



2023 Oahu County Democratic Convention Nominees

Nominees listed below have met all requirements set forth by the O'ahu County Democrats Bylaws and Convention Standing Rules to be considered for election to positions as officers and region chairs for the O'ahu County Council of Democratic Party of Hawai'i

Chairperson/Vice-Chairperson

Lorna Takehara Strand / Davin Aoyagi



LORNA TAKEHARA STRAND & DAVIN AOYAGI
CANDIDATES FOR CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

I, Lorna Takehara Strand, have served as O'ahu County Chair since May 2019. During two terms of office, it has been a pleasure to work with O'ahu Democrats to:

- Promote education and activism through special committees such as Let's Talk Story Education Series, Digital Equity, Blue Wave, Abortion Rights, Organizing for Elections Committees

- Establish a Legislative Priorities process reflective of the will of O'ahu's diverse regions and Democratic voters
- Build a clear Affirmative Action, Inclusion and Diversity Plan, including outreach to a wide spread of organizations and community groups to encourage diverse membership
- Partner with those in County and State Elected Office for O'ahu Democrats' programs in community service, voter education, and community events.
- Solidify our platform and bylaws and produce well-crafted resolutions

It will be a honor to continue service as your Chair for another term and work in partnership with Vice Chair Davin Aoyagi who has agreed to lead O'ahu Democrats' 2024 candidate education and election efforts.

I humbly ask for your support for our candidacies for Chair and Vice Chair.

Mahalo.

Secretary

Carlos Santana

Assistant Secretary

Jenna Takenouchi



Jenna Takenouchi is running for a second term as OCC Assistant Secretary. She hopes to continue working with our region and district chairs as well as OCC committees on improving communication with members. One of her initiatives over the last two years was starting the monthly OCC newsletter to share information and events across Oahu. She has worked as a member on Legislation Committee and pre-convention Platform Committees.

Jenna is the current state representative for District 27. She attended Pauoa Elementary, Kawananakoa Middle, and Roosevelt High School before earning her Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Jenna also holds a Master of Management in Library and Information Sciences from the University of Southern California Marshall School of Business.

Treasurer

Joseph Francher

Assistant Treasurer

Kevan Wong



Aloha

My name is Kevan Wong, and I humbly ask for your vote for Assistant Treasurer of the Oahu County Democrats. It has been my privilege to serve as the Region 1 Chair, Co-Chair of the Legislation Committee, and the current Assistant Treasurer. Moving forward, I would like to continue my service as the Oahu County Assistant Treasurer.

After graduating with my degree in business management, I began work in the House of Representatives, learning from the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the House Committees on Higher Education, Finance, and the Judiciary, while completing my Juris Doctorate at the William S. Richardson School of Law. After passing the Bar Exam, I accepted an offer to work for the Managing Director of the City and County of Honolulu and the Mayor as their legislative liaison,

coordinating legislative testimony from all City departments and their directors and working with elected officials regarding proposed legislation.

I have progressed in my career by administering fairly, being a voice of reason, helping to negotiate, and working towards policy that can benefit everyone. I am committed to bringing all the experience and dedication I have to you, as the Assistant Treasurer.

Mahalo,

Kevan Wong

Region 1 Chairperson

Darolee Prewitt



My name is Darolee Prewitt and I am running for Regional 1 Chairperson. I was born and raised in Hawaii, living the last 12 years in Kalama Valley, in District 18. I am married with four kids; their ages range from 21 to 32 years old. Now that my kids are grown and out of the house, I've decided to become more involved in things that really matter to me.

As a lifelong Democrat, I have been active for several years in my regions Democratic Party and am currently serving as the secretary for District 18 and co-chair on the 2023 OCC resolutions committee. I look forward to meeting fellow Democrats, planning and participating in various activities and events, and doing my part in strengthening and building the Democratic Party.

Region 2 Chairperson

Nathan Char



Nathan Char served as Region 3 Chair when the redistricting occurred and it was decided to move Region 3 out from under where he lives in Makiki. In running for Region 2 Chair, he hopes to come back home, so to speak, and serve the region he lives in with the people he knows and loves. With more experience under his belt and with his friends' support, Nathan Char hopes to better serve everyone in Region 2.

Mahalo,
Nathan Char

Region 3 Chairperson

Karen Cheung



I'm a millennial mother with two young children living here in Kakaako. I grew up here since the 90s and have witnessed all the changes, both good and bad. I'm an active grassroots community organizer with a focus on pedestrian safety for Keiki and Kupuna. Together with 120 mothers, we founded the Ward Village Moms.

I am a firm believer that we are the change that our children and future need. We are the solution, and we need to act today, and now.

Region 5 Chairperson

Roth Puahala



Roth Puahala is a very proud single father of four adult children and for the past 40+ years, worked with various communities, passionate about social justice, individual rights, protection, and respect of the environment, getting involved and having a voice.

