

Service-Learning UH Achievement Grant Awardees Fall 2008

Service-Learning program nominates outstanding service-learning students for the UH Achievement Grant Awards every semester. These students have excelled in service-learning by showing a strong commitment to academics while serving their community. Students must have completed 30 hours or more of service-learning work in the preceding semester and demonstrated a strong commitment to service in a future career. The \$700 award is applied directly to the student's cost of tuition.

For Fall 2008, we have chosen 6 outstanding service-learners to receive this award.



I Shan Cheng

I Shan is pursuing a Liberal Arts degree and served the elders at Leahi Hospital for 30 hours during the Spring semester, and plans to continue working in the hospital setting as a future career.

"The award encourages me to do my best in volunteer job, also it push me to take everything seriously. Good interpersonal and teamwork skill learning in school. These 30 hours have been long, but I have learned a lot. I'm having such an excellent experience helping elderly people. This may help me to get a position in social services and health care. For example, director of volunteer services or social service director. I look forward to pursuing this career in psychology and meeting all the interesting people along the way."



California Miles

Cali is majoring in Sculpture (Fine Arts) and contributed 42 hours in the Spring semester towards serving her community. She participated in planning a Waimanalo Beach clean-up, the service-learning Kupuna event, restoring Halawa Valley, and serving the houseless in Waikiki. She continues her work with in Waikiki this summer.

"Receiving this grant is giving me the opportunity to fulfill dreams for my future. I currently have two more semesters left before I am able to receive my Liberal Arts degree. I am so excited to reach that goal. From there it has been my plan to continue on to the University of Manoa were I will obtain my Masters in Fine Arts. I learned so much in the Fall at KCC. It was a life changing experience serving our community."



Ayako Hombo

Ayako is a pre-Business major from Japan who provided 34 hours and participated in KCC's International Café while working at Next Step Shelter and Leahi Hospital. She also participated in a fundraiser for a patient thru Hawai'i's Leukemia Foundation.

"I had many precious experiences through Service Learning. These changed my philosophy and made me think about what I can do for the society. And more, I got opportunities to see the world which I didn't know. After I graduate KCC, I will transfer to UH Manoa. And then, I'm sure that I keep working on Service Learning. Trying to contribute to society is worthwhile for me throughout my long life. Great engines are supposed to turn on small pivots."



Yi He

Yi is originally from China and majoring in Liberal Arts. She provided 30 hours of tutoring for other Chinese language learners during the Spring semester and used most of her free time to serve the community.

"During Service-Learning, I found that I was learning from helping others. I learned different cultures from different students. I found that we were valuable because we could help others. I found that we were members of a community. Every one of us could [have an] affect on the community. In the future, I will continue to serve the community and will transfer to UH Manoa in International trade or Accounting. I want to participate in more activities about culture. I want to learn different cultures and spread Chinese culture."



Ellen Ercegovich

Ellen is a New Media Arts major who contributed over 50 hours of service designing a website for a non-profit in Waimanalo. She remains active in service-learning after having also served over 65 hours as a "Big Sister" through Jarrett Middle School's smART Outreach program.

"I come from a background of fine art and I am excited to discover my passion for New Media Art. I believe that it is an in-between language that links information and imagination with flexible and expansive interactive art forms. My professional goal is to work in Educational Production Field that requires that I am not only a good NMA technician but also a good listener to extract my client's imagination from their smatterings of descriptions rendering them into sequences of images and state of the art graphic interactive capabilities. I plan to continue service learning by continuing to create Web Designs for non-profit groups."



Allan Kaleikilo

Allan is a New Media Arts major who gave 30 hours of his time to the art visit projects at Leahi Hospital and the Honolulu Academy of Arts, and participated in numerous service-learning projects and events.

“Being a part of service learning has afforded me a chance to realize my place and responsibility within my community. My mind and heart is open to some of the problems the community is faced with, and though I may not be able to solve problems, I know I can help reduce its severity. Service Learning has allowed me to view different aspects of our community and gain a deeper appreciation for things that I have taken for granted in the past. This grant affords me the opportunity to continue my education here at Kapi’olani

Community College and furthers my efforts toward the goal of transferring to UH Manoa.”