

Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING

I, the undersigned Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs of the State of Hawaii, do hereby certify that according to the records of this Department,

KEEP IT FLOWING LLC

was organized under the laws of the State of Hawaii on 09/22/2014 ; that it is an existing limited liability company in good standing and is duly authorized to transact business.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, at Honolulu, Hawaii.

Dated: January 09, 2023

Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

**DECLARATION STATEMENT OF
APPLICANTS FOR GRANTS PURSUANT TO
CHAPTER 42F, HAWAII REVISIED STATUTES**

The undersigned authorized representative of the applicant certifies the following:

- 1) The applicant meets and will comply with all of the following standards for the award of grants pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is licensed or accredited, in accordance with federal, state, or county statutes, rules, or ordinances, to conduct the activities or provide the services for which a grant is awarded;
 - b) Complies with all applicable federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, creed, sex, age, sexual orientation, or disability;
 - c) Agrees not to use state funds for entertainment or lobbying activities; and
 - d) Allows the state agency to which funds for the grant were appropriated for expenditure, legislative committees and their staff, and the auditor full access to their records, reports, files, and other related documents and information for purposes of monitoring, measuring the effectiveness, and ensuring the proper expenditure of the grant.
- 2) If the applicant is an organization, the applicant meets the following requirements pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is incorporated under the laws of the State; and
 - b) Has bylaws or policies that describe the manner in which the activities or services for which a grant is awarded shall be conducted or provided; and
- 3) If the applicant is a non-profit organization, it meets the following requirements pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is determined and designated to be a non-profit organization by the Internal Revenue Service; and
 - b) Has a governing board whose members have no material conflict of interest and serve without compensation.
- 4) The use of grant-in-aid funding complies with all provisions of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii (for example, pursuant to Article X, section 1, of the Constitution, the State cannot provide "... public funds ... for the support or benefit of any sectarian or nonsectarian private educational institution...").

Pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for grants used for the acquisition of land, when the organization discontinues the activities or services on the land acquired for which the grant was awarded and disposes of the land in fee simple or by lease, the organization shall negotiate with the expending agency for a lump sum or installment repayment to the State of the amount of the grant used for the acquisition of the land.

Further, the undersigned authorized representative certifies that this statement is true and correct to the best of the applicant's knowledge.

KEEP IT FLOWING LLC.

(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)



(Signature)

01/13/2023

(Date)

KENNETH NISHIMURA

(Typed Name)

FOUNDER

(Title)

Application for Grants In Aid (State of Hawaii)

If any item is not applicable to the request, the applicant should enter "not applicable".

I. Certification – Please attach immediately after cover page

1. *Certificate of Good Standing (If the Applicant is an Organization)*

If the applicant is an organization, the applicant shall submit one (1) copy of a certificate of good standing from the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs that is dated no earlier than December 1, 2022.

(See Attached)

2. *Declaration Statement*

The applicant shall submit a declaration statement affirming its compliance with [Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes](#).

(See Attached)

3. *Public Purpose*

The applicant shall specify whether the grant will be used for a public purpose pursuant to [Section 42F-102, Hawaii Revised Statutes](#).

a) Keep It Flowing LLC is requesting grants in aid

b) Keep It Flowing is an organization that bridges the gap between government, for-profit and non-profit agencies, as well as community leaders, businesses and organizations to provide key messages of drug-prevention, anti-bullying, environmental awareness, life-skills and youth empowerment to the communities of Hawaii with large, interactive and colorful collaborative murals. Our "Awareness through Art" mural foundation and accompanying curricula through the Lōkahi Mural Program (LMP) provides the catalyst to facilitate and share much needed resources for support, positive lifestyle choices and preventative healthy to the at-risk youth and community of Olomana School Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility (HYCF) and other juvenile rehabilitation facilities. These collaborative murals bridge the gap between the at-risk youth and their supporters including staff at the school who are able to provide on site support, distribute pamphlets, brochures and educational materials regarding mental health awareness, positive lifestyle choices and ways to strengthen family relations during the program. Our "Awareness through Art" mural foundation and accompanying curricula allow us the platform to facilitate and share proven data statistics, resources and essential information in a non-sterile, fun and creative learning environment.

c) Olomana School Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility (HYCF) and Keep It Flowing LLC have partnered since 2018 to provide art and entrepreneur workshops for students currently enrolled in Olomana's Youth Correctional Facility. Our Lōkahi Mural Program includes the application of basic typography approaches to create custom style lettering and sharing entrepreneurial opportunities using drop ship and fulfillment platforms. The student's commitment and artwork are truly amazing and within each class module there is almost a 100% engagement. Olomana School's faculty and staff were sharing positive comments made by the students as well as their own testimonials on how effective our programming impacted the youth. We are seeking to develop two back to back 6-week Lōkahi Mural Programs focused on youth reform and juvenile justice rehabilitation.

Our Lōkahi Mural Program focuses on developing leadership qualities for Olomana School Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility (HYCF) by exercising teamwork and creating a positive working environment. It's vital for the youth to experience healthy and productive social interactions amongst themselves as well as with the community within a

collaborative space. The Lōkahi Mural Program also features honored guests, like past guests Honolulu City Council person Mrs. Andria Tupola and Department of Hawaiian Homelands Director, Mr. Ikaika Anderson, to share their journey and approaches to leadership with the students. The students learn important life lessons and gained invaluable information from community role models and how they apply leadership within our government.

With funding, the Keep It Flowing team will be able to continue the Lōkahi Mural Program with two complete 6 week curricula that will educate the students on drawing, safe and positive approaches to aerosol painting techniques and the mural process. This program will focus on how art can develop critical thinking, leadership and applied learning which can be applied to any goal or career path. The final outcome will be a collaborative mural painted along the walkway of the main entrance to the facility featuring positive affirmations and the adjacent the mountain scape. The students will apply all the lessons from the drawing and painting workshops to create the mural in partnership with our educators and artists. .

d) Keep It Flowing's target population consists of at-risk and disadvantaged youth and communities. Hawaii has an incarceration rate of 439 per 100,000 people including prisons, jails, immigration detention and juvenile justice facilities. Imprisonment rates have grown dramatically in the last 40 years and the COVID-19 pandemic has those numbers climbing alarmingly higher. People of Hawaiian descent, minorities and people of color are largely overrepresented in prisons and jails with an estimated 39% of incarcerated individuals identifying as Hawaiian. Sadly, 75% of youth that enter the juvenile justice system before the age of 18 are incarcerated by the age of 25. Our Lōkahi Mural Program aims to unite, educate and build leadership values within the youth by utilizing art as a vehicle to uplift, cultivate and inspire students at Olomana School Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility (HYCF). The outcome of the project is to complete a collaborative mural for all students and their families who pass through our doors and provide hope for a brighter and hopeful future. The learning process enables Olomana School HYCF students to enhance their social and emotional skills so they can be successful in their future endeavors and to also serve as a way for our students to give back to the community. Students will learn numerous art techniques and leadership skills through guest speaker's presentations, work assignments and live demonstrations which are applied throughout the duration of the project. Utilizing art and creativity as an approach to learning will also develop confidence and discipline, which can be applied to the pursuit of enrolling into college, career aspirations and non-traditional career paths through our pedagogical experience.

e) The overall cost of the two Lōkahi 6-Week Mural Programs (Fall 2023 and Spring 2024) will cost \$230,232. The total budget requested from the State Grant Aid is \$230,232.00.

II. Background and Summary

This section shall clearly and concisely summarize and highlight the contents of the request in such a way as to provide the State Legislature with a broad understanding of the request. Please include the following:

1. *A brief description of the applicant's background;*
2. *The goals and objectives related to the request;*
3. *The public purpose and need to be served;*
4. *Describe the target population to be served; and*
5. *Describe the geographic coverage.*

1. Keep It Flowing (KIF), lead by Founder Kenneth Nishimura, a world-renowned artist and youth educator, is a collaborative action-orientated mural organization that integrates art therapy, youth programming and stakeholder partnerships as well as education to empower youth and communities in order to harness collective power for social reform. Our experience includes more than 25 years in art design, installations and public works, over 20 years in marketing, promotions, digital and print media, over 12 years in education and leadership programming, curriculum, youth and at-risk workshop facilitation, more than 8 years in project management and coordination of community outreach events, over 6 years with fiscal partnerships and management of grant funding with budgets of \$190K as well as 5 years of Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) Certification and training. We have completed 29 prevention murals statewide to date and are HCE Certified and a verified State of Hawaii vendor. Established in 2014, our organization utilizes an "Awareness Through Art" foundation to create large-scale art installations and is recognized as an organization that serves the youth with art therapy to educate and empower as well as provide design and life-skill solutions to diversified communities. Keep It Flowing has successfully completed 29 prevention murals statewide that continue to generate community and youth interest and engagement with the support of our lead team members: Director of Development, Laycie "Love" Williams and Director of Administration, Kellee Kubota, legacy sponsors and partners, as well as local artists and community proponents. Our murals serve as a catalyst for communities, especially youth to come together in order to establish stronger connections, support one another with positive life style choices and becoming empowered by the education on prevention and wellness. Keep It Flowing has also successfully completed an effective 9-week program.

