

SUMMER/FALL 2018



KAUAI FILM ACADEMY

Creating filmmaking opportunities for the youth of Kaua'i

TOO MUCH **Life**

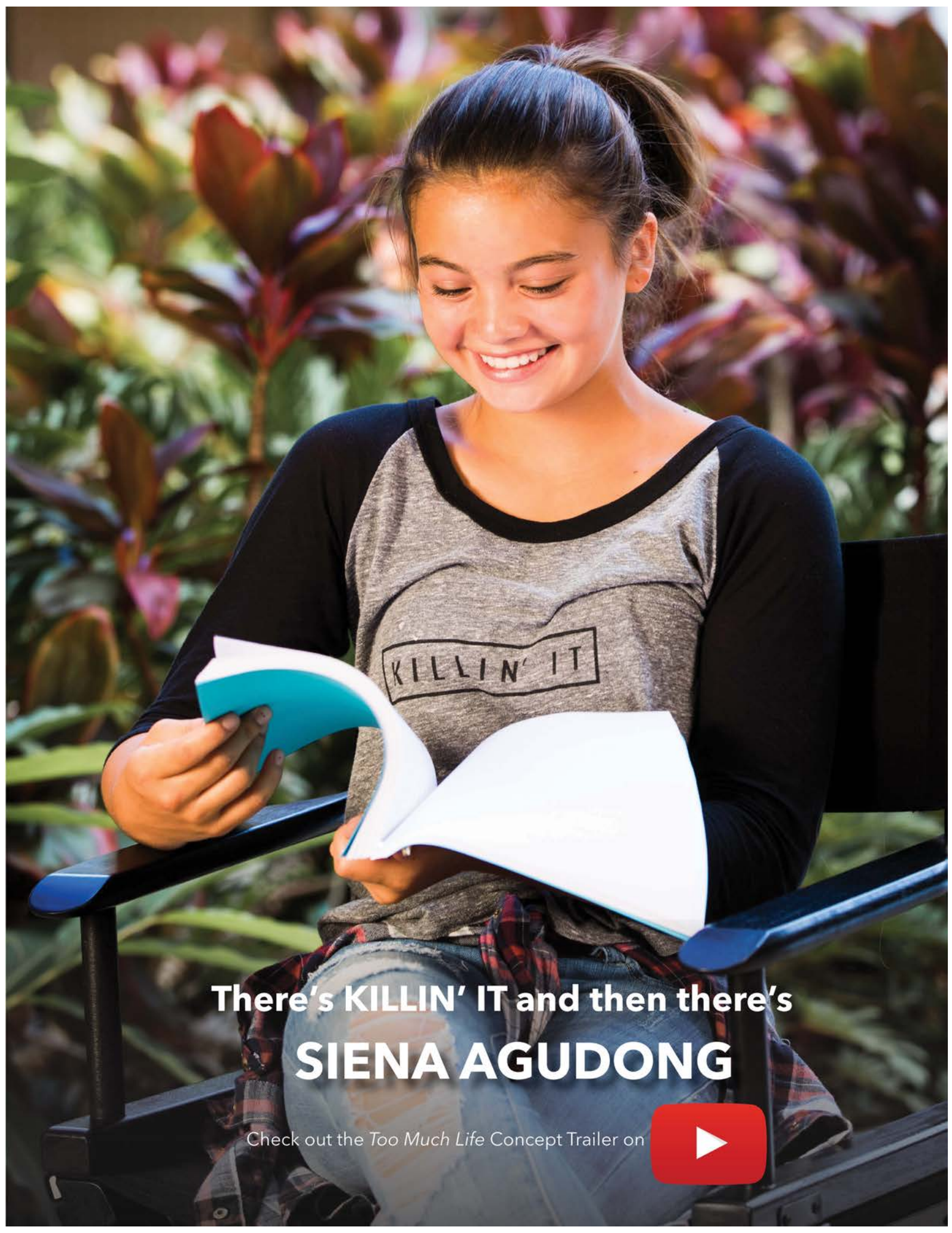
a Kaua'i Made Film about
being a TEEN on KAUA'I

Become a CREATOR!

Learn more about our [Youtube Creator Studio](#)



+ Join the *Too Much Life* **TEAM**



There's KILLIN' IT and then there's
SIENA AGUDONG

Check out the *Too Much Life* Concept Trailer on



Kauai Film Academy: What began as a Film Club has grown into a Film Program



Kauai Film Academy is a federally recognized 501(3)c non-profit organization founded in 2010 that provides Professional Filmmaking Training and Creative Opportunities for the youth of Kauai. At Kauai Film Academy we develop student stories and experiences, provide technical job-specific classroom training and on-set professional experience with industry standard equipment, and produce student-driven films from development to distribution. We give students on Kauai that rare chance to experience what is required to implement, develop, and produce a professional narrative film.

The mission of Kauai Film Academy is to provide Professional Filmmaking Training and Creative Opportunities for the youth of Kauai.

Since the beginning we have served as an incubator for the development of student driven films that focus on issues teens are struggling with such as suicide, cyber-bullying, social & parental pressure, relationships, adapting to an online world, and drug & alcohol abuse. Our students have the freedom and support to express themselves through narrative films, documentaries, and music videos. Every year we have expanded our ability to channel that expression by increasing our student outreach, number of instructors, level of commitment from our community partners, and our production facilities.

Our training is free to the youth of Kauai because of the generosity of our volunteer professional instructors, community partners, and generous grantors.

Students at the Kauai Film Academy learn to use professional camera equipment

Check out this story...

After months of transforming our space at the Kukui Grove Center in Lihue, we officially opened the Kauai Film Academy Studio. It's a **Creative Technology Space** where keiki and adults can create Youtube Videos, give classes, use the newest film-making technology, think in our **Idea Area**, or relax in the Outernet Cafe'!

On the Cover

Katelyn Lopes attends Kalaheo Elementary and has been cast as RAINA in the Kauai made film *Too Much Life*



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TOO MUCH LIFE ISSUE

In this Issue!

Electrical Department

This issue we focus on Lighting Sets with Digital Sputnik LEDs!

Making Music

Sydney talks about singing in the soundtrack to *Too Much Life*

Our New Studio!

A new Creative Technology Center for keiki and adults

Aloha for Indo

Bringing clean water education to the island of Sumba

TOO MUCH Life

Meet up with the Team behind our Kauai Made feature narrative film

What's Not Said

A narrative short about miscommunication and teenage suicide

Still Serving

A Feature Documentary film about Kaua'i veterans dealing with PTSD

SKYLER and **KATELYN** learn how to use the professional color and editing program Davinici Resolve

SHARE YOUR STORY

CREATOR SPACE

KIRRA plans her next project in the Creator Space



Youtube Creator Space
Sign up for your session!

@ [KauaiFilmAcademy.org](https://www.KauaiFilmAcademy.org)



Originally designed for Hollywood's elite colorists, **DaVinci Resolve** has been used on more feature films and TV shows than anything else because it lets you create images that are simply impossible with other tools. DaVinci is also the world's most advanced editing software. Students at the Kauai Film Academy get the opportunity to edit and color their videos with same technology used in big-budget Hollywood Films.



DAVINCI RESOLVE



CERTIFIED INSTRUCTORS



Digital Sputnik

Advanced LED Lighting Systems

ALEA controls the lighting at the creator space through her Ipad. Digital Sputnik lights transform into any shape and form of light possible - a Softlight, Spacelight, Brute or Beam.

CREATOR SPACE



DJI

FOCUS

Our students work with the most advanced technology available. **TAYLOR** learns how to use the DJI Focus. It uses DJI's expertise in brushless motors for high levels of precision and accuracy. The brushless motor is accurate enough to keep the subject in focus no matter how it moves. This tool proved critical in filming **SAMANTHA** walking across the courtyard in Rise.

The Future of Possible

ADVANCED, PRECISE FOLLOW FOCUS SYSTEM

PROFESSIONAL FILM TRAINING



REDUCATION

KAHEA learns first hand how to change out a lens on a Red Cinema Camera on location at our summer advanced training class

CAMERA TRAINING

KAIEA operates the Red Digital Cinema camera while learning in our Basic Filmmaking Program.

LEARN, PLAY, CREATE

Our program averages 40-50 students participating per semester learning professional filmmaking basics and job-specific filmmaking skills such as Electrician, Grip, Production Assistant, or Cinematographer. The number of students increases as we move into the production phase of our projects. As an example, approximately 65 students participated in the development, training, and production of *What's Not Said* our first professional narrative short film. Because of the scope of our island-wide training program, the public interest in filmmaking, the need for more youth driven creative outlets on

Kauai, and the continuing integration of STEM programs within the Department of Education, we believe our Academy attendance will continue to increase up to 150-175 students per year.

There is a professional filmmaking job skill for everyone at the Kauai Film Academy.

The population that benefits from our program are youth ages 10-17, recent High School graduates, volunteer professional instructors, and our partnered volunteer community members and

businesses that provide a shared sense of purpose for our community and critical in-kind products and services required for our program to succeed. Our students come from every public high school on Kauai including Island School, Kapaa Middle School, Cheifess Kamakahahei Middle School, Kalaheo Elementary, Alternative Education Programs, and Home School. Our

program is for all students not just the highest achieving students. There is a professional filmmaking job skill for everyone. There is a place for everyone at Kauai Film Academy.





