

Rotary Club of Honolulu

Date October 19, 2021

Presiding: **President Gwen Yamamoto Lau**

President Gwen Yamamoto Lau called our meeting to order. **Lee LaBrash** gave the inspiration. **Brian Dunkel** led us in the pledge, and **Lyla Berg** led us in *When You're Smiling*. **President Gwen** introduced our guests. **Halona Norton-Westbrook** provided a vocational minute. She is the Director of the Honolulu Museum of Art.

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Keane Santos	4 years
Tom Coyne	17 years
Jessica Rich	17 years
Jennifer Oyer	2 years
Rich Smylie	12 years
Mel Kaneshige	24 years
John Keene	12 years
Ann Miller	8 years

ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

GWEN: We want to give thanks to health care workers, and we are giving thanks to Straub health care workers. We created a video honoring Queens health care workers: <https://www.kudoboard.com/boards/ctvRbcmE>. We have thank you cards in the office.

GWEN: WE'LL GO INTO "BREAKOUT" ROOMS NEXT. TODAY'S TOPIC IS: "What TV Shows Have you Watched during the Pandemic?"

PROGRAM: **Maja Grajski** introduced George Kon, cofounder of T-Shirt Theatre, a performance group based out of Farrington High School in Kalihi, and Demiliza Saramosing who graduated from Farrington.

T-shirt Theatre uses a low-tech, high-zest approach to their productions. Slogan: "Rehearse for life." The goal of the program is for the students to rehearse for life to gain jobs, justice, and joy. "Kipuka" is a Hawaiian metaphor used in class to describe safety. In T-Shirt Theater they use body language - put hands over heart which demonstrates safety of the heart. T-shirt Theatre was able to reopen doors for assemblies at Farrington, which were unsafe, so that students would behave toward each other. George created a report on the project which resulted in funding for the project. T-Shirt Theatre does scenes, not plays, so you have maximum exposure for actors. The group began writing from improvisation which created more imaginative scenes.

Demiliza told of her projects since graduating from Farrington. She is pursuing a PhD after participating in T-Shirt Theatre. She wanted to escape the issues of Kalihi. She got a

creative ability with T-Shirt Theatre which taught her to be proud of the community she came from. She is also the first in her family to attend college.

GWEN: Next week's guest speaker is Laura Thielen, executive director of partners in care, a coalition alliance that develops, preserves, and expands programs and services for homeless persons.

MEETING IS ADJOURNED

Nancy N. Grekin, Scribe