Over the past three decades, Keiki Day has helped Parents And Children Together (PACT) remain engrained in the community — the “secret sauce” that helps the social services organization serve Hawaii’s communities and remain dedicated to providing a wide range of innovative and educational social services. Keiki Day has remained a highly anticipated and extremely important fundraising event since 1990, while also serving as a “friend-raising” opportunity that highlights the complicated issues facing families and youngsters in Hawaii.

While the funds generated through Keiki Day are vital for one of Hawaii’s leading advocates for children, the awareness generated within the community through the annual event is priceless. The sales of this special Keiki Day edition of the Honolulu Star-Advertiser directly benefit PACT, a Hawaii-only family service agency established 51 years ago that assists more than 15,000 people annually.

The annual Keiki Day event includes some of Hawaii’s notable personalities — the likes of politicians, celebrities, athletes, coaches and business leaders — who donate their time to sell special editions of the Honolulu Star-Advertiser for just $1 each. The papers are sold statewide, and copies of the newspaper will also be available in classrooms across the islands thanks to the generosity of sponsors and individual donors.

PACT strives to provide Hawaii’s children with a peaceful and safe environment in which they can grow through 18 crucial programs in the fields of: early childhood education, domestic violence prevention and treatment, child abuse and neglect prevention and treatment, behavioral and mental health support, youth development, and economic and community development.

In addition to chronicling the day’s top news articles and features readers have come to rely on from the Honolulu Star-Advertiser, each Keiki Day edition contains information and tips for parents, teachers and children such as original stories, artwork and poetry from students who entered the Keiki Day Creativity Contest. Children from kindergarten through grade 12 submitted responses related to this year’s theme of “Dare to See KEIKI PAGE 4”.

Today’s $1 edition helps local organization carry out key services, programs

BY KYLE GALDEIRA
SPECIAL REPORT FOR KEIKI DAY

PAGE 4

(Top from left, clockwise) Keiki Day Creativity Contest winners Hazel Aoki, Enaka Nishiyama, Dezmond Maunui, Peyton Callahan, Mattie Keita and Alan Uyechi. TONY GRILLO PHOTO
The ‘friendraiser’ begins!

Hosted by repeat supporter Romano’s Macaroni Grill, the kickoff launched Parents And Children Together Keiki Day with a BANG! Team representatives, who will be hawking Keiki Day Good Will, Cooperation, Service items at their stations and follow their dreams, propelling them forward to bright and exciting futures. As our keiki are young and vibrant, they are full of hope and dreams. Their future is bright and full of promise. Together, they can achieve their dreams.

Dare to make a difference

We believe that every child deserves to grow up in a peaceful, safe and vibrant community where dreams are attainable, not just aspirational. This year’s theme, “Dare to Dream,” is a challenge to Hawaii’s kids to pursue their passions and follow their dreams, propelling them forward to bright and exciting futures. As Parents And Children Together, we believe that all kids can do anything they set their minds to, as long as they have the support and resources to achieve their dreams.

From our humble beginnings over 50 years ago as a single program in a one-room schoolhouse, we have grown into a multi-faceted social services agency, helping more than 1,500 volunteers from all over Oahu today, gathered at Romano’s Macaroni Grill to fuel up on a delicious brunch and get pepped up for Keiki Day.

TO OUR MAHALO

We have witnessed first-hand the challenges faced by poverty-stricken families and the devastating effects they have, especially on our kids. By addressing their most basic needs, we are committed to breaking the cycle of poverty that has plagued so many generations, affording local families the means to dress their root causes, we are committed to breaking the cycle of poverty and impoverished communities.

We have witnessed first-hand the challenges faced by poverty-stricken families and the devastating effects they have, especially on our kids. By addressing their most basic needs, we are committed to breaking the cycle of poverty that has plagued so many generations, affording local families the means to dress their root causes, we are committed to breaking the cycle of poverty and impoverished communities.

We believe that every child deserves to grow up in a peaceful, safe and vibrant community where dreams are attainable, not just aspirational. This year’s theme, “Dare to Dream,” is a challenge to Hawaii’s kids to pursue their passions and follow their dreams, propelling them forward to bright and exciting futures. As Parents And Children Together, we believe that all kids can do anything they set their minds to, as long as they have the support and resources to achieve their dreams.