The full-color, large scale installations are a catalyst to the facilitation of key education for the youth and their supporters on any awareness topic including environmental, cultural, prevention, mental health, etc while providing necessary data and statistics, fulfilling training programs and leadership curriculum as well as provides design and life-skill solutions to youth and communities. Keep It Flowing in collaboration with our partners and associates, are able to reach at-risk youth and adolescents with community protective factors as defined in the chart (Chart 1.1) below. Key focus with this project includes:

a) **Public Art and Youth Engagement:** projects stretch our own boundaries with art that engages and inspires a whole new generation of residents as well as educating and connecting communities. Through creativity, innovation, and the inclusion of many partners across the State, we create visually appealing installations and a map for our future.

b) **Art Education:** Our art education programs help students and youth across the State to unlock their creative capacities, inviting them to overcoming their challenges, building confidence, team-building, sharing their experiences and illustrate the world as they see it. art becomes a platform for discovery, launching the types of personal and communal experiences that can shape a student's path for years to come. We provide both in-school and after-school arts-based programming and are seeking to expand our reach to students across the State.

c) **Social Reform and Restorative Justice:** We focus primarily on prevention, which data proves is more effective in mitigating youth from entering in the juvenile justice system as well as avoiding substance abuse and learning better coping skills for mental illness. Restorative justice is an alternative to traditional means of rehabilitation and punishment which brings together returning citizens and community members, focusing on conversation and understanding as the first steps on the path to healing. Prevention allows us to reach youth earlier in order to empower and create a newfound sense of pride in their own ability and enhanced employment readiness skills.

2. Students will learn multiple art skills in the drawing and aerosol workshops using aerosol paint and various sized markers and inks; as well as develop their social-emotional skills. These 6-week long programs will culminate in a completed mural depicting the various cultures of our students, while promoting a positive message for themselves and the

community. The Keep It Flowing team, lead by, Ken Nishimura are able to reach and help the youth find better ways to live their lives and have optimism for their future. Being a part of something meaningful and contributing to society will empower Olomana students to feel a sense of belonging, where oftentimes they feel like outcasts. It will especially help our incarcerated youth to build confidence, encourage positive connections with people in the community and beyond, and promote intrinsic motivation.

Protective Factors	Definition	Adolescent Substance Use	Youth Adult Substance Use
Social, emotional, behavioral, cognitive, and moral competence	Interpersonal skills that help youth integrate feelings, thinking, and actions to achieve specific social and interpersonal goals.	✓	✓
Self-efficacy	An individual's belief that they can modify, control, or abstain from substance use.	✓	✓
Spirituality	Belief in a higher being, or involvement in spiritual practices or religious activities.	✓	✓
Resiliency	An individual's capacity for adapting to change and stressful events in healthy and flexible ways.	✓	✓
Opportunities for positive social involvement	Developmentally appropriate opportunities to be meaningfully involved with the family, school, or community.	✓	✓
Recognition for positive behavior	Parents, teachers, peers and community members providing recognition for effort and accomplishments to motivate individuals to engage in positive behaviors in the future.	✓	✓
Bonding	Attachment and commitment to, and positive communication with, family, schools, and communities.	✓	✓
Marriage or committed relationship	Married or living with a partner in a committed relationship who does not misuse alcohol or drugs.		✓
Healthy beliefs and standards for behavior	Family, school, and community norms that communicate clear and consistent expectations about not misusing alcohol and drugs.	✓	✓

Chart 1.1: Protective Factors for Adolescent and Young Adult Substance Use (SAMHSA)

The Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility provides mental health assistance and support through the Department of Health's Family Court Liaison Branch via therapists and psychologists, and the Department of Human Services via social workers and staff. The goals of the project are to:

- 1) Outreach and engage target youth on Olomana School Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility (HYCF) and their greater supportive communities across Oahu.
- 2) Divert status offending youth entering the adult justice system
- 3) Address at-risk youths' mental / emotional health issues that have been exacerbated by COVID- 19
- 4) Connect and engage at-risk youth to a traditional or alternative education program.
- 5) Provide youth with educational support services to empower them into becoming

This project will enable all agencies to collaborate with each other and with our students to provide guidance and connection in a creative and safe environment. Nearly 100% of Olomana students in incarceration suffer from trauma and other mental health issues. They often do not have the role models in their lives to show them compassion and responsibility for others as well as themselves. The opportunity to work alongside community members and professional artists will be an incredible learning experience. The program is youth-centered and will enable our students to enhance their social and emotional skills so they can be successful in their future endeavors. It will serve as a way for our students to give back to the community.

The murals and accompanying program create art engagement with visually appealing messages of wellness, self-care and healing. These colorful interactive art walls and our community-driven unveilings attract local residents and youth together in unity, which helps promote the building of a stronger, more resilient tomorrow for all! We are proud to be able to maintain legacy relationships and partnerships in order to mitigate costs and delays in all aspects of these projects. We believe this is essential to providing the best possible outcome for everyone involved and to facilitate powerful opportunities to bridge the youth with education and resources of support, for a better, healthier tomorrow.

3. Our Lōkahi Mural Program aims to unite, educate and build leadership values within the youth by utilizing art as a vehicle to uplift, cultivate and inspire. The outcome of the project is to complete a collaborative mural for all students and their families who pass through the campus doors and provide hope for a brighter and hopeful future. The learning process enables Olomana School HYCF students to enhance their social and emotional skills so they can be successful in their future endeavors and to also serve as a way for our students to give back to the community. Students will learn numerous art techniques and leadership skills through guest speaker's presentations, work assignments and live demonstrations which are applied throughout the duration of the project. Utilizing art and creativity as an approach to learning will also develop confidence and discipline, which can be applied to the pursuit of enrolling into college, career aspirations and non-traditional career paths through our pedagogical experience.

Arts-based programs and arts therapies provide a unique way to help youths in times of transition and development. It is sometimes difficult for at-risk, traumatized, and justice-involved youths to verbalize their feelings and experiences—a challenge that positions the arts as a beneficial approach in rehabilitative programming and therapies for these populations. The arts provide a nonthreatening way for children and adolescents to express their inner feelings, manage emotional and behavioral problems, cope with trauma and victimization, develop artistic talents and skills, and improve strengths and assets they already possess (Riley 2001; Clawson and Coolbaugh 2001).

Youth who enter the juvenile justice system, even for a minor offense, are more likely to escalate their delinquent behaviors over time. They can become trapped in the cycle of juvenile to adult incarceration that plague so many individuals and families. Youth are more prone to violence. Diversion programs, especially for youth who commit minor offenses such as

status offenses, are important because they prevent them from the consequences of going through the adult court system.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had and continues to have an impact on all facets of society. There has been a profound effect on the development youth, especially youth who were already predisposed to behavioral issues and academic failure. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy stated, "Mental health challenges in children, adolescents, and young adults are real and widespread. Even before the pandemic, an alarming number of young people struggled with feelings of helplessness, depression, and thoughts of suicide, and rates have increased over the past decade. The COVID-19 pandemic further altered their experiences at home, school, and in the community, and the effect on their mental health has been devastating. The future well-being of our country depends on how we support and invest in the next generation."

