THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7
Virtual Event | 5:30 P.M.

A benefit for the Shidler College of Business Alumni Association
Aloha, honorees and guests,

It is an honor and pleasure to welcome you to our 28th Annual Hall of Honor Awards ceremony. We are thrilled to celebrate the outstanding accomplishments of four individuals who demonstrate great leadership, business acumen, integrity and service to their communities. We are proud to have these distinguished honorees belong to our worldwide alumni network, serving their communities here in Hawai‘i and beyond.

This year, we proudly welcome Sherry Menor-McNamara, Elliot Mills, Shannon Okinaka and Anthony Wong into the Hall of Honor. As the evening progresses, you will learn more about each honoree, including the start of their career journey, successes, as well as some little-known fun facts. Each of our inductees embodies what we hope to see in our graduates – drive, perseverance and fortitude – and serve as stellar role models for current Shidler College and Travel Industry Management students.

Our Hall of Honor Awards would not be possible without the partnership of the Shidler College of Business Alumni Association, as well as our many sponsors and supporters. A heartfelt mahalo to our contributing sponsors, Aulani, A Disney Resort & Spa and Bank of Hawaii; as well as our long-standing media partner, Pacific Business News. A special thank you to Shidler College alumna and Hall of Honor inductee, Gina Mangieri, for serving as our emcee once again.

We are grateful and humbled by the support of the Hawai‘i business community, our table sales committee, as well as the many alumni and friends who have stepped up. Despite challenges caused by the pandemic, it is awe-inspiring to witness the business community band together in support of Shidler College. As many of you are aware, this event raises critical support for the college, allowing us the ability to direct resources where they are most needed, including student support, faculty research, alumni outreach and special programs.

Finally, I would be remiss to not share appreciation for our incredible team, who handled the coordination of this function, despite the difficulty of event planning in an ever-changing COVID-19 landscape. Regardless of necessary modifications, we hope our honorees and guests will find tonight’s celebration memorable.

We truly appreciate your support and please enjoy the evening.

Sincerely,

V. Vance Roley
Dean, Shidler College of Business
First Hawaiian Bank Chair of Leadership and Management
PROGRAM

5:30 P.M.  WELCOME
Mistress of Ceremonies
Gina Mangieri  |  Investigative Reporter & Anchor, KHON2
              Co-founder, The Cole Academy

5:40 P.M.  OPENING REMARKS
Vance Roley  |  Dean, Shidler College of Business
Lance Higa  |  President, Shidler Alumni Association

5:50 P.M.  PRESENTATION OF THE 2021 HALL OF HONOR AWARDS INDUCTEES
Sherry Menor-McNamara  |  President & CEO, Chamber of Commerce Hawai‘i
Elliot Mills  |  Vice President, Hotel Operations, Disneyland Resort and Aulani
             A Disney Resort & Spa
Shannon Okinaka  |  Executive Vice President & CFO, Hawaiian Airlines
Anthony Wong  |  CEO & Founder, Creative Eateries Pte Ltd

6:30 P.M.  LIVE LUCKY DRAW GIVEAWAY & KAHOOT GAME

6:50 P.M.  MAHALO & CLOSING

Gina Mangieri, EMBA ’02, is an investigative reporter and anchor for KHON2 and the co-founder of The Cole Academy preschools and Hawaii Nautical Marine Life Foundation.

A journalist by trade, she has worked in print and broadcast news in New York, London, Chicago and Washington, D.C. before moving to Hawai‘i to serve as editor of Pacific Business News in 1998, where she worked for five years. In 2000, she and her husband, Doug Ewalt, launched Hawaii Nautical. In 2004, she joined the KHON2 staff as a reporter.

In 2004, Gina and her husband established The Cole Academy preschools in downtown Honolulu. Today, there are additional branches in East O‘ahu, Kapolei, Kailua, Mililani and Mauna Lani on Hawai‘i Island.

Gina is a 2014 Shidler Hall of Honor Award recipient. She received her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in journalism from Northwestern University and her Executive MBA from the Shidler College of Business.
Sherry Menor-McNamara was appointed president and chief executive officer of the Chamber of Commerce Hawaii in 2013. She joined the Chamber as director of business advocacy in 2006 and was promoted to vice president, then senior vice president of business advocacy and government affairs. She was later promoted to serve as the organization’s chief operating officer, prior to her current role.

Under her leadership, the Chamber won the 2018 ACCE State Chamber of the Year, and in 2019, two national Council of State Chambers awards.

Sherry is the youngest and first female president and CEO in the organization’s 172-year history, as well as the first Asian to lead a State Chamber of Commerce in the nation. She has lived in several major cities, including Tokyo, New York, Washington D.C., Los Angeles and London and has worked for numerous organizations, including Sony Corporation and Estee Lauder Company; and for U.S. Sen. Daniel Akaka.