JOIN OUR TEAM



 **KAUAI FILM ACADEMY**

KAUAI FILM ACADEMY

“getting out there” or... how to be a Kaua’i Keiki Producer



SKYLER is involved with Development, Pre-Production, Production, and Post-Production & Marketing. Being a **STUDENT PRODUCER** means more than just overseeing the four major phases of Too Much Life’s production. In addition to getting the movie “out there” she is also one of the lead actors. She plays the character **AVERY NATION** - otherwise known as Garden Island School’s spunky know-it-all Youtube Reporter who’ll do anything for a story.

“

We have stories to tell. Universal stories about families and relationships, teens struggling to find their place. *Too Much Life* is that story. And we think it's time for Kauai to have a speaking role.”

Skyler Wanadasan

Student Producer *Too Much Life*



SKYLER demonstrates her skills as an ambassador and student Producer for the Kauai film *Too Much Life* while on *KHON2 Sunrise Show*



Avery Nation

TOO MUCH LIFE
Kauai Made Feature Film

A **STORY** about
teenage life on Kauai



*Harper has no friends, is failing math,
and can't get a date.
She's also the most popular girl in school.*

TOOMUCH
Life

TOOMUCHLIFE.FILM

KIRRA, who plays Jaimee in the movie *Too Much Life* waits for her chance to rehearse the scene where Harper confronts Jaimee about betraying their friendship. Jaimee denies this, but, of course, they both believe they are right.



KIRRA was the very first ACTOR to be cast in *Too Much Life*. She attended an acting workshop during our basic Filmmaking Course. Dolly Kanakuni lead the workshop.



“I didn't have this when I was growing up on Kauai, I had to go to LA to work in film, and it's amazing that kids have this opportunity now.”

Sonya Balmores

Soul Surfer, Marvel Inhumans



TOO MUCH LIFE
Kauai Made Feature Film

“Raina is a complicated character. You never know what she’s going to do or say”

ELIZABETH worked with the script team to develop the politically savvy student Raina



The Story Team spent approximately five months working on ideas for Too Much Life. Students shared ideas, life experiences, and character names.

“Is Wonder Woman on
NETFLIX?”

Katy Hoesel

“Marley” in Too Much Life

“I’m going to be on
NETFLIX...”

Katelyn Lopes

“Raina” in Too Much Life





TOO MUCH Life

The Movie

Katy Hoesel as

MARLEY

Who are you on the inside?

TOO MUCH LIFE

Kauai Made Feature Film

Levi looks at her like "what"

You're unhappy.

HARPER (CONT'D)

LEVI
I am! I'm really unhappy. I can't
do this Harper.

RAINA
Are you serious?


Levi nods to Raina.

RAINA (CONT'D)
Let's try again. Are you serious???

“WE kept asking
ourselves is this real?”



Rehearsals and Practice allow our actors to "become" the characters of *Too Much Life*. **KATELYN** and **ROXIE** memorize their lines during our monthly script readings.



TOO MUCH LIFE IS ABOUT
SOCIAL MEDIA, ACCEPT-
ANCE, AND THE PRESSURE
TOO EXCEL.

WILL THEY THINK
I'M HAVING FUN?

TOO MUCH LIFE

AVERY NATION

"I know everything about everyone."



Loren Weiner

Skyler Wandasan

Hershel Weiner

Ariki Foster is shown in profile, seated and playing a red electric guitar. He is wearing a light green t-shirt and dark pants. The background features a large poster of a man in a hat, possibly a reggae artist, and a microphone on a stand. The lighting is warm and focused on the musician.

Ariki Foster

Owner, *Dubb City Productions*

DUBB CITY PRODUCTIONS

Born and raised in New Zealand and Rarotonga, music was part of the family culture from a young age for Ariki. After graduating from the Audio Institute of Technology in Wellington, New Zealand, where he studied music composition and studio engineering, Ariki came to Kauai and has been an integral part of the music industry and community on Kauai since then.

Daphne Sanchez

*Titanium, Still Serving
Try, Too Much Life*

SINGING the title song for *Still Serving*.
Daphne Sanchez sang "Titanium" at the
Historic Waimea Theatre.

*Take your
Filmmaking
to the next level*



KAUAI FILM ACADEMY

Director + Camera Operator + Production Sound + Lighting + Cinematographer + Editing + Acting + Grip + Production Assist

Sign up Online!

www.KauaiFilmAcademy.org





IMDb

EARN your credit on IMDb



Veteran Filmmaker **Mario Perez** lines up the shot

Join the Team @ kauaifilmacademy.org

DOCUMENTARY FILM

Stories we care about...



TULSI GABBARD

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE

"Less than 1% of our entire population in this country takes that step and raises their hand and volunteers to wear the uniform to put their lives on the line for everyone else. That's a pretty special group of people."

*Iraq War Veteran and U.S. Representative Tulsi Gabbard
from the film "Still Serving."*



BARRY DEBLAKE

US ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

"You saw dead bodies, you saw blown up bodies, you seen soldiers coming back with missing parts... And we get to bring back all that type of stress."

*Iraq War Veteran Barry DeBlake
from the film "Still Serving."*

Premiere of

STILL SERVING

"It is my hope... that by watching you will be able to glimpse what our combat veterans experienced in Iraq and Afghanistan and thus understand why some of them experience Post Traumatic Stress, alcoholism, drug-abuse, and, in too many cases, suicide.

It is my hope... that you'll understand how I felt that first night with Steve. I had heard stories about veterans who experienced PTSD but I didn't really understand what they were going through. It wasn't until these brave veterans began to share their stories with us that I began to have a glimpse what they experienced."

Isaiah Alvarez, *Student Director of
Still Serving giving a speech at the Premiere*



SOME BATTLES NEVER END

is the theme of our latest film about military men and women serving in Iraq and Afghanistan and the difficulties some of them face when returning to Kaua'i. Supported by the County of Kaua'i and the Atherton Foundation, we spent approximately a year interviewing returning veterans, caregivers from the Kaua'i Vet Center and Office of Veteran's Affairs, U.S. Representative Tulsi Gabbard, and civilians from the community and local government.

It was an incredible learning experience - for filmmaking and understanding what our soldiers went through in war and how difficult it can be to readjust to civilian life.

STILL SERVING

DOCUMENTARY FILM

Stories we care about...



JUSTIN MATHENY

UNITED STATES ARMY

"I never really thought I was going to end up where I ended up, in Afghanistan, I never thought I'd end up there and do what I had to do."

*United States Army Justin Matheny
from the film "Still Serving."*



LOUIS "CALI" CALIENDO

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

"I experienced combat and that changes someone forever."

*United States Marine Corps Louis Caliendo
from the film "Still Serving."*

"It wouldn't be true to say
this is a film for veterans.
It's a film for the community."

E. Sawyer, *Producer*

Interviewing **JUSTIN MATHENY**, an Army Ranger. Justin is a graduate of Kaua'i High School and enlisted in the Army. He served one tour in Afghanistan and received a Purple Heart for wounds suffered in combat.

He shared his stories with us - most of which he was telling for the first time.

DOCUMENTARY FILM

Stories we care about...

“

**Their mission can continue here,
as a part of our community.”**

Tulsi Gabbard

Iraq War Veteran and U.S. Representative

KATIVE VETTER had the honor of interviewing U.S. Representative **TULSI GABBARD**. Katie has been a student at Film Academy for over three years.

Watch STILL SERVING on



@ KauaiFilmAcademy



KATIE waiting for Rep. Tulsi Gabbard to arrive for her interview. Twelve people were interviewed for Still Serving. From a student that was entering Army Basic Training to the caregivers and counselors at the Kaua'i VET Center we tried to follow our men and women from the beginning to the end.



LAURA lines up a shot for the opening sequence at Deli & Bread Cafe' in Lihue, while Bryan sets up lighting as gaffer. The scene portrays a veteran drinking coffee. Some veterans have flashbacks when in a public setting surrounded by people.