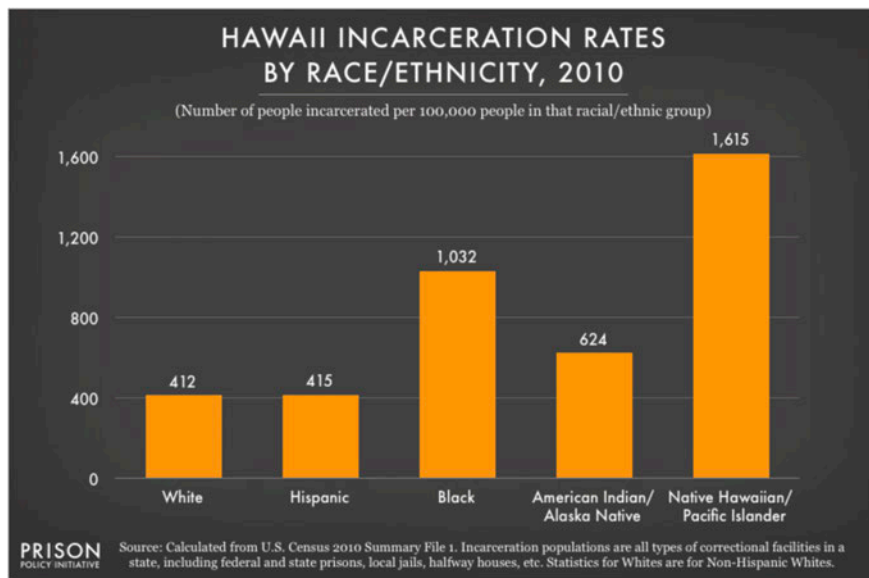


Chart 1.2: Hawaii Incarceration Rates 2010 (Prison Policy Initiative)

Arts-based programs (including arts education programming) and arts therapies represent two approaches to incorporating the arts into treatments for at-risk, traumatized, and justice-involved youths. Although the two approaches are similar in terms of the various programmatic elements that are implemented, each uses a different method for working with youths and resolving problem behaviors. Arts therapies focus on the therapeutic relationship between the therapist and the youth, whereas arts-based programming focuses on the process of creating art as a way to address youths' issues (Djurichkovic 2011). In the chart above (Chart 1.2), we can clearly see that the Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander population is most at risk for incarceration.

4. The top priority of all our mural projects is to reach the youth, especially in at-risk populations and facilitate a bridge between our younger population and their supportive communities. We also connect the youth which educational resources and experts which they may not otherwise be exposed to. Our programs are designed and implemented in a manner that impacts multi-generational, diversified communities without regard to age, gender, race or economic status. The process by which we have effectively impacted includes maintaining legacy contacts in all areas of need for our mural installations including youth artists, commissioned and volunteer artists, media coverage, supply brokers, Department of Education key personnel, etc.

Students will learn multiple art skills in the drawing and aerosol workshops using aerosol paint and various sized markers and inks; as well as develop their social-emotional skills. This semester-long project will culminate in a completed mural depicting the various cultures of our students, while promoting a positive message for themselves and the community. The Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility provides mental health assistance and support through the Department of Health's Family Court Liaison Branch via therapists and psychologists, and the Department of Human Services via social workers and staff. This project will enable all agencies to collaborate with each other and with our students to provide guidance and connection in a creative and safe environment. Nearly 100% of Olomana students in incarceration suffer from trauma and other mental health issues. They often do not have the role models in their lives to show them compassion and responsibility for others as well as themselves. The opportunity to work alongside community members and professional artists will be an incredible learning experience. The mural program is youth-centered and will enable our students to enhance their social and emotional skills so they can be successful in their future endeavors. It will serve as a way for our students to give back to the community. Hopefully, this will be the first of many murals to beautify this facility so it becomes more than an institution, but a place of Aloha. We believe art has the potential to positively impact our kids' lives. The skills and connections they make could be what they need to believe in themselves and pursue their dreams and aspirations.

5. Although we do create art in public spaces and value beautification, Keep It Flowing focuses on serving our future leaders in an established learning environment in order to best support current public education institutions and provide the greatest impact of resources and outreach and intend on focusing on the Olomana School Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility (HYCF) as our geographic location for this project.

We intend to provide the two 6-week Lōkahi Mural Programs in collaboration with Olomana School Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility (HYCF), the Department of Education, legacy partnerships and supporters to be completed by June 30, 2024.

III. Service Summary and Outcomes

The Service Summary shall include a detailed discussion of the applicant's approach to the request. The applicant shall clearly and concisely specify the results, outcomes, and measures of effectiveness from this request. The applicant shall:

1. *Describe the scope of work, tasks and responsibilities;*
2. *Provide a projected annual timeline for accomplishing the results or outcomes of the service;*
3. *Describe its quality assurance and evaluation plans for the request. Specify how the applicant plans to monitor, evaluate, and improve their results; and*
4. *List the measure(s) of effectiveness that will be reported to the State agency through which grant funds are appropriated (the expending agency). The measure(s) will provide a standard and objective way for the State to assess the program's achievement or accomplishment. Please note that if the level of appropriation differs from the amount included in this application that the measure(s) of effectiveness will need to be updated and transmitted to the expending agency.*

1. All Staff will participate in mural preparation duties on days outside of class sessions (ten days total). Mural Program will be hosted at: Olomana School HYCF or DOE School (as an after-school program). The theme of this mural collaboration is to create a fusion

between a collage of positive affirmations and a depiction of the Olomana mountain scape behind the facility. The design elements incorporated within the mural were a culmination of ideas shared by the staff and students of HYCF and composed by our lead muralist and Creative Director, Kenneth Nishimura. Our program begins by teaching the students how to draw and paint within the first 4-weeks and then utilize their acquired abilities in their final assignment of painting a mural.

The youth each chose one word of affirmation to draw and throughout the workshop sessions began to refine their designs technically and stylistically. Initially most of the youth were reluctant yet excited. Majority of the students did not have an artistic background however, the program is designed for beginning art students and the students thrive throughout the process. It is surprising to witness such impressive results in a short window of time. All workshop assignments will prepare them to confidently participate in the collaborative mural and program.

Our mural program equally focuses on developing leadership qualities for all our students by exercising teamwork and creating a positive working environment. It's vital for the youth to experience healthy and productive social interactions amongst themselves as well as with the community within a collaborative space. The Lōkahi program also features honored guests like Honolulu City Council person Mrs. Andria Tupola and Candidate for Lieutenant Governor, Mr. Ikaika Anderson, to share their journey and approaches to leadership with the students. The students learn important life lessons and gained invaluable information from community role models and how they apply leadership within our government.

This process also enhances their social-emotional skills through communication, expressiveness, and teamwork practices which improved their behavior and built confidence. As the program progressed the student's commitment, focus and skillsets developed and were astounding; nearly 100% engagement as they persevered through challenging tasks with impressive end results. Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) is an important part of a well-rounded education and critical to trauma-informed practices. A meta-analysis from Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) shows that investment in SEL, and opportunities to develop SEL skills lead to improved classroom behavior, better stress management, and 11 percent gains in academics. On average, CASEL finds that every dollar spent on evidence based SEL programs has a return of \$11.00, meaning SEL has a positive and substantial return on investment. In the Lōkahi Mural Program, students collaborate with professionals, entrepreneurs, artists, and community members to make social connections and show that they can be productive members of society. The partnership between Keep It Flowing LLC. and Olomana School provides the students with a great learning experience to work alongside community leaders and professional artists.

Keep It Flowing and Olomana School HYCF would like to continue the Lōkahi Mural Program with the support of Hawaii Department of Education Branches; School Transformation Branch, Office of Student Support Services; Office of Strategy and Information and Performance, Windward Community College, Olomana School Principal Lisa Delong, HYCF Warden, Mark Patterson, Special Education Department Head and Transition Coordinator Lisa Vegas and all staff at Olomana School (HYCF Site).

