



## Sustainable Hawaii Youth Leadership Initiative Delegates Attend Youth Leadership Summit for Sustainable Development: June 22- 28, 2013

### **2013-2014 YOUTH DELEGATES**

#### **Lana'i Island**

Caroline Stuck  
Daniel Forsythe  
Lucy Gaceta

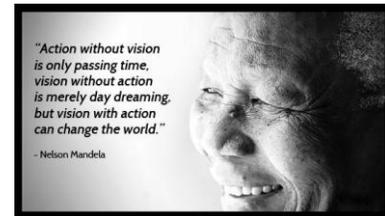
#### **Hawai'i Island**

Sherry Anne Pancho  
Alexandro Siordia  
Mickie Hirata  
Bethany Cole  
Bethany Anderson  
KaMele Sanchez

#### **Martha's Vineyard**

Marcelle Alves  
Lucas Amirians  
Silas Berlin  
Megan Bischoff  
Tallula Brodsky  
Sivana Brown  
Joe Kevin Burchill  
Toron DeLuz  
Lucie Doughrty  
Isabella El-Deiry  
Taynara Goncalves  
Celena Guimaraes  
Wayman Harrison  
Isaac Higgins  
Kristine Hopkins  
Nathaniel Horwitz  
Wyatt Jenkinson  
Elie Jordi  
Willoe Maynard  
Charlotte McCarron  
Jacqueline Menton  
Julia Neville  
Lilly Neville  
Anne Ollen  
Mary Ollen  
Isabel Smith  
Oshantay Waite

The Stone Soup Leadership Institute's 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth Leadership Summit for Sustainable Development was held from June 22-28. The Summit inspires, educates and empowers young people to take initiative in their lives and on their island. This year's Summit was dedicated to **Nelson Mandela**. Each day we chose a Leadership Theme: Connection, Intention, Joy, Commitment, Compassion, and Courage. This was the most diverse Summit – with flags representing youth delegates from 16 countries and U.S. States.



Six Hawaii youth (ages 14-18) were nominated by schools, non-profit organizations, and community leaders to serve as delegates. Three of the six youth attended the Summit. During the weeklong intensive leadership training



youth envision their personal, professional, island and planetary goals. This year's youth delegates aspire to become entrepreneurs, doctors, psychiatrist, and physical therapist, sustainable architect, interior designer, pastry chef, scientist, dermatologist, biomedical engineer, public relations, music industry, technology, international relations, political science – and “at least a Senator.”



Youth started with a reflective walk on Lucy Vincent Beach, where **SHYLI youth** led a Hawaiian chant to honor Mother Earth. Everyone silently found a “magic stone” and then designed a beach mural that represented all island youth delegates. The Summit featured Skype video sessions: **Trevor Tanaka** shared his successful journey with his journey **Sustainable Education Resolution**. Hawaiian youth thanked **Ian Kitajima, Oceanit** for his support in getting sponsor for their flights.



The Summit began with a **Sustainable Vineyard Tour**. Hawaii's youth met sustainability leaders including American Indian Wampanoag entrepreneur at **Orange Peel Bakery**, award winning organic groundskeeper at **Vineyard Golf Course**, business owner at **Cronig's Market** solar powered electric car charging station, homeowner at green low-income community at **Eliakim's Way, Thimble Farm** whose 5-year plan is to feed the Island's school children. On Sunday, youth ventured on kayaks to learn about the fragile beauty of the Island's waters with the **Trustees of the Reservation at Cape Poge Wildlife Refuge**; finishing with lunch at the **Chappaquiddick Community Center**. By learning first-hand about green projects, Lanai youth were inspired to develop their Sustainability-In-Action Projects.

