News from the Hawaii Carpenters Apprenticeship & Training Fund







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## Hawaii Construction Career Days

HCATF Connects with Local Students to Showcase Debt-Free Career Opportunities

Each year, the Hawaii Carpenters Apprenticeship & Training Fund (HCATF) has the opportunity to reach new recruits at Hawaii Construction Career Days events. The main purpose is to provide Hawaii's youth with an insight into available career opportunities in the multi-faceted construction industry.

This year, the Hawaii Construction Career Days on Oahu was held at Aloha Stadium in Salt Lake from September 29 - 30. HCATF attended as a Gold Sponsor and hosted a two tents: one where students learned about apprenticeship, career opportunities, and Career Connections programs; and another where they participated in exciting, hands-on trade-related competitions. Various high schools and middle schools were represented with students from all grade levels in attendance.

During the event, HCATF Training Coordinators and instructors were able to speak with students about opportunities in the program. They also connected with high school educators to inform them about the Career Connections program and

## Kauai | Oahu | Molokai | Lanai | Maui | Kona | Hilo



Edmund C. Aczon Executive Director

The Hawaii Carpenters Apprenticeship & Training Fund

#### **Message from the Director**

"Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today." These words spoken by Malcolm X embody HCATF's mission to train the next generation of carpenters, drywall and millwright workers in Hawaii which we accomplish by recruiting untrained candidates, almost all of whom are recent high school graduates or new career seekers.

Recruiting candidates directly from high school - through events such as our Career Connections programs, Construction Career Days, and more - allows us to access top-tier talent that is ready to train, while providing a financially beneficial alternative to four year institutions of traditional higher education. Apprenticeship and the trades may not fall within the standard definition of higher education, but they are on par in that they are an experience for growth, development and skill acquisition. Out model of pairing real-world, hands-on training with traditional classroom learning produces well-rounded trades-workers who have the competitive edge they need to enjoy fulfilling and meaningful careers.

While we provide effective training that emphasizes continuous growth and learning over the course of a career span through journeymen upgrade courses, we also prepare recruits to serve as key members of the construction industry. Upon completion of the program, apprentices contribute to our island economy and the progress of our state and nation. They are prepared to succeed in good jobs, provide employers with a skilled workforce, and build more prosperous communities throughout Hawaii.

At HCATF, our commitment to provide effective, inclusive and accessible training remains strong. We are excited to continue to grow our programs, become more involved with our communities, and serve as a sustainable, alternative education and career pathway. Mahalo to all those who have helped support our development as we continue to provide these learning opportunities.

With much aloha,

Edmund C. Aczon Executive Director

## Hawaii Construction Career Days Continued

curriculum and how those courses prepare students to fast-track into becoming a carpenter, drywall or millwright apprentice.

According to Training Coordinator April Acquavella, "The key takeaway is that college isn't the only path to a successful career. Apprenticeship through HCATF offers top-level training, expert mentorship, good pay and great benefits."

HCATF Executive Director Edmund Aczon commented, "HCATF apprenticeship teaches you a variety of hands-on skills to master your craft and provides opportunity for advancement. Our graduates go on to become job site leads, forepersons and superintendents, or even become contractors themselves. They can also use their journeyworker certificates to earn an Associate's degree." HCATF will also attend Construction Career Days on Kauai on November 3rd, 2022.

Hawaii Construction Career Days (HICCD) is a nonprofit organization to provide high school students grade 9 -12 with an insight into career opportunities available in the multifaceted construction industry. This event is sponsored in part by the Hawaii Department of Transportation, trade and labor organizations, private construction companies, corporate sponsors and many more.



Middle school students from Ewa Makai reviewed basic blueprints with Training Coordinator Darrell Seto before moving on to hands-on activities.





Training Coordinators April Acquavella and Errol Kusunoki were all smiles as they discussed Career Connections with attending students.













Mahalo to Our Supporters! Thank you to PRP for lending a tent for HCATF's competition area and Slim's Power Tools for donating toolkits as prizes.