"We believe art has the potential to positively impact our kids' lives. The skills and connections they make could be what they need to believe in themselves and pursue their dreams and aspirations." -Special Education Department Head and Transition Coordinator -

Phases for this mural program include aerosol and mural production workshops, drawing workshop and mural production instruction, mural completion and unveiling ceremony, pressure washing, base-coat application, design sketch, unveiling ceremony and final clear coating. We maintain continuous updates to keep the team, volunteers and youth on track, help them stay organized, and maintain them working together efficiently. Our primary focus with volunteers, artists, youth and supporters in the beginning stages of the mural collaboration is:

a) **Reinforcing Key Messages:** The messages of our murals will reinforce the voice of the youth here in Hawaii with support by our key associates and affiliates. Our murals remind students every day of their message and efforts as well as reinforce the

messages our prevention partners convey, serving as an active reminder to the youth to make positive lifestyle choices.

b) **Educating Youth:** We show young people how art can be used in meaningful ways. We convey and communicate social messages that contribute to the better health of our community individually and collectively as a whole utilizing art and creativity. For many children, especially at the elementary level, this is the first time they are seeing a mural, or any large scale artwork for that matter, being created before their eyes. Students across the campus are intrigued as many of them have never witnessed a large-scale collaboration, which inspires conversation, engagement and connects diversified youth together. Every day presents new opportunities for students to learn about the process of creating a mural and with our partners on site every day, students have access to provided pamphlets and promotional products that drives them to informational websites. Often our partners also provide anti-vaping “swag” bags for a little bit of fun prevention engagement.

c) **Inspiring Youth:** While we are on site creating the mural, we also host free workshops. This is a more intimate opportunity to inspire students through our stories of how we followed our dreams to become professionals that assist in strengthening our communities. Our team is approachable and during the process of the mural painting, we welcome and encourage students and staff alike to participate. For example, in Maui High School, students from a journalism class interviewed us and documented our progress while we painted. They were inspired to learn about art, our model of Creating Awareness through Art and then created a video that they submitted to their teacher for his review.

d) **Beautify Spaces:** We enjoy painting with the intention of beautifying high pedestrian-traffic areas of Hawaii spaces, however our focus is on beautifying public school campuses. Most of the buildings are originally two-toned, resulting in a very drab and uninspiring atmosphere which is not stimulating to students. Our murals bring beauty to schools and provide inspiration to thousands in years to come and appeal to all generations and demographics which in turn creates unity amongst communities with nature-inspired displays. Breathe Aloha Mural tours have traditionally utilized a “mauka” or “makai” theme.

e) **Developing Mentorship Programs:** A defining element of this mural project is the Mentorship Program we have been developing. The lead artist of this mural project, Ken Nishimura, has been mentoring Hawaii youth to become muralists and project organizers for over a decade. His mentorship curriculum is multi-faceted, focused on developing life skills and educates on topics ranging from leadership, team work, entrepreneurial sustainability and personal health and wellness.

f) **Building More Resilient Communities:** In the process of seeking out supporters, we build a wide network of community members who are dedicated to optimizing the health of Hawaii and future leaders. Our messaging is complimented by healthy and vibrant nature scenes that convey a positive lifestyle and our approach to projects reaches multi-generational audiences while uniting Keiki and kupuna together.

2. The Lōkahi Mural Program is two 6-week Mural Programs (Fall 2023 and Spring 2024) at Olomana School HYCF focused on social reform, rehabilitation and leadership building. For each program, there will be three in class sessions between 7:30 to 2:30pm per week for a total of 18 sessions in total. The first phase will include mural development (five days in total between 8am to 4pm) and workshop preparation (four days in total between 8:30 to 1pm). During the rest of the fiscal year, Keep It Flowing will be focusing efforts on other youth and prevention mural programs and preparing / improving curricula.

3. We have completed 29 prevention murals statewide to date as well as a 9-week mural program at Olomana School. So far, we have been able to impact an estimated 33,000 students since the establishment of our programs. Our mental health awareness murals provide a safe and age-appropriate way for key messages to reach all demographics. Many of our mural projects have reached national and international attention. We have been featured in all statewide periodicals / newspapers and all mayor television stations as well as local radio

stations. With this program, we are able to deepen students' understanding of better coping schools and how to use art as a therapy. The anticipated results of the program will be our students' social-emotional well-being as measured by student, teacher, family and community surveys, observations, treatment team meeting minutes, and results. Students will improve their behaviors and attitudes in school and with their families and support professionals. They will learn to collaborate and work together with peers and adults. Students will learn art skills, which can be transformed into a successful entrepreneurship business. Students will be inspired to attend post-secondary opportunities as well as internships and apprenticeships with participating community members.

In our workshops, we encourage students to organize projects in their communities, to get engaged with their schools and take leadership roles. For example, through our projects, we inspired Kapaa High School (Kauai) to create more murals on their campus created by students. Every school has inquired about developing a more extensive mural program for their students. Students and faculty are enthusiastic about mural painting as an alternative form of expression, empowerment and community building.

In 2014, in collaboration with the Hawaii Meth Project, we were able to reach over 34,000 students on Oahu. Of those students, 14,000 received prevention education in the school setting. During the 2015-16 school year we reached approximately 17,000 students in schools and 22,000 teens in the community. In 2018 - 2019, with our Breathe Aloha Mural Tour, we were able to reach an estimated 11,816 students in ten DOE High Schools across the main Hawaiian Islands of Kauai, Oahu, Maui, Molokai and Hawaii Island. By combining free classroom lessons, assemblies and prevention rallies with the mural installations we were able to deepen students' understanding of the prevention resources and dangers of using meth and tobacco vaping.

4. Our team has proven that it has both the capacity and experience to collect key data and effectively maintain operations and budgets while making the largest impact on target populations with our Awareness Through Art murals. Our Director of Development and Director of Administration work with partners like Olomana School HYCF, Hawaii Department of Education Branches; School Transformation Branch, Office of Student Support Services; Office of Strategy and Information and Performance, Windward Community College, Olomana School Principal Lisa Delong, HYCF Warden, Mark Patterson, Special Education Department Head and Transition Coordinator Lisa Vegas and all staff at Olomana School (HYCF Site) to collect data from every project through on-site observation, digital and printed evaluation surveys distributed to students and staff and reports from family, friends and other supporters from the communities. Education on health, wellness and positive lifestyle choices is provided on site during the mural painting process by our partners who are also supporting pre-mural and post-mural surveys for the intention of collecting essential data regarding mental health in youth across the State. Anticipated outcomes for this project include the facilitation of two 6-week mural programs as well as:

a) **Business and Community Commitment:** Hawaii's business community further embraces and supports this program as a viable method of impacting Hawaii's youth in a positive way that resonates with them

b) **Wider Media Support:** We plan to garner more support of all traditional television media including KHON news, traditional print ,media including Star Advertiser, radio promotion and social media including internal SEO optimization through our legacy relationships as well as establish new long-term connections

c) **Increased Impact:** With the proposed two 6-week programs, we expect to directly impact an additional 90 at-risk and incarcerated Hawaii students with reinforcing messages and educational resources. With social media and mainstream media, our impact could reach 50% - 60% of the local population as well as generate additional support nation and world-wide.

d) **Sustainability:** We aim for this program to be a sustainable Alternative Learning Program that schools can implement state and nationwide.

IV. Financial

Budget

- 1. *The applicant shall submit a budget utilizing the enclosed budget forms as applicable, to detail the cost of the request.*
 - a. *Budget request by source of funds*
 - b. *Personnel salaries and wages*
 - c. *Equipment and motor vehicles*
 - d. *Capital project details*
 - e. *Government contracts, grants, and grants in aid*

(See attached)

- 2. *The applicant shall provide its anticipated quarterly funding requests for the fiscal year 2024.*

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total Grant
\$57,558	\$57,558	\$57,558	\$57,558	\$230,232

- 3. *The applicant shall provide a listing of all other sources of funding that they are seeking for fiscal year 2024.*

Keep It Flowing is seeking other sources of funding for fiscal year 2024 from:

- a) City & County GIA
- b) Hawaii Community Foundation
- c) Other Private Foundations
- d) Department of Education Title Funding

- 4. *The applicant shall provide a listing of all state and federal tax credits it has been granted within the prior three years. Additionally, the applicant shall provide a listing of all state and federal tax credits they have applied for or anticipate applying for pertaining to any capital project, if applicable.*

Not applicable.

- 5. *The applicant shall provide a listing of all federal, state, and county government contracts, grants, and grants in aid it has been granted within the prior three years and will be receiving for fiscal year 2024 for program funding.*

Keep It Flowing has not been a direct recipient of federal, state or county government contracts to date, however we have been hired as a reputable contractor by non-profit organizations to manage federal and state-funded projects. Many non-profit organizations apply for funding contingent on our project management and facilitation of mural programs. Keep It Flowing does have a fiscal partnership agreement with the Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii, a registered 501(c)3.