## *What Sustainable Practices Are Happening in the World?*

Youth learned about global issues and sustainability initiatives from around the world. **Alex Frost, former Sustainability & Resource Coordinator for Hawaii County** shared best sustainability practices from Hawaii and the global islands **Island of Wight, England, El Hierro Island, Spain, New Zealand and Iceland**. Boston University graduate student **Ben Thompson** inspired youth by describing how the [350.org](http://350.org)'s **Fossil Fuel Divestiture Campaign** encourages colleges to build on the successful anti-apartheid movement divestiture movement. **Emily Nuss** described how she raised resources for **Kids to Kids**, she founded in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to help children in Dominican Republic and Rwanda, Africa. **Signe Benjamin** shared the **Vineyard Conservation Society's** goal of encouraging people to have "Vineyard lawns" to reduce the use of chemicals that pollute our lakes. **Kaila Binney** at **Island Grown Schools** ties school gardens into a classroom curriculum so youth learn to garden and promote the locally grown food movement. After listening to these amazing presentations, youth delegates had a Roundtable Discussion about sustainable practices in the world today and what they could put to use. Some ideas: buy local foods or grow your own foods; buy smart, be aware, spread awareness; encourage less packaging; reduce paper at school; ride bikes and take the bus; conserve energy (turn off lights, less A.C., etc.); efficiency; reusing clothes; electric cars; Pinterest for Do It Yourself projects; and support 350.org's Fossil Fuel Divestiture Campaign. When Alex Frost asked the question: "**How do we make green living affordable?**" youth reflected on the importance of inviting those who actually have more resources to adopt green lifestyles (electric cars, solar panels, etc.) and to invest in green projects and companies building a sustainable world.



### **SHYLI Lanai Youth Leader Presentations**

**Lucy Gaceta:** Cultural Sustainability & Hawaii's Ahupua'a System

**Daniel Forsythe:** Aquaponics: The Pinnacle of Sustainable Agriculture

**Caroline Stuck:** Lanai: The Model for Sustainable Enterprise

*Between the setting, people, projects, presentations, and cultural activities, the 2013 Youth Leadership Summit on Martha's Vineyard was fantastic. Friendliness abounded between the students. "How can I help?" was the catchphrase for the week, and it gave the Summit an air of unity and helpfulness. The organizers did a fantastic job. Everything in the Summit was smooth and well planned. Because the attendees represented islands of Lana'i, Hawaii Island, Japan, the Philippines, Brazil, Puerto Rico, and Martha's Vineyard, the Summit was a Stone Soup of cultures. **Daniel Forsythe***

*When I arrived at the Summit, I was just off the Ferry and 5,000 miles away from my Pacific Island home. My eyes didn't believe the water could be so green. I recognized the salty smell of home and pieces of the Lana'i culture in people I met at the Summit. At informal chats on the tiny dock on Lake Tashmoo, it was refreshing to discover each of us struggled to make connections between our identities and our cultures. It was even more refreshing to discover we all belong to the human culture and that by acknowledging our differences we can work to change the world for the better. **Lucy Gaceta***

### **SHYLI-Lanai's Sustainability-In-Action Projects**

The SHYLI-Lanai youth delegates met together in workgroups with sustainability leader Alex Frost to develop strategies for each of their Sustainability-In-Action Projects. This year they will plan and develop a Youth & Community Leadership Forum to share their projects with their Island leaders and build partnerships to improve Lana'i Island.

#### ***What is My 5 Year Action Plan?***

Youth delegates were asked to envision the steps towards their dreams – from 1 to 5 years – for their personal, professional, and island dreams. They were encouraged to think about who they would like to invite to be on their Sustainability-In-Action Project teams – and which mentors might be supportive and strategic to their success!

*My dream for my island is to take advantage of the open land and use it for organic farms, some windmills, more solar panels, and other green projects.*

**Caroline Stuck**



### Summit Professional Development Workgroups

Every afternoon, youth joined professional development workgroups to explore their career options with seasoned youth and professionals. These discussions allowed the youth to really dig deep and think about the steps they needed to take in their lives to realize their dreams for their life. They were encouraged to develop a 5-year action plan to help keep them on track. **Green Jobs, Alex Frost; Entrepreneurship, Cassandra Castillo; Political Science/Law, Josue Cruz; Public Health, Nicole Garrity; Global Health, Emily Nuss; and Technology, Marsha Reeves-Jews.**



### Leadership Opportunities

The Institute Board President Marsha Reeves-Jews inspired youth to make presentations to Island leaders with a Networking 101 Workshop: how to put our best foot forward, shake hands, look people in the eye, speak up, share our dreams with people who could help make them happen!

