



# Kalāheo High School Foundation and Alumni Association

## Alumni Honor Award Reception

February  
2020  
School  
Edition



Jordan with Board members Dr. James Schlosser, Martha Robertson, Apolonia Stice, Jodi Beaty, Alex Ress, Paula Ress

A reception honoring 1995 alumnus and dramatic baritone **Jordan Shanahan** was held on December 12, 2019, at a Waimanalo beach house under balmy skies and an almost full moon.

Since Jordan was selected for the honor over two years ago, the Board was delighted to learn he would be home for a brief visit and to quickly arrange a potluck pupu reception attended by 30 alumni, teachers, Board members, friends, family, and other members of the community.



Dr. James Schlosser, retired Kalaheo principal; Sarah Shanahan, Jordan's mother



Songs by Jordan: *Some Enchanted Evening* - South Pacific, Rodgers & Hammerstein; *Der Augen Leuchtendes Paar* - Die Walküre, Richard Wagner



Jordan was presented a Pyramid of Excellence, and his photo will join nine others on the History and Pride Wall in the school office.



Sarah Shanahan (center) with Ligaya Stice and Moira Bright, "I'm a Bright Kid Foundation" board members



Wade Nakashima, 1976 alumnus and first Alumni Honor Award recipient; Jodi Beaty, KHSA Treasurer and alumna; Alex Ress, KHSA President and alumnus.



Krystal Sato, Kalaheo English teacher; Kent Sato, Jordan's Kalaheo band teacher and Krystal's dad

When Jordan was a Kalaheo student, he played trombone in the school band and, at age 17, was named principal trombonist with the Honolulu Youth Symphony.

His singing talents were first discovered when, intending to audition for the orchestra for a Ron Bright musical production at Castle High School, he was asked to audition for a singing part and won the lead role of Emile de Becque in Rodgers and Hammerstein's *South Pacific*.



Jordan's grandmother; Karen Kimbrell; Tiare Cross Eastmond, 1995 alumna



Retired Kalaheo science teacher Karen Muronaka, Jordan's Kalaheo teacher and his mother's teacher at Kailua HS; Shawn Aweau, 1976 alumnus

At UH Manoa, Jordan studied Trombone and Composition before focusing on singing. With a full scholarship, he moved to Philadelphia to study Opera Performance at Temple University and later joined Opera Studio Nederland and the Ryan Center at Lyric Opera Chicago.

He has performed over 70 major roles in opera theaters around the world including The Metropolitan Opera. On the concert stage, Jordan has performed an equally wide-ranging repertoire and received critical acclaim at Carnegie Hall and also in Budapest, Amsterdam and with other major orchestras across Europe and the U.S.



Above: John & Carla Margeneau—Below: Bob & Paula Ress

Jordan now lives in Switzerland and performs regularly in Europe, North America, Asia and, of course, in Hawai'i.