6. *The applicant shall provide the balance of its unrestricted current assets as of December 31, 2022.*

Our current unrestricted funds balance is \$0 as December 31, 2023.

V. Experience and Capability

1. *The applicant shall demonstrate that it has the necessary skills, abilities, knowledge of, and experience relating to the request. State your experience and appropriateness for providing the service proposed in this application. The applicant shall also provide a listing of verifiable experience of related projects or contracts for the most recent three years that are pertinent to the request.*

Keep It Flowing has experience providing mural collaborations in partnership with other organizations to target youth with education, resources and members of the community youth can connect with that offer all levels of support since 2014. Our experience includes more than 25 years in art design, installations and public works, over 20 years in marketing, promotions, digital and print media, over 12 years in education and leadership programming, curriculum, youth and at-risk workshop facilitation, more than 8 years in project management and coordination of community outreach events, over 6 years with fiscal partnerships and management of grant funding with budgets of \$190K as well as 5 years of Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) Certification and training. We have completed 29 prevention murals statewide to date as well as a 9-week program at Olomana School HYCF, and are Hawaii Certified Express (HCE) Certified and a verified State of Hawaii vendor. Founder and Creative Director, Kenneth Nishimura, Director of Development, Laycie Williams, Director of Administration, Kellee Kubota, and Kumu Keala Ching, our designated Hawaiian Cultural Practitioner lead our projects with key stakeholders. Our Creative Director is responsible for hiring all artists needed on all islands for the Breathe Aloha Mural Tour as well as lead management of the adult artists and youth while painting. Laycie, the Director of Development is responsible for all public relations, marketing and media, website as well as supporting management of artists and youth training. Our Director of Administration maintains all budgeting, permitting and documentation.

Combined, our team has gained over 30 years of work targeting high-risk youth with art. Collectively, our organization and it's supporters has established a standard of performance for which all volunteers, artists, supporters and students must reach and maintain. Each of our projects is done with a sense of personal pride, enthusiasm, quality and consistency. Keep It Flowing has been awarded Proclamations from every County in the State of Hawaii.

(See attached)

Supporters for Keep It Flowing include:

- Hawaii Public Health Institute (HIPHI)
- Coalition for a Tobacco Free Hawaii
- Hawaii Partnership to Prevent Underage Drinking (HPPUD)
- E Ola Pono Ma Kapolei (EOPMK)
- Honolulu Police Department
- Weed & Seed Hawaii
- Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii (CFDH)
- Olomana School HYCF
- Hawaii Department of Education
- Hawaii Arts Alliance

(See attached)

Testimonials:

“It’s important to teach our keiki in ways that they understand and grasp. Who would of thought that a program like this would have been able to reach these keiki.”

Ikaika Anderson, Department of Hawaiian Homeland Director

“Keep It Flowing creates programs and curriculum for at-risk youth and is currently developing an art program with Olomana School on Oahu after a very successful 2-day workshop.”

Harry Kim, Mayor County of Hawaii

“Mahalo nui loa for founding Keep It Flowing LLC in 2014, which focuses on using art as a vehicle to create social and environmental awareness. You have been involved with the youth and community since 2009. A world renowned artists, you have painted 25 murals within the State of Hawaii. We appreciate your efforts to collaborate with schools and communities to bring awareness of better lifestyle choices to build resiliency and positivity.”

David Ige, Governor State of Hawaii

“Keep It Flowing utilizes its awareness art programs to encourage prevention of youth alcohol, tobacco and drug use, as well as share other essential key messages involving community support, making better lifestyle choices and more.”

Michael Victorino, Mayor County of Maui

“The students, motivated by the program, persevered in overcoming the challenges of creating a mural at Olomana School.”

Rick Blangiardi, Mayor Honolulu County

“It is undeniable that the creative arts community is changing the lives of our youth on Kauai and throughout the state. Programs that encourage Keiki to express themselves through a healthy outlet and in a safe environment further enables our youth to make wise choices and to live out a positive life. Keep It Flowing is a shining example of an organization that is making a difference in our next generation.”

Derek Kawakami, Mayor County of Kauai

“The public school mural project provides awareness on the campuses and strives to build healthier schools throughout the community.”

Bernard Carvalho, Mayor County of Kauai

“Ken Nishimura has been doing on site large canvas aerosol art for us at events for more than a year. We find that having him paint a canvas near our booth attracts a significant amount of attention, and since our mission requires us to get peoples’ attention, he has been a great addition to our community events.”

David Earles, Former Executive Director of Hawaii Meth Project

“As a journalist, I have covered and reported on the events Ken Nishimura has coordinated aimed at educating our youth about the harmful events of drug abuse and illegal activity. His work with the HMP and several Hawaii high schools is admirable and inspirational”

Olena Heu, Journalist

“Using art and street art, in particular, assists teens with being able to express themselves and also keeps them preoccupied from illegal activities and influences.”

Olena Heu, Journalist

“Projects like these Not Even Once mural helped create a positive climate on campus while “shouting out” a relevant message to our students. It also helps to broaden the students’ frame of reference by showing them that art truly takes many different forms, styles and media.”

Principal Wilfred F. Murakami, Kealakehe High School

“Your ability to connect with the children of all ages from 9-17 was evident as you were able to captivate your young audience with your informative speech about the arts and the positive impact they have on peoples’ lives. The feedback we received from the youth was overwhelmingly positive and we hope to have you return again to share your skills and inspire others.”

Boys and Girls Club Director, Danae Marin

“All the projects we’ve worked on have been not only fun but hassle-free. For a busy person such as myself, I only chose to work with individuals who are resourceful, prepared and have an extensive knowledge in their field. You, sir, are all the above.”

Wendy Gilbert, Owner of Pas De Deux

“The value of art, the value of such an important message and the value of individuals giving of their time to make this a reality is so very powerful.”

Principal Daniel Hamada, Kapa’a High School

“The feedback from both students and staff has been very positive as it turns out to be an effective means to help remind our students in making positive choices.”

Principal Daniel Hamada, Kapa’a High School

“As an administrator for grades 9 and 10, I have enjoyed the conversations it has sparked among our students during both morning and lunch recess and its focus on a positive message for such a difficult subject matter.”

Vice Principal Ikaika Plunkett, Kahuku Intermediate and High School

“While on campus, not only did Ken Nishimura do the mural but he also paid a visit to the visual arts department and spoke to about one hundred art students. He connected on a level that they could all relate to, he answered questions and he provided a realistic picture of a life of an artist.”

Vice Principal Glenda Joyo, Maui High School

“Students and staff stopped throughout the day to talk with the artists about the message and to admire the artwork. As a culminating activity, Ken and his team addressed the A+ staff and students, reinforcing the message of not even once.”

Principal Nancy Matsukawa, Kealakehe Intermediate School

2. *The applicant shall provide a description of its facilities and demonstrate its adequacy in relation to the request. If facilities are not presently available, describe plans to secure facilities.*

Keep It Flowing has not required a brick and mortar facility in order to best serve it’s mission therefore there will be no plans to secure a headquarters for our organization at this time. Our team is fluid and mobile, able to work remotely for the majority of the project process and travels to each island in order to fulfill mural installations. Historically corporate and private sponsors have subsidized our lodging, accommodations, rental vehicles, food per diem and additional needs. We pride ourselves in sourcing local artists from each island to both mitigate

costs and also to provide opportunities to students and aspiring local artists that are interested in working on full scale collaborations.

VI. Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing

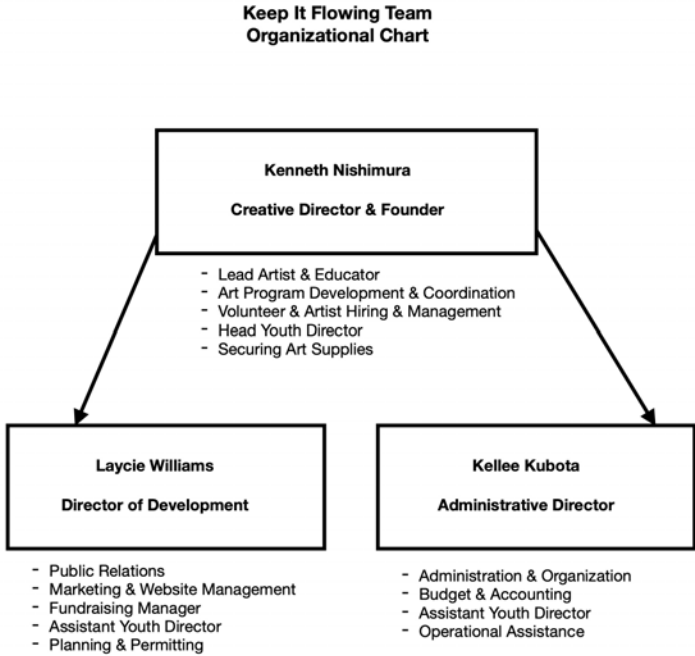
1. Proposed Staffing, Staff Qualifications, Supervision and Training

The applicant shall describe the proposed staffing pattern and proposed service capacity appropriate for the viability of the request. The applicant shall provide the qualifications and experience of personnel for the request and shall describe its ability to supervise, train and provide administrative direction relative to the request.