We believe that every child deserves to grow up in a peaceful, safe and vibrant community where dreams are attainable, not just aspirational. This year’s theme, “Dare to Dream,” is a challenge to Hawaii’s kids to pursue their passions and follow their dreams, propelling them forward to bright and exciting futures. As Parents And Children Together, we believe that all kids can do anything they set their minds to, as long as they have the support and resources to achieve their dreams.

We believe that every child deserves to grow up in a peaceful, safe and vibrant community where dreams are attainable, not just aspirational. This year’s theme, “Dare to Dream,” is a challenge to Hawaii’s kids to pursue their passions and follow their dreams, propelling them forward to bright and exciting futures. As Parents And Children Together, we believe that all kids can do anything they set their minds to, as long as they have the support and resources to achieve their dreams.

We believe that every child deserves to grow up in a peaceful, safe and vibrant community where dreams are attainable, not just aspirational. This year’s theme, “Dare to Dream,” is a challenge to Hawaii’s kids to pursue their passions and follow their dreams, propelling them forward to bright and exciting futures. As Parents And Children Together, we believe that all kids can do anything they set their minds to, as long as they have the support and resources to achieve their dreams.

We believe that every child deserves to grow up in a peaceful, safe and vibrant community where dreams are attainable, not just aspirational. This year’s theme, “Dare to Dream,” is a challenge to Hawaii’s kids to pursue their passions and follow their dreams, propelling them forward to bright and exciting futures. As Parents And Children Together, we believe that all kids can do anything they set their minds to, as long as they have the support and resources to achieve their dreams.

We believe that every child deserves to grow up in a peaceful, safe and vibrant community where dreams are attainable, not just aspirational. This year’s theme, “Dare to Dream,” is a challenge to Hawaii’s kids to pursue their passions and follow their dreams, propelling them forward to bright and exciting futures. As Parents And Children Together, we believe that all kids can do anything they set their minds to, as long as they have the support and resources to achieve their dreams.

We believe that every child deserves to grow up in a peaceful, safe and vibrant community where dreams are attainable, not just aspirational. This year’s theme, “Dare to Dream,” is a challenge to Hawaii’s kids to pursue their passions and follow their dreams, propelling them forward to bright and exciting futures. As Parents And Children Together, we believe that all kids can do anything they set their minds to, as long as they have the support and resources to achieve their dreams.

We believe that every child deserves to grow up in a peaceful, safe and vibrant community where dreams are attainable, not just aspirational. This year’s theme, “Dare to Dream,” is a challenge to Hawaii’s kids to pursue their passions and follow their dreams, propelling them forward to bright and exciting futures. As Parents And Children Together, we believe that all kids can do anything they set their minds to, as long as they have the support and resources to achieve their dreams.

We believe that every child deserves to grow up in a peaceful, safe and vibrant community where dreams are attainable, not just aspirational. This year’s theme, “Dare to Dream,” is a challenge to Hawaii’s kids to pursue their passions and follow their dreams, propelling them forward to bright and exciting futures. As Parents And Children Together, we believe that all kids can do anything they set their minds to, as long as they have the support and resources to achieve their dreams.

We believe that every child deserves to grow up in a peaceful, safe and vibrant community where dreams are attainable, not just aspirational. This year’s theme, “Dare to Dream,” is a challenge to Hawaii’s kids to pursue their passions and follow their dreams, propelling them forward to bright and exciting futures. As Parents And Children Together, we believe that all kids can do anything they set their minds to, as long as they have the support and resources to achieve their dreams.
Early Childhood Education

• Early Head Start and Head Start provide early child-

ative activities and interaction with caring adults and

youth who have been victims of sexual abuse to provide

• Child Sex Abuse Program

for survivors of human trafficking.

• Trafficking Victim Assistance Program offers compre-

hensive and victim-centered case management services

ent, or to transition from one parent to the other.

