students who are interested in art should have a chance to experience the classes at the HSA.

The HSA offers spectacular art classes that I thoroughly enjoyed for so many reasons. For one, the teachers and their teaching style were great. They made us students feel like fellow artists and friends. My teacher, Mr. Cole, saw one of my charcoal drawings that I was proud of. He told me that I had a special talent for art, especially in the medium of charcoal. No adult had ever talked to me about art like I was a grown up as well, and especially not about my own art. It was less of an art class and more of an art exploration, which made me see art in a different light. The teachers would take us to the Honolulu Museum of Art to observe the pieces on display there and use them as inspiration. I was pretty young, but the teachers helped me to notice how art made me feel and the themes it impressed upon me, versus forcing the meaning out of the art. This didn't just reflect in my own drawings and paintings, but it also taught me how to look at other people's creations and appreciate art done by professionals in museums. This is a worthwhile lesson that will last me my whole life.

Secondly, the experience was valuable because of the people I met and created art with. Not only did I become close to and learn from my teachers, but also I made friends with the other students. I met two girls my age, and we slowly became steady friends throughout the summer. We would paint together and compliment each other's work, and after, we would eat lunch on the outside steps. The program provided us with group art projects. My whole cartoon class designed and printed a T-shirt together, which I still own today. During the classes, we would also go outside in groups and sketch the beautiful gardens around the Linekona Building.

Lastly, the HSA program helped me to grow as an artist. I learned drawing techniques for sketching cartoons. I learned how to use many different mediums such as charcoal, acrylic paint, water color, and just a simple pencil, all of which the HSA program provided and taught us how to create with. Most of the tools that were shared with me there are quite valuable, expensive, and some are hard to come by. I most certainly would never have had the opportunity to work with such supplies and learn such things if it weren't for the HSA program. I had never got to draw with charcoal before, and during those summer classes, it quickly became my favorite thing to draw and sketch with, even though it made my fingers black and dusty. With the large canvases and charcoal they provided, I was able to make a beautiful portrait that I gave to my mother as a present.

In sum, the HSA program was a fabulous experience that helped me to learn, grow, and try new things. It was a meaningful experience that I think more kids of all ages should get to experience as well.

Robbie Justine Kim Bickerton
February 10, 2015

4088 Kulamanu St. Honolulu, Hawaii 96816
Email contact: debbiekim@hawaii.rr.com (parent)

Testimony to SB 324_Relating to an Art Education Facility:

I am recently became a trustee of the Honolulu Museum of Art, and I have been a board member of the Robert F. Lange Foundation for over three decades. The Lange Foundation funds programs of both the Honolulu Museum of Art and Child and Family Services. My activities with the Lange Foundation have convinced me of the critical need for programs whose goal is to instill self-esteem in children and a sense of pride in parents. I have repeatedly experienced through personal visits to art classes, through attendance at exhibits of art produced by children and through testimonials by the children themselves and from their parents how successful art education can be in achieving this goal.

I personally have seen the amazing works created by these students and their enthusiasm for learning new skills in drawing, printmaking or sculpting. I have watched their eyes, ears and minds come alive as they participate actively in tours through the art galleries. I have heard them express personal opinions about art, often for the first time, and I have seen how the experience enhances their understanding of cultural diversity for which Hawaii is such a shining example as well as tolerance and acceptance of differences among their peers. I have observed seemly serious behavior problems fade away as students gain an increased sense of self-worth and competence and learn teamwork and team spirit through these programs.

All HMA art classes meet Hawaii state art education benchmarks and standards. These programs provide positive identities, build friendships and deliver safe alternative activities that otherwise are not available to many of these children. It is heart warming to see the happy faces of these children in the classes and at the same time be amazed at the superior results that they can achieve.

The programs that exist at present at HMA Linekona badly need more studio space, more volunteer instructors, formal classrooms and a readily accessible library to serve larger groups of children. Many students cannot be accommodated presently and the offered classes usually fill on the first day if not the first hours when they become available. It is so sad to see children turned away. An Art Education Facility behind the Linekona building would be a vitally important improvement to art education for all children in Honolulu, but particularly for those children who now have little access to art education and for those who are at risk due to broken homes or due to parents with limited child rearing skills.

HMA also offers classes for adults including disabled persons who can find a great sense of accomplishment by creating art and even practical items in spite of their disabilities.

I encourage you to visit the HMA Art Education Facility to see for yourselves the opportunities and great benefits I have witnessed from the programs there. And I

urge you to approve the grant request for funding of an expanded Art Education Facility at HMA in Honolulu.

February 9, 2015

Re: SB 324 – Relating to an Art Education Facility Testimony in Support of Passage

Senator Taniguchi, Chair,

Senator Inouye, Vice Chair

Members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts;

As a taxpayer, Honolulu Museum of Art docent and mother of an Art History professor, I am in strong support of SB 324 and urge you to support its passage.

