

Pukalani Elementary School Summary

Mission: To provide after-school STEM learning via robotics building and competitions.

Category: Youth

Contact: Melissa Ramos, Grant Writer

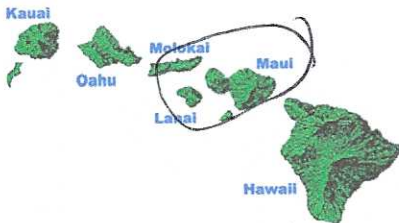
Address: 2945 Iolani Street, Pukalani, HI 96768

Grant History: N/A

2024 Request:	\$
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Notes:

- 9 elementary students participating in after-school robotics program.
- Partners with Kalama and Maui Waena elementary schools. (\$15,000 granted to Kalama robotics in 2023.)
- Competitions - \$25,000 anticipated cost:
 - State tournament in Oahu in February 2024 - \$5500
 - Japan Cup in Tokyo in March 2024 - \$20,000.
- Raised to date \$21,500.
- Ongoing program costs include technology, equipment, robot kits, etc.



from Vex IQ, and with that grant, we will have a new robotics field and equipment for our robotics program. However, there is room for improvement as robotic programming, expectations, games, and materials change yearly.

Pukalani Elementary teams A and B competed with Maui Waena and Samuel E.

Kalama Intermediate teams during this robotics season. Being the only elementary-level team allowed our students to compete with older students and learn from them through collaboration, connections, and teamwork days during this robotics season

Our teams will head to Oahu in February to compete with other elementary school teams at the state competition and travel to Tokyo in March to compete at the Japan Cup. With travel comes expenses. Seven months ago, wildfires affected our island, which impacted families in Lahaina and Upcountry Maui. The fires did not harm Pukalani Elementary School directly; however, our community and families experienced cuts in work hours or job loss. Our robotics program depends greatly on support from our community partners and families. We are strategically securing funding through grants, sponsorships, and fundraising.

Our robotics teams have secured \$21,457.57 through grants, donations, and fundraisers. We hope to raise more funds to assist with travel and team expenses. The February trip to Oahu for the state's competition will cost approximately \$5500. The March trip to Japan for the Japan Cup will cost roughly \$20000.

2023
\$15,000
Grant
Robotics
Program

2023 grant
2024 request
for Band

The Laurence H. Dorcy Hawaiian Foundation Grant would make a difference in our program in the following ways:

Financial Support: Any support provided will help our robotics teams cover expenses related to equipment, materials, competition fees, travel costs, and other essential resources.

Technology and Equipment: To enhance our team's capabilities, improve performance, and allow for more advanced projects.

Educational Opportunities: Our teams are eager to learn more about making our robots work more efficiently. We would also like to attend workshops, training sessions, and educational programs contributing to team members' skill development and knowledge enhancement.

Community Outreach: Our teams work with the Maui Economic Development Board (MEDB), which supports our school's STEM Afterschool and STEM Night programs and Maui Matsuri Children's Day. Our robotics teams will set up the field and robots, coach students through the process, engage students in building mini-robots, and share their journey with robotics. Securing additional funding will help improve our outreach to more community opportunities.

Research and Development: Our teams must continuously research and develop new technologies and innovative ideas to help better our program.

Sustainability: With the support of the grant, the sustainability of your robotics program will allow for funds for ongoing expenses and ensure the longevity and continuity of our team's activities.

Networking Opportunities: Through our school's social media accounts and speaking to community members, our teams can connect with professionals, mentors, and other robotics enthusiasts. This networking leads to valuable collaborations and partnerships, one being with the USAF Stem Team, which has a STEM outreach program working on Haleakala.

With his family's legacy, Mr. Dorcy was able to accomplish so much and experience many opportunities through travel and helping his communities. We hope with the support of the foundation's grant, the robotics teams of Pukalani Elementary School will be able to continuously inspire a passion for STEM fields among future students and themselves, emphasizing the real-world applications of science, technology, engineering, and math.