• Family Visitation Centers provide a safe and neutral

setting for children to visit with their non-custodial par-

• Domestic Violence

intervention

• Family Peace Centers

teach non-violent problem solv-

ing skills while emphasizing partnership, equality and

respect among families.

• Domestic Violence Emergency and Transitional

Shelters offer safe and confidential facilities for women

and children who are survivors of domestic violence.

Emergency shelters provide crisis services and transi-

tional shelters provide longer term housing for survivors

working toward independent living.

• Family Violence Centers

provide a safe and neutral setting for children to visit with their non-custodial par-

ent, or to transition from one parent to the other.

• Child Sex Abuse Program

works with children and youth who have been victims of sexual abuse to provide

support and opportunities for healing through therapeutic activi-

tive and interaction with caring adults and peers.

• Children Like Home Visiting Program offers home visits

on Oahu for parents with children from birth to 3 years residing in downtown Honolulu to Kailua.

• Homan Home Visiting Program offers home visits for parents with children from birth to 3 years residing in Diamond Head, West Honolulu, Aiea, Pearl City and Wahiawa areas of Oahu.

• Uplano Family Strengthening Program offers family

support services for families with children from birth to

17 years on Oahu and Maui.

• Comprehensive Counseling and Support Services offer comprehensive support for families involved in the Child Welfare System including supervised visitation.

• Voluntary Case Management promotes the safety and well-being of children by mitigating the risk of child abuse and neglect for families referred by Child Welfare Services.

• Lasal Integrated Support Services provide programs

in Diamond Head, West Honolulu, Aiea, Pearl City and Wahiawa areas of Oahu.

• Family Centers

provide community development and family mentoring.

• Mikiala Program

bridges the gap from homelessness to housing by conducting outreach at designated public

areas to provide housing case management, learning activities and family mentoring.

• Family Centers

provide community development and comprehensive family support for residents of Kahului Park Terrace/Kahului Homes and Kaneohe. Services include parenting assistance, prevention of child abuse and neglect, food security, and immigrant and ESL assistance, along with referral services for legal, health, financial and housing issues.

• Economic Development Center offers programs to

strengthen an individual’s ability to secure and keep employment.

• Community Teen Programs promote the
devolutionary process, recreational, community building and support services.

If you are interested in learning more about Parents And Children Together, visit our websites at ParentsAndChild-

Together.org or call us at (808) 847-3285.
Keiki empowerment leads the ‘PACT’

Keiki Day provides the organization with the financial flexibility to address the needs of children, including our youth in the early childhood program. On a recent visit, I asked some of the kids what they want to be when they grow up. Some said doctor, others said pilot, but one little girl said that she wanted to be a kangaroo. That reminded me that her future slate is full of optimism. That’s what keeps us going, and it’s a reminder of why we do what we do.

Kusumoto adds, “You’ll hear it every day we interact with a client: I wish...” continues today via the Honolulu Advertiser. While PACT receives funding from federal and state contracts as well as generous donations from local businesses and organizations, the funds raised through Keiki Day provide the organization with the financial flexibility to address the needs of Hawaii’s children. Keiki Day represents the community’s largest fundraising opportunity of the year, and because the money is unrestricted — it is not earmarked for specific programs as many contracts and donations specify — PACT is able to fill the gaps created by economic fluctuations and potential government funding delays.

Keiki Day represents the community coming together, and it’s a win-win working with the schools,” says Osama Spierings, chief development officer for PACT. “Keiki Day is a great tool for us to get our name out there and for people to learn about Parents And Children Together and what we do. It’s fantastic that the Star-Advertiser does this every year to support the kids.”

Ultimately, the goal of PACT is to establish and build strong and lasting relationships through its programs that will allow participants to find and follow a positive, productive path in life — and Keiki Day plays an integral role in ensuring the continuation of these programs.

Keiki Day is an awesome opportunity for the community to come together with the purpose of uplifting our kids,” says Kusumoto. “We will continue to focus on the root causes of poverty and look at upstream factors before they become bigger issues, we want to get ahead of these issues as an agency. Keiki are our future and we need to find ways to support them so Hawaii continues to be a great place to live.”