## The Bottom Line

After 6 years, the average apprenticeship graduate has not only received a debt-free career education but has earned over \$200,000 learning on-the-job. After 6 years in college, the average bachelor's degree recipient has paid over \$170,000 in tuition and is tens of thousands of dollars in debt.

\*Sources: www.educationdata.org "The Four Year Myth" | www.indeed.com | www.salary.com

## **Career Advantages | Apprentices Earn:**



**Competitive wages** & lifelong benefits

<u>L ( ) I</u>
—M—

A Journeyworker's Certificate\*



**Respect** in a thriving industry



The opportunity to build Hawaii

\* Your Journeyworker's Certificate can be converted into college credit. Then, with an additional 15 credit hours you can earn your Associate's degree.

## **The Importance of Apprenticeship Career Advantages for Apprentices**

Training Coordinator Mereane Hamatake provides insight on how apprenticeships pave the way for education opportunities, all while helping members pay their bills and build their changing community at the same time.

Apprenticeships are educational experiences that pave the way for great careers and open the doors to traditional higher education pathways. In many apprenticeship programs - including ours apprentices can earn college credit for their coursework and on-the-job training. This can lead to an Associate's degree and may also contribute to a bachelor's or master's degree.

Case in point: Honolulu Community **College's AAS Applied Trades** Degree (which is also offered to carpenters on Hawaii Island and other neighbor islands via online learning), allows those enrolled in our apprenticeship to use credits from time spent on the job and apprenticeship classes to obtain an associate's degree or technical certificate.

**HCATF** gives apprentices the opportunity to further their education while making good money, without experiencing the hardship of acquiring large student loans that often lead to debt.

As a result, we are preparing young adults to be set up for success financially, helping them into careers that support their families,

and ensuring they can make a living and afford a comfortable lifestyle in a state that is fairly expensive.

Apprenticeships are able to deliver on these promises through partnerships with their local unions. In Hawaii, the Hawaii Regional **Council of Carpenters is responsible** for providing apprentices and journeymen a fair wage and benefits that are negotiated with signatory contractors and employers. These are examined often to ensure workers earn a livable wage in comparison to the economic standard of living.

Just as the standard of living has changed with time, so has Hawaii. Technology has streamlined jobs, and in some cases, eliminated them. However, some jobs are here to stay, and this is where accredited apprenticeship programs like ours carry value.

Homes will always need to be built, renovated, and updated; so will buildings, schools, hospitals and more. There is no doubt that physical bodies and skilled labor will be required to keep up: builders, trade workers, engineers and contractors and the craftsmanship they bring to the job cannot be

Training Coordinator

Mereane Hamatake

#### replaced by computers.

At the same time, evolving technologies have also brought innovation and created jobs in our state. For example, as Hawaii embraces clean energy initiatives. we are prepared to train our apprentices and journeymen in the latest building and construction technology required for those jobs. We also provide pathways such as our millwright program which educates the next generation of tradesmen and women to handle complex machinery that continues to evolve with technology.

The unique, finely-honed set of skills our apprentices aquire through on-the-job and classroom training truly are advantageous: they open to doors to education and lifelong learning, they provide financial stability and freedom, and they contribute to economic growth and building our islands in a world that is fast-tracked for the future. We are so proud to help shape these strong men and women as they become productive members and leaders in our communities.

# Tips & Tricks for Smooth Sailing through Your Apprenticeship

HCATF admin experts Janet Moromisato and LeeAnn Villa provide insight on how apprentices can succeed with the technical aspects of apprenticeship.



COMMUNICATE

We cannot reiterate this enough. Most cancellations can be avoided if the apprentice keeps our office informed about their circumstances that may prevent them from staying in compliance. A Training Coordinator can advise the best route you should take to stay on track with the program. Part of keeping this line of communication open is making sure your contact information (phone number, mailing address, email address) is always current, so we can reach out to you if we see that you're falling behind on anything, whether it be dues, DPRs, or class registration.

Daily Progress Records (DPRs) and union dues need to be submitted monthly. It's easy to forget about submitting DPRs, especially if you have 0 hours to report, so set up a reminder on your phone if you need to. Authorization of automatic contributions from your contractor makes keeping up with dues simple, but make it a habit to check if you're up to date. Keep in mind that school registration is twice a year, usually in July and December. Check the HCATF website or call our office to stay informed of registration periods.





HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

If you haven't already, submit your completed health clearance form to your designated college as soon as possible. You may need to make an appointment with your healthcare provider well in advance to have them fill out and sign the form. Do not wait until the last minute because the college needs time to review your form and clear you to register for classes.

Change of Address Form www.bit.ly/3xX64QC DPRs & The Mobile App www.bit.ly/3dPVMLq Health Requirements www.bit.ly/3d0i0IP

#### Stay on top of your game!

Learn more about Janet and LeeAnn's tips with these resources:

## **HCATF HAPPENINGS**

Classroom & Community

## **Getting Outdoors on Oahu**

Oahu's Fall Open Recruitment took place earlier this month. Applicants that made the first cut put their skills to the test during their three-day pre-selection screening at our Training Centers in Kapolei. Candidates learned basic skills and practiced proper technique while demonstrating their abilities to communicate and work with others.





## Layout on Lanai

HCATF is proud to operate across all islands-thatincludesLanai! Apprentices work together to transfer building plans into reality during class. Experience in layout, fabrication, assembly, and installation of structures ensures these apprentices are prepared to be the topin-the-trade out in the field.

## **Midair on Maui**

Scaffolding provides support to a buildings' original structure and acts as a platform for crew to perform construction work in heights or areas they could not otherwise access. Apprentices on Maui learn the essentials during class to take their education and skills to new heights.



# social spotlight

We'd love to see what you're up to! Follow our social media accounts to share, learn and network with other members of our apprentice ohana. Tag us in your posts for a chance to be featured on our pages.

## **CONNECT WITH US!**

Follow HCATF and use our hashtag to join the conversation! @hcatfhawaii | #hcatfhawaii

#### hana hangout

Pre-apprentices from Maui's Hana cohort were visited by HCATF Executive Director Edmund Aczon as they worked together to **#GetTheJobDone** 







## hands on + hats on

Part of hands-on training includes learning safety protocols like wearing hardhats and safety glasses. **#OSHAsafe** 







#### female strong

HCATF women pose with HRCC's Ron Taketa while visiting international headquarters in Las Vegas for a conference. **#seizetheopportunity** 

## **Journeymen Upgrade Courses** 2022 Upcoming Schedule

#### MAUI

9

COURSE	START
Aerial Lift	
Aeriai Liit	
Fall Protection	
Firestop	
First Aid & CPR	
Forklift Certification	
OSHA 10	
OSHA 30	
Scaffold Erector	
Scaffolding	
Solar Installer	
First Aid & CPR	
Forklift Certification	
Firestop	
-	

#### OAHU

COURSE
Aerial Lift
Armstrong
AutoCAD
Basic Computer
Door Hardware
Confined Space 10/08
Fall Protection
Firestop
First Aid & CPR
Forklift Certification 10/22
ICRA
OSHA 10
Scaffold Erector
Scaffold Elector
Scaffolding
Scarolong 10/13 Silica Awareness 10/20
Solar Installer
Welding
Aerial Lift
Fall Protection
Fall Protection - 24hr
First Aid & CPR
Forklift Certification 11/05
OSHA 10
OSHA 10
Scaffolding 11/12
Scanolong 11/12 Silica Awareness 11/17
Aerial Lift
Fall Protection
Firestop
First Aid & CPR
First Ald & CFR
ICRA
OSHA 10
Scaffold Erector
Scaffolding
Scanolaing
Total Station
10tal Station

#### **4<sup>TH</sup> QUARTER**

October, November & December Courses #hcatftraining | #upgradeyourskills

#### KAUAI

COURSE	START
Armstrong	
AutoCAD	
Basic Computer	
Door Hardware	
Fall Protection	
Silica Awareness	
Aerial Lift	
Forklift Certification	
OSHA 10	
OSHA 30	
Fall Protection	
Firestop	
First Aid & CPR	
Total Station	