The current Art School annex is insufficient in space to accommodate the numbers of students seeking a wide array of classes. Within the Department of Education schools, there is limited time and resources available for art instruction. The Honolulu Museum of Art School provides parents and students with an option to provide the skills desired and needed by those who have an interest in the visual arts.

As a docent, I work with hundreds of students during the school year who take advantage of the Museum's various free gallery tours (all of which are aligned with the DOE core standards). They are motivated by these tours to explore and stretch their talents in artistic ways. They need, however, greater access to art classes.

I cannot think of a more rewarding and value added public private partnership than for the State to join forces with the Honolulu Museum of Art and provide funding for this new facility. Again, I urge you to support passage of SB 324.

Ruth "Alex" Wade

1357 Aalapapa Drive

Kailua, Hawaii 96734

Testimony Presented to the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
February 12, 2015, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 224
By Sabra Rae Feldstein

SB 324 – Relating to an Art Education Facility

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on HB 324, which proposes state support for construction of a building that would expand Honolulu Museum of Art School. I **support** this measure.

The Art School is important to me because for the last four years I have been attending classes there. They have expanded my world, fed my creativity and connected me with other members of the art community. Having a rich and active art community makes Honolulu a better place to live.

Now is the time to invest in a new Art School annex, providing flexible, dynamic, indoor-outdoor spaces that keep pace with the demand for learning at all ages. Today, most classes are filled to capacity. Last summer, the 2014 Summer Art Camp for children sold out in 18 minutes.

A new, free-standing building behind the current school would expand our classroom space and create a knowledge center with an art library and teacher training and learning resources. New classes in glass, wood shop, painting, and new media would be available to the community.

State investment in a new art school makes sense, not only because of the value it would provide to our community, but because it would be a state-owned building built on state land. Honolulu Museum of Art leases land under the current art school from the state of Hawai'i. The historic Linekona building is owned by the state and operated by the museum. A new building, if built on state land, would also belong to the state of Hawai'i.

Please support Senate Bill 324. The school is an important part of my community, and state investment will help ensure its value and utility to Hawai'i. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure

Mahalo, Sabra Rae Feldstei

**TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER
EDUCATION AND THE ARTS**

February 12, 2015, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 224

by Sara Barnes

SB 324 – Relating to an Art Art Education Facility

To: Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee

Thank you for your consideration of **HB 324**, proposing State support for a new building that would expand the Honolulu Museum of Art School.

I am writing in **support** of HB 324 for several reasons:

1. Fewer and fewer museums in the U.S. offer art education classes for their communities, and particularly not at the level of the Honolulu Museum of Art. The art education, here, benefits so many children in our community as well as adults. Hawaii really stands out in this area and is known for its excellent art education.
2. Our current art education classes are not keeping up with the demand for them. Last summer, I am told, the Summer Art Camp for children sold out in 18 minutes. I myself have had difficulty getting into some of the adult art education classes.
3. I lead 5th grade students on art tours at the Honolulu Museum of Art. For many of them, this is their first trip to the museum. Many are very excited to learn that they can take classes in weaving or in painting or other arts through the museum's art education program. As fewer schools provide opportunities for art education, the responsibility of the museum is even greater to see that the wonderful artistic talents of these youngsters are fostered in the next generation of the people of Hawaii.
4. With a lovely new art education building, the visitors to our incredible State will see one more example of the way we care for children and our community and help the people of Hawaii to thrive.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 324.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Cc: sharona.twiggsmith@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB324 on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM
Date: Monday, February 09, 2015 11:00:28 AM

SB324

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for HEA on Feb 12, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 224

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sharon Twigg-Smith | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: I was a teacher of painting and drawing at the Art School at the museum for sixteen years, in the 70s and 80s. I have seen, first-hand, the impact that learning many subjects through art have on people of all ages. None of our public or private schools have the same resources or focus which we give others through the museum classes. The unparalleled advantage of the art collection, used to augment and clarify instruction, the ways that art reflect and inspire the human spirit, cannot be replicated in our school environments. It has been proven that art education makes better scientists, better doctors, better thinkers in every area. The museum school fills a void for our keiki and for our adult community that goes directly to our continued success as a human being; to fulfilling our potential to be the best, the bravest, the most compassionate and the most creative that we can be. Art can do that if we give it a chance. Art can do that if we support this measure which enables us to grow our library and facilities to respond to the overwhelming demand for our services at the Art School of the Honolulu Museum of Art. I am now serving as a trustee on the board of the museum and have countless adults come up to me and tell me that attending classes as a child changed their lives. Often they come back to serve as docents or other volunteers, or to take more classes as an adult. Some of them have gone on to art careers and end up working as a professional at the museum. We are doing important work. Please vote yes on this measure, for Hawaii.