Keiki empowerment leads the ‘PACT’

Keiki Day provides the organization with the financial flexibility to address the needs of children, including our youth in the early childhood program. On a recent visit, I asked some of the kids what they want to be when they grow up. Some said doctor, others said pilot, but one little girl said that she wanted to be a kangaroo. That reminded me that her future slate is full of optimism. That’s what keeps us going, and it’s a reminder of why we do what we do.

Kusumoto adds, “You’ll hear it every day we interact with a client: I wish...” continues today via the Honolulu Advertiser. While PACT receives funding from federal and state contracts as well as generous donations from local businesses and organizations, the funds raised through Keiki Day provide the organization with the financial flexibility to address the needs of Hawaii’s children. Keiki Day represents the community’s largest fundraising opportunity of the year, and because the money is unrestricted — it is not earmarked for specific programs as many contracts and donations specify — PACT is able to fill the gaps created by economic fluctuations and potential government funding delays.

Keiki Day represents the community coming together, and it’s a win-win working with the schools,” says Osama Spierings, chief development officer for PACT. “Keiki Day is a great tool for us to get our name out there and for people to learn about Parents And Children Together and what we do. It’s fantastic that the Star-Advertiser does this every year to support the kids.”

Ultimately, the goal of PACT is to establish and build strong and lasting relationships through its programs that will allow participants to find and follow a positive, productive path in life — and Keiki Day plays an integral role in ensuring the continuation of these programs.

Keiki Day is an awesome opportunity for the community to come together with the purpose of uplifting our kids,” says Kusumoto. “We will continue to focus on the root causes of poverty and look at upstream factors before they become bigger issues, we want to get ahead of these issues as an agency. Keiki are our future and we need to find ways to support them so Hawaii continues to be a great place to live.”
All across Oahu, students representing kindergarten through 12th grade have been working hard to express what this year’s Keiki Day theme of “Dare to Dream” means to them. From more than 1,000 submissions, judges have chosen the following 26 essays, poems and artwork as winning depictions of the importance of sticking together. As you’ll see here, they all deserve a round of applause.

Introducing the Keiki Day Creativity Contest Winners

ARTIST
Shosei Ando
SCHOOL
Wilson Elementary
TEACHER
Ms. Yoshimura

ARTIST
Tala Hassna
SCHOOL
Royal Elementary
TEACHER
Mrs. Nakashima

WRITER
Denali Chun
SCHOOL
Kanoelani Elementary
TEACHER
Mrs. Andrade

Kindergarten WINNER

ARTIST
Shosei Ando
SCHOOL
Wilson Elementary
TEACHER
Ms. Yoshimura

ARTIST
Tala Hassna
SCHOOL
Royal Elementary
TEACHER
Mrs. Nakashima

Kindergarten WINNER

SCHOOL
Kanoelani Elementary
TEACHER
Mrs. Andrade

ARTIST
Tala Hassna
SCHOOL
Royal Elementary
TEACHER
Mrs. Nakashima
My dream for all children is to have a home. First of all, the problem is that children may be homeless, and they should have a home.

Furthermore, another reason why children should have a home is because it is hard to sleep on the street safely and comfortably. Finally, I dream to help pay for the homeless children to have shelter and to move into a home they can call their own. Clearly, these are the reasons why my dream is for all homeless children to have a home. I wish all children could have a home.
Why do I sometimes give up when things are difficult? I should work through it and try my best by using what I know. I strongly believe that when I dare to dream, I am able to get back up when I fall down. Even if it takes a couple of tries, I know that I can do it.

This reminds me of how the darker it is the more you shine! In my life, the bigger my struggle is, the more I can work hard. I know that if I put my mind to it, I can do the challenging things that come in my life. My dream is to help the people around me and to be a leader, to help make the world a better place. I know that it will take a lot of work and strength. I am up for the challenge. When it is time to work, I will get ready and focus. I really want to shine a light so others will follow.

As you can see, dare to dream means that when I fall down, I always know that I can do it. Even if it takes a couple of tries. That is why I need to always know that down in my heart I can do it. I need to have confidence in myself, especially when I am nervous and struggling.
MY GOLDEN DREAMS

My dreams,
They are powerful.
More powerful than the ocean tides.
More powerful than the sun.
They are volcanic.

