

HSTA Organizing grant report

Social Justice Youth Summit Molokai 2019

We had 177 participants attended the first ever HSTA sponsored Social Justice Youth Summit Molokai. We believe that it was a huge success not just because of the people in attendance but because of the impact and responses we received.

The panel we had at the beginning helped the audience understand what social justice means for Molokai. The panel included Titi Hernandez (LGBTQ+ and sexual abuse), Shari Lynn (substance abuse issues), U'i Kiaha (suicide prevention). The music and entertainment tied in beautifully with the theme "Stay in the Light" *Ua ao Hawai'i ke 'olino nei malamalama (Hawai'i is enlightened, for the brightness of day is here)*. Ekolu Kalama sang his song "Stay in the Light" which was our theme for the event and the magician entertained the young people in the audience.

The student work displayed and shared by all schools from the island demonstrated that it was an island-wide participation and that social justice issues are relevant to keiki on Molokai. There were also student presentations from the high school and middle school. High school clubs included Lamaku Club, LEO Club, AVID classes, as well as Hawaiian Immersion Language Program O Hina I Ka Malama.

Kumu Hinaleimoana's keynote speech was memorable and brought a powerful and moving end to the event. Her message to the youth and to the community that helps to raise them that they are all born for greatness.

One of the things that did not go out as planned was the art build. I had seen this at the NEA Social Justice Conference in Houston. I was hoping that we could make that happen for our event but we could not because the person responsible for that task was not able to follow through for personal reasons. We were hoping the art build would create our banner for next year and people would contribute by painting different sections of the banner. We went a little over because the price we thought we were getting for the magician was higher than we were quoted.

We learned a lot from this experience that we can apply for next year. First was that even though we had the date on the schedule months in advance, there was still a lot of other things happening on the island the same day. Next year we plan to put it on the Visitor's Bureau Community Calendar - 3rd week in October. Another is the advertising the event. The banner we created needed to be put up sooner around the island and needed to be more easily readable from a distance.

Here are a couple of items relevant to the data.

1. [Responses](#) from the event
2. [Sign in Sheet](#) from the Registration Table
3. [Budget](#) for the event.