

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Keith Amemiya President Downtown Athletic Club of Hawaii (808) 224-6772 <u>keith.amemiya@gmail.com</u>

Downtown Athletic Club of Hawaii Announces Scholarships to Lahainaluna High School Class of 2024 Graduates Attending Colleges Out of State

DACH Partners with the Maui Strong Fund of the Hawaii Community Foundation to Provide \$325,000 in College Scholarships

LAHAINA, HI (July 31, 2024) - The Downtown Athletic Club of Hawaii (DACH), with a \$325,000 grant from the Maui Strong Fund of the Hawaii Community Foundation (HCF), awarded scholarships to 13 Lahainaluna High School Class of 2024 graduates who will be attending colleges out of state this fall. Lahainaluna High School was founded in 1831 and is the oldest school west of the Rockies.

"DACH is pleased to partner with the Hawaii Community Foundation and its Maui Strong Fund to provide all Lahainaluna continent-bound graduates with critical financial resources," said DACH President, Keith Amemiya. "From the COVID-19 pandemic that impacted their freshman year to the fires that impacted their senior year, the Luna Class of 2024 has endured a lot and we're proud of their resilience, perseverance, and positive attitude under unimaginable circumstances."

The scholarship funding provided can be used towards tuition, housing, meals, and other school-related needs. These graduates will be attending schools such as UCLA, Washington State University, Oregon State University, the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, Grand Canyon University, and Portland State University.

"All of us at Hawaii Community Foundation are honored to support the 13 Lahainaluna High School graduates and ensure that they can continue forward in the next chapter of their education journey," said HCF CEO and President, Micah Kane. "Our Maui Strong Fund donors provided financial resources to uplift the Maui community and these scholarships offer hope and assurance to the students that we are all behind them, cheering them on."



"Lahainaluna High School is grateful for the generous support of DACH and HCF," said Lahainaluna Principal, Richard Carosso. "Coupled with the 168 Lahainaluna graduates who will be attending University of Hawaii campuses this fall, 85% of our graduates will be attending college, a record number in the 193-year history of the school."

###

For more information on DACH, go to www.downtownathleticclubhawaii.org

About DACH

The Downtown Athletic Club of Hawaii is a non-profit organization devoted to supporting youth and sports programs and initiatives in Hawaii.

DACH was formed in 2012 by the owners and top executives of trusted downtown Hawaii businesses. DACH has held monthly luncheons, pau hana gatherings, and other events to support and raise awareness for youth and local sports in Hawaii.

Previous DACH events featured speakers such as former Hawaii NFL players Olin Kreutz, Manti Te'o, Marcus Mariota, and Chad Owens, former Major League Baseball All-Star, Shane Victorino, University of Hawaii coaches, and national sports personalities such as Neil Everett and Larry Beil.

DACH is spearheading the current Luna Strong fundraising campaign to support the Lahainaluna High School student-athletes and coaches whose homes were destroyed by this past August's fire. To date, over \$1,000,000 in cash and in-kind donations have been raised towards this campaign.

DACH's previous fundraising efforts raised \$131,500 to support the Molokai and Lanai High School Athletic Departments with their costly air and ferry transportation expenses and raised \$30,000 for the Pacific Islands Athletic Alliance, an organization that was dedicated to helping over 1,200 college-bound athletes from Hawaii and American Samoa with athletic and academic scholarships, grants, and financial aid.

END