My dreams,
Are for peace.
Peace in this world.
No more crimes.
No more war.

Dreams are like goals.
Yet dreams do not have a time limit.
Dreams are awesome.
Dreams can be anything.

Just make dreams kind.
I have other awesome dreams.
Like being a wildlife biologist.
Or a doctor.
But I have better dreams.
Like for everyone to be compassionate,
And stay kind.
I want people to be honest.
And take care of our beautiful world.
For we only have one earth.
And therefore we have to be amazing,
Responsible, and brave.
For our one world is earth.

DARE TO DREAM

Do you Dare to Dream?
It’s easy as cake!
Just find the ingredients
And start to bake…

The cake is your mission
The ingredients, your ambition
But most of all
The baking part
Requires love and passion.

Use hard work and grit
You can be anything if you try hard
Just find the perfect fit
A teacher,
Musician,
Maybe coach of a team?
Just remember you have to Dare to Dream

You must try your best
You may not ace every test
But more importantly
You’ll gain knowledge
And experience.

Just like raw ingredients
Will rise after baking
You will become a better person
For all your undertakings

So Dare to Dream
And start to bake
Achieving your goals
Is icing on the cake!
Failure leads to success

Lost wistful hopes
That push past the ropes
A lonely, little star
seen from afar
Can help spark your mind
Don’t matter, if you’re blind
Imagine to define
Your choices are the line

Failure is fine
Along the way
But in the end
Believe what you say
See to it that
No matter how small
Your creativity shines
Brighter than all

If you’ve had a dream, at some point in time, then you know that you really want it to come true. You hope for it with every speck of your person, even if it’s only a wistful thought. Other people may call your idea silly, and if that happens you should defend it. When people tell you your dream is “dumb” they just aren’t imaginative enough to see it like you.

Sometimes it is very hard to express thoughts. You may be afraid of rejection, or people laughing at you. I know, you know, we all know how it feels to be afraid. It isn’t a nice feeling, but if you continue to believe in yourself, then, when you succeed nobody will be laughing at you anymore, because have will have proved them wrong. They will feel embarrassed for every time they rubbed in that it “wouldn’t happen”.

What is your goal in life? What do you strive for? Whatever it is, think about it when you fail. Use it for energy whilst you pick yourself up again and again. Be reminded that failure is necessary to succeed, and never give up on your goals and dreams.
DARE TO DREAM

I dare to dream to the highest heights, to keep on dreaming through every plight. I dream of a day when all of creation can live in harmony, when we learn to listen to the cry of help for others, and accept the way others live around us. I dream to have a job that allows me to improve the world for others after me.

I promise to stay strong for those around me, to take those blinded by greed and help them see. I will help make the world a better place to live. I will encourage others to share their blessings and give.

We must trust one another, that we can make the right decisions and be just. It is important to have aspirations because every accomplishment is sparked by a dream.

Journey Flores
ARTIST

8th Grade WINNER

SCHOOL
Jarrett Middle School
TEACHER
Wade Strike

How badly do you want to dream? If you achieved it, what would it mean? If you achieved your dream, would it still be there? Or would it disappear in the wind, gone in the air?

To achieve your dream, failure is your friend. It will help you learn, to grow, and to mature in the end. If you choose to dream, don’t be afraid to fall. For your dream is like a ladder, and doubt is like a wall.

A life without dreams is like the sky without blue. Choosing to follow your dream is completely up to you. Achieving your dream will help you fly. Living in the clouds, dreaming from so high.

