

OHANA ARTS

2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Inspiring connection, cultivating
peace through the performing arts



OHANA ARTS IS A 501(C)(3) NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
PH (866) 633-0430 • OHANAARTS.ORG • INFO@OHANAARTS.ORG



Dear Friends and Supporters,

It is with a deep sense of gratitude that we reflect upon our 2024–2025 season, our 16th season of providing high-caliber performing arts training and performance opportunities for students ages 6–18 on Oahu and beyond. This was an incredible year of growth for Ohana Arts, with the expansion of our year-round training programs and tremendous excitement surrounding our original musical, *Peace On Your Wings*. We are deeply grateful to our students, faculty, staff, board, and supporters whose passion and dedication make these programs possible.

In September 2024, we officially launched Ohana Arts Studio, an after-school musical theater program for middle and high school students focused on audition techniques and fully staged productions. The program enjoyed a successful first season with multiple workshops and productions. We also expanded our partnership with Hanahau'oli School, offering musical theater classes and staged productions for students in 1st–6th grade. Our original production, *Peace On Your Wings*, reached an extraordinary milestone in the summer of 2025 with performances in Honolulu and a tour of Fukuoka and Hiroshima, Japan, commemorating the 80th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. For our creative team and cast of 33 youth, bringing Sadako's story and message of peace back to her home was a deeply meaningful and long-awaited dream come true.

Our annual summer program at the University of Hawai'i's Kennedy Theatre brought together faculty from Hawai'i and the mainland to provide 100 students, ages 8–18, with intensive training in acting, dance, and music. Students also had the opportunity to work with professional directors, music directors, and choreographers while preparing multiple fully staged productions. We are grateful to the UH Department of Theatre and Dance for providing a home for our classes, rehearsals, and performances. Perhaps the most rewarding part of looking back on the year is witnessing the growth of our students. They become stronger and more compelling performers, but more importantly, they grow into more confident, compassionate, and empathetic individuals who discover the power of teamwork and self-expression.

It truly takes a village to make Ohana Arts the haven for learning and growth that it has become. We are filled with gratitude for everyone who has contributed their heart and soul to its continued development. Together, we witness the magic of theater—from the first lessons in the classroom to the moment a fully staged production comes to life—and see how creativity can take shape and dreams can become reality.

Thank you for being part of this journey with us. We look forward to all that the next adventure will bring.

Jenny Rubin-Taira
**Executive & Co-Artistic
Director**

Laurie Rubin-Taira
Co-Artistic Director

Carolyn Chung
Co-Artistic Director

Board of Directors

Crystal Costa
Mike Inouye
Dr. Wade Kiyono
Gail Taira
Yvonne Toma
Julia Torgovitzgaya

Executive & Co-Artistic Director/ Co-Founder

Jenny Rubin-Taira

Co-Artistic Director/ Co-Founder

Laurie Rubin-Taira

Co-Artistic Director/ Co-Founder

Cari Chung (Taira)

Ohana Arts

P.O. Box 894755
Mililani, HI 96789
Ph. 866-633-0430
info@ohanaarts.org
ohanaarts.org

"THE ARTS, IT HAS BEEN SAID, CANNOT
CHANGE THE WORLD, BUT THEY MAY
CHANGE HUMAN BEINGS WHO MIGHT
CHANGE THE WORLD." - MAXINE GREENE



MISSION, VISION & CORE VALUES

Mission

To inspire and engage people through high caliber educational and professional arts programs, and to cultivate an international family (Ohana) in the Pacific by promoting world friendship and peace through the universal language of the arts.

Vision

To develop a generation of compassionate, creative leaders who use the performing arts to bridge cultures, strengthen communities, and promote peace throughout the world.

Core Values

CONNECTION & COMMUNITY

We build an international ohana where individuals feel seen, supported, and valued through shared artistic experiences.

ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE

We are committed to high-caliber training and professional standards that challenge students to grow and strive for excellence.

COMPASSION & EMPATHY

We cultivate an environment where students learn to listen, understand, and respect others, fostering empathy and human connection.