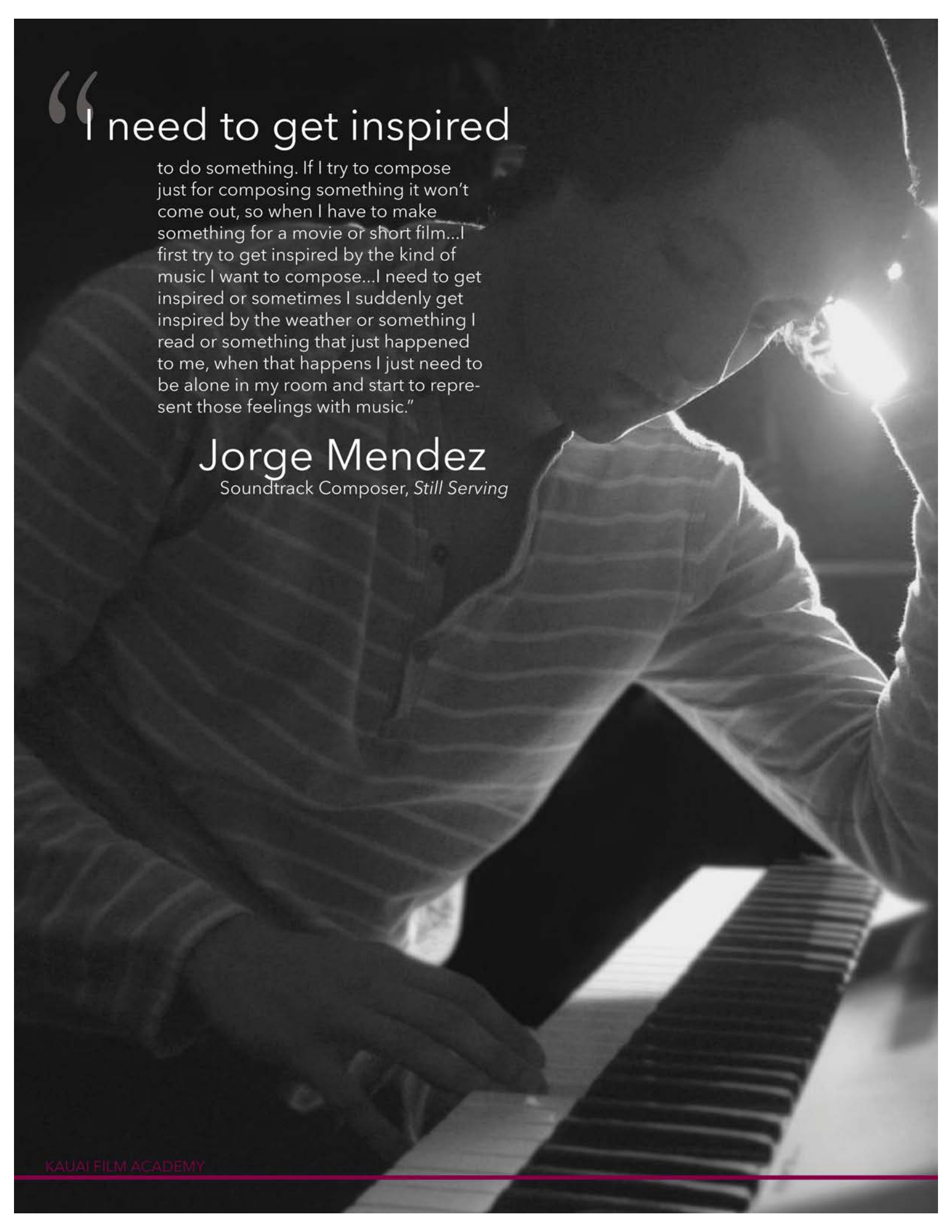


ISAIAH is in good spirits although our van broke down after filming at the Kaua'i Veteran's Cemetery.

VETERANS from the documentary Still Serving at the premiere event showing at the Kaua'i Community College Performing Arts Center.



Still Serving is dedicated to the memory of Staff Sgt. **CARL E. HAMMAR**, United States Army.



“ I need to get inspired

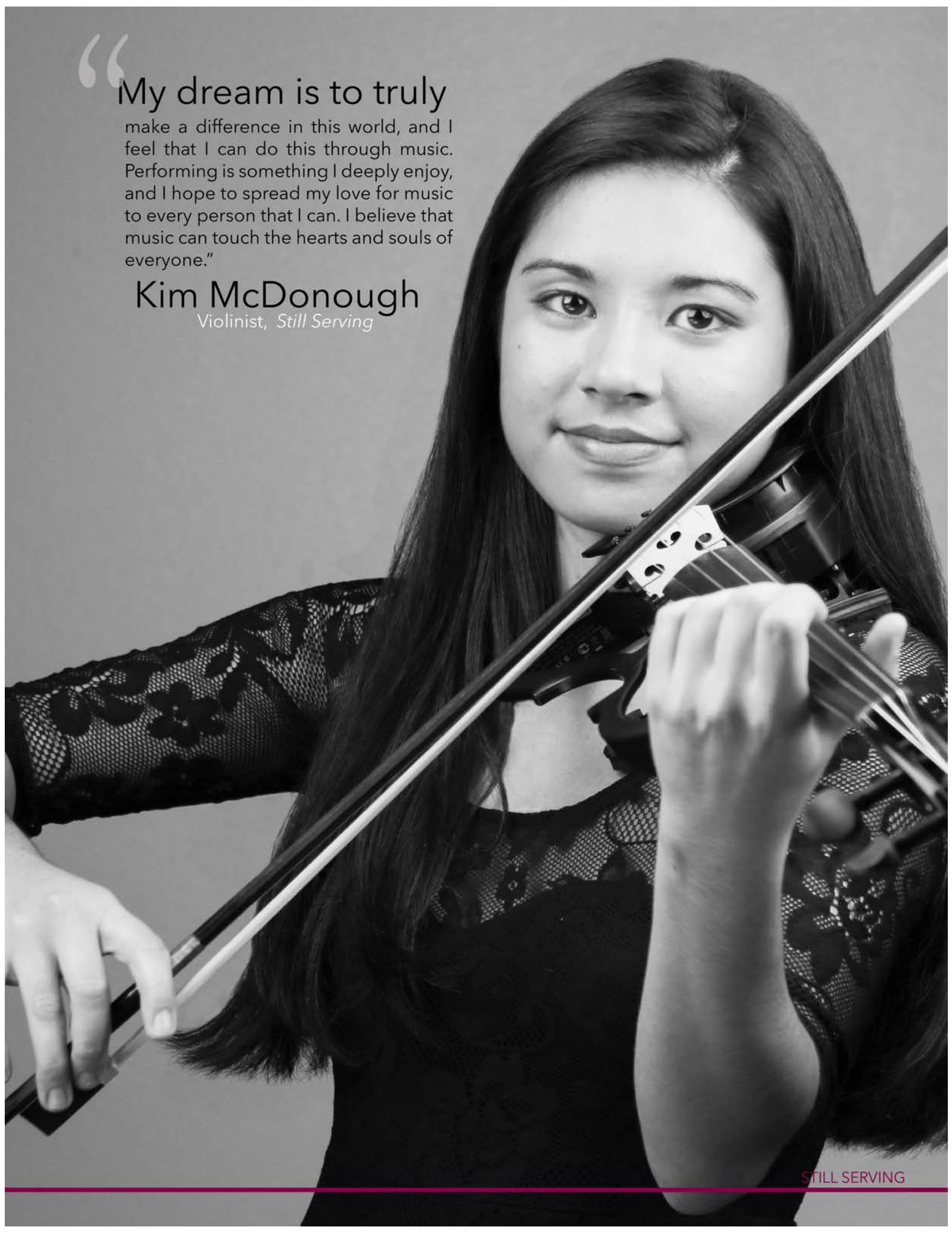
to do something. If I try to compose just for composing something it won't come out, so when I have to make something for a movie or short film...I first try to get inspired by the kind of music I want to compose...I need to get inspired or sometimes I suddenly get inspired by the weather or something I read or something that just happened to me, when that happens I just need to be alone in my room and start to represent those feelings with music.”

Jorge Mendez

Soundtrack Composer, *Still Serving*

“My dream is to truly
make a difference in this world, and I
feel that I can do this through music.
Performing is something I deeply enjoy,
and I hope to spread my love for music
to every person that I can. I believe that
music can touch the hearts and souls of
everyone.”

Kim McDonough
Violinist, *Still Serving*



"Thank you for the best experience of my life."

@book_worm_140

Filming on location at GALERIE 103 in the Kukū'ula Shopping Village, in Koloa HI for the film *Too Much Life*

Making a FILM takes a TEAM

"Who knew that just five days could have such an incredible influence in your life? Meeting new people, whom all of them share the same dream as you, and learning more about film than anyone could ever learn in their Middle and High School career!"

BROOKE KANNA, Filmmaker Bootcamp

"Bootcamp inspired me to follow my dreams, and that if I want to be working on a real movie film set, I should not give up; DREAM BIG. Being able to work with Kauai Made Films taught me the basics of filming, and hopefully, I will continue to learn and work with them throughout the years getting towards what I want to become."

TIFFANY SAGUCIO, Filmmaker Bootcamp

@makanisabala Worth my Fall Break #LonelyRoadsFilms

@book_worm_140 Never thought I would meet so many amazing people you guys are truly awesome. Thank you for the best experience of my life. Hope to see you all again 😊👻🌞

"I'm very glad I attended Kauai Film Academy. I learned a lot about the aspects of filmmaking that I never really gave much thought to like lighting, gaffing, audio and other stuff. It definitely improved my filmmaking abilities."

EWAN FULMER, Filmmaker Bootcamp

"This camp, was so far one of the biggest leadership events I've participated in, due to how much responsibility we had in our jobs, and how we had to individually get ourselves to work as a team."

Being in this week long course, gave me back all the reasons why I fell in love with film in the first place. It gave me back my interest. Yes, we did learn so much about the basic film making, about equipment, about light and photography. But overall? Camp was so much more than that, to me anyway. Camp, got me to be the person I've lost a few months ago."

In a sense, because of camp I learned to believe in myself again, I learned how to be positive."

GABBY ROSA, Filmmaker Bootcamp

Developing student stories and experiences, providing the education, assistance, equipment, volunteer professional training, and focusing on specific filmmaking skills, we encourage students to study and experience what is required to implement and develop professional level feature films on the island of Kauai.



KAUAI FILM ACADEMY

LEARN.PLAY.CREATE.

RISE

Behind-the-Scenes

One Learning Objective of the RISE Project is to put students in a "real-world, real-life" application where they have to learn to communicate their ideas to other students, adult mentors, and community partners in a demanding, complex environment. Students learn leadership, confidence, work ethic, and social skills. By having to finish the project with a large team, students step out of their comfort zone and risk making mistakes. They learn from this experience. After working on our last project a student wrote, "This was so far one of the biggest leadership events I've participated in, due to how much responsibility we had in our jobs, and how we had to individually get ourselves to work as a team. Especially due to how much we had to openly interact with everyone else."



