



## Hawaii State PTSA 2021 SLATE OF NOMINEES & CANDIDATE BIOS

### **President - Patti Rabacal**

Patti Rabacal has held the title of Hawaii State PTSA Vice President of Leadership since Convention 2017 and State Treasurer prior to 2017. Patti has held various PTSA positions at the local unit level over the past 26 years and has used her extensive experience to provide guidance to other local unit board members and units.

Patti enjoys meeting other parents who devote their time advocating for Hawaii's keiki and ohana with regards to the safety, health, and balance of the child. She will continue to share and simplify the local unit processes and provide guidance to local units in meeting their financial reporting requirements, as well as program requirements and opportunities. She hopes to continue her service in the upcoming years.

### **Vice President of Leadership – Marissa Baptista**

Marissa Elizabeth Ku'uipo Baptista is an active PTA member since 2011. She has experience chartering (starting) new local units (in Hawai'i and Virginia) and has served as President (x3), Secretary, Treasurer at the local unit level, Assistant District Director (x2) at the district level in VA, and currently the Central District Director on HI State PTSA Board. She has developed and organized large scale Spring Festivals, After School Programs, and Co-ed Running Programs at the elementary level. She recently attended the National PTA Legislative Conference as a Hawaii State PTSA representative and will again represent our HI State PTSA Board at the 2021 National PTA Virtual Convention. Marissa is also an active child and education advocate submitting numerous testimonies during the most recent legislative sessions in support child and 'Ohana well being.

Marissa attended George Mason University and the University of Maryland majoring in Political Science and Economics. She is currently a Parent Co-Chair of the Central District South Community Children's Council and graduate of the Hawaii PLTI-(Parent Leadership Training Institute) program. Professionally, Marissa has worked in the federal government consulting sector for the past 20 years and continues to support a project in Northern Virginia remotely from Hawai'i.

Marissa is mom to three kids (Isabella, TJ, and Karolina) with her husband Thomas. Marissa strongly believes education and access to educational opportunities are essential to success and upward mobility for students of all backgrounds throughout the Hawai'i islands. She also feels strongly that EVERY child has the potential for greatness given the right tools, learning approach, and family and community awareness and involvement.

### **Treasurer – Sheri Fukushima**

Sheri Fukushima has been employed as the Executive Property Administrator for a local neighborhood shopping center for 24 years. She has held the title of Hawaii State PTSA Treasurer since Convention 2017 and hopes to continue in this role. Sheri has held various PTSA positions at the local middle and high school levels over the past 11 years as Treasurer, and VP of Fundraising and currently holds the President position at a local middle school PTSA unit.

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### **Kauai Regional Director – Malie Smith**

Malie Smith has worked in Hawaii's elementary school system since 2006, specializing in working with children with special needs and is currently the Computer Teacher at Kalaheo Elementary School on Kauai. She has been a part of her school's PTSA board since 2015, first as the Recycling Programs Coordinator and then as President. Known as a voracious volunteer, she has spent hundreds of hours working with and for children setting up and helping with educational events and programs. Her passion is promoting a fun, safe, and educational, equal opportunity learning environment for all students.

### **Leeward Oahu Regional Director – Calvin Endo**

Calvin M. Endo has been married to his beautiful wife Susan for 48 years and they have 11 children, five girls and six boys, and 37 grandchildren. Calvin retired from Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard after 32 years of civil service years and three years in the U.S. Army. He took an early retirement at age 51 and began working at Wai'anae High School as their parent and community representative, (PCNC). It is a part time job that keeps him busy all day long, including weekends.

Calvin is very involved in his church, schools, community, and State. He serves as the PTSA Reflections chair for Waianae High School, the Education Chairman for the Waianae Neighborhood Board – working with all the principals on the Westside of Oahu and the Waianae Leeward Community College and serves on the Hawaii State PTSA Board.

### **Honolulu Regional Director – Kathy Driver**

As a parent of a Kaiser High senior, Kathy firmly believes in community building within the schools and their outreach. Kathy supports the idea of parents and students working alongside with school administration and staff as the ideal scenario for children to grow socially and academically.

In addition to currently serving as Treasurer and last year's President for the Friends of Kaiser PTSA, Kathy also served and volunteer on the exec committee board of Miss Hawaii's Outstanding Teen Scholarship Program under the umbrella of Miss Hawaii Scholarship program. Additionally, Kathy is a regular volunteer for Food Bank Hawaii, American Heart Association, Miss Chinatown Festival and Visitor's Industry Charity Walk.

Fundraising and FRIEND-raising are not unfamiliar to Kathy as she has worked in the Advancement and Development field for various organizations. Kathy currently works for the non-profit Big Brothers Big Sisters Hawaii as Office Manager & Community Relations. Her favorite job, though, is being the mother of two daughters, and watching them empower themselves as youth leaders in Hawaii.

**Maui Region Director – Vacant** (Anyone interesting in this position may run from the floor by notifying Liz Sager, Hawaii State PTSA President, by no later than 11:59pm on Wednesday, June 16, 2021 by email at [hawaiiptsapresident@gmail.com](mailto:hawaiiptsapresident@gmail.com).)

### **Current vacant position (term through 2022):**

- **West Hawaii Island Region Director\***
- **Central Oahu Region Director\***
- **Vice President of Programs\***

(\*Anyone interesting in any of these interim positions should email [hawaiiptsapresident@gmail.com](mailto:hawaiiptsapresident@gmail.com).)

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