

CHAPTER 23

Royal Hawaiian Band

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The Royal Hawaiian band (RHB) performs at community and educational concerts, official ceremonies, cultural events, special programs, and parades. This historic organization is the only full-time municipal band in the United States, and the only band in the country established by a royal kingdom, founded by King Kamehameha III in 1836.

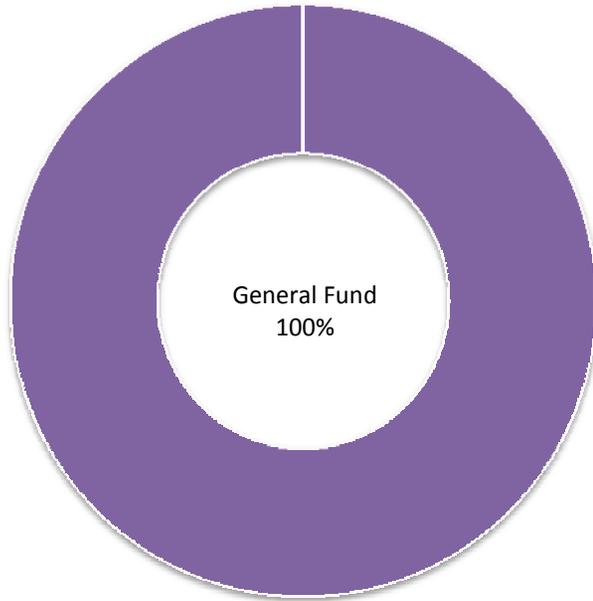
To accomplish the charter's mandate to serve and advance the general happiness and aspirations of city and county residents, the band's administration has established four goals and objectives:

- Maintain a high level of musical performance excellence and efficiently manage the band resources;
- Provide musical services to various segments of the community through a variety of programs and performances;
- Promote the City and County of Honolulu through the production of recordings, concerts, parades and tours that feature the music of Hawai`i; and
- Promote and perpetuate the history and culture of Hawai`i through the performance of traditional and contemporary Hawaiian music and dance.

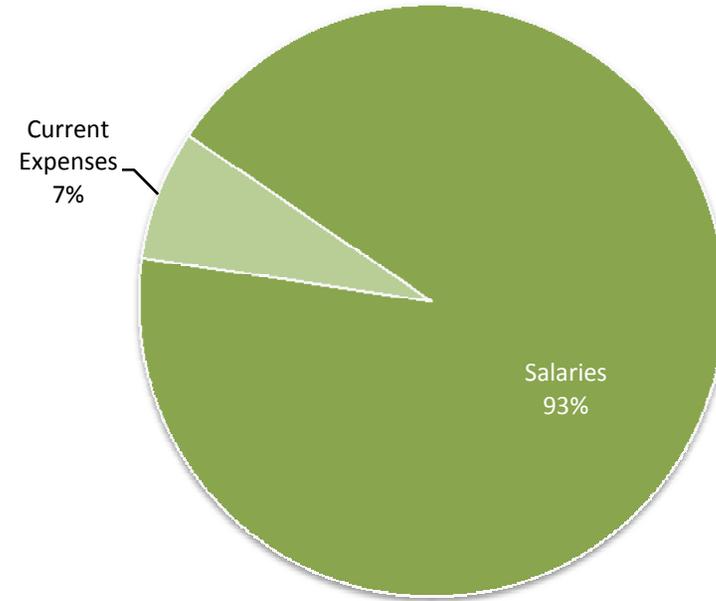
To serve as the official band representing the mayor and the City and County of Honolulu at private functions and public events to create goodwill and promote Honolulu and the State of Hawai`i through its music.