### MVYLI's Sustainable Vineyard Map & 2020 Project

MVYLI youth are championing the Sustainable Vineyard Map & 2020 Project to spotlight sustainable businesses on the Island – restaurants that buy local, green hotels, farms, renewable energy sources, as well as culturally sustainable places. “We hope the MVYLI Map will encourage “green tourism” on the island and promote Martha’s Vineyard as a model for sustainable living, encouraging tourists and Islanders alike to support their growth and development,” says Mary. “Soon the Map will be on Google Earth and next year given to tourists at the Martha’s Vineyard Chamber of Commerce.”

### Cultural Sustainability Project

**The MVYLI Cultural Sustainability Project group** is organizing a Multicultural Festival to showcase the diverse island and world that we live in. It is a family and all-island event, open to anyone who wishes to learn and experience a variety of cultures through activities, stories, literature, art, music, and history. We want to help people realize out of many people we are one, and what it means to all of us to be apart of this diverse beautiful world.

### Institute's Sustainable Islands Technology Initiative

**SHYLI-Lanai youth** will stay connected to other island delegates with the **Institute's Sustainable Islands Technology Initiative.**

<http://www.soup4worldinstitute.com/global-technology-initiative-2>



### Upcoming Events

**SHYLI Summit Delegates • August 2 at Lana'I Culture & Heritage Center**

**SHYLI-Lana'I Youth & Community Leadership Forum: January 2014**

**SHYLI Annual Job Shadow Day: January 2014**

### Official Messages From Hawaii's Leaders

*On behalf of the people of Maui County, it is indeed my pleasure to extend a warm Aloha to everyone attending the 9th Annual Youth Leadership Summit for Sustainable Development. It is my hope that this Youth Summit will provide a unique and important opportunity to address the challenges of sustainability through discussion, educational presentations, and keynote speakers. It allows delegates the opportunity to share their successes and to address mutual concerns and challenges. I am confident that through this Youth Summit each participant will achieve their goals to foster sustainability in our islands. Congratulations to Lucena Gaceta, Daniel Forsythe, and Caroline Stuck on being selected to represent the island of Lana'i. Mahalo to the Stone Soup Leadership Institute for developing educational tools, programs and Youth Summits to prepare young people to become leaders of a more sustainable world. My best wishes to all the delegates for a successful Summit, and success in all your future endeavors.*

*Alan M. Arakawa, Mayor, County of Maui*

### **Official Messages from Hawaii's Leaders (cont.)**

*I write with strong support for Lucy Gaceta, Daniel Forsythe and Caroline Stuck who are participating in the Sustainable Hawaii Youth Leadership Initiative this year and went to the Summit on Martha's Vineyard last month. Lucy has traveled with me to an Agriculture Conference on O'ahu where her participation, maturity and friendliness benefitted us all. Daniel may be one of the few geniuses I have taught in my career of twenty plus years. Caroline has impressed me by consistently earning "A" grades on all her work, which she achieves by completing assignments thoroughly and studying on her own. Like Lucy and Daniel, she is personable as well as bright and, similarly, all three are adept public speakers. I believe each is very likely to succeed in the goals they set for themselves and will make an excellent candidate for the kind of young adults we hope will lead our island, state, country and world in the future.*