EDUCATION & GROWTH

We develop responsible, compassionate, and patient leaders, as well as creative, independent thinkers prepared to thrive in a changing global society.

PEACE THROUGH THE ARTS

We believe the performing arts serve as a universal language that promotes understanding, cultural awareness, and peace across cultures and communities.

ABOUT OHANA ARTS

Ohana Arts is a Hawai'i-based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to empowering young people through the performing arts while fostering connection, understanding, and peace across cultures and communities.

At the heart of our work is the belief that the performing arts are a powerful force for building empathy, strengthening relationships, and bridging differences. Through storytelling, collaboration, and shared creative experiences, our students learn not only to express themselves, but also to listen, connect, and engage with others in meaningful ways.

We bring this mission to life through a continuum of programs that support students at **every stage** of their artistic journey.



A YEAR END REVIEW: OHANA ARTS STUDIO

INTRODUCING THE OHANA ARTS STUDIO: AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMMING

In our first season of the Ohana Arts Studio, we put up three productions, including **Beatlejuice Jr** with performances in December of 2024, **Ride the Cyclone** with performances in March 2025, and **High School Musical** with performances in May 2025. The launch of this season coincided with the establishment of a partnership with the **Pacific Buddhist Academy** which is where our Ohana Arts Studio rehearsals took place. We are also extremely thankful to **Honolulu Theatre for Youth** for allowing us to make their home, Tenney Theatre, our performance hub for the Ohana Arts Studio productions.

FALL 2024: BEETLEJUICE JR



WINTER 2025: RIDE THE CYCLONE



SPRING 2025: HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL



A YEAR END REVIEW: OHANA ARTS @ HANAHAU'OLI SCHOOL

MUSICAL THEATRE WORKSHOPS @ HANAHAU'OLI SCHOOL

The Ohana Arts satellite program at Hanahau'oli School, established in 2023, providing musical theater training and culminating productions for students enrolled in Hanahau'oli's summer school, also took a leap this year as we continued offering after school classes year round to students in 1st-6th grades, and productions of **The Adams Family Younger Performer Edition** in December, 2024 and **Aladdin Kids** in May 2025. In addition, we were able to offer **Introduction to Musical theater classes** to students in 1st-3rd grade. Providing these after school programs helped to expand our reach, enabling us to offer training and performance opportunities to more children around Oahu of all ages.



A YEAR END REVIEW: YOUTH THEATRE COMPANY

YOUTH THEATRE COMPANY: PEACE ON YOUR WINGS

The Ohana Arts Youth Theatre Company, established in 2014 with our original production of **Peace On Your Wings**, based on the true story of 12 year old Hiroshima atomic bomb victim Sadako Sasaki and her thousand paper cranes, achieved a monumental milestone this year. In the summer of 2025, Peace On Your Wings was invited to give performances in Fukuoka and Hiroshima Japan as an official event of the 80th anniversary of the atomic bombing in Hiroshima. The five performances in Hiroshima were sponsored by Hiroshima City. Words cannot express the incredible emotion we all experienced visiting the children's memorial, delivering over 3,000 paper cranes to Sadako's statue, visiting the Peace Memorial Museum, meeting and hearing from Sadako's surviving brothers Masahiro and Eiji and her childhood best friend Tomiko Kawano. The village that has raised up this show since its beginnings always harbored a dream to bring Peace On Your Wings to Hiroshima, but experiencing history come full circle in bringing her story through musical theater to Hiroshima was life changing for our cast of 32 youth ages 6-19. Our student cast members learned that telling stories through musical theater is not just about performing on stage. It is



A YEAR END REVIEW: YOUTH THEATRE COMPANY



about being part of something bigger than themselves. They learned how to speak eloquently to numerous news reporters, met with two members of the Imperial Family, Princesses Kiko and Kako of Akishino who came to see their final performance in Hiroshima, and participated in cross cultural exchange with 200 Hiroshima based students, performing with them in a children's peace music festival in the show's title song. Before departing for Japan, the Peace On Your Wings cast performed the show in the Ohana Arts Summer Festival of Musicals at the Kennedy Theatre, giving a performance of the show for pediatric cancer survivors, patients, parents, doctors, and other healthcare professionals which brought home the incredible ripple effect performers can have at such a profound level, showing the relevance of Sadako's story to the life experiences of children today with pediatric cancer and their loved ones.