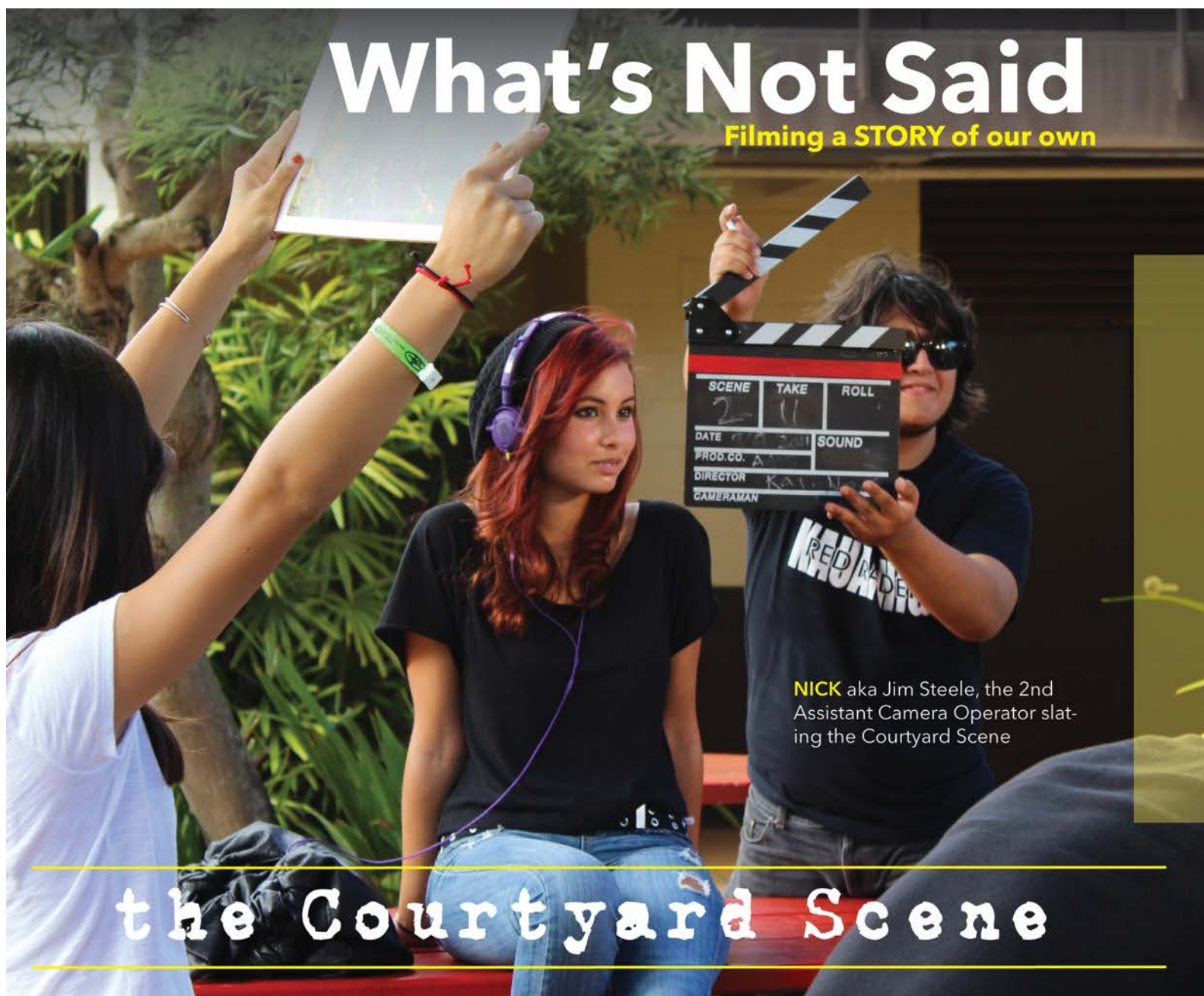
CALEN HIRAMOTO

CALEN is the official stills photographer for the feature film *Too Much Life*. He also conducts photography workshops for students enrolled in Kauai Film Academy



What's Not Said

Filming a **STORY** of our own



NICK aka Jim Steele, the 2nd Assistant Camera Operator slating the Courtyard Scene

the Courtyard Scene

What's Not Said is a student created film centered on the relationship of three young women and the difficulties they endure in high school dealing with social acceptance while coming to terms with a horrific tragedy in their past. It addresses complex issues such as suicide, miscommunication, and social acceptance. It's sometimes what's not said that can have the greatest impact on a teen's life.

THE PRODUCTION PHASE

of What's Not Said was by far the most rewarding, and intense, and stressful, aspect of creating our Film. Without the months of Preproduction, from creating the story, writing the screenplay, revisions(!), blocking the shots, creating shot lists, fundraising (carwash anyone?), auditions, training the crew, and finally scheduling it all around busy school schedules, oh, and film permits, without all of that production would have been impossible. Instead, because of our preparation it was not only possible but fun!



WHAT'S NOT SAID



BEST Boy Gaffer **KENJI** observes the action from Video Village

Days were long and moments before a scene - intense!

“ I hope all who watch our film think of the story of its creation. The struggle that a group of high school students had to go through to create something about ourselves. We all jumped through hurdles and problem after problem to get this movie finished, and without the help of students, teachers, and community members I don't think this movie would have ever existed.”



Kaua'i Creativity

Our Creative Technology Space is the product of a community effort involving hundreds of people from the island of Kauai, the state of Hawaii, and around the world. It was a vision of creating an opportunity for the people of Kauai to have a place to learn, create, and acquire the skills required to enter the professional film workforce, to give Kauai an opportunity to tell our stories. As Skyler said so well, "Kauai is the backdrop, we're the set not the story, but we do have stories to tell - universal stories about families and relationships, teens struggling to find their place. We think it's time for Kauai to have a speaking role."

The Studio is located at the amazing Kukui Grove Center in Lihue. It's equipped with a Modern Editing Bay featuring Davinci Resolve, a Youtube Creator Space, musical instrument recording, Cafe' Coco, Meeting Area with a Stage and backdrops, modern Filmmaking Equipment, a Storyboard Idea Space, equipment and software for Graphic Design, a game area, and efficient and spacious equipment storage and checkout process for visiting filmmakers.

- PLAN YOUR CREATIVE WORK
- RECORD MUSIC AND SOUND
- MEET AT CAFE' COCO
- FILM WITH MODERN EQUIPMENT
- SHARE ON OUR LESSON STAGE
- EDIT & COLOR DA VINCI RESOLVE






ALEA watches and listens as she edits and colors her video with Da Vinci Resolve

Be a Creator!



The **Youtube Creator Space** allows our keiki the opportunity for their stories to come alive with professional assistance, equipment, and safe location. The Youtube Stage is equipped with multiple back drops, interview area, infinite white or black space, interview couches and chairs, high quality microphones and cameras. Ideas are first developed in the Creator Space, which has paper, pencils, drafting tables with tools, musical instruments, and wall boards to share their vision with the team. After developing and fine tuning their idea, they move on to equipment checkout process where we provide them with the equipment they need to film and record their Youtube Creation.

Youtube is **EVERYWHERE!**

-  The total number of people who use YouTube - 1,300,000,000. That's 1.3 BILLION PEOPLE
-  The average number of mobile YouTube video views per day is 1,000,000,000
-  YouTube reaches more 18-49 year-olds than any cable network in the U.S.
-  The youngest YouTube star Ryan ToysReview is 6 years old made \$11,000,000 in 2017
-  The highest paid Youtube partner is Daniel Middleton with annual income \$16.5 million
-  Almost 5 billion videos are watched on Youtube every single day





Kauai Film Academy

Basic, Advanced, and Pro-Series

The **Basic Course** (called Filmmaker Bootcamp) is comprised of three modules taught over two days - Filmmaking Basics, Filmmaking Safety and Production Assistant. Each Basic Course Module is required for all students enrolling in the Kauai Film Academy. Filmmaking Basics is just that - the basics of professional filmmaking.

We teach basic set etiquette, departments, positions, and how each crew member and piece of equipment is critical to the final film. Filmmaking Safety is essential to ensure that all students, regardless of their final crew position, understands all of the safety requirements of making a film. Production Assistant is a comprehensive course that teaches the basics of production paperwork, communication, positions and responsibilities, basic gear, working with stands Advanced or Pro-Series Course qualify for Key Positions such as Director, Cinematographer, Sound

Mixer, Head Gaffer, and rigging, and employment. This module provides a foundation for the remaining courses. Only students that successfully complete Basic Course qualify to participate as crew member on our Feature Film Sets.

The **Advanced Course** comprises four 16-hour modules - *Electrical, Sound, Grip & Gear*, and *Production*. All students must complete one module from this phase before advancing to the Pro-Series Course.

The Advanced Course is comprised of basic job skills that all students should know and understand before moving to advanced positions. *Electrical* begins with light basics and working with different types of lighting fixtures finishing with light design. This module is a prerequisite to becoming a Cinematographer and/or Director. *Sound* teaches the basics of sound acquisition and recording and is the prerequisite to become a Sound Mixer.

