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**Bank of Hawaii Foundation Renews Major Support for
PBS Hawai'i's HIKI NŌ**

(HONOLULU, HI) — Bank of Hawaii Foundation has renewed its major support of PBS Hawai'i's youth learning initiative: HIKI NŌ: The Nation's First Statewide Student News Network, with a \$100,000 grant. Bank of Hawaii Foundation's investment dates back to the launch of HIKI NŌ in 2011.

Since then, Hawaii's HIKI NŌ schools have gained the reputation of being formidable competitors at rigorous national journalism contests, including bringing home nearly 20% of the awards at the prestigious Student Television Network Convention held March 28-31 in Seattle, Washington and which involved over 3,000 students and teachers.

"Bank of Hawaii Foundation is honored to be a significant contributor to HIKI NŌ since inception," said Momi Akimseu, president of Bank of Hawaii Foundation. "Our ongoing commitment helps local students across the islands continue the meaningful work of sharing their unique voices and perspectives in a very powerful way. We are proud to support a program of this caliber, which provides students the opportunity to develop digital storytelling skills and the means to connect their relevant stories and experience with our local community."

PBS Hawai'i President and CEO Leslie Wilcox said the Foundation's belief in Hawai'i's youth is fueling a statewide "launch pad" for student achievement in real-world life skills such as perseverance, critical thinking, oral and written communications, teamwork and technology.

Under their teachers' guidance, middle and high school students from more than 90 public, private and charter schools from across the islands use digital media to report from their communities.

Bank of Hawaii Foundation is HIKI NŌ's trailblazing lead sponsor, with other major sponsors Kamehameha Schools and ABC Stores.

HIKI NŌ airs on PBS Hawai'i at 7:30 pm Thursdays, and is rebroadcast at 3:00 pm on Sundays. The student newscasts are always available to view on demand at www.pbshawaii.org.

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