

March 31, 2014

It is our great pleasure and privilege at The Nature Conservancy to nominate **Ms. Pauline Sato** for the **Distinguished Service Award**. Pauline is the Executive Director of the Malama Learning Center, where she provides strategic leadership in networking schools, non-profits, businesses, government agencies and community leaders to build collaboration toward environmental and sustainability education, focusing on West/Leeward O'ahu communities, as well as co-directs Hawaii's Green Collar Initiative. Prior to this important kuleana, she has dedicated over a quarter of a century to environmental preservation across Hawaii, working for organizations such as The Nature Conservancy, Bishop Museum, and Moanalua Gardens Foundation.

Pauline's passion for and masterful championing of the aina started from her childhood love for nature but was honed at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, where she received her Bachelor of Science from the School of Natural Resources, with an emphasis on Environmental Education and Advocacy, and at University of Hawaii-Manoa, where she completed her Master's degree in Educational Technology (concentrating on Instructional Development) from the College of Education. Just like HCA's core values and technically knowledgeable members, Pauline is a strong believer in working with partners to accomplish shared conservation goals. Pauline has a long record in demonstrating success through servicing and leading effective conservation partnerships. For example, at the helm of Malama Hawaii, she managed the partnership of over 70 member organizations. She designed and conducted countless outreach programs for ecosystem restoration and conservation projects (Kaena Point—with the Wildlife Society; Hono`uli`uli Preserve, Ko`olau and Wai`anae Watershed Partnerships). She coordinated Hawaii's International Year of the Reef (2008) campaign in partnership with the State Department of Land and Natural Resources. She served as crew for long distance voyages on Hokule`a to Palau and Palmyra to promote marine conservation and be an ambassador for delivering Hawaii's messages of Aloha and sustainability to other places. Pauline has also served on several boards and councils, including the Hawai'i Environmental Education Association, North American Association for Environmental Education, Mālama Hawai'i, Hawai'i Academy of Science, and the State of Hawai'i Environmental Council. Pauline's extensive career in conservation in Hawai'i has helped her build a broad network among natural and cultural resources throughout the state. Her work with the Agricultural Leadership Foundation of Hawai'i has also given her direct contact with people working in agriculture and committed to strengthening agriculture throughout Hawai'i. She initiated and directed the first and critical Conservation Action Planning process for Maunalua Bay, which laid the foundation for the community success in that region, including it's Makai Watch program. By putting her skills and knowledge to use environmental educator and teacher trainer to volunteer coordinator, natural resources program manager, public awareness coordinator and program director, Pauline has graciously served and dedicated her professional career to protecting Hawaii's unique environment. She has also raised a whole new generation of malama aina champions. It is for her commitment to shared conservation goals, food security, her broad and deep service to Hawaii and the wide impact that she's had on Hawaii's conservation agencies for more than 25 years that we strongly nominate Ms. Pauline Sato. She has done so and continues to do so, with grace and provides inspiration for others to do the same. Mahalo nui loa for your kind consideration, HCA.

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