

# Hawai'i Construction Career Days

Creating Opportunities for Hawai'i's Youth October 21 & 22, 2009



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### Special Mahalo to:

City & County of Honolulu Department of Community Services, Youth Services Center Federal Highway Administration Hawai'i Department of Education Hawai'i Laborer's Training Program Hawai'i Local Technical Assistance Program National Association of Women in Construction University of Hawai'i, School of Architecture University of Hawai'i, School of Architecture University of Hawai'i Honolulu Community College University of Hawai'i Honolulu Community College, Construction Academy

# **Purpose & Goals:**

Similar to national trends, Hawai'i's construction industry is quickly facing a shortage of skilled workers. In response to this shortage, one of the primary goals of Hawai'i Construction Career Days (CCD) is to expose our State's high school students to the broad range of construction job opportunities that are available. Activities such as operating heavy equipment, manipulating machine simulators, balancing across a wooden beam, using a jackhammer, putting on hazmat suits and many other exciting things were available for students to participate in.

Another goal was to spark enthusiasm among interest groups to help Hawai'i's youth see the potential of a construction career. The event brought together a diverse group of volunteers from government agencies, private construction companies, trade organizations, architect and engineering firms, college departments as well as from other businesses that support the construction industry. Industry representatives were present to answer students' questions regarding job opportunities and descriptions, salaries, benefits and growth potential.

The event was held at Honolulu Community College Campus where two areas were available for students to participate in: Heavy Equipment, Trades and Exhibit Booths.

# **2009 Participants:**

- Number of students attending: 1100
- Number of high schools participating: 20
- Number of volunteers: 200
- Number of sponsors: 51

# **Partnerships:**

# Hawai'i's CCD develops partnerships between the construction industry,

government, and educational institutions which are vital to promoting the CCD program. Construction Career Days relies heavily on volunteers working together for youth, industry and community. Hawai'i CCD partnerships reach beyond planning and coordinating the event. These associations also work towards enhancing career technology education, developing curricula that better prepare students for careers in the industry and increasing the diversity of the construction industry workforce.