- Mission Statement

Funding Source



Funding Uses



	Operating Expenditures	Revenue	Authorized Staffing		Cost Per FTE ¹	Total Overtime Expenditures ²	Total Number of Performances
			Total Authorized FTE	Vacant Authorized FTE			
FY 2009	\$2,103,074	\$4,200	40	4	\$52,577	\$36,801	311
FY 2010	\$2,072,927	\$8,400	40	5	\$51,823	\$41,646	302
FY 2011	\$1,845,606	\$2,350	40	7	\$46,140	\$44,258	312
FY 2012	\$1,794,592	\$2,676	40	10	\$44,865	\$42,957	354
FY 2013	\$1,772,406	\$10,875	40	7	\$44,310	\$29,140	332
Change from last year	-1%	306%	0%	-30%	-1%	-32%	-6%
Change over last 5 years	-16%	159%	0%	75%	-16%	-21%	7%

Source: Executive Operating Program and Budget (FY 2011-FY 2015), Honolulu Department and Agency Reports (FY 2013), Department of Budget and Fiscal Services, 2013 National Citizen Survey (Honolulu), Royal Hawaiian Band, Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Department of Budget and Fiscal Services BRASS data (FY 2009-FY 2010), and Advantage Budget System (ABS) data (FY 2011-FY 2013). ¹Cost Per FTE = Total Operating Expenditures/Total Authorized FTE. ²Overtime pay is established by bargaining unit agreement, as applicable. Total overtime consists of non-holiday overtime only.

Highlights

In FY 2013, the band's revenue was \$10,875, a 306% increase from the prior year. The band noted that it was due to an increase in fee performances for private functions from two in FY 2012 to six in FY 2013. In FY 2013, the band stated that total overtime expenditures significantly decreased through the use of a new equipment truck, which eliminated the need for two vehicles to transport equipment on a daily basis. According to the band, its operating expenditures have decreased every year since FY 2009 due to a reduction in repair costs that resulted from the replacement of old instruments and equipment; reprioritization of expenditures; and a more efficient use of funds.

The band fulfills the charter's mandate and its goal of providing musical services to various segments of O`ahu's community through a variety of programs and performances to diverse audiences throughout O`ahu each year.

According to the band, total FY 2013 performances dropped from 354 in FY 2012 to 332, due to the band's use of supplementary time off (STO) as a group rather than individually in an effort to reduce expenses. The band was able to come to an agreement with its members, the Department of Human Resources (DHR), and the Hawai'i Government Employees Association (HGEA) to use their STO as a group. This eliminated the need to hire replacement personnel when band members used their STO, but also left less performance dates available during the year. The band also noted that the 332 performances in FY 2013 reflected a more regular performance schedule in comparison to FY 2012, which had a large number of high profile events.

In FY 2013, the band supported the mayor's priority for an Age-Friendly City through its 98 performances at hospitals and care facilities. The band performed at 76 community and cultural events,