A YEAR END REVIEW: 2025 SUMMER FESTIVAL & SCHOOL

OVERVIEW

The Ohana Arts Summer Festival & School is our flagship program and the cornerstone of our annual season. Having just completed its 16th year, the program brings together students from Hawai'i and around the world for an immersive experience in performing arts training and fully staged musical theatre production at Kennedy Theatre at the **University of Hawaii at Manoa**, in partnership with the Department of Theatre and Dance.

More than a summer program, the Festival is a transformative environment where students learn, collaborate, and grow through the process of creating theatre at a professional level.

PROGRAM EXPERIENCE

Each summer, Ohana Arts welcomes:

- 100+** Local and International students from
- 40+** Private & Public Schools
- 12+** Professional teaching artists from Hawai'i, Broadway, and the professional performing arts industry

Students train full-time in acting, voice, and dance through classes, rehearsals, workshops, and masterclasses, while gaining hands-on experience working on a professionally staged production, culminating in a festival of musicals. The program emphasizes collaboration, discipline, creativity, and personal growth in a supportive ensemble-based environment.



A YEAR END REVIEW: 2025 SUMMER FESTIVAL & SCHOOL

2025 FESTIVAL OF MUSICALS

A Season of Growth, Excellence & Global Connection



Youth Mainstage
(Gr. 3-6)



Teen Mainstage
(Gr. 7-12)



Youth Theatre
Company

The 2025 season brought together a dynamic slate of fully staged productions designed to meet students at different stages of their artistic journey while providing meaningful opportunities to perform, collaborate, and grow.

SHREK JR. — offered students in grades 3-6 an exciting introduction to musical theatre, building confidence, ensemble skills, and a strong foundation in performance.

GODSPELL — challenged students in grades 7-12 to deepen their skills through a vibrant and musically demanding production, fostering artistic maturity, collaboration, and creative expression.

PEACE ON YOUR WINGS — our audition-based Youth Theatre Company reached an extraordinary milestone, bringing students together for a professional-level production at Kennedy Theatre before embarking on an international tour to Fukuoka and Hiroshima, Japan. Through performance and cultural exchange, our young artists represented Hawai'i and shared a message of peace and hope with audiences across the Pacific.

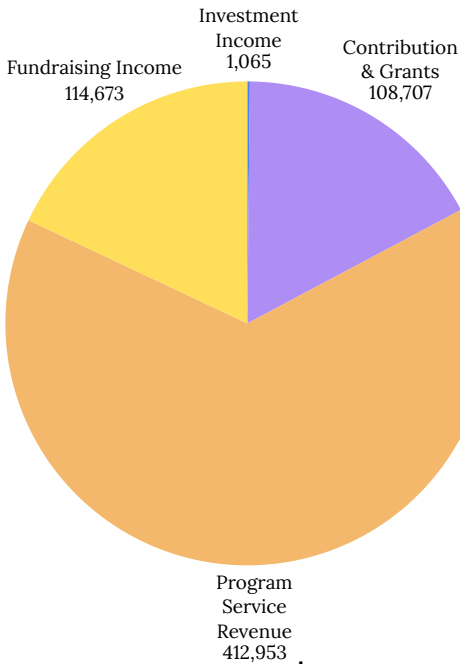
Together, these productions created a powerful continuum of training and performance—from emerging young performers to advanced, audition-based artists—while demonstrating the transformative possibilities of the performing arts. The 2025 season was not only a year of artistic achievement, but a year in which our students discovered that their voices, talents, and stories can reach far beyond the stage and connect communities across generations and cultures.