At this time, Keep It Flowing does not require any hiring of staff to complete this project.

2. Organization Chart

The applicant shall illustrate the position of each staff and line of responsibility/supervision. If the request is part of a large, multi-purpose organization, include an organization chart that illustrates the placement of this request.



3. Compensation

The applicant shall provide an annual salary range paid by the applicant to the three highest paid officers, directors, or employees of the organization by position title, not employee name.

Our Creative Director is currently the only staff-member who is not an independent contractor and our compensation schedule is based on funding availability and determined by project. For this Lōkahi Mural Program project, the following are amounts that shall be paid to our Creative Director, Director of Development and Director of Administration:

- Creative Director Salary: \$60,000
- Director of Development Sub-Contract: \$35,000
- Director of Administration Sub-Contract \$6,000

VII. Other

1. *Litigation*

The applicant shall disclose any pending litigation to which they are a party, including the disclosure of any outstanding judgement. If applicable, please explain.

There is currently no active or pending litigation nor outstanding judgment involving Keep It Flowing LLC, The Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii or it's associates.

2. *Licensure or Accreditation*

The applicant shall specify any special qualifications, including but not limited to licensure or accreditation that the applicant possesses relevant to this request.

Keep It Flowing LLC maintains HCE Compliance and is a Certified State of Hawaii Vendor. Our Creative Director maintains Prevention Credits from CADCA, commitments to HPPUD, EOPMK and other Coalitions. Our Director of Development is currently pursuing Alcohol and Abuse Division (ADAD) Prevention Specialist Certification (CPS) and maintains the necessary Prevention Credits required from CADCA, commitments to EOPMK, Hookele Coalition and Coalition for a Tobacco Free Hawaii and maintains annual Payment Card Industry (PCI) Compliance.

Awards received by Keep It Flowing include:

- 2022 County of Honolulu Proclamation
- 2019 County of Kaua'i Proclamation
- 2018 State of Hawaii Governor's Certificate
- 2018 State of Hawaii Special Governor's Recognition
- 2018 County of Hawai'i Proclamation
- 2018 County of Maui Proclamation
- 2018 County of Union City, CA Recognition
- 2016 County of O'ahu Award of Recognition
- 2016 County of Maui Certificate of Appreciation
- 2014 County of Kaua'i Proclamation
- 2014 County of Kauai Police Chief Certificate of Appreciation

3. *Private Educational Institutions*

The applicant shall specify whether the grant will be used to support or benefit a sectarian or non-sectarian private educational institution. Please see [Article X, Section 1. of the State Constitution](#) for the relevance of this question.

This Grant in Aid will not be used to support or benefit a sectarian private educational institute.

4. *Future Sustainability Plan*

The applicant shall provide a plan for sustaining after fiscal year 2023-24 the activity funded by the grant if the grant of this application is:

- (a) *Received by the applicant for fiscal year 2023-24, but*
- (b) *Not received by the applicant thereafter.*

Keep It Flowing will provide two 6-week programs at Olomana School Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility (HYCF). Currently, our sustainability plan includes a diversified funding strategy including applying for grants in aid and working with our fiscal agent, The Coalition for a Drug-Free Hawaii our partnerships with Coalitions across the State including Coalition for a

Tobacco Free Hawaii, E Ola Pono Ma Kapolei (EOPMK), Hawaii Partnership to Prevent Underage Drinking (HPPUD), etc, as well as private and corporate foundations and donors. We also work with our public relations team and supporters to generate creative funding opportunities and fundraising campaigns.

Our future sustainability plan includes producing high quality archival paper, canvas and even prints on metal as well as other merchandise to sell in order to create products to help sustain future murals for our programs and support economic viability. All of our models and programs are scalable so, when funds are received the projects move forward. Therefore, reduced funding or grants in aid are not received in the future, will result in fewer murals and fewer communities served. Should no additional funding be awarded to Keep It Flowing beyond fiscal year 2023-2024, we will continue to pursue creative fundraising opportunities, private foundation and other government funding sources to continue to provide high impact prevention murals programs to the youth and communities of Hawaii.

BUDGET REQUEST BY SOURCE OF FUNDS

Period: July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

Applicant: Keep It Flowing LLC

BUDGET CATEGORIES	Total State Funds Requested (a)	Total Federal Funds Requested (b)	Total County Funds Requested (c)	Total Private/Other Funds Requested (d)
A. PERSONNEL COST				
1. Salaries	128,000			
2. GE Tax on gross 4.712%	10,360			
3. Fringe Benefits				
TOTAL PERSONNEL COST	138,360	0	0	0
B. OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES				
1. Airfare, Inter Is and				
2. Insurance	800			
3. Lease/Rental of Equipment	0			
4. Lease/Rental of Space	11,000			
5. Staff Training				
6. Supplies	57,583			
7. Telecommunication				
8. Utilities	0			
9. Administrative Fee	19,988			
10. Travel Expenses	0			
11. Shipping	0			
12. Miscellaneous	2,500			
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				
TOTAL OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES	91,871	0	0	0
C. EQUIPMENT PURCHASES	0	0	0	0
D. MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES	0	0	0	0
E. CAPITAL	0	0	0	0
TOTAL (A+B+C+D+E)	230,232			
SOURCES OF FUNDING		Budget Prepared By:		
(a) Total State Funds Requested	230,232	Kenneth Nishimura 808-206-0345		
(b) Total Federal Funds Requested	0	Name (Please type or print) Phone		
(c) Total County Funds Requested	0	Kenneth Nishimura Founder January 16 2023		
(d) Total Private/Other Funds Requested	0	Signature of Authorized Official Date		
TOTAL BUDGET	230,232	Kenneth Nishimura Founder		
		Name and Title (Please type or print)		

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - PERSONNEL SALARIES AND WAGES

Period: July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

Applicant Keep It Flowing LLC

POSITION TITLE	FULL TIME EQUIVALENT	ANNUAL SALARY A	% OF TIME ALLOCATED TO GRANT REQUEST B	TOTAL STATE FUNDS REQUESTED (A x B)
Creative Director, Lead Artist and Educator	1	\$85,000.00	71.00%	\$ 60,350.00
Director of Development	0.5	\$60,000.00	59.00%	\$ 35,400.00
Director of Administration	0.5	\$60,000.00	10.00%	\$ 6,000.00
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
TOTAL:				101,750.00
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS: All salaries and/or wages are for direct administrative and fiscal management services.				