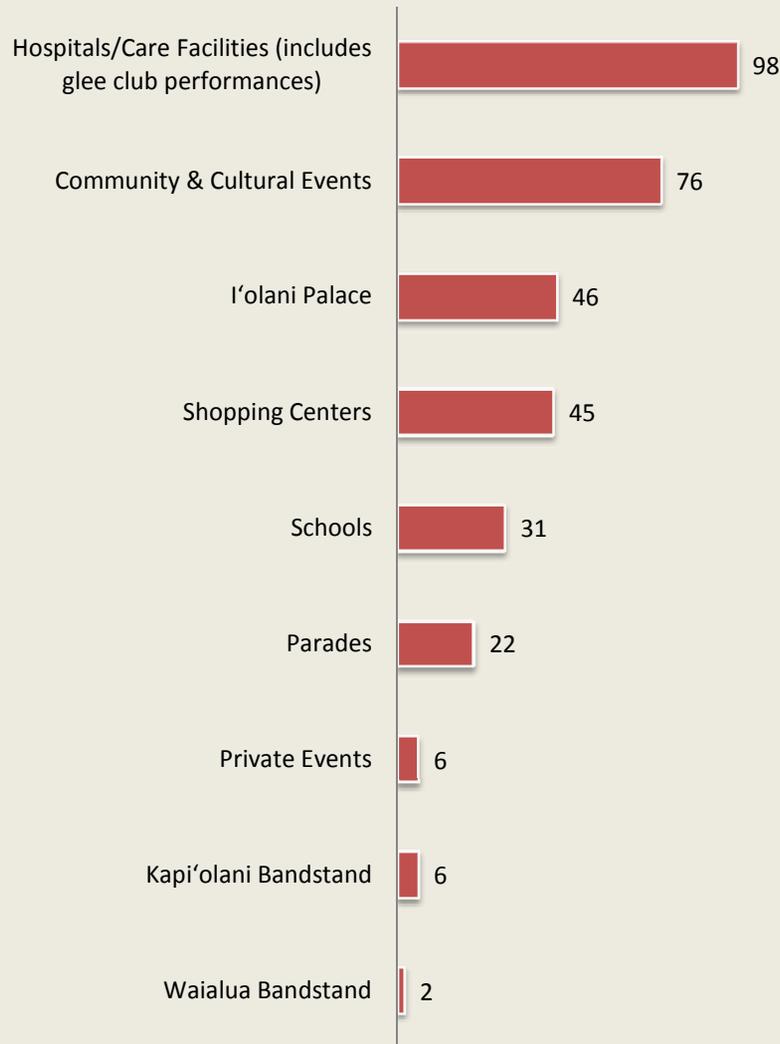
Photo Courtesy of the Royal Hawaiian Band

which included the Honolulu City Lights parade and the Filipino Fiesta. FY 2013 performances also included 6 private events that were assessed fees, which were paid into the General Fund, as required by city ordinance.¹

Despite the challenges presented by three of its primary concert venues (Kapi`olani Bandstand, Ala Moana Center Stage, and the Royal Hawaiian Center), which were closed for a significant portion of the year for repairs and renovations, the band continued to showcase music and dance of modern Hawai'i and its rich monarchical past in FY 2013. Additional public and private partnerships were initiated with the Royal Hawaiian Hotel, Moana Hotel, Kahala Mall, and Pearlridge Center in order to continue the band's outstanding service to the community through high profile free public concerts.

¹Revised Ordinances of Honolulu (ROH) Section 2-15.2 – Private function - \$1,200.00 for the first hour, and thereafter, \$150.00 for each 15 minutes or fraction thereof; Public or semi-public function – no fee.

Where did the Royal Hawaiian Band Perform in FY 2013?¹



Source: Royal Hawaiian Band



Photo Courtesy of the Royal Hawaiian Band

RHB performing at the Department of Parks and Recreation's Seniors Valentine's Dance.

The 2013 National Citizen Survey asked residents to rate the opportunities to attend cultural, arts, and music activities. About 51% rated opportunities as *excellent* or *good*, which is a substantial decrease from the prior year, but *similar* to percentages reported nationwide and among cities with populations over 300,000. Among large cities, Honolulu ranked 7th out of 16 cities, equivalent to the 60th percentile for opportunities to attend cultural, arts, and music activities.

	The National Citizen Survey (% Excellent or Good)			
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
Cultural/Arts/Music Activities	70%	71%	69%	51%
Comparison to National Benchmark	↑↑	↑↑	↑↑	↔

Source: The National Citizen Survey, Trends over Time, Honolulu, HI, 2013

Legend:

- ↑↑ Much higher than national benchmark
- ↑ Higher than national benchmark
- ↔ Similar to national benchmark
- ↓ Lower than national benchmark
- ↓↓ Much lower than national benchmark

¹Other than regularly scheduled performances at I'olani Palace and Kapi'olani Bandstand, all performances require the mayor's approval. Anyone may request the services of the band through the mayor's office. Once approved, the band coordinates the schedule and logistics with the event's sponsor.

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