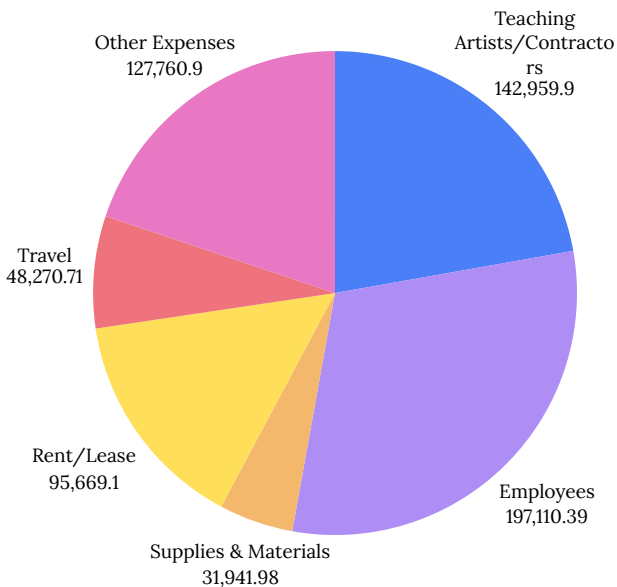
FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

2024-2025 Season

REVENUE: \$687,398



EXPENSES: \$643,712



IMPACT

Through participation in fully staged productions within a safe and supportive learning environment, students build confidence, strengthen communication skills, and develop as both artists and individuals.



For many, the experience is truly transformative—fostering not only artistic growth, but also lifelong friendships, leadership skills, and a deeper sense of purpose.



By working alongside professional teaching artists and collaborating with peers from diverse backgrounds, students gain a broader perspective of the world and their place within it. They leave the program not only as stronger performers, but as more confident, empathetic, and capable individuals prepared to contribute meaningfully to their communities.



“Ohana Arts helped me discover my love for theater, and I wouldn’t be where I am today without it. I’ve made close friends, grown so much, and become more confident—all because of Ohana Arts.”

AXS (AGE 12)

“Through Ohana Arts, I made friends who share my interests, and it gave me something to look forward to that helped me get through the school year.”

LAURYN (AGE 12)

2024-2025 SUPPORTERS

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER (\$50,000+)

State of Hawaii Legislature

PRODUCER'S CIRCLE (\$25,000-\$49,999)

City and County of Honolulu

Kosasa Foundation

DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE (\$10,000-\$24,999)

Ben Parker Fischlowitz Fund

Ross & Karen Yamamoto

University Health Alliance UHA

Alaska Airlines

Hawaiian Airlines

CONDUCTOR'S CIRCLE (\$5,000-\$9,999)

Andrew & Lisa Dudgeon

Anonymous

Dr. Thomas & M.I. Kosasa - Cancer Awareness

First Insurance Company of Hawaii Charitable Foundation

Gloria J. Gainsley Trust - Cancer Awareness

Hiromi Peterson & Naomi Hirano-Omizo

Kosasa Family Fund Cancer Awareness

Larry Miwa Peace Foundation

The Cades Foundation

Warren & Clarie Tamamoto

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

OHANA CIRCLE (\$2,500-\$4,999)

Advantage Insurance Service

Air Central LLC

Fortune MGMT of Hawaii

Halekulani Hotel

Honolulu Japanese Chamber of

Commerce Charitable Corporation

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

Social Concerns Committee

Maui Varieties Ltd.

The Fortune Platinum Foundation

UNIQLO

PATRONS (\$1,000-\$2,499)

Allison Wong

Anne Namba Designs, Inc.

Anonymous - Cancer Awareness

Anonymous IHO Katie Louie

Carl Kyono - Cancer Awareness

Anonymous - In dedication to Harry M.