#### KONA

COURSE	STADT
Fall Protection	
Firestop	
Forklift Certification	
Scaffold Erector	
Scaffolding	
First Aid & CPR	
Aerial Lift	
Fall Protection	
Firestop	
OSHA 10	
OSHA 30	

#### HILO

COURSE	STAR
Aerial Lift	
Firestop	
First Aid & CPR	
Confined Space	
Fall Protection	
OSHA 10	
OSHA 30	
Firestop	
Forklift Certification	
ICRA	

Our social-distancing efforts related to the coronavirus continue. We are still accepting remote registrations for upgrade courses. Visit <u>www.</u> <u>hicarpenterstraining.com/upgrade-registration/</u> for more details and to download the required forms. Follow all registration instructions carefully, and contact Paul Tamayo at (808) 859-2812 or <u>ptamayo@</u> <u>hicarpenterstraining.com</u> if you have any questions or concerns.

# carpenter's corner

## MEET YOUR HCATF TRAINING COORDINATORS

HCATF is lucky to have dedicated team members committed to the job - and our apprentices - access all islands. This month, we turn the spotlight on Oahu's Training Coordinator April Acquavella.



April Acquavella

## Aloha From Oahu

Born and raised on Oahu, April Acquavella spent 20 years in graphic design and marketing before she decided to fins a new outlet for her creativity. She made the switch thanks to a home renovation project. "A few years ago we were renovating the kitchen in our house while living in Virginia and though we hired workers to do the remodeling, I found the construction aspect really interesting," April said. "At the time I was looking for another industry that was focused on the design side, and I decided I wanted to learn carpentry as a background for whatever industry I choose."

April followed through on her new goal, and completed the Carpentry Technology Program at Honolulu Community College in 2016. After obtaining her degree, she worked operating a 5-axis CNC machine during the day and taught blueprint reading to Union apprentices at Honolulu Community College on Saturdays. Her experience led her to HCATF, where she spearheads multiple pre-apprenticeship partnerships and drives recruitment initiatives.

When it comes to building and design, April says she prioritizes function over aesthetics, but believes that with careful thought and creativity, they can exist in harmony.

## DPR DEADLINES

Are you turning in your DPRs on time? They're due by the 10th of each month! If you don't file them on time, it delays your wage increase when due.

## CLASS CLEARANCES

If you missed class and need to request a clearance, be sure to do so at LEAST 24 hours before your next session. Don't wait til the last minute to get started!

## BEST BEHAVIOR

Apprentices are held to a high standard. Make sure you're up to par - review our rules and other policies online at https:// hicarpenterstraining.com/ handbooks/.

### **AVOID ACCIDENTS**

Most workers experience slight injuries at some point in their careers, but serious ones are rare - if you know what to look out for. Review OSHA's list of hazards and solutions to stay safe! Read more at: https://bit.ly/3d06XnM

TRADE TIP

# TAKE NOTE



## SIGN UP FOR JOURNEYMEN UPGRADE COURSES

#### Have you taken a journeymen upgrade course recently?

We offer a variety of classes across all islands that help you develop your skills and give you a competitive advantage in the industry. Visit <u>www.hicarpenterstraining.com/journeymen-upgrades/</u> or follow us on social media to view our 2022 schedule. Remember: in order for a class to run, we require a minimum of 10 registrations. To ensure a course remains available, sign up early and encourage a colleague to join too!

#### **REGISTER NOW AT**

www.hicarpenterstraining. com/upgrade-registration/

#### **Contact Paul Tamayo** for more information

(808) 440-9182

OAHU

April Acquavella

(808) 376-9211

ptamayo@hicarpenters training.com

## **Contact Us!**

Do you know someone who would be a great fit as an apprentice? Visit <u>hicarpenterstraining.com/apply/</u> or contact a Training Coordinator to learn more about what it takes to join the trades.

#### MAUI | LANAI | MOLOKAI

Errol Kusunoki (808) 223-9500 ekusunoki@hicarpenterstraining.com

HILO | KONA Mereane Hamatake (808) 859-3983 mhamatake@hicarpenterstraining.com KAUAI Darrell Seto (808) 859-2470 dseto@hicarpenterstraining.com

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