Sherry has received many career achievements and accolades over her career, including graduating from the Omidyar Fellows Leadership Program in 2016; representing the U.S. in the Korea Foundation’s Program for Distinguished Individuals in Economy in 2015; recognition as a “Top 10 People to Watch” by Pacific Business News in 2014; and being inducted as a laureate into the 2014 Class of the Junior Achievement of Hawaii Hall of Fame.

She received her juris doctorate from the UH Mānoa William S. Richardson School of Law and her master’s in business administration from Shidler College. She also pursued graduate study in public administration at the University of Southern California and holds a bachelor’s degree in political science from the University of California at Los Angeles. Sherry was born in Tokyo and raised in Hilo, Hawai‘i, where she graduated from Waiakea High School.
Elliot Mills is the vice president, hotel operations for Disneyland Resort and Aulani, a Disney Resort & Spa. In his role, Elliot oversees all operations for the Disneyland Hotel, Disney’s Paradise Pier Hotel and Disney’s Grand Californian Hotel & Spa in Anaheim, California, as well as Aulani, a Disney Resort & Spa, in Ko Olina.

Elliot is a true pillar in the Hawai‘i travel industry, having worked in resort management for more than 25 years. Prior to joining Disney, he was the general manager of the Kaua‘i Marriott Resort. He also held various executive and resort management positions on the islands of Kaua‘i, Maui and O‘ahu.

Elliot began his career at Disney in 2010 as an integral leader in the opening of Aulani Resort, helping to develop the culture and values in which Aulani Resort’s cast members thrive. The resort flourished under his steadfast leadership, receiving several prestigious industry awards including the Travel + Leisure 2017 World’s Best Hotels and Resorts for Families and Conde Nast Traveler 2017 Readers’ Choice award for Top Resorts in Hawai‘i.

He gives back to the Hawai‘i community through service as a board member for Hawai‘i Pacific Health, HMSA, Hawaii Visitors and Convention Bureau and Hawai‘i Community Foundation. In 2017, Elliot was appointed to the board of trustees for Kamehameha Schools.

Elliot holds a bachelor’s degree in travel industry management from UH Mānoa and completed the Cornell Hospitality Management General Managers Program. Elliot was born in Hilo on the Big Island of Hawai‘i and is a graduate of Saint Joseph High School.
Shannon Okinaka was appointed executive vice president and chief financial officer for Hawaiian Airlines in May 2015. Previous to her current role, she served as senior vice president and interim chief financial officer since January 2015. Shannon joined the company as senior director in charge of Sarbanes-Oxley compliance and special projects before being promoted to vice president – controller in 2011.

Prior to joining Hawaiian Airlines, Shannon worked for Hawaiian Electric Co. and Coopers & Lybrand/PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Shannon, a “20 for the Next 20” Hawai‘i Business Magazine honoree, has skillfully steered the carrier’s finances during the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. Looking forward, she wants Hawaiian to remain a financially strong carrier that continues to be an attractive workplace and whose products and services reflect the aloha and care inherent to Hawai‘i.

Shannon has a passion for giving back to the community, having previously served on the board of ‘Ōhi’a Productions, a former nonprofit that provided creative, educational and inspiring theatrical experiences to children and families. She currently serves on the board of directors for the Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce and the executive leadership team of the American Heart Association. Shannon is also an appointee to the State of Hawaii Workforce Development Council and sits on the board of Island Insurance Company.

A certified public accountant, Shannon graduated from the Shidler College at UH Mānoa, earning her bachelor’s in management information systems and accounting. She was raised on Hawai‘i’s Big Island and graduated from Waiākea High School in Hilo.
Anthony Wong is the CEO and founder of Creative Eateries in Singapore. To date, he has created 17 different restaurant concepts and two catering arms in Singapore, Malaysia and the Philippines. Creative Eateries manages four restaurant divisions that include Western, Thai, Japanese and Chinese concepts that spread over 44 outlets. The company is known for its ability to create innovative concepts while adapting the existing brands to the current market conditions and staying relevant to the ever-changing consumer demand.

With 36 years of experience under his sleeves, Anthony is a prominent player in Singapore’s F&B scene. He started his career at the Hyatt Singapore as a corporate management trainee in 1984. He stayed with the Hyatt Singapore, rising to become assistant director of F&B before relocating to open Grand Hyatt Taipei in 1989. He ended his hotel career as F&B executive assistant manager at Hyatt Aryaduta Jakarta in 1990.

Anthony recently celebrated the opening of his newest eatery, Barossa Bar & Grill and was the recipient of the 2021 Angliss Singapore Restaurateur of the Year by the World Gourmet Summit.

His community service work includes Crossing Café, an initiative he co-founded that aims to provide restaurant employment for socially marginalized individuals, serving as president of the Catholic Business Network (CBN), serving on the board for the Restaurant Association of Singapore (RAS) for two terms and serving as a member of the SAFRA board of governors.

