Sterling Higa

GOV. MSG. NO. 828

Education and communications professional with event coordination and program management experience. Demonstrated expertise in public speaking, writing, teaching, and coaching.

Education

Harvard University

Ed.M., Arts in Education

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

B.A., Communicology (GPA 3.9/4)

Professional Experience

Housing Hawaii's Future, Executive Director

Jan. 2021 -

- Cofound a nonprofit 501(c)(3) to address the workforce housing shortage in Hawai'i.
- · Lead board formation, fundraising, strategic planning, program design, and community building.

Hawai'i Pacific University, Full-time Lecturer

Aug. 2017 - Dec. 2021

- Taught public speaking, argumentation and debate, and technical communication.
- Coached British Parliamentary debate team, including state and regional champions.
- Won 2021-21 Golden Apple Award for distinguished undergraduate teaching.

Hawaii Business Magazine, Contributing Writer

May 2020 – July 2021

- Wrote long-form feature stories for monthly magazine's print and digital platforms.
- · Hosted panel discussions at events, including Leadership Conference.
- Won 2020 Hawai'i Society of Professional Journalists award for excellence in trade reporting.

Honolulu Civil Beat, Columnist

Mar. 2019 - May 2020

- Won Civil Beat's 2018 Emerging Writers Contest; wrote column on politics and culture.
- Won 2019 Hawai'i Society of Professional Journalists award for excellence in column writing.

ISSOS, Pre-IB Study Skills Teacher

July 2017 - Aug. 2017

• Designed and taught course for residential summer program at Yale University.

SEEOS, Performing Arts Teacher

July 2015 – June 2017

- · Designed and taught intermediate school performing arts and public speaking classes.
- · Cotaught interdisciplinary units on plastic pollution and food sustainability.

Youth Speaks Hawai'i, Program Director

Aug. 2010 - July 2014

- Conducted educational outreach to 12+ secondary schools, reaching 2,000+ students.
- Managed nonprofit writing workshop program, serving 250+ students each year.
- Coordinated monthly and semiannual events, setting attendance records.

Punahou School, Debate Coach

Jan. 2012 - Apr. 2014

2021

Coached Lincoln-Douglas debate team, including three state champions.

Achievements

Slam Poetry

Hawai'i champion; Semifinalist at Brave New Voices International Youth Poetry Slam Festival and National Poetry Slam; Coached Hawai'i to National Poetry Slam final stage.

British Parliamentary Debate

U.S.-Japan Council, Associate Leader

· Hawai'i collegiate record holder for individual, team, and judging accomplishments.

Continuing Education

•	HBX Harvard Business School, CORe: Credential of Readiness	2014
•	Pacific Forum Hawaii Asia-Pacific Affairs Leadership Program Scholar	2020
•	Pacific Forum Young Leader	2021