

# About HBA

## About the School

Hawaii Baptist Academy's motto is "Christ for every nation," and for 60 years, the school has stayed true to this Christian mission of preparing young people in Hawaii to honor God with their lives. Not every student who attends HBA is a Christian or becomes one, in fact only about 50 percent of our students come from Christian families. But one of the school's primary purposes is to give every student the opportunity to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to experience the life-changing difference He can make.

With caring, supportive teachers and a diverse, challenging curriculum, HBA helps students develop intellectually by teaching them to think critically about their world. In the last decade, 100 percent of our graduates have been accepted into college programs across the nation. HBA students regularly score above the national and state averages on both the Scholastic Aptitude Test and the American College Test. For many years, HBA has consistently ranked among the top private schools in Hawaii.

Hawaii Baptist Academy, a private, co-educational school, has a total enrollment of over 1,000 students from kindergarten through grade 12, making it large enough to offer a full academic program yet small enough to give students more personal attention and the opportunity to develop lifelong friendships. At the high school level, a college preparatory curriculum emphasizes the fundamentals supplemented by a rich variety of elective courses including computer science and the fine arts. Advanced placement and accelerated courses are also offered in English, math, history, and science.

Operating on a modified school year, HBA begins school in early August, completes it in late May, and provides breaks of two or more weeks in October, December, and March. During the October and March breaks, HBA offers instructional and fun classes. An After School Enrichment Program provides a structured and fun environment for younger children after the school day, during breaks, and during the summer.

HBA prepares students physically through a comprehensive physical education program and a full slate of interscholastic sports. At the secondary level, student athletes compete in the Interscholastic League of Honolulu (ILH) on HBA as well as PAC-5 teams. Each year, over 75% of students grades 7 through 12 participate on at least one team. Elementary student athletes (grades 5 and 6) compete in volleyball and basketball in the Christian Schools Athletic League.

Numerous clubs and student groups, activities, and programs give students ample opportunity to develop socially by interacting with classmates, teachers, and others. Student groups also coordinate and participate in many community service projects throughout the year.

At HBA, education is not complete unless students are spiritually prepared. HBA is committed to developing a school environment where students can hear the Christian message proclaimed clearly, see it lived consistently, and investigate it thoroughly. Through chapels, homeroom devotion and prayer times, camps, courses on the Bible and Christianity, and an an-

nual Christian emphasis week, students have opportunities to worship God and to learn about him. Campus Bible studies, discipleship groups, and daily interaction with Christian students and teachers give students an opportunity to explore their beliefs even further. Students also have on and off-campus ministry opportunities coordinated by a Christian Ministries director.

## Accreditation and Affiliation

The elementary and secondary divisions of HBA are fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and Hawaii Association of Private Schools (HAIS). The school is licensed by the Hawaii Council of Private Schools. HBA is governed by a board of directors elected by the executive board of the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention, an association of Southern Baptist churches in Hawaii.

## History

Hawaii Baptist Academy opened in 1949 in surplus Army barracks on a parcel of land at 1234 Heulu Street in the Makiki section of Honolulu, near Roosevelt High School. It began with 36 students in grades 7 and 8. The opening was a triumph for Southern Baptist missionaries Hugh P. and Mary McCormick, who had arrived in Hawaii several years earlier to start a school. They had joined a handful of other missionaries who, for the most part, had been ousted from Asian countries during World War II, and were busy building churches. Mr. McCormick served as the first school principal. Mrs. McCormick was the school nurse, the librarian and—according to those who knew her—the one who performed the unassigned tasks necessary in running a school.

In the beginning and during its first decade, HBA was financially supported and built with gifts from the Woman's Missionary Union of Virginia (the first \$125,000); gifts from individuals, churches and missionary organizations; and teacher support from the Southern Baptist Convention Foreign Mission Board.