Grip & Gear provides a thorough understanding of all the grip gear and rigging found on a professional film set and how to set it up and break it down and is the prerequisite for Best Boy. *Production* focuses on the Production Department and the administrative requirements to complete a film production from acquiring funding and hiring a crew to filming, editing, and distribution and is the prerequisite to becoming a Producer.

“Our training is free to the youth of Kauai because of the generosity of our volunteer professional instructors, community partners, and generous grantors.”

The Pro-Series Course

is comprised of eight 4-hour modules with two distinct paths that students choose from - the *Creative Path* and the *Job-Skills Path*. *Directing, Cinematography, and Storytelling* are on the Creative Path while *Camera Operation, Sound Recording & Mixing, and Best Boy (Grip & Gaff)* are on the Job-Skills Path. This course is comprised of four separate evolutions - specialized classroom training, on-set mentor instruction, student-directed production, and mentor guided professional filmmaking on a film set.

LOREN prepares to mark a scene as the 2nd Assistant Camera Operator during a Film Academy Workshop.



LIGHTING TRAINING



CAMERA TRAINING



1ST & 2ND CAMERA

A young woman with long dark hair is smiling and looking towards the camera. She is wearing large white headphones and holding a boom microphone. She is also wearing a white lace top and black pants. A lanyard with a 'KAUAI' tag is around her neck. The background is a blurred studio setting.

FILMMAKING on KAUAI
What is the Kauai Film Academy?

It is a comprehensive professional filmmaking course for youth on the island of Kaua'i. The Kauai Film Academy gives our keiki the chance that most people will never have - professional filmmaking training, guidance, and support to make professional feature films and music videos. The Kauai Film Academy provides our students with a safe, secure, creative environment that is goal oriented, builds job skills, strengthens social and leadership skills, and ignites their dreams. Over 300 students have participated directly in our filmmaking training and production programs.

The Kauai Film Academy is a rigorous, professionally structured and focused, intensive training program that is fun and allows students to cultivate their training according to individual filmmaking interests. This allows for more specialization, more one-on-one between instructors, mentors, and other students that share their interests, and culminates in the production of student driven professional films.



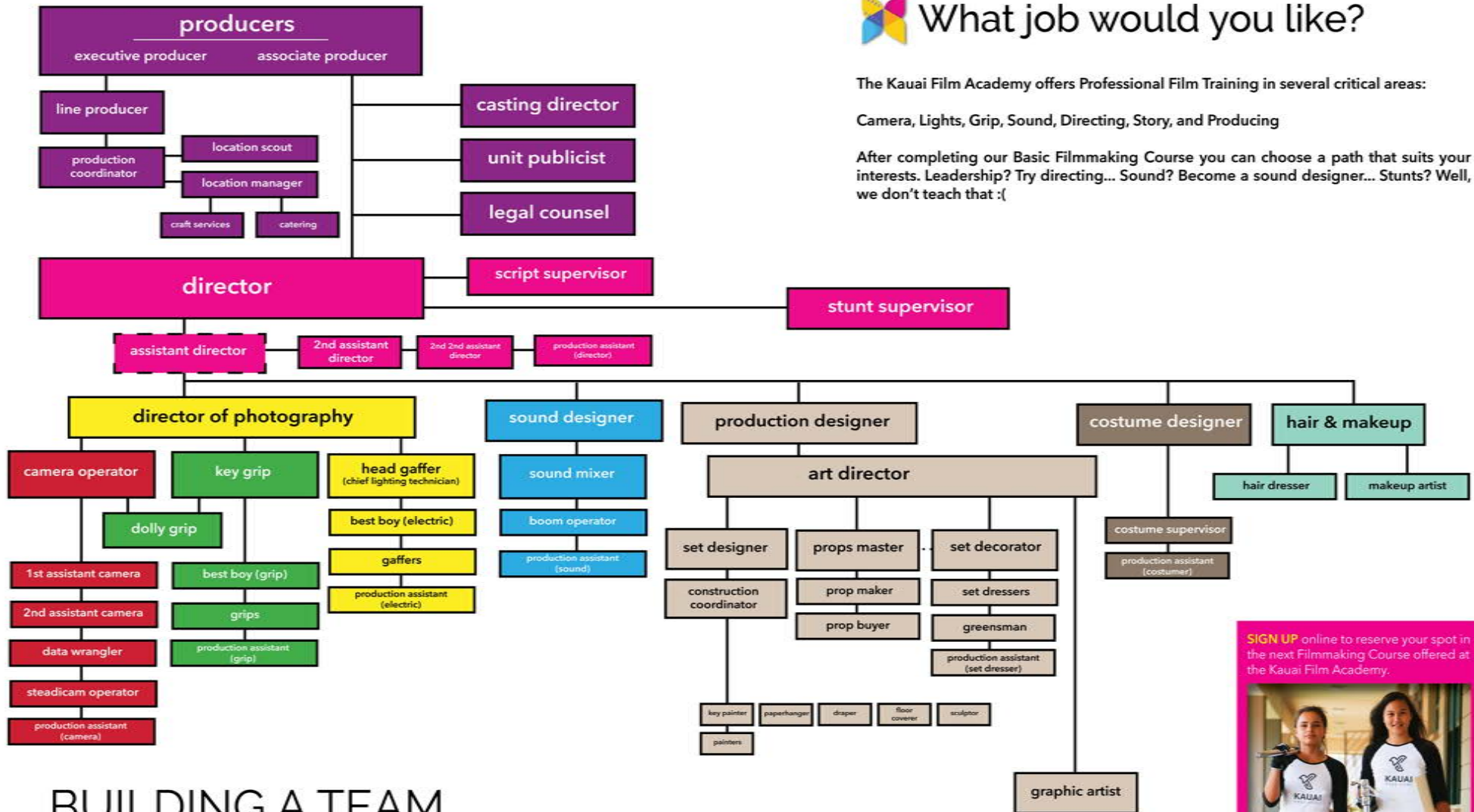
KAUAI FILM ACADEMY

SOUND TRAINING

What job would you like?

The Kauai Film Academy offers Professional Film Training in several critical areas:
Camera, Lights, Grip, Sound, Directing, Story, and Producing

After completing our Basic Filmmaking Course you can choose a path that suits your interests. Leadership? Try directing... Sound? Become a sound designer... Stunts? Well, we don't teach that :(



BUILDING A TEAM
one filmmaker at a time

SIGN UP online to reserve your spot in the next Filmmaking Course offered at the Kauai Film Academy.



TOO MUCH LIFE.FILM

The cast of *TOO MUCH LIFE* channel their inner

Audrey Hepburn

Welcome to the **Outernet Cafe'** our in-house hang-out where actors, crew, family, and friends can relax and drink hot chocolate, tea, or coffee. We even have **mallasadas** sometimes!

If you'd like to hold a meeting for your media, tech, or community event - the Outernet Cafe' is open!

Find out more @ www.kauaifilmacademy.org/cafe

OUTERNET CAFE'



The cast of *Too Much Life* take a break at the **OUTERNET CAFE'**, our in house hangout.

we shoot with Canon

KAUAI FILM ACADEMY

TOOMUCH
Life

TOO MUCH LIFE
Kauai Made Feature Film

TOOMUCHLIFE.FILM

TOO MUCH LIFE

the Concept Trailer

Nativa Law and Makana Cabral walk down the hallway of Garden Island School during the filming of the concept trailer for Too Much Life

The Online-World or the Real-World.
2 Million Followers or the Boy of Her Dreams.
High School's not easy.

Harper Hudson wakes up the most popular girl at Garden Island Highschool. Online she is the best, the most popular, and always has the most likes. But when her best friend threatens to topple her reign, Harper is forced to choose between the boy she loves or the popularity she craves. She makes a choice that changes her world forever.

1st AD **Mario Perez** prepares the scene for "Action"

Student Camera Operator **Kaden**

KAUAI FILM ACADEMY

Too Much Life

RECEIVES FUNDING

Kauai Made Films successfully completed its Kickstarter campaign, raising over \$100,000 to begin production on a film made with 100 percent local talent and resources.

"Here's a chance for us to create our own local production by Kauai people, meaning our youth, who are going to be our next generation of creatives," said Randy Francisco, county film commissioner and creative industries small business coordinator. "Whether they're storytellers, videographers or anyone in that industry."

Backing for their project helps establish the **foundation for a sustainable film industry** on Kauai. Filming on the island could provide more local jobs and educate youth through valuable internship programs.

The Kauai-Made film, "Too Much Life," is scripted as a modern high school drama about **teenagers living in a world of social media, cyber-bullying and online relationships.**

"The driving force behind the production of 'Too Much Life' is to share a story about our youth with the world," said film director Edwin Sawyer, who co-founded the nonprofit Kauai Film Academy in 2000 to provide guidance to youth interested in graphic design, camera work, music recording and sound mixing.

"The kids are really involved," said Sue Kanoho, executive director of the Kauai Visitors Bureau, who also works with the production team. "It's not like a regular production. Not only are they in it, they'll be doing the work, too."

Students, parents, actors, businesses, filmmakers and officials from all over the island are coming together to make this independent film happen.

"This local production will create educational opportunities for our youth and strengthen creative industries on our island," said Elliot Lucas, Kauai Made Films producer and co-founder of the Kauai Film Academy.

With the Kickstarter fundraising campaign's success, the Kauai-made team plans to finish casting roles and purchasing much-needed equipment for the pre-production process.

"We're blown away by the support," Sawyer said. "Thank you to all the backers. We feel like they're part of the team. Now there's going to be a movie made on Kauai, and our kids are going to be trained in film-making."

