



NEWSLETTER

Bringing personnel news to our City workforce.

Mufi Hannemann, Mayor
City & County of Honolulu

September 20, 2007, No. 07-6

Ken Y. Nakamatsu, Director
Department of Human Resources

Mayor Hannemann Recognizes Employees for Service and Exemplary Performance

The **2007 Employees Recognition Program** was held on Thursday, August 30, 2007 at the Neal Blaisdell Concert Hall. Mayor Hannemann recognized 25 Departmental Employee of the Year nominees, 13 Manager of the Year nominees, 1 Outstanding Deputy Corporation Counsel, 1 Outstanding Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, 27 recipients of the Exceptional Achievement Award, 1 Valor Award honoree, 197 - 25 Years Service Award honorees, 55 - 35 Years Service Award honorees and 1 - 45 Years Service Award honoree. On behalf of our City workforce, we congratulate all employees recognized!

Special recognition was given to: (The following is taken from the program.)

Ralph S. Goto

2007 CITY MANAGER OF THE YEAR

*Water Safety Administrator
Honolulu Emergency Services Department*

Ralph Goto is the administrator of the Ocean Safety and Lifeguard Services Division of the Honolulu Emergency Services Department. During his tenure, there has been tremendous growth and newfound professionalism in the department.

Ralph has been a strong advocate for injury and drowning prevention, greater capabilities in lifesaving, professionalism and community service. The City and County's Ocean Safety Lifeguards are now a United States Lifesaving Association (USLA) certified agency thanks to Ralph. He also was instrumental over 15 years ago in pioneering the use of Jet Skis as rescue crafts; setting the standard for what is now a frequently utilized rescue tool worldwide.

His prevention work has led him to present drowning research at international conferences and write book chapters on drowning prevention. Under his leadership, the Junior Lifeguard program was born almost 20 years ago.

Great strides in ocean safety, drowning prevention and lifesaving have been made with Ralph Goto at the helm. Ralph has been incredibly successful in moving the department forward through implementation of innovative programs. His work has been a benefit to his department, the City and the many individuals whose lives have been saved through his efforts. Ralph Goto is a deserving candidate for the honor of being selected as the City's Manager of the Year. ■

Sylvia K. Silva

2007 CITY EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

*Job Resource Specialist V
Department of Community Services*

For more than 25 years, Sylvia Silva has helped thousands of customers turn their lives around through training and job placement, thereby allowing them to provide for themselves and their families. Leading by example, Sylvia sets high expectations for herself and team. As a result, the Oahu WorkLinks' team has achieved outstanding success as the only county in the State exceeding all performance standards for its Adult and Dislocated Worker programs.

One of Sylvia's core beliefs is that learning is a life-long process. Walking this talk, Sylvia is credentialed as a Certified Workforce Development Professional and has completed Glenn Furuya's local Leadership Works program. She also attends training courses offered by the City to enhance her management skills in an environment complicated by collective bargaining rules.

Sylvia has a heart of gold and a rock solid determination to help others make a better life for themselves. There are thousands of our customers whose lives have been greatly enhanced by her dedication to performing her job far above and beyond the call. Sylvia Silva is most deserving of her nomination as Employee of the Year. ■



Employees Returning to Work Following Military Service Have Opportunity to "Make-up" Contributions

The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Act of 2004 (USERRA) was enacted to provide certain benefits to employees who are re-employed following military service. One of these benefits has a positive impact on the City and County of Honolulu Deferred Compensation Plan. USERRA and the Plan provide that:

- An employee returning to work after military service can "make up" contributions on a pre-tax basis for the period of time he or she was away.
- The make-up contributions do not affect your ability to contribute to the Plan in the current year. Rather, they are subject to the IRS limits for the year to which they relate.
- In determining make-up contributions, your compensation is equal to what you would have been paid during the period of military service had you been employed.
- Make up contributions must be made within a certain period of time once you are reemployed. In general, you have three times the length of your active military service, but no longer than five years, to make-up contributions.

Please take advantage of this opportunity to save more for your retirement future if you have been re-employed following military service. For assistance in making up contributions to the City and County of Honolulu Deferred Compensation Plan, contact ING's Honolulu Customer Service Center at 711 Kapiolani Blvd., Suite 100 or 597-8213.



Special thanks to the 2007 Selection Committee Members

A committee of private citizens selected the 2007 City Employee of the Year and Manager of the Year. Thank you to this year's members. They were:

Carol Ai-May
Vice President
City Mill Co., Ltd.

Barbara A. Ankersmit
President
Qmark Research & Polling

Kenwei Chong
Partner
E&O Development

John L. Fink
Vice President & General Manager
KHNL/KFVE

Robert T. Guard
President
McCabe, Hamilton & Renny Co., Ltd.

Veronica R. Kaneko
President & Managing Director
McDonald's Restaurants of Hawaii

John M. Kearns
Associate Vice President of
Academic Affairs
Hawaii Pacific University

Tai Khan
Director and CEO
Zaffron

Stephanie C. Tom
Director of Human Resources
and Administration
AIG Hawaii

Jacy L. Youn
Managing Editor
Hawaii Business Magazine

Mahalo to the Royal Hawaiian Band &



Glee Club



A big mahalo to the Royal Hawaiian Band and Glee Club featuring *Misty Kelai* and *Karen Keawehawaii* who provided the special entertainment at this year's Employees Recognition Program!

Correction:

Joanna Y.N. Yamasaki recipient of the 2007 Exceptional Achievement Award! We apologize for the incorrect spelling of her name on our previous issue.



Year 2008 Holiday Schedule



DATE OBSERVED	HOLIDAY
January 1, Tuesday	New Year's Day (First day in January)
January 21, Monday	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (Third Monday in January)
February 18, Monday	President's Day (Third Monday in February)
March 21, Friday	Good Friday (Friday preceding Easter Sunday)
March 26, Wednesday	Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana'ole Day (26 th day of March)
May 26, Monday	Memorial Day (Last Monday in May)
June 11, Wednesday	King Kamehameha I Day (11th day in June)
July 4, Friday	Independence Day (Fourth day of July)
August 15, Friday	Statehood Day (Third Friday in August)
September 1, Monday	Labor Day (First Monday in September)
November 4, Tuesday	Election Day (First Tuesday after the first Monday in November)
November 11, Tuesday	Veterans' Day (11th day in November)
November 27, Thursday	Thanksgiving Day (Fourth Thursday in November)
December 25, Thursday	Christmas Day (25th day in December)

The holiday dates observed above are for employees who work on a Monday thru Friday schedule. Employees with other schedules should check with their supervisors for the appropriate day on which their holiday is observed.