



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII®
WEST O'AHU

NEWS RELEASE
April 22, 2008

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WEST O'AHU DAY FESTIVITIES HIGHLIGHT UH WEST O'AHU STUDENT TALENT

PEARL CITY --- UH West O'ahu (UHWO) students, faculty and staff recently celebrated West O'ahu Day at the university's campus courtyard. Featuring raffle prize-giveaways, student club activities, live entertainment by 7 Positive Minds and more, the event was a collaboration of the entire UHWO community.

A student talent show headlined the day's festivities hosted by KCCN FM 100's Lina Girl. The talent show offered the best of UH West O'ahu and featured vocal, dance, and comedy performances that delighted cheering on-lookers.

UHWO senior Bueno Chen, a Pearl City resident, took home the third place prize for his Spanish rendition of "Every Breath You Take," while second place went to senior and Mililani resident Aaron Gorospe, who dazzled the audience with a piano and vocal performance of "His Eye is on the Sparrow." UH West O'ahu freshman and Waipahu resident Kimberly Cinco together with Ricky Lam and Billy Lam of Kalihi took home first place with a high-energy, hip-hop dance routine.

"I was most nervous because I would be dancing in front of all of my teachers and fellow classmates," said Kimberly Cinco. "I'm really thankful that we were able to win first place. It's all very humbling and honoring."

All first, second and third place winners were awarded with gift cards from Best Buy.

In addition to the student talent show, the West O'ahu day event featured activity booths hosted by UHWO student clubs as well as organizations including the Institute of Human Rights Hawai'i, UH Federal Credit Union and the Hawai'i Foodbank. UH West O'ahu representatives collected donations on-site to support the Foodbank's annual food drive.

During the festivities, Psychology Club member Bueno Chen presented UH West O'ahu Chancellor Gene Awakuni with a \$200 donation to the Barbara Newton Memorial Scholarship Fund. The scholarship was established in 1996 in memory of Dr. Barbara Newton, one of the founding faculty members of the psychology program at UHWO.

UH West O'ahu junior and Waipahu resident Dawn Mizuuchi took home the raffle grand-prize, a Nintendo Wii game system.

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Last Fall, UH West O'ahu became a four-year, comprehensive university when it served its first class of freshmen. The University offers quality education, small classes and personalized attention at convenient locations. A new campus in the City of Kapolei is scheduled to serve students in Spring 2010. For more information about UH West O'ahu, visit uhwo.hawaii.edu or call (808) 454-4700 or toll-free (866) 299-8656.