Their success may help "kick start" the island's film industry and revitalize its creative technology sector.

- John Steinhort, Garden Island Newspaper

To find out more about the feature film Too Much Life @ toomuchlife.film

Excerpted from  **tgi**
THE GARDEN ISLAND

KIRRA and KATELYN read the news in the Outernet Cafe



One Dream...

With the support of the people of Kaua'i, the spirit and optimism of our keiki, the generosity of our donors and grantors, and with the aid of the County of Kaua'i, we are building a team of filmmakers, support staff, and actors to create the feature film *Too Much Life*.



BUILDING A TEAM
one filmmaker at a time

AUDITIONS on KAUAI
FINDING Kaua'i Talent

- Jessica Else, Garden Island Newspaper

After more than three years in the making, Kauai Made Films is putting out a casting call for the first full-length feature film, fully made on Kauai, by Kauai people.

Hosted at Kapaa Courtyard Marriott on Sept. 10, the first round of auditions for the film "Too Much Life" will begin at 8 a.m. and will run all day.

Everyone is welcome to audition - both keiki and adults - as there are about 30 parts from multiple age groups to cast. The film is about teenagers living on Kauai and questions the role of social media in modern life.



While the organization has gone through several names, the goal has been the same and those involved have created more than 100 videos of various lengths since 2010. Most are about five to 10 minutes in length, with several longer films such as "What's not said" and the documentary "Still Serving," already released.

The film school averages about 40-50 kids per semester, ages 12-17, and instructors provide guidance in the areas of graphic design, camera work, recording and

It's time to give Kauai a speaking role.

"We want to cast as many Kauai people as possible, so we need everyone to come out and audition," said Edwin Sawyer, who is producing the film with Eliot Lucas.

Walk-ins will be accepted for auditions at the Courtyard Marriott, but organizers recommend signing up for a specific time slot on the Kauai Made Films website to limit wait times.

The film's concept began in 2010 when Sawyer teamed up with some high school students on Kauai who were inspired to create movie magic.

Together they created AboveMoon Films, which became Kauai Film Academy.

mixing, acting and scriptwriting.

All that work is building toward the goal of making a Kauai-produced film with a level of quality that will compete in feature film markets.

And the goal is to continue the forward movement once "Too Much Life" has been made.

"Making this film is just the beginning," Sawyer said. "This will change the game and show everyone that it's possible for Kauai to be more than a backdrop for the film-making industry."

He continued: "It's time to give Kauai a speaking role."



SKYLER WANDASAN



ANDREW RICE



KATELYN LOPES



GABRIELLE DAVIDSON



MAUNAKEA TRASK



KATY HOESSEL

TOO MUCH LIFE
 Kauai Made Feature Film

TOO MUCH LIFE
Kauai Made Feature Film



KAUAI CREATIVES table read the script for *Too Much Life* at the Plantation Gardens Restaurant in Poipu



- Jessica Elise, Garden Island Newspaper

LIGHTS and CAMERA were present, but the action was all cerebral last week at the very first table read of Kauai's island-produced, full-length movie.

"The making of *Too Much Life* is the most amazing thing that's happened on Kauai ever, because it's 100 percent Kauai," said Mario Perez, official still photographer for the television show "Lost," and who attended the table reading.

Mario Perez was one of about 30 of Kauai's creative masterminds that got together for the first table read at

"I'm just amazed at how far they've come and the vision of where it's going to be. I want to be involved because I want to see them successful."

Sonya Balmores, Kauai native and actress in the 2011 movie "Soul Surfer," was part of the table read. She's encouraged to see new opportunities for kids in the arts on

We want to see how we can support this, because what they're doing is exactly what the Creative Technology Center is all about.

Plantation Gardens in Poipu Wednesday evening. Since Kauai Film Academy's inception, kids in the organization have created over 100 videos, about five to 10 minutes in length, and several longer films.

Both the non-profit organization and the film got their start in 2010, when director Edwin Sawyer teamed up with some high school kids with the goal of doing something spectacular.

The organization works with **Alan Tang**, chair and chief executive officer of Olomana Loomis, who has been instrumental bringing Kauai's Creative Technology Center to life. Tang said Kauai Film Academy's vision is exactly the kind of activity the center wants to promote on Kauai.

"We want to see how we can support this, because what they're doing is exactly what the Creative Technology Center is all about," Tang said.

Kauai. "I didn't have this when I was growing up here, I had to go to LA (to work in film), and it's amazing that kids have this opportunity now," Balmores said.

Isaiah Alvarez, who helped create the organization when he was a senior in high school, said he is honored to see the dream he helped create take its first step. "Seven years ago we started this program and now we're here," Alvarez said. "It's amazing."

Kepa Kruse, musician and Kauai native, is slated for a role in the movie. He was at the table read to try on the character. He said he's looking forward to being in the film. "This is an opportunity for the young people on Kauai to tell our story, and Kauai has lots of stories to tell," Kruse said.

This is an opportunity for the young people on Kauai to tell our story, and Kauai has lots of stories to tell



We want to make a film, and we want to create an industry here on Kauai

Raina's Tips

HOW TO BE AN "EXTRA"



Without extras, how could there be a movie?

1 ALWAYS eat before a shoot, it doesn't matter you're only an extra, you will be there all day and an empty stomach will kill you.

2 NEVER under ANY circumstances look in the camera...everyone will hate your rotten guts, and want to rip your hair out and you just ruined about fifteen minutes of hard work.



"EXTRAS may seem like tiny insignificant parts that no one really cares about, but it isn't so. Extras make a movie a movie :)"

3 DON'T draw attention to yourself, no loud noises—or quiet ones. And act normal! No straight arms at side when walking :)

4 LISTEN when the director tells you to do something...just do it. It makes your life and the director's life a heck of a lot easier.



song
TRY © SONY/ATV MUSIC PUBLISHING LLC,
UNIVERSAL MUSIC PUBLISHING GROU

writers
JASON REEVES, COLBIE CAILLAT, ANTONIO
DIXON, & KENNETH EDMONDS

singer
DAPHNE SANCHEZ

violin
KIMBERLY MCDONOUGH

recording
ARIKI FOSTER @ DUBB CITY PRODUCTIONS

"Try"
Put your make-up on
Get your nails done
Curl your hair
Run the extra mile
Keep it slim so they like you, do they like you?

Get your sexy on
Don't be shy, girl
Take it off
This is what you want, to belong, so they like you
Do you like you?

You don't have to try so hard
You don't have to, give it all away
You just have to get up, get up, get up, get up
You don't have to change a single thing
You don't have to try, try, try, try
You don't have to try, try, try, try
You don't have to try, try, try, try
You don't have to try
You don't have to try

Get your shopping on, at the mall,
Max your credit cards
You don't have to choose, buy it all,
So they like you
Do they like you?

Wait a second,
Why, should you care, what they think of you
When you're all alone, by yourself,
Do you like you?

Do you like you?
You don't have to try so hard
You don't have to, give it all away
You just have to get up, get up, get up, get up
You don't have to change a single thing



ELLIOT and SAWYER film Daphne Sanchez singing "Try" for the *Too Much Life* Concept Soundtrack Trailer.

TOO MUCH LIFE SOUNDTRACK

TOO MUCH LIFE SOUNDTRACK

TOO MUCH LIFE SOUNDTRACK
MAKING MUSIC

KALANI FILM
ACADEMY

DOCUMENTARY FILM

Stories we care about...

STILL SERVING

A documentary film

I took on the "Veteran's Documentary Project" as an opportunity to expand my skills as a filmmaker - what I didn't expect was to learn so much more than how to make a film. I remember running from football practice and heading across the Kauai High School campus to Mr. Sawyer's classroom where he had a little black backdrop set up with an assortment of lights and a very humble war veteran, Steve. I helped set up the camera and positioned the microphone as close to Steve as I could. And I listened as this man told me of all his successes and all of the horrors he experienced in the Middle East. Just as incredible were the hardships he faced as he returned to the United States.

I couldn't imagine making that transition after all the things he experienced. He spoke of the stigmas that followed him and the overwhelming fear of weakness he felt he would experience if he sought help. And when he finished speaking there was silence. I had all these questions prepared, but they seemed irrelevant because I only had one. I asked, "What can I do to help you?" That question took Steve by surprise. He didn't answer right away.

So I asked, "What can the community do to help you?"

Isaiah Alvarez, *Student Director*



STILL SERVING

DOCUMENTARY FILM

Stories we care about...



Original Music by Kepa Kruse

ALOHA FOR INDO

Documentary Short



3 surfers

from Kauai set out to bring clean water to the people of Indonesia while on a surf trip. After arriving in Indo they learn it's much more difficult to make a difference than they initially thought. Through equal parts persistence and luck they are able to join a student project from Australia who've developed a teaching tool that could save hundreds of lives. The team, with the help of SurfAid Sumba test the project and discovers the key to creating lasting sustainable change. In the end they learn how a small group of people can contribute and make a big improvement in a world-wide problem.

When you live on an island, you are surrounded by water. The key element to sustaining life, and, for those of us who surf, it holds a deep significance. We came from Kauai, a small island in the middle of the biggest ocean on earth.

ALOHA FOR INDO

Our island is also home to the spirit of aloha and the spirit of sharing with others. It is place of surf and where clean, safe drinking water is abundant. It's easy for us to forget that this basic human need is not a birthright. We take for granted something that doesn't exist for many people around the world. As surfers when we set out to find waves, we want to share that aloha.