Urata & the Urata Music Studio

Davis Levin Livingston Charitable
Foundation

Prince Waikiki Hotel

Honolulu Foundation

Japanese Women's Society Foundation

Joyce Lin-Conrad & Mark Conrad

IMO Sadako Sasaki

2024-2025 SUPPORTERS

PATRONS (CONT'D) (\$1,000-\$2,499)

JTB USA, Inc.	Pueomao Inc. DBA Yohei Sushi Restaurant
The Kahala Hotel & Resort	Roy & Audrey Fujimoto (in honor of Jay Sasaki)
Kim Orthodontics	
Kristi Inkinen Yanagihara Charitable Fund	Sean & Dena Satterfield Ohana Foundation (in honor of Amaya Mochinaga)
Mark M. Mugiishi, M.D.	Susan M. Kosasa Fund
Michael & Susan Erne	Wayde T. Kyono - Cancer Awareness
Nelson M. Muraoka - Cancer Awareness	Wayne & Joan Nakamoto

FRIENDS (\$1-\$999)

Aaron Yosohio Mochizuki - Cancer Awareness	Kaleo Kobe-Yamane & Daniel Yamane
Ai & Genzo Tanaka	Karen Chavis - Cancer Awareness
Alex Acevedo (in honor of Margaret Perez)	Karl & Carol Kakehi
Alexandria Sisson	Kathy Au
Alpha Delta Kappa, ETA Chapter	Kelley Chinen Okimoto- Cancer Awareness
Andrew Morgan & Danny Richard (in honor of Laurie Rubin)	Kelley Hutchins - Cancer Awareness
Ann Takazono	Ken Hirata
Annette Tashiro	Kirk & Helen Nakamoto
Anonymous	Kristyne H. Teramoto (In honor of Brooke Nakama)
Anonymous	Lance I. Teramoto
Anonymous - Cancer Awareness	Leo & Audrey Decosta (in honor of Sammy Decosta)
April & Stanley Michaels	Lilly Rubin (in honor of Laurie & Jenny)
Arleen & Lawrence Young	Lisa Barnes (in honor of Bree Peters)
Ashish & Asha Mehta	Lisa Kimsey
Beckie Stocchetti	Lori Kaneshige - Cancer Awareness
Betty Yoshida	Lynne and Steven Ceyler
Beverly A.H. Sumida	Matt Tsuruda
Bianca Kusatsu	Michelle Sato
Billie T Leuder (in honor of Randie Leuder & POYW Cast, Crew)	Mililani Hongwanji BWA
Carol Koroda	Myra T. Fujii
Christine S. Taylor	Myrna Sugiyama
Claire Kurasaki	Owen & Jan Tamamoto (in honor of Haruyuki & Itsue Tamamoto)
Clara Goto	Patricia & George Takamiya
Daisy & Peter Ishihara	Paul & Jodi Fujimoto
Dan & Jasmine Morrison	Randall & Candace Wada - Cancer Awareness
Darryl Claser - Cancer Awareness	Reagan Bell
David Y. Okabe - Cancer Awareness	Reginaldo Valdes-Paz
Dee Ann Omatsu	Roberta Melton
Detail Pro LLC	Robin Kennedy
Donna Chu	Rodney S. Moriyama
Dorette P.S. Luke	Ronald & Patricia Tochiki
Eddie P.C. Fan & Lori C. Zukermura	Ronald J. Friedman & Suzie Dolan
Elsie Tanaka	Sandra S. Toma
Frances Fen-Huei Hsin	Sean Holliday
Gail & Ken Watanabe	Sharon Kaneko
Grant Nakashima (in honor of Brooke Nakama)	Susan Schoonover (In honor of Sammy Decosta)
Guillermo Uriarte	Suzie Omori (in honor of Emi Sampson)
Hawaii ETA Chapter ADK	Sylvia Wee
Hawaii ETA Chapter ADK	
Herbert & Joni Fukuji	The Janie & Mark Davis Charitable Fund of the Jewish Foundation of Greensboro
Honolulu Cookie Company	The Meng Dynasty Inc./Anna Meng
Jana and Howard Wolff	Theodore B. Moore - Cancer Awareness
Janet & Andy Mason	Thomas Cooper (in honor of Laurie Rubin)
Janine Among	Tim L. Degner - Cancer Awareness
Jeffrey & Beth Freitas	Valerie Okihara
Jim LEavitt, Lani Moore	Vera & Neal Arita
June & Joanne Watanabe	Wendy & Craig Guro