Anthony earned his bachelor’s in travel industry management at UH Mānoa. He was born and raised in Singapore. After attending junior college and before attending UH Mānoa, he served in the National Service in the Singapore Armed Forces for two and a half years, where he trained in officer cadet school and then served as an artillery officer.
Aloha and welcome,

After having to put a temporary hold on our annual Hall of Honor Awards last year, we are thrilled to celebrate the accomplishments of our distinguished alumni honorees this evening. We applaud four outstanding individuals for their contributions within their professions, community and to the Shidler College. We look forward to witnessing their future successes and impact here in Hawai‘i and internationally.

As one of the largest and most active alumni associations at UH Mānoa, we are proud to partner with the Shidler College to support and promote this event. The Hall of Honor accentuates the accomplishments of our graduates and the impact they have in their communities.

It is an incredibly exciting and dynamic time to be a part of the alumni association. Although the pandemic continues to force us to pivot, one thing that remains consistent is the unwavering support for the college. Throughout the past year, we have successfully shifted our annual Executive Vineyards wine tasting event to its first-ever virtual experience; provided a variety of mentorship opportunities for alumni and students; and continue to stay connected with alumni worldwide through virtual and in-person events and mixers.

Now, more than ever, we see our alumni banding together in support of the college. Through the efforts of our valued alumni, family and friends, the college can continue to provide students with valuable resources and support for their academic and career ambitions. On behalf of the Shidler Alumni Association, we would like to extend a heartfelt mahalo for your contribution and support of this event, which benefits the Shidler Advancement Fund.

If you’d like to learn more or get involved with the Shidler Alumni Association, please visit shidler.hawaii.edu/alumni or follow us on social media @shidleralumni.

Mahalo,

Lance Higa, EMBA ’05
President, Shidler College of Business Alumni Association
Managing Director of Neighbor Island Airport Operations and Contract Services, Hawaiian Airlines
MAHALO TO OUR SPONSORS

Mahalo to the 2021 Hall of Honor Awards sponsors. The funds raised tonight by the Shidler College of Business Alumni Association will support the Shidler Advancement Fund.

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PAST VISIONARY AWARD RECIPIENT

2015  
Jay H. Shidler

PAST HALL OF HONOR AWARD RECIPIENTS

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Congratulations to the 2021 Shidler College of Business Hall of Honor Awardees for their outstanding accomplishments.
Lighting the way.

First Hawaiian Bank is proud to congratulate this year’s Shidler College of Business Hall of Honor inductees. Your leadership and success in the community is a torch of inspiration shining brightly for Hawaii’s future leaders.

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It all starts with yes.

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CONGRATULATIONS
ELLiot MILLS

You inspire us with your leadership and passion for Hawai‘i.

– THE HCF ‘OHANA

HAWAI‘I COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
hawaiicommunityfoundation.org
Hawaiian Airlines congratulates our own Shannon Okinaka, an honoree of Shidler College of Business’ Hall of Honor Awards 2021

Congratulations, Shannon, from your ‘ohana at Hawaiian Airlines.
Creating new ways to keep Hawai‘i healthier.

We’re reimagining health care with new choices and new services. From telehealth visits to vaccination clinics, we all work together to provide the health care Hawai‘i needs. Learn more at HawaiiPacificHealth.org.

Congratulations to our Hall of Honor awardees, empowering Hawai‘i to thrive.

Proud to support these leaders who are catalyzing positive change in Hawai‘i.
When you imagine the possibilities, great things can happen.

Congratulations to this year’s Shidler Hall of Honor inductees. They have accomplished great things for Hawai‘i, and we are proud to recognize all they do for our home.

#CommittedToHawaii

the Hilife ‘Ohana

Congratulations Shannon Okinaka and all honorees!
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SHIDLER ALUMNI EVENTS (details at shidler.hawaii.edu/events)

- PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
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- ANNUAL MEETING
- MAUI GOLF TOURNAMENT
- STUDENT AND ALUMNI MIXERS
- HALL OF HONOR AWARDS
Founded in 1949, the Shidler College of Business was named in 2006 after alumnus Jay H. Shidler, founder and managing partner of The Shidler Group. In 2017, Shidler increased his initial gift of $25 million to $228 million, making it the largest individual donation to the University of Hawai‘i; and in 2019, the School of Travel Industry Management rejoined the college.

The college is renowned for its multicultural learning environment and its expertise in international business education, and is consistently ranked among the nation’s top 25 schools for international business by U.S. News & World Report. Long recognized for its Asia-Pacific focus, the college offers a wide variety of degree, certificate and executive programs. The college has the only graduate program in Hawai‘i and Vietnam accredited by AACSB International.

For more information, visit shidler.hawaii.edu.