

Dan Inouye

U.S. SENATOR FROM HAWAII



INOUYE AND AKAKA ANNOUNCE HAWAII'S STUDENT DELEGATES TO THE 47TH ANNUAL UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senators Daniel K. Inouye and Daniel K. Akaka today announced the appointments of Breeani Kobayashi and Daniel Okubo as Hawaii's delegates to the 47th Annual United States Senate Youth Program in Washington, D.C. From March 7-14, 2009, they will participate in an intensive study of the U.S. government and, in particular, the U.S. Senate.

Breeani Kobayashi is Student Body Vice President at Hawaii Preparatory Academy. She has participated as a student body class representative, Environmental Club Secretary, Hawaiian Club leader, and Make A Wish Club coordinator. Her community activities include volunteering at the North Hawaii Community Hospital, Kawaihae Transitional Housing project, a homeless shelter, and with the fundraising project for Ke'Anuenue Health Center. She also prepares annual care packages for soldiers in Iraq. Breeani plans to pursue a degree in medicine and specialize in geriatrics or infectious diseases.

Daniel Okubo attends Waiakea High School. He currently serves as Hawaii State Student Council Hawaii Secretary and Waiakea High School Student Body Treasurer. He was the Sophomore Class and Junior Class President and has volunteered at local hospitals for three years. He participates in Varsity Cross-Country, Track, Varsity Soccer and the Key Club. Daniel plans to attend medical school and would like to create a non-profit organization to provide medical service for impoverished Americans.

Chosen as alternates to the 2009 program were Lauren Miyata of Hilo High School and Francis Sakai-Kawada of Waiakea High School.

Senator Inouye said: “Breeani and Daniel are two outstanding students who will represent Hawaii very well. Senator Akaka and I are very pleased that they will be participating in this special program. This will be an invaluable experience for them, and it will deepen their understanding of how the Senate and the federal government works.”

The United States Senate Youth Program is funded by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation. Each of the 104 delegates will receive a \$5,000 college scholarship. All transportation, meals and accommodations are also provided. No government funds are used for the program.

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