

 THE COLLABORATOR | JES Enrichment Newsletter
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Mr. Alston Alika Albarado, M.F.A.

🔁 Hawaiian Studies Teacher







Classcraft Certified Educator

Hawaiian Studies w/ Kumu Alston

Aloha! I hope this newsletter finds you riding the wave of excitement as we dive into the new school year. Kumu Alston here, your child's Hawaiian Studies Enrichment Teacher here at Jefferson Elementary School. Originally from Hilo, Hawaii, I moved to Oahu to attend UH Manoa where I obtained my Masters in Fine Arts in Theatre for Young Audiences. I'm thrilled to share my love for Hawaiian culture and traditions with our keiki.

Guess what? I've got something exciting brewing in our virtual cauldron. Introducing our brand new online Classroom Hub website, where the learning never stops and the fun is always on the menu. Hop on over to <u>WWW.ALSTON.FUN</u> ('*Ae it's as fun as it sounds!*) to find homework assignments, extra learning resources, and important updates. *It's still a work in progress, but trust me, it's going to be epic!*

Now, here's a little secret I want to share with you. There's an incredible adventure planned for our older students. On October 6, 2023, grades 3, 4, and 5 will be heading to the Honolulu Theatre for Youth to watch a live performance of "The Royal School." Thanks to the generosity of The Awesome Foundation and the Honolulu Theatre for Youth, this field trip is going to be one for the books. Please make sure to submit-those permission forms on-time, and let's make memories together!

Before I wrap up, I want to extend a heartfelt mahalo to all our families. Your unwavering support is the key to unlocking a world of possibilities for our students. Together, we'll create a learning environment that's as vibrant as a rainbow and as nurturing as the ocean. Let's make this school year one for the record books!

STEM Grades K, 1, & 2

Andree Paradis-Ms.A has been teaching STEaM. classes at Jefferson over 10 years and thoroughly enjoys teaching Earth and Ocean Science to Kindergarten, First and Second graders. In her spare time enjoys surfing and hiking, and has appreciated living in beautiful Hawaii since 2000.

In STEaM classes we've started our school year learning what makes soil, compost, how trees, seeds, plants, and flowers grow, gardening and the importance of pollination.

Students will be bringing home a variety of Earth Science information that I hope they can share what they've learned.



STEM Grados 3, 4, & 5

My name is Candide, known as Ms. C to the kiddos and I am thrilled to be here at Jefferson Elementary again this year.

STEaM stands for science, technology, engineering, art, and math. In my class, we emphasize innovation, problem-solving, and critical thinking. We also focus on place-based learning, which involves engaging students in their community and environment. Growing up here on Oahu, I feel fortunate to be able to share the rich culture and history of Hawaii with our students. We will be doing many hands-on activities in the classroom and outside the classroom in our new la'au lapa'au native Hawaiian garden (located near C-Building). A little about me, I am a graduate of Kaimuki High School and hold a Bachelors of Science degree in Natural Resource and Environmental Management from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I also have degrees in Hawaiian Studies and Communication Art and am currently taking classes towards my masters at UHM. On my days off, I enjoy spending time with my 4 year old at the beach and pursuing my interests in surfing and hydrofoiling.





STEM Grades 3.4, a 5 (cont.)

The last weeks, my students have been working on building their own journals for note taking. They learned how to do the complete process from binding to decorate the cover using magazine cutouts. Next students worked on their first note taking activity where they learned about garden shade and irrigation. Mr. Zakahi has tasked us with coming up with a design of these elements for the peace garden. Finally they began sketching the blueprint for this task.

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PE Grades K-5

Aloha Thomas Jefferson Ohana! My name is Coach Jake and I'm the new PE teacher this year. Our classes this year will focus on the importance of movement, stability, and hydration. We'll be emphasizing cardiovascular health as well as coordination, balance, and team building.

A little about myself. I moved to Hawaii two years ago from Manhattan, New York City. Before the pandemic, I spent my time managing fitness clubs. The past few years inspired me to prioritize my wellness and spread it to others. I'm a NASM Certified Personal Trainer, Corrective Exercise Specialist, and Nutrition Coach. These days, when I'm not Coaching at Orangetheory Fitness in Waikiki, you can find me working out, at the beach, or relaxing cooking (not baking) all different types of healthy tasty food.

I also love animals. On the right is my family's dog Charlie. He lives in New York with my parents but he's clearly adopting the Aloha Spirit from 6,000 miles away!



Computer/Media K-5

Aloha , Welcome back to school! My name is Mr. Keo Genus, MSW, MFA and I am the new Computer and Media Teacher. I am pleased to be back at Jefferson, after two years hiatus- working at St. Patrick School as the Tech Coordinator and Keyboarding Teacher.

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Two years ago, I was the S.T.E.a.M teacher for grades 3-5, dedicated alongside Ms. Andree Paradis for 6 years. In whatever capacity I serve at Jefferson, I hope to help our students inquire, explore, discover, learn and grow. To start class this year, we are learning about the QWERTY Keyboard, the different names to the rows of keys, and practicing typing using our online typing platform.

Did you know that the QWERTY Keyboard was invented by Christopher Latham Sholes in 1874? That's over 100 years ago! He reorganized the keyboard layout to prevent the letters from jamming (aka sticky keys) when transcribing the telegraph messages on the typewriter. The layout is made so that you can rest your fingers on the middle row, called the "Home Row", and extend or retract your fingers to use the other letters, number or symbols. Although, other layout designs to the keyboard exists, the QWERTY keyboard is one that has withstood the test of time!!