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H. P. BALDWIN HIGH SCHOOL WINS HONOLULU FESTIVAL'S MAUI MIKOSHI DESIGN CONTEST Students Win Trip to Oahu to Showcase Winning Design at Festival Weekend

HONOLULU – H.P. Baldwin High School is the winner of the Honolulu Festival's 15th annual Maui Mikoshi Design Contest. The students' winning cultural artwork will be on display before tens of thousands of residents and visitors in Honolulu during the festival, March 10-11.

A *mikoshi* is a decorative float unique to specific prefectures in Japan that is carried by groups of celebrants during festivals. High schools in Maui were invited to submit a *mikoshi* design based on this year's Honolulu Festival theme: *"Harmony Over the Ocean, Journey to Peace."*

The students of H.P. Baldwin High School involved in creating the *mikoshi* design won a trip to Oahu sponsored by the Honolulu Festival Foundation, Hawaiian Airlines, the Japanese Cultural Society of Maui, Outrigger Enterprises Group, and Maui Ocean Center to showcase their winning piece.

"Baldwin High School created a beautifully designed *mikoshi* that carefully brings together the unique cultures of Japan and Hawaii," said Tsukasa Harufuku, President & CEO of JTB Hawaii. "We are so proud of the students for the design elements and showcasing cultural diversity."

Baldwin High's *mikoshi* will be displayed at the Hawaii Convention Center on Saturday, March 10, and then carried through Waikiki in the Grand Parade on Sunday, March 11.

[**ORIGINAL**: Drawing inspiration from the festival theme, Baldwin High School's *mikoshi* (see art design below) is inspired by the art of origami, which requires time and effort, much like humanity's journey to peace. Thus, incorporating the traditional designs of origami to symbolize this year's Honolulu Festivals theme – "Harmony Over the Ocean, Journey to Peace.]

[SUGGESTED REVISION: Baldwin High School's *mikoshi* (see art design below) is inspired by the art of origami—an art form that requires time and effort, much like humanity's journey to peace. To symbolize this year's Honolulu Festival's theme, "*Harmony Over the Ocean, Journey to Peace,*" the students beautifully incorporated the traditional designs of origami.]

Below are some key components of the winning design:

- The flowing **design** and cool color tone reflect the ocean, with the warmer red and orange colors displaying **the** sunrise and sunset.
- The darker **panels** represent the night before the start of a new day. The gold panel depicts origami boats floating on a path of water toward peace as the crane (Japanese symbol for peace) graces the roof panel.
- The **lighthouse** shines as the guiding light toward peace through even the darkest night.

ABOUT THE HONOLULU FESTIVAL

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Supported by the Honolulu Festival Foundation, Hawaii Tourism Authority, and corporate sponsors, the 24th annual Honolulu Festival features a weekend of arts and cultural displays and entertainment performances for all to enjoy, March 10-11. Under the banner of *"Pacific Harmony"* and the theme *"Harmoney Over the Ocean, Journey to Peace,"* the Honolulu Festival's goal is to help perpetuate the strong cultural and ethnic ties between the people of Hawaii and the Pacific Rim. The Honolulu Festival Foundation supports educational and cultural programs for the benefit of Hawaii's school children and the community-at-large through public outreach and charitable efforts. For more information, visit <u>HonoluluFestival.com</u>.

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