In June 2015, two close friends and I set out on a surf trip to Indonesia, inspired by surf films we grew up watching such as "Ulu 32". Our plan was to bring water filters to provide clean drinking water to the island of Sumba. Through our research, we found that people from the island of Sumba, 500 miles off the coast of Australia, are some of the most in need. Known for its legendary resort and wave of the same name, "Nihiwatu", Sumba is an island steeped in its traditional culture. However, it is one of the poorest in Indonesia. Many of the Sumbanese people spend their lives hauling water just to survive.



"Seeing these children learn something effectively in a new way was inspiring for the three of us."



When we arrived, it became overwhelmingly apparent that the water filters that we brought weren't going to work the way we had hoped. We sought out agencies that have been making a positive influence in Indonesia. We got in touch with a man named Steven Nolan, a practicing intensive care physician, who leads the Sumba faction of SurfAid, a major Australian based NGO. SurfAid Sumba has an ongoing program in place, addressing the need for water in Sumba. This project has been going on for the last 8 years, Steven, leading the program.

We were fortunate enough to have Steven take us to the different villages around Lamboya Barate. He showed us the various water projects that have been accomplished in the last 8 years. Some of which were dug with just a single shovel. The differences between the villages that had water systems in place and villages that did not were very apparent. Steven also educated us on the existing Malaria problem plaguing Sumba. "The team handed out nets and education materials," Steven said. The latest project being facilitated by SurfAid is called "Project Sumba", undertaken by a group of medical students from Queensland.

Everything came together. A varied group of people connected by the love of surfing, using their skills and resources to make a difference in a far off place. We relish our newfound connection to this island and the people of Sumba.

What is it that ties us together, a love for the ocean, for the natural world, the mystery of discovery, experiencing and sharing of the cultures across borders and oceans. Maybe its our connection to each other, the surfing community, that brings us together and unites us towards humanitarian pursuits.

"This is not something that ends when we leave."

For us, seeing a brighter future for the Sumbanese people is something that Project Sumba, alongside SurfAid, has made possible. Empowering them to make change in their own communities through education lies at the core of what makes this so effective.

This is not something that ends when we leave. We may be just visitors to this place but the seeds that we plant continue to thrive on their own. In the end our best contribution was our aloha spirit. It was the others at the Sumba Foundation, SurfAid, and the Sumba Project that were able to make a real difference. At the end of the day it was our love of the water, and for many of us a new found love for Sumba that brought us together. And, it showed us how a committed and thoughtful group of people can make a sustainable change in this island community. Ingenuity and a fresh approach to an issue can sometimes do just as much or more good than a large budget project and can also be less invasive.

KAUAI MADE FILMS



- 1 Elliot Lucas shares a lesson in sanitation with children on Sumba
- 2 Steven Nolan, practicing intensive care physician and leader of the Sumba faction of SurfAid walks across a field
- 3 A Sumbanese security officer guards a hospital with patients suffering from Malaria
- 4 Sumbanese villagers on their way to work on a new water project
- 5 The children of Sumba are happy to learn about clean water methods that will help prevent the spread of disease
- 6 Ace Conlon reads his surfboard to spread Aloha in Indonesia



Join the Kauai Film Academy for a
a Night Behind-the-Scenes
Plantation Gardens Restaurant
Join us for a special Prime Rib Dinner!
Dinner open 5:00pm - 9pm
Bar open 5:00pm - Close

Help our Keiki make a feature film on Kaua'i

Live Entertainment by
SEAN PULAWA & WES PACANAS
&
"Stepand Repeat"
RED CARPET EVENT

To learn more about us go to
www.kauaifilmacademy.org

SILENT AUCTION
with
Kauai Made products

100% of all Above-Moon Cocktail sales
and a percentage of all Dinner sales will
be donated to Kauai Film Academy



on the RED Carpet
supporters coming together for a night of film, food, & fun



LIGHTING THE SET

The Electrical Department is responsible for the design and execution of the Lighting Plan. The head of electrical is the GAFFER. The Gaffer is in charge of the BEST BOY (Electrical) and the LIGHTING TECHNICIANS. Understanding the characteristics of different set lighting and the physics of electricity ensure that each shot is lit properly and safely.

Without light there is no movie!

digital sputnik

“Digital Sputniks...they're killer. They have three heads, and you can come up with three different lighting sources with three different colors. It's all iPad-controllable.”

Greig Fraser,
cinematographer
Rogue One: A Star Wars Story

At the Kauai Film Academy, Digital Sputnik's RGB LED lights give our students increased control over the range, quality, and color of light. They use the same lights used in *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*



courtesy of Disney

Rogue One was entirely shot with Digital Sputnik RGB LED lights.



74 STUDENTS ranging in ages from 9 to 17, from all Middle, High, Charter, and Home Schools throughout the island of Kauai participated directly in the production of the RISE against Cyberbullying Project. The RISE Project included twelve Filmmaking Professionals, three Music Professionals, a Graphic Design Professional, and fifteen Community Partners.

Our Community Partners worked with the students teaching, inspiring, and supporting them in a variety of Kauai industries from fashion and graphic design to food service and music instruction, recording, and performance.

The RISE Project influenced students beyond those directly involved in the production by inspiring other students to follow career choices that they did not know existed, to create their own films and/or music projects, to create businesses in music recording and graphic design, to expand their creative viewpoint through song, and to see the power and influence that sharing their story and talent can have on others.

The RISE Project was a comprehensive creative technology project encompassing technical filmmaking skills, fashion, design, technology, communication, and leadership. Following professional filmmaking standards, the RISE Project began with six weeks of development where students were assigned positions based upon departments separated between the Production Team (creative) and the Crew Team (job skills). The Production Team worked on the storyboards, shot-lists, and blocking while the Crew Team trained on specialized film equipment.

Preproduction was one week, where the Student Director and Cinematographer determined the tone and pacing of the film while the Heads of the Camera, Electric, and Grip departments fine tuned their team's skills and practice while the Design Team worked to ensure that the look of the film matched the Director's vision - this included props, costumes, makeup, etc... Production was three days. The RISE Project was filmed at the beautiful Chiefess

RISE against CyberBullying

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU CAN'T SEE THE BULLY?

RISE

Respect - Integrity - Support - Empathy

The Project incorporates an original arrangement of the song "Rise" sung by a multi-school Choir, a week-long Anti-Bullying Curriculum, a new short film titled "Rise against Cyberbullying", and Public Relations Materials, culminating in a student-driven Social Media Campaign and a Premiere Event at the Koloa Landing Resort in Poipu.

The RISE Anti-Bullying Project is a multi-faceted, multi-school Project that incorporates Music, Film, Graphic Design, and Business Partners to share a common message - we must RISE against bullying. The "RISE PROJECT" focuses on the emotional aspect of the bullying facing many of our youth in Hawaii schools.

While the primary focus was on professional technical filmmaking skills and sharing an important message, the process of creating a professional level narrative/musical short exposed students to each facet of Kauai's creative technology sectors.

Kamakahailei Middle School. Post Production took approximately ten days. The video was viewed at the RISE Event at the Koloa Landing Resort Ballroom where Partners from around the island donated Kauai products.



WRITING THE STORY OF RISE



SAMANTHA was incredible as the student being bullied online by an anonymous older student at the school.

RISE Team Leader Marissa

brainstormed the Rise Story with other students to create a story that highlights the Cyberbullying Problem while focusing on positive ending. The following is a transcript of one of their discussions:

MARISSA

There's this girl. All happy before school. Her parents have no idea she's getting bullied. She gets like all mean comments that pop up when she checks her phone. She has friends but they don't know that she's getting bullied. Well... this is the end idea, in the end everybody comes together to go against the bully, or we could have everybody going to the 6th grade house and they are all showing affection to the bullied and then the bully, the bully wants attention, but she's not

getting attention because everybody is not online because they are showing affection to the girl being bullied.

KATELYN

The bully will be walking by and seeing everyone holding up the girl being bullied, and she'll feel bad.

SABRINA

Maybe the bully can be pushing through the crowd and then give a hug or something like that, "I'm so sorry."

MOLLY

Bullies only keep bullying unless its hurting the girl. So if the girl being bullied isn't being hurt then maybe the bully will stop.

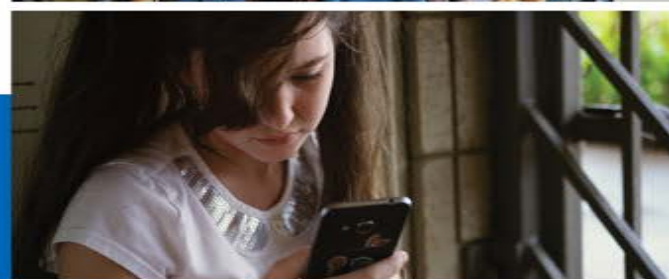
Marissa worked with the information from the discussion to finish the story about what its like to be cyberbullied.

SCENE 1

Haley arrives at school driven by her mother. Before she leaves her mother's car she checks her phone. Haley didn't know what to do because when she looked at her phone again there was this same username over and over posting trash and rubbish comments about her. She sees what people commented on her post and tries to hold back her tears and look as happy as she could handle. All she could do was hide her feelings until her mother left.

SCENE 2

She's very distracted and doesn't notice anything. She's thinking about the messages on her phone. She smiles when she sees her friends. She's relieved to see them, but figures that they saw the negative messages. They won't come over and say "hi." She gets really sad.