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - EQUIPMENT AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Period: July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

Applicant: Keep It Flowing _____

DESCRIPTION EQUIPMENT	NO. OF ITEMS	COST PER ITEM	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
N/A			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
TOTAL:				

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:

DESCRIPTION OF MOTOR VEHICLE	NO. OF VEHICLES	COST PER VEHICLE	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
N/A			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
TOTAL:				

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - CAPITAL PROJECT DETAILS

Period: July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

Applicant: Keep It Flowing

FUNDING AMOUNT REQUESTED						
TOTAL PROJECT COST	ALL SOURCES OF FUNDS RECEIVED IN PRIOR YEARS		STATE FUNDS REQUESTED	OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDS REQUESTED	FUNDING REQUIRED IN SUCCEEDING YEARS	
	FY: 2021-2022	FY: 2022-2023	FY:2023-2024	FY:2023-2024	FY:2024-2025	FY:2025-2026
PLANS	N/A					
LAND ACQUISITION	N/A					
DESIGN	N/A					
CONSTRUCTION	N/A					
EQUIPMENT	N/A					
TOTAL:						
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:						

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND / OR GRANTS IN AID

App

Keep It Flowing

Contracts Total:

-

	CONTRACT DESCRIPTION	EFFECTIVE DATES	AGENCY	GOVERNMENT ENTITY (U.S./State/Hawaii/ Honolulu/ Kauai/ Maui County)	CONTRACT VALUE
1	N/A				
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					
19					
20					
21					
22					
23					
24					
25					
26					
27		10			Application for Grants

Kenneth Nishimura

Founder & Creative Director

2724 Kahoaloha Lane
Honolulu, HI 96826
(808) 206-0345
info@keepitflowingmedia.com

Kenneth Nishimura, is best known for his brand designs, graphic arts and murals. Behind the art you will find a seasoned entrepreneur, dedicated project manager and mentor. Ken's colorful career as a professional artist began by creating wearable art pieces, murals in public schools and fliers in the mid-1980s. He immersed himself in learning more about Hip Hop Culture during a period of ongoing visits to New York City from 1994 to 2008 and studied with many pioneers. His commitment, efforts and talents were recognized globally through his opportunities to travel and share his art in places such as London, Japan, Shanghai, Ahbu Dahbi and more. Ken was also the primary artist for the Legendary Rock Steady Crew (from NYC) and created many designs, murals and commemorative anniversaries pieces from 1994 to 2008. Kenneth's passion, knowledge and experience for Hip Hop Culture allows him to authentically connect to all generations, especially the youth for his current large-scale collaborative projects.

Mr. Nishimura has worked as a graphic and clothing designer, mural artist and program director for numerous organizations, government agencies and celebrities including: Department of the Attorney General, Department of Education, Hawaii Police Department, E Ola Pono Kapolei, recording artist and actor COMMON, Kid Robot (NYC), GQ Magazine, Dj Qbert and Thud Rumble (SF), Play Station Portable (UK), Babe Ruth Band (UK), UK B-Boy Championships, Mighty 4 (SF), Rock Steady Crew/Anniversary (NYC), Dj Tony Touch, Rawkus Records (Priority Records affiliate), Clear Channel Broadcasting and more.

Youth & Community Workshops and Programs

2021 - 2022	Olomana Schools Art Workshop
2018	Olomana Schools Art Workshop
2017	Rock The School Bells Hawaii Learning Program
2017	Power Scholars Enrichment Program
2017	YMCA Summer Youth Art Programs
2016 - 2017	Coalition of a Drug Free Hawaii Think Tank
2015	Calligraphy & Fontography with Art: 3-Day Workshop at Diverse Art
2014	Innovations Public Charter School Workshop
2014	Art Workshop at Kealakehe High School
2014	Art Workshop at Boys & Girls Club
2013	Hawai'i Meth Project
2013	Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics STEM Works Industry Day
2013	Spray Away Meth Youth Aerosol Art Workshop
2012	Art Director for Diverse Arts
2012	Sustaining the Spirit Program at Punahou School
2011	AIM Art Workshop at Kalani High School
2011	Youth Street Art Workshop for Diverse Arts
2010	Youth Aerosol workshop and mural for Kaua'i's Under Ground Artist
2008	Cornell University Art Workshop & Presentation

Exhibition & Public Mural Work Projects

2022	Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) “Drive Safe” Collaboration with Hawaii Partnership to Prevent Underage Drinking (HPPUD)
2019	Breathe Aloha Mural Tour (BAMT) Fall 2019
2019	Breathe Aloha Mural Tour (BAMT) Spring 2019
2018	Community Mural Project 2018 “LIVE Art FEAST on Rice Street
2018	Breathe Aloha Mural Tour (BAMT) Fall 2018
2018	Department of Attorney Generals Office Collaborative Youth Mural
2017	Kamalani Academy
2016	Nanakuli Community Mural Project
2016	Lahaina Skate Park Beautification Project
2016	Owl “Pueo” Mural in Kona Hawaii
2015	Not Even Once Mural Project (NEOMP) Fall 2016
2015	“Be a Jerk” Underage Drinking Prevention & Awareness Program
2015	Boys & Girls Club Lihue, Kauai Mural Project
2015	Not Even Once Mural Project (NEOMP) Spring 2015
2014	Not Even Once Mural Project (NEOMP) Fall 2014
2014	Mural Beautification & Program at Molokai High School
2014	Not Even Once Mural Project (NEOMP) Spring 2014
2014	Pow Wow Hawaii
2014	“A Portrait of Hip Hop: From the Inside Out” Art Show
2014	Sheraton Waikiki Mural Installation for New Years Eve
2014	Live painted at Eat The Street Hawaii
2013	Hawaii Meth Project
2013	Pas De Deux Mural Project
2013	Kauai High School Senior Class Mural
2013	Las Vegas Public Mural Works Project Midnight Marauders
2013	Joseph Watson Gallery Exhibition
2013	Pow Wow Hawaii
2013	Qianshuiwan Culture Center Live Art Performance in Shanghi, China
2012	Hasbro (Transformer) x Illest Collaboration Mural
2012	Joseph Watson Gallery Gallery Exhibit
2010	Abu Dhabi UAE Mighty 4Arts & Cultural Event
2010	Mural Donated to Kauai Police Athletic League (KPAL)
2008	Mural at Adidas Originals Store in New York City – Soho
2007	Art Exhibit at Adidas Originals Flagship Store
2007	Mural for Adidas Originals Store
2007	Known Gallery Los Angeles
2005	Elms Lester Painting Hall, London Gallery Show sponsored by Play Station

Design Projects

2019	Department of Health Logo Development & Ad Work design for Na Leo Kane
2018	Hawaii Partnership to Prevent Underage Drinking (HHPUD)
2018	Statewide Medication Dropbox Project
2017	Logo for Honolulu Zoo’s Zoofari Gala
2017	Logo for City Square Shopping Center
2017	Logo for Waimalu Plaza Shopping Center
2015	Modify Watches Collaboration
2014	Bucketfeet Sneaker Collaboration
2013	Logo Design & Graphics for 15 th anniversary of Mighty 4 Art Foundation
2010	Wail Project Los Angeles Collaboration
2007	Cuervo 1800 Painting
2007	Kid Robot Vinyl Figure Collaboration
2003 - 2007	Art Director for Clothing Brand Anomalies

2004 Lonnie 'COMMON' Lynn, Jr. Branding, Marketing & Promotions of Echelon Clothing
2004 Lead Designer for Echelon Clothing Brand.
2000 - 2003 Pacific Bar Associates Hawaii Art Director & Management (Wave Waikiki & Hulas
Bar and Grill)

Awards & Recognition

2022 County of Honolulu Proclamation
2019 County of Kauai Proclamation
2018 Governor's Certificate
2018 Governor's Message
2018 County of Hawaii Proclamation
2018 County of Maui Proclamation
2018 County of Union City, CA Recognition
2016 County of Oahu Award of Recognition
2016 County of Maui Certificate of Appreciation
2014 County of Kauai Proclamation

Laycie Williams

Director of Development

191 Kaholalele Road
Kapaa, HI 96746
(808) 561-5213
laycie@keepitflowingmedia.com

Laycie Williams is an ambitious, self-driven and sui generis go-getter who thrives in high-stakes environments, working with a diversified range of client, customer, vendor and community leaders. She consistently exudes a positive “can do” attitude by empowering and coaching those involved in projects and is masterful in developing and maintaining optimum organization. Her eclectic and diverse experiences spanning over 20 years, prepare her for any challenge or opportunity she is to navigate. Though Laycie’s professional results are statistically tangible, her greatest skills are “off camera” so to speak, as she has an uncanny ability to work with any class, race and demographic and is always available to listen and provide understanding.

Laycie provides essential networking, facilitation, PR and marketing skills to the Keep It Flowing team and is one step away from becoming a certified Prevention Specialist in early 2023. Her background is incredibly diversified and her personal impact on the local Hawai’i community expands years and industries. Miss Williams officially joined Keep It Flowing as Director of Development in January 2018, having known Founder and Creative Director, Ken, for over 14 years and volunteered for years prior. Her experience includes working with: Island Girl Products, HMSA, Beachfront Villas, Down to Earth, Kale’s Groceries, Town Restaurant, Non-Violent Communications Hawaii, North Shore Economic Vitality Partnership, the Department of the Attorney General, E Ola Pono Ma Kapolei, Hawai’i Police Department, Ho’okele Coalition of Kaua’i, Hawai’i Department of Education, Coalition for a Drug-Free America, Eddie Aikau Foundation, Maritime Tech & Associates and Kuilima Estates at Turtle Bay. She has completed 5 years of internationally recognized Community Anti Drug Coalitions of America courses and maintains enough credits to be a Certified Prevention Specialist through Hawaii Alcohol & Drug Abuse Division (ADAD).