Dreams should be flowing like water in a stream. Always remember Dare to Dream.
THE WANDERLUST OF DREAMS

We all have a dream
As cheerful as a daisy
Whose ideas form in a gentle breeze
Blowing its petals from one meadow to another making them whole
With the soft whispers of the future
Mind floating away
Waiting to be made reality

We all have a dream
As deep and dark as the Mariana Trench
Far beneath the crashing waves of the sea
Diving down to the mysterious bottomless ocean floor
Where warmth will never be felt
And the rays of the sun’s radiance will not reach, but still
Soul drifting away
Wishing to be made reality

We all have a dream
As strong as titanium
With firm ambition willing to fight against any monster in its way
Whose determination will never break
Eyes concentrated on a blue ribbon awaiting to feel triumph
Hands working away
Hoping to be made reality

We all have a dream
As warm as a fireplace
Which laughter and hugs dance around
Inspiring the stars to come out and entertain the night sky
With a match to spark imagination
Heart igniting away
Seeking to be made reality

With a single spark an idea is born
Which turns into embers sailing away in the evening’s breath
We must reach up to embrace them molding them into a masterpiece
Bringing life to keep their presence vivid in memory
As an ever growing flame blazes like the sun
Flourishing to make the dream a reality
**i Dare You**

Chloe Smith

**Teacher**

Sacred Hearts Academy

When a thousand harsh fingers point their blame
i Dare you
dream for tomorrow
dream of better
when a thousand closed doors are slammed in your face
i Dare you
find a window
find the way out
when a thousand hateful hands push you down
i Dare you
stand up
stand proud

Alyse Glaser

**Teacher**

Moanalua High School

When a thousand sharp voices hold you back
i Dare you
keep pushing
keep fighting
but
i Dare you
do not let anyone tell you that
where you come from
what you believe
who you love

Alyse Glaser

**Teacher**

Sacred Hearts Academy

When a thousand closed doors are slammed in your face
i Dare you
find a window
find the way out
when a thousand hateful hands push you down
i Dare you
stand up
stand proud

When a thousand sharp voices hold you back
i Dare you
keep pushing
keep fighting
but
i Dare you
do not let anyone tell you that
where you come from
what you believe
who you love

**THE CLOCK STRIKES AT MIDNIGHT**

A long time ago someone put me inside this box and told me what I was supposed to be, how things like me are supposed to behave in this world. A label. It wasn’t that hard to do what was required of me at first, just a bit troublesome in this cramped place, but soon I learned how to move things and rearrange my identity, so I could become comfortable. I began to feel like this where I belonged, like I could wear my label proudly. But soon after this, I began to grow. And I realized that there still was a part inside of me aching to know what was out there, a tiny piece of me that found a home. So, I began sketching along the walls on the inside of my box. A dream. Someone who I wished to be, who I planned to be, and bit by bit I slowly began to shred the name tag placed on me before. Suddenly a blinding light came bursting in. I heard a voice calling for me, this time by my real name. I peered up through the cracks in the sky and felt a hand grasp for me as they pulled me out. Sun. wind. The sound of running water. I felt my toes wriggle in the soft dirt beneath my feet and began to wonder why I dared to imagine that other worlds existed outside my own.

**ARTIST**

Kianah Jincks

**SCHOOL**

Kapolei High School

**TEACHER**

Mrs. Milanie Dumapit

**WRITER**

Jolian Barton

**SCHOOL**

Moanalua High School

**TEACHER**

Candace Chavez
I am surrounded by dreams. My parents coming to America, my parents’ business, my siblings and our education. I have been told to take risks to be successful and I have seen the fruit of risks.

I have also seen the dreams that have not made it far, or what is popularly dubbed as failure. Everyone has taken a risk and suffered the results of it, but there are many others who have continued to dream and have become happy.

This is what I have learned so far: to dream is a continuous risk that is worth taking. I have joined organizations, clubs, and have dedicated myself to establishing my own success through my risks. Facing many setbacks is part of the job, the backstory to the incredible successes in the world.

It occurred to me that the most successful people have faced the most hardships and that they are the people who dare to dream. I want to follow their example. I want to wake up every morning, look out the window, and conquer my fears and take risks.

I remember when I was given the choice to face my fears, the breeze I felt meters above the ground balancing atop a rope, the step I did not take. I did not manage to conquer my fear of heights, but rather than physical fears, I have now taken steps to take risks to overcome my limitation. I am proud to say I have learned how temporary the feeling of fear is, and how invigorating risks are.

I want to be someone who can, “Dare to Dream.” I want to be someone who can risk it all without a moment’s hesitation, I want to be like my parents, and discover what makes me happy. I want to dream big.