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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February 9, 2015

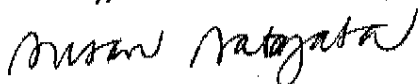
Senator Brian Taniguchi
Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
Hawaii State Capitol
Room 219
415 South Beretania Street.
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Brian Taniguchi and Committee Members,

I'm writing this letter to encourage your committee to support SB 324. Why? For many reasons. As a young child I was fortunate enough to be sent to summer art classes at the Honolulu Art Academy. That early exposure fostered my love of art all through my years of education. Eventually I attended the University of Hawaii and received my degrees in a BFA and BED in Art Education. I then taught art in Hawaii for the DOE. We live on an island and our children are in a cocoon. As a teacher I brought the world to them through the museum and the Lending Collection. The arts for children is so important. It helps them to be creative problem solvers, see things that others miss, appreciate the arts and allow them to do something 3D in such a 2D world. Children love to swish paint around and squish clay in their hands. Seeds were planted in them...now, can you help nurture them?

Today, I am retired and have returned to the now called Honolulu Museum of Art School and love it. It's like going back home. The teachers continue to teach new things and challenge me. Yes, a seed was planted in me years ago and I'm still growing. Please support SB 324 so all our children have the varied quality opportunities to learn...now and in their future.

Sincerely,



Susan Satogata
94-190 Paionia Place
Milliani, Hawaii 96789

Violet Loo

2/9/15

Dear Senator Taniguchi,

I'm writing to beg for support of Senate Bill 324.

Education is a core mission of the Honolulu Museum of Art. Through carefully planned variety of programs the Museum impacts the lives of thousands of school children and adults.

Through our art programs we have nurtured imagination and creativity, traits so valued in careers in our today society. Our interactive programs have strengthened self-esteem, increased language skills especially among low income students and their accompanying parents and bolstered core curriculum objectives in schools.

The Honolulu Museum of Art desperately needs an Art School Annex that will allow not only expansion of beneficial education programs, but training classrooms for teachers and a community meeting room.

Please Support Senate Bill 324.

I thank you for your kind consideration of the Bill.

Sincerely,

V. Loo

Chair of the Board of Trustees
of the Honolulu Museum
of Art.

Testimony Presented to the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
February 12, 2015 – 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 224
Virgie Chattergy

SB 324 – Relating to an Art Education Facility

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye and Members of the Committee

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on SB 324 that proposes state support for the construction of a building that would expand Honolulu Museum of Art School. I strongly support this measure.

The Art School is IMPORTANT TO ALL AGE GROUPS in our community. For the SCHOOL CHILDREN, to develop their creativity, encourage the expression of their talents and capabilities in other ways, deepen their appreciation of everything they see around them as Art teaches us to observe and find what is good and worth noticing. For school children especially, who have limited English proficiency, Art has the ability to suspend the use of language so they can still communicate their thoughts and feelings. Art is to the soul as food is to the body. This doesn't happen automatically, hence the need for mentors and a School for Art – an expanded School of Art than we currently have.

The Art School is IMPORATANT TO MATURE MEMBERS of our community. As we wrap up a life of work, there is more leisure time to spend on what we had to put aside – a time to understand ourselves even more, a time to enjoy nature in all its manifestations. What better venue than to have the option to work with clay, with flowers, sculpt or play with watercolor to paint, etc. The list goes on. We need an expanded School of Art than what we now have so it can offer more of these opportunities.

Work of Art that children bring with them from school is another way for both PARENTS AND CHILDREN to bond as they share their ideas and feelings that inspired it. The School of Art at the Museum offers Saturday classes for the children; evening and week-end classes for adults who are working. These are just a few of the benefits being made available to this Community by the Museum's School of Art today but classes are filled almost instantly the day they are posted. The Museum could offer more classes to the Community if it had more space. SB 324 is proposed to support expanding the facility with a new, free-standing building behind the current school that would allow for more classroom space and create a Learning Resource Center with an art library and include a teacher training facility.

Please support Senate Bill 324. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

I strongly support SB324 for the following reasons:

- 1) The Honolulu Museum of Art (formerly known as Honolulu Art Academy) is a unique and important center for our community. I have been involved as a student with the art center since 1999 in ceramics and now the glass fusion course. With the requested funding we could establish a permanent space for glass fusion. The Museum provides excellent art exhibits and an educational facility for children, young adults and adults.
- 2) Funding the educational facility to house the lending library will enhance the usage and availability of art pieces, books and artifacts on display. The Museum Art Center has outgrown their space.
- 3) And lastly, the increase in art classrooms will assist in stabilizing the existing programs as well as possible increase in classes that could be offered to the community.