After only one year in operation, the elementary division was started with transfer of the primary grades from the Olivet Baptist Church, and by 1953, the school was complete with grades one through twelve. The first class of three young men graduated in 1954. Five years later, the Territory of Hawaii became the State of Hawaii and operational control passed from the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board to the Hawaii Baptist Convention. Enrollment at that time was already 340. The McCormicks retired and returned to the mainland, as did many of the missionary teachers.

During the 1960s, additional lots surrounding the small campus were purchased, expanding the property from about two acres to four, and the Hawaii Baptist Convention (renamed Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention in 1997) struggled to build and grow churches, as well as attend to the needs of the school. The school continued to grow, offering a full curriculum, maintaining high standards, and earning accreditation in 1965.

In 1972, the academy purchased 13.5 acres in Nu'uuanu, the former Robertson Estate, for a permanent site. The secondary

school moved to the new campus in 1975 when the four-story classroom building was completed. The multi-purpose building (gym, classrooms, cafeteria) and the parking grounds were added in 1984. Funding for capital needs in more recent years has been provided by mission-minded individuals and churches on the mainland, friends and churches in Hawaii, corporations and foundations, and the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention.

In June 1987, HBA purchased the former Sacred Hearts Convent School as the new location for the elementary campus. It is about 1/2 mile from the middle & high school campus and includes nearly seven acres of prime land. The excellent facilities and spacious playground further enhanced the overall program of the school. As facilities permitted, school enrollment climbed to over 1,000 students in grades K-12.

On July 28, 2006, the HBA Middle School on the Dan Kong campus was officially dedicated, separating the 7th and 8th graders from the Sagert Campus. The middle school is adjacent to the high school campus on state-owned land leased by HBA. The new facility includes 13 classrooms, a multi-purpose room, and administrative offices. One notable feature of the middle school is that it is only one of two schools in the state to receive a prestigious Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design award from the U.S. Green Building Council.

## Philosophy

It is the philosophy of HBA to provide academic excellence in a Christian context. We believe that the most effective citizen needs a well-trained mind; that the best education includes spiritual and moral values as well as intellectual, physical and aesthetic development; and that the best spiritual and moral teachings are those of Jesus. Through the entire program, HBA teaches Christian values and conduct. Christian commitment is presented as the highest goal, but students are free to make their own decisions regarding Christianity.

While providing preparation for college through a qualified faculty and a current, relevant curriculum, HBA seeks also to promote democratic citizenship, leadership experience, individual responsibility, a sense of individual self worth, a sense of fairness, health and physical fitness, good sportsmanship, an appreciation for beauty, and responsible decision-making.

## Core Values

We believe the Bible is the inerrant Word of God ultimately fulfilled through His Son Jesus Christ. Our desire is that all may come to know and respond to Him through the Spirit of God and proclamation of His Word.

As a school we value excellence in:

**Teaching.** We believe that our academic community stands and falls on the quality of its teachers. We are committed to hiring and nurturing quality teachers who love God, their students, and their subject area. Our example of excellence in teaching is Jesus, who effectively taught truths in a life-changing way.

**Learning.** We believe that God's truth is found in Scripture. We are committed to providing our students with a serious learning community that encourages genuine inquiry into the nature and truths of God, His Word, and His world with the hopeful outcome of a transformed life.

**Leading.** We believe that effective learning involves training students to be effective leaders. We are committed to

equipping our students with the insights and skills necessary to produce leaders who will engage the world with strength of character, sincerity of heart, and enthusiasm to spread the Gospel.

**Serving.** We believe that all of the learning and leading in the world are for naught without the transformation that comes through the call to love God and our neighbors as ourselves. We are committed to meeting the physical and spiritual needs of those in our academic community, church communities, and others in the world around us.

## Mission Statement

*Hawaii Baptist Academy is a Christian college preparatory school that equips students spiritually, intellectually, physically, socially and emotionally so that they bring honor to God.*

## Expected Schoolwide Learning Results (ESLRs)

A Hawaii Baptist Academy Student is a . . .