SCENE 3

She sees rubbish comments about her again. She stops in front of the counselor's office. She thinks about going in but she feels embarrassed because she doesn't like to talk about her problems much. So Haley decides to just walk past and go on with her day. When she sees her favorite teacher walk past her. She doesn't know what to do anymore. Haley knows her favorite teacher knows her so well she can't hide anything. On her teachers way back she asks Haley if she is ok. Haley responds with "Yes I'm ok don't worry about me." Her teacher makes sure Haley is fine and walks away. Just as her teacher leaves she hears *beep* *beep* *beep* multiple times. Haley takes out her phone and checks her comments.

SCENE 4

In class Haley is reading her book "The Giver" for a book report. She can't concentrate in class. *beep* Haley thinks "Why does this person keep bullying me." She leaves the classroom without asking for permission.

SCENE 6

Haley can only hold so much. She breaks down in tears. A few people start to crowd around her and it gradually starts to grow. As soon as you know it the whole school is crowded around Haley except for one person. That one person is the bully. All she wants is attention but doesn't see anyone anywhere. No one is responding to her post. She doesn't know what is happening so she decides to check out what is happening. When she arrives she sees a crowd of people circling around this one girl who was crying, with a tiny puddle around her. She shoves her way through to see who it is with all the attention because really she wants to be the one with all the attention. She realizes that this is the girl she pushed around. She feels really bad and wants to make it up so she decides to hug and apologize Haley. see RISE on


@kauaimadefilms

What's Not Said

CAMERON sets up two halogen lights for the Balcony Scene from the film "What's Not Said." The short narrative film was written by Kari, Paris, and Lorinda to realistically express the pressures that teenagers in High School must deal with every day. Sometimes it's what's not said that causes the most pain.

Cameron covered the lights with a Blue Filter to ensure that the color is matched with the light from the sun. This shot used three lights - key light, fill light, and back light.

the Balcony Scene



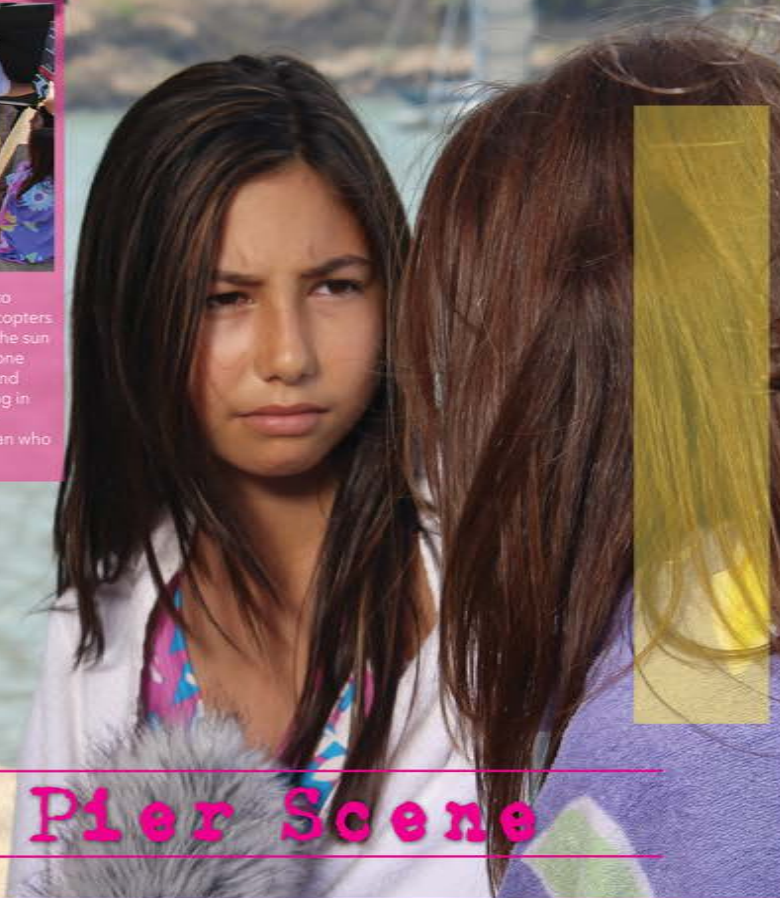
The Team prepares to shoot Scene 8 - the "fight" scene - from the short narrative film *What's Not Said*. The scene involved the two lead actors, **PARIS TENNBERG** and **LORINDA SASAN** accusing each other of spreading rumors online and off. Using halogen lamps with diffusion material and minimizing natural light we attempted to create a dark environment with intense shadows similar to the intensity of the argument.

the Fight scene

HELENA and SYDNEY on the pier after the "accident".



This was a difficult scene to shoot. The wind was intense, helicopters were flying by every 10 minutes, the sun was directly overhead, and everyone had been going since 6:30 AM! and it was now 1:45PM! The team hung in there and our young actors were AWESOME! This is Helena Huffman who was playing the young Angela.



the Pier Scene

Making movies a 'serious career choice' for Kau'i students

They have made their own clips of the vampire flick "Twilight," produced chase scenes and short films about zombies, orange-eating weirdos and of a young woman determined to kill her unfaithful boyfriend.

By creating a movie per week, members of the Kau'i High School Film Club believe they may have put themselves on track to feature a production within two years at the Tribeca Film Festival in New York, as well as other competitions. So far, the students have made more than 100 movies since the club formed April 2009 - officially January 2010.

"The reason we're doing good now is because we did it over and over and over," said club adviser Edwin Sawyer. "I have one goal: to go to New York City and be lucky enough to show one of our works to that audience."

If the students manage to do so, Sawyer said they will be exposed to industry professionals and see where film production can possibly take them. He added that if a club film was not accepted, they would go to the festival anyway.

"It's a serious career choice for the kids," Sawyer said in his classroom at Kau'i High as his young film crew set up a shot for their 20-minute movie "What's Not Said."

Partially filmed using a crane at the pier in Nawiliwili - with the assistance of the U.S. Coast Guard,

Kau'i Police and Fire departments - "What's Not Said" may be the vehicle that takes the teens and Sawyer to the East Coast. It represents the approximately 20-member club's first large-scale production.

Based on a screenplay written by the students, primarily 15-year-old Kari Noe, the piece deals with the story of three teens and how miscommunication and cyber-bullying lead to a tragic end.

"They did a good job because they actually completed that shot."

One of the club's original members, Cara Kruse, plays the lead role of "Ellie," a teen who decides to commit suicide after a falling out with her best friend over an older tragedy. She shares film time with eighth-graders Paris Tennberg and Juliet Monnier. Cara joined the club after taking Sawyer's cinematography course.

I realize directing is a lot harder than it seems it would be.

As president of the club, Kari said she and fellow students have learned film techniques and production lingo, while building much of their own gear, including a dolly and a green screen. A grant helped purchase the club's camera. They've also put a lot of time into the production on and off the set. Much of "What's Not Said" was filmed during spring break.

It teaches you how hard it is to make a movie.

"Not only when I'm here, but when I'm at home I'll be working on the script or storyboard or scheduling," Kari said. "This is probably the most serious pre-planned production we've ever tried to achieve."

"Having made so many movies, Kari said she could never badmouth another film in good conscious again. "It teaches you how hard it is to make a movie," she said.

"When I was 10, I had this huge idea of directing a show like you'd see on the Disney Channel," Cara said.

"I realize directing is a lot harder than it seems it would be."

Through the club, her interest in film has turned more toward acting and screenwriting.

"I'm still trying to figure out what I want to do after high school and film is an option," the sophomore said.

Cara described "What's Not Said" as a deep movie, where she can relate to her character. Ellie, she explained, has a difficult time expressing emotion.

"That's how I am," she said.

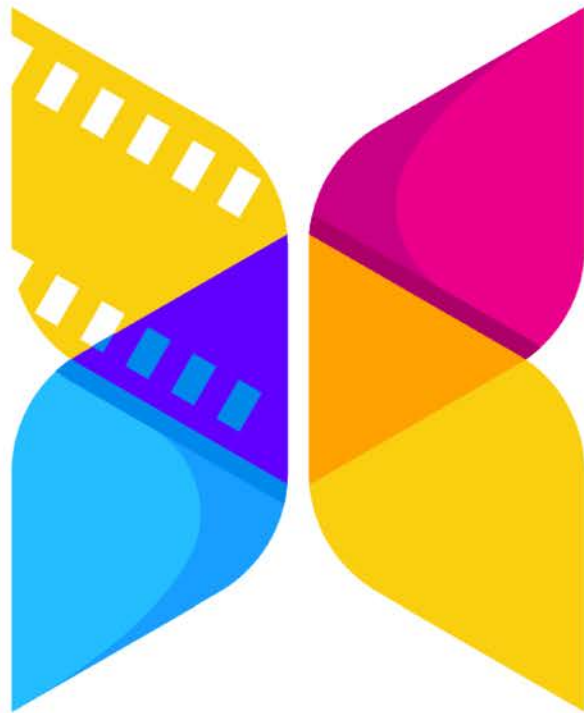
- Jessica Muscar, Garden Island Newspaper



PAUL BOOTH, consulting Producer, with KALANI VIERRA, Kauai Water Safety Officer



JOIN OUR TEAM



REDEFINING FILMMAKING ON KAUA'I

@toomuchlifefilm

