



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DR. KANOE NĀONE SELECTED AS NEW CEO OF GIRLS SCOUTS OF HAWAI'I

HONOLULU (Dec. 5, 2023) – Girl Scouts of Hawai'i (GSH) has selected Dr. Kanoe Nāone, as its new Chief Executive Officer, effective January 8, 2024. She brings over 20 years of experience leading nonprofit and educational organizations.

Nāone served as CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Conejo Valley in Southern California from 2017 to 2022 before launching her own company, Lā'au Inc. From 2007 to 2017, she was the CEO of the Institute for Native Pacific Education and Culture (INPEACE), where she provided vision and oversight for the statewide organization's mission to improve the quality of life for Native Hawaiians through community partnerships that provide educational opportunities and promote self-sufficiency.



“With her deep roots in Hawai'i, extensive nonprofit experience, and a passion for our keiki, Kanoe is the perfect fit to lead the Girl Scouts into its next phase,” said Lori Teranishi, Chair of the Board of the Girl Scouts of Hawai'i. “Under her leadership, I am confident we will have an even greater impact inspiring and engaging our next generation of girls in the areas of STEM, community-building, and other development experiences.”

Nāone holds a Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, where she also earned an M.A. and B.A. in Political Science. She has an extensive background in policy work locally and nationally and has conducted presentations on early education, culture-based learning, workforce and economic development, and organizational leadership. Nāone has received numerous leadership awards, including the AIM for Excellence Awards from the Harry & Jeannette Weinberg Foundation, Alliance for Strong Families and Communities Commitment Award for Advancing Equity, Cades Shutte Non-Profit Leadership Award, and Bank of Hawai'i's Native Hawaiian Non-Profit Leadership Award.

“I am excited to be a part of an organization with a longstanding history of serving girls in Hawaii. I can't wait to get to know the staff, troop leaders, girls, and many volunteers who make the Girl Scouts of Hawai'i exceptional,” stated Nāone.

About the Girl Scouts of Hawai'i

Girl Scouts of Hawai'i is the oldest Council west of the Mississippi and was started in 1917 by a Kamehameha School for Girls teacher, Florence Lowe, who organized the first Girl Scout troop in Honolulu just five years after Girl Scouting was founded. Queen Lili'uokalani, the last Hawaiian monarch, sponsored both the first troop of Kamehameha girls and a second troop in Kaka'ako. The Queen gave her personal Hawaiian silk flag to the troop, which is displayed in the Girl Scouts' Honolulu headquarters. The Council supports over 5,000 girl and adult members statewide with the mission of building girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place and recently completed its STEM Center at Camp Paumaū on O'ahu, which has been designated an International Girl Scout Destination.

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