Youth & Community Workshops and Programs

2021 - 2022 Olomana Schools Art Workshop
2018 Olomana Schools Art Workshop

Exhibition & Public Mural Work Projects

2022 Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) “Drive Safe” Collaboration with Hawaii Partnership to Prevent Underage Drinking (HPPUD)
2019 Breathe Aloha Mural Tour (BAMT) Fall 2019
2019 Breathe Aloha Mural Tour (BAMT) Spring 2019
2018 Community Mural Project 2018 “LIVE Art FEAST on Rice Street
2018 Breathe Aloha Mural Tour Fall 2018
2018 Department of Attorney Generals Office Collaborative Youth Mural
2015 Boys & Girls Club Lihue, Kauai Mural Project
2015 Not Even Once Mural Project (NEOMP) Spring 2015

2014 Not Even Once Mural Project (NEOMP) Fall 2014
 2014 Mural Beautification & Program at Molokai High School
 2014 Not Even Once Mural Project (NEOMP) Spring 2014
 2014 Sheraton Waikiki Mural Installation for New Years Eve
 2013 Hawaii Meth Project
 2013 Pas De Deux Mural Project
 2013 Kauai High School Senior Class Mural
 2013 Las Vegas Public Mural Works Project Midnight Marauders
 2013 Joseph Watson Gallery Exhibition

Volunteer Commitments

2018 - 2023 Active Member & Marketing Support, E Ola Pono Ma Kapolei (EOPMK)
 2019 - 2023 Active Member, Hookele Coalition of Kauai
 2019 Interim Coordinator, Hookele Coalition of Kauai to Support Drug Free Coalition
 (DFC) Federal Grant for Kauai County
 2019 - 2020 Active Member, Hawaii Partnership to Prevent Underage Drinking (HPPUD)
 2019 - 2023 Active Member, The Coalition for a Drug-Free Hawaii (CFDFH)
 2021 - 2023 Active Board Member, Storybook Theater Executive Foundation
 2019 - 2021 Secretary & Website / Marketing Chair, Zonta Club of Kauai Secretary
 2017 - 2019 Marketing Director, North Shore Economic Vitality Partnership (NSEVP)
 2015 - 2016 Vice President, Oahu Alternative Lodging Association (OALA)
 2014 - 2016 Editor, Non-Violent Communications of Hawaii
 2018 Community Outreach Coordinator & Speaker, E Kumu Wawae House
 2015 - 2018 Consultant, Eddie Aikau Foundation
 2015 - 2018 Volunteer Coordinator with NARS, DLNR & USDA Plant Inspection Station
 2015 - 2016 Volunteer, Kumuola Foundation
 2015 - 2016 Volunteer, Papahana Kuaola Foundation

Awards & Recognition

2022 Count of Honolulu Proclamation
 2019 County of Kaua'i Proclamation
 2018 - 2023 Prevention Specialist Credits for Alcohol & Drug Abuse Division (ADA)
 Certification
 2018 - 2022 Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) Graduate (5 Years)
 2018 Governor's Certificate
 2018 Governor's Message
 2018 County of Hawai'i Proclamation
 2018 County of Maui Proclamation

Kellee Kubota

Administrative Director

2724 Kahoaloha Lane
Honolulu, HI 96826
(808) 216-0260
admin@keepitflowingmedia.com

Kellee Kubota is a hard-working organizational architect for the Keep It Flowing team. She is often the mastermind behind-the-scenes and is a crucial daily manager of everything from administration construction and budget development to innovative facilitation. A volunteer for Keep It Flowing since 2018 and later becoming a fully committed team member, Kellee is often the catalyst that bridges the creative minds of artists with the business world; a feat that is far from easy. Her expertise in accounting, spreadsheet formulae, conversion of paper documents to digitally standardized folders and drives as well as grant co-writing empowers our other team members to focus on reaching the community on-the-ground more effectively. Kubota is very passionate about the youth and community of Hawaii and many of the fine-tuned elements of our unveilings and “Mahalo” gifts are to her credit. Kellee is able to navigate both the creative directions as well as the business needs of our organization and she does it with grace and eloquence. An amanuensis, Kellee is able to listen, contribute valuable insight and take thorough notes at the same time and is often the coordinator of key meetings. However she also enjoys being on-site of active projects and loves to paint with the students as often as she possibly can and be involved with the “nitty gritty dirty work” of our community collaborations. If we had to pick our favorite asset of Kellee, it would be her artistic handicraft contributions! She always goes the extra mile to make handmade artisan gifts with love and “mana” that brings smiles to our supporters and volunteers. In her free time, she enjoys the outdoors and time with her ‘Ohana and friends.

Youth & Community Workshops and Programs

2021 - 2022 Olomana Schools Art Workshop
2018 Olomana Schools Art Workshop

Exhibition & Public Mural Work Projects

2022 Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) “Drive Safe” Collaboration with
 Hawaii Partnership to Prevent Underage Drinking (HPPUD)
2019 Breathe Aloha Mural Tour (BAMT) Fall 2019
2019 Breathe Aloha Mural Tour (BAMT) Spring 2019
2018 Community Mural Project 2018 “LIVE Art FEAST on Rice Street
2018 Breathe Aloha Mural Tour (BAMT) Fall 2018
2018 Department of Attorney Generals Office Collaborative Youth Mural

Awards & Recognition

2022 County of Honolulu Proclamation
2019 County of Kaua’i Proclamation
2018 Governor’s Certificate
2018 Governor’s Message



Lisa Vegas
Transition Coordinator
Olomana School
42-522 Kalaniana'ole Hwy.
Kailua, Hawaii 96734

July 11, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

I am truly honored to write this letter of recommendation for Ken Nishimura of Keep It Flowing, LLC. Through the years, he has volunteered his time and talent to provide a creative arts and mentoring program to support the needs of our Olomana School students in the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility (HYCF). This past school year, our school received funding through a Hawaii State Department of Education Social-Emotional Learning and Trauma-Informed Support Program to create a mural project where students would be able to learn alongside professionals, and engage with their peers and their community on an integrated project. As a result, the students, teachers, and staff of Olomana School, along with the staff at the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility, collaborated with Ken to provide this unique learning experience. Keep It Flowing created a curriculum for the mural, which consisted of progressive sessions in drawing/stylistic writing, aerosol painting techniques, and culminating in the mural painting. Our students were eager and excited to learn this art form. Some of our students are very artistic, so these new techniques enhanced or extended their art skills. The other students struggled at first, but as the program progressed so did their art skills. Their confidence in themselves and in their ability to learn grew as a result of the 6-week program and the guidance of their mentor, Ken Nishimura.

Keep It Flowing was very organized and prepared for every lesson, which helped to keep the students engaged. This Lokahi Mural Project included art lessons in stylistic writing techniques using markers and aerosol paint. Students learned about the history of Hip Hop art, murals, and the appropriate use of the aerosol paints. In addition, they also learned life skills such as working as a team, supporting your peers/co-workers, listening to directions, and connecting with their community. Through this program, our students gained confidence in their social and emotional skills. They learned to not give up, and that it takes patience and practice to do better, to be better. Everyday, we would see improvement in their attitudes and their engagement. The students were very appreciative to Ken and Kellee for all of their time and efforts in creating this special project for them. They felt honored to be a part of a mural that they will be able to come back to and say, "I did this. I was a part of something special." Being a part of something lasting and meaningful allowed our students to feel proud of themselves and have a sense of belonging, where oftentimes they feel like outcasts. Our students, as well as I, will always remember this amazing opportunity and how it felt to accomplish such a beautiful work of art.

In closing, Keep It Flowing's Mural and Art Program was a great learning experience for all involved, and I highly recommend this program. The organization and professionalism of its staff was appreciated and provided a positive experience for our students as well as the staff.

Sincerely,

Lisa Vegas