**Lisa Galloway, PhD, Science Teacher, Lana'i High School**

*I commend each one of you for answering the call to "think globally, act locally." Our nation and planet face immense challenges to create a more sustainable future. This Summit presents an opportunity for you to engage in meaningful dialogue to address important issues and propose viable solutions to these problems. Through this collaborative process, there is great potential to produce meaningful solutions. Each one of you comes from different places and brings different life experiences, yet, acting collectively, you are interconnected. You understand that each one of us needs to take responsibility for our actions in order to make a difference. Making our country more sustainable is not a simple task, but all of you young leaders give me great hope for our future. These Hawaii youth delegates bring with them a unique perspective growing up on an island state and witnessing first-hand what is happening to Hawaii's fragile environment. Thank you to the Stone Soup Leadership Institute and its sister program the Sustainable Hawaii Youth Leadership Initiative for their ongoing efforts in enabling the next generation of leaders.*

**Mazie Hirono, U.S. Senator**

*I would like to acknowledge the delegation from the state of Hawai'i: KaMele Sanchez, Alex Siordia, Sherry Anne Pancho, Mickie Hirata, Bethany Cole, Bethany Anderson from Hawai'i island, and Lucena Gaceta, Daniel Forsythe, Caroline Stuck from Lana'i. Mahalo to this fine group of young men and women for representing us well. They are members of a generation tasked with the challenge of rethinking how society can continue developing in a way that is both fruitful and sustainable. Each one is armed with not only a firm commitment to create a sustainable future, but also the ability to push forth new ideas to do so. These innovators represent change agents who have the potential to reengineer the future. Thank you to the Sustainable Hawai'i Youth Leadership Initiative and Stone Soup Leadership Institute for their investment in our country's youth and for enabling them to serve their communities.*

**Brian Schatz, United States Senator**

*On behalf of the people of Hawai'i, I extend a warm aloha to youth from Lana'i and Hawai'i Islands representing the Sustainable Hawaii Youth Leadership Initiative. I commend each of you for your work on your Sustainability-In-Action Projects. Many of you have taken your first steps toward becoming leaders in your community, conceiving projects of sustainable development and working with others to realize those projects to preserve and consume wisely our earth's limited resources. Each of you attending the Summit, are forward-thinking citizens of our world community, who will shape our collective future, so I encourage you to think big. We all need to think creatively, plan carefully and work diligently for the future of our communities and our world. We know there will be challenges that are often not possible to predict, and they may be daunting, but they also bring unlimited opportunities for success. I look forward to hearing the many ideas that result from this year's forum.*

**Neil Abercrombie, Governor, State of Hawaii**

**The Sustainable Hawaii Youth Leadership Initiative-Lanai** is a program of the **Stone Soup Leadership Institute**, a 501©3 organization founded in 1997 on Martha's Vineyard. **SHYLI-Lana'i** emerged from community meetings at **Lanai High School**.

**Press: Lanai Today:** February 2013 & May 2013

SHYLI youth leader Makana Tavares spoke at **Lanai Culture & Heritage Center**. See Video

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3iJRKawqc1w&feature=c4-overview&list=UUQuWKDIvIR998x3v5udUa5g>



### **Mahalo to Our Sponsors**



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**Special Supporters:** Keba and Ona Maly, Lana'i Culture & Heritage Center, Pat Niibu, Pam Alconce, Dr. Sherie Liden, Greg Cohen  
**Nominating organizations:** Lisa Galloway, Science Teacher, Lanai High School

*I was honored to play a small role to help enable Lucy Gaceta, Daniel Forsythe and Caroline Stuck from the Sustainable Hawaii Youth Leadership Initiative to attend the Summit on the mainland. We all know they have a love and passion for the island of Lanai and will surely play important roles in our future as we move toward self-sustainability. Other parts of the world will be lucky to have them involved as well. Our community could not be more proud of their accomplishments and their representation in this important Youth Summit.*

**Mary Charles, Partner, Hotel Lanai**

Sustainable Hawaii Youth Leadership Initiative-Lanai [www.shyli-lanai.org](http://www.shyli-lanai.org) • Stone Soup Leadership Institute [soup4worldinstitute.com](http://soup4worldinstitute.com)