Truth Seeker, who

1. Knows that he/she is loved by God
2. Understands that God's love provides the means for redemption through the atoning death of Jesus Christ
3. Evaluates his/her relationship with Jesus Christ
4. Seeks and demonstrates spiritual growth
5. Bases life decisions on biblical wisdom

Community Builder, who

6. Exhibits Christ-like love and respect for others
7. Contributes and leads in group settings to accomplish common goals
8. Practices good citizenship
9. Serves local/global communities and cares for the environment

Responsible Decision-Maker, who

10. Makes choices to foster emotional and physical well being based on a biblical self-image.
11. Takes responsibility for choices and learns from mistakes
12. Sets and pursues thoughtful personal goals

Reflective Learner, who

13. Builds a knowledge base necessary for continuing education beyond high school
14. Uses effective organization and learning strategies
15. Relates subject matter to his/her life and seeks opportunities for learning beyond the required curriculum
16. Appreciates beauty, values truth, and strives for excellence

Resourceful Problem-Solver, who

17. Reads, writes, reasons, and communicates effectively
18. Accesses, analyzes, and evaluates information and its sources
19. Employs creativity and innovation in his/her work
20. Creates well-crafted products that achieve their purposes and uses appropriate media

## Our Community of Supporters

### Office of Institutional Advancement

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HBA's Office of Institutional Advancement is located at the high school campus and functions as the alumni, public relations, marketing, and fundraising department for the school. One of the annual programs of the Office of Institutional Advancement that involves students and parents is the visit in February of the Mainland Advisory Council (MAC). This group of donors and friends has supported HBA since 1977 through prayer and financial giving. The local volunteer support group is The Aloha Council (TAC) and has many parents of former students in its membership.

Fundraising for capital and program needs is on-going, and an annual campaign is conducted among parents. Tuition covers about 80% of the school's operating budget; the remaining 20% and all of the capital funds required for buildings are raised through the generous gifts of individual and institutional donors, churches, the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention, and other sources.

### MAC and TAC

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#### Mainland Advisory Council (MAC)

Since 1977, the Mainland Advisory Council has prayed faithfully for HBA, given to the school financially, and supported the school in many other ways. This is a unique group of Christian men and women, many of whom originally had no other relationship to the school than their commitment to God and HBA's purpose as a Christian school. Each February, HBA hosts about 100 MAC members for MAC Week, an opportunity for these mainland friends to meet teachers and students, visit the campuses, hear reports on what God is doing at HBA, hear the latest plans, and have a time of fellowship with one another. The Office of Institutional Advancement plans this annual visit for these mainland friends who have done so much for HBA.

#### The Aloha Council (TAC)

The Aloha Council consists of local supporters of the school, many of whom are parents of alumni. Founded in 1990, TAC members believe in the mission of the school and support HBA by praying for its ministry, making financial contributions, and promoting the school in their own circles of influence. Although not required for membership, many TAC members volunteer to help HBA in a variety of ways. The Aloha Council meets each fall to hear progress reports about the school, to share thoughts and concerns, and to have fellowship with each other.

### Parent Organizations

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#### Athletic Booster Club

Athletes and athletics are supported by the Athletic Booster Club, a parent organization dedicated to assisting the athletic program and the students who participate in sports. At HBA, over 75% of the middle & high school students are involved in the school sports program.

#### Parent Teacher Fellowship

The Parent Teacher Fellowship (PTF) is an active organization with these major objectives:

- To promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, and community
- To bring into closer relation the home and school, so that parents and teachers may cooperate intelligently in the training of the child
- To develop between educators and home such united efforts as will secure for every child the highest advantages in physical, mental, social, and spiritual education
- The offices of president, president-elect, vice president, secretary, and treasurer are elected yearly. More specific information is presented in the bylaws of the PTF