Roth has served in the Democratic Party for almost 40 years with various candidate committees, as a delegate for the County and State Democratic Conventions and as the Region 5 chair. He has been very active in the Hawaiian Civic Club movement as a member and various leadership position within clubs, Councils and in the Association. Roth is active in the Episcopal Diocese of Hawaii, serving as advisory member of the Indigenous Ministries, the Bishops advisory committee on Native Hawaiian Ministries, as the Jr. Warden of the Cathedral Church of Saint Andrews and serve as the Lead vergers of the Cathedral for the past 15 years. I am currently working at the Hawaii State Legislature for the past 12 years

My commitment to the Oahu County Democrats is to continue to support one of the strongest Regions, build its membership and grow its participation. To select and groom our next leaders within our party.

Region 6 Chairperson



Melissa Vomvoris

Aloha! My name is Melissa Vomvoris and I would like to serve District 37 & 38 as Region 6 Chair. I have worked at the Hawaii State Senate for the past 17yrs for the Majority Policy Leader. I also served on both Mililani Mauka and Mililani Town neighborhood boards. Before the legislature I was the Executive Director for the Hawaiian Eye Foundation, Office Manager for the Greek Orthodox Cathedral, managed a dentist office and also worked 2yrs at the City Council. I also own a small online business.

In my younger years, I was an avid soccer player. Playing with the original Leahi Soccer Club back in the 80's. Now, I just watch my grandchildren. (and coach a little on the side) I am a lifelong Democrat. I believe my background and experience may be helpful to our community and I am willing to serve and collaborate with Region 6 members so we can continue to empower our community and promote civic values.

Mahalo nui loa

Region 7 Chairperson

Perry Arrasmith



Perry Arrasmith is a second-year graduate student with the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, where is also a Graduate Degree Fellow with the East-West Center.

Raised on O'ahu between Kaimuki, 'Aiea, and 'Ewa, Perry is a proud product of the local public school system and graduated from 'Aiea High School in 2016. He thereafter attended Harvard University, where he graduated in 2020 with a B.A. in U.S. History and a minor in Government. Perry has been involved in local community affairs in 'Ewa since returning home during the COVID-19 pandemic. He is actively serving a term (2021-23) on the 'Ewa Neighborhood Board.

Perry's priorities include a strong public school system (and quality pay for our educators), strong multi-modal transportation networks for residents, long-term affordable housing for local people (especially our younger generations), and a vibrant, diverse economy with an eye towards innovation, social equity, and the long-term future of Hawai'i.

Region 8 Chairperson

Cross Makani Crabbe



Aloha! My name is Croccifixio “Cross” Makani Crabbe, and I am running for Regional Chairperson for Region 8 of the Democratic Party of Hawaii O’ahu County.

As a member of multiple minority communities, I truly believe that my quality of life is directly related to the amazing role that the Democratic Party has played with pioneering civil rights. I am running because I want to help lead the fight against the “Red Wave” that has been growing on the westside of our island. As Democrats, we need to speak out against those who try to impede on our party values.

As Region Chair I hope to support each sub-district in bringing on more members to participate in party- related activities. I also will assist our democratic elected officials in ensuring that our state and federal legislation reflect our people’s needs, especially since region 8 holds some of Hawai’i’s most vulnerable communities.

I have served our party faithfully in many roles which include: 1) President of the Young Democrats of Hawai’i, 2) Campaign Coordinator in the 2022 DPH Coordinated Campaign, 3) Secretary of the District 45 Council, and 4) Member of the DPH Platform Committee.

I humbly request your vote, mahalo!

Georgette "Jo" Jordan



Community member for over 50 years.

Longtime Democratic member, who has served in many positions within the Democratic Party of Hawaii.

Has served the community for over 25 years in many volunteer positions.

Region 9 Chairperson

Brenden Kinoshita



My name is Brenden Kinoshita, and I am running for Regional Chairperson #9. I was born and raised on the Valley Isle of Maui, but it is Kāneʻohe that I have made my home here on Oʻahu. I am a proud graduate of the Kamehameha Schools and went on to receive both my Bachelor of Arts and Master of Public Administration from the University of Hawaiʻi at Mānoa.

Professionally, I am a career public servant having worked in the State Legislature, the Department of Budget and Finance, and currently for the Department of the Attorney General.

I have always felt a calling to servant leadership, leadership in service not only to the communities I have been entrusted to lead but leadership in service of fundamental democratic values. As individuals we all express and experience life from different perspectives, but as democrats I believe those different perspectives are rooted in shared values and a shared commitment to building accountable, healthy, inclusive, safe, and thriving communities.

Recently I served as co-chair and presiding officer of the OCD Resolutions Committee. I would be humbled to have the support of my fellow Region 9 democrats to represent the Windward side on the OCC. Mahalo.

Region 10 Chairperson

Kathleen Pahinui



Member of the Democratic Party since 2007. Co-chaired, helped organize and run the first virtual county convention in 2021. Current co-chair of the Platform Committee and past district Chair for HD 46. Current Region 10 chair and current chair of the North Shore Neighborhood Board #27.

Region 10 covers the rural communities of Wahiawa, Waialua, Haleiwa and around to Sunset, Kahuku and down to Kahaluu. We have unique challenges that I am well-versed in to address. We need to save our agricultural land and promote food security. We need to protect our beaches and infrastructure and improve our rural schools. I have lived in my Waialua community for 30 plus years and am passionate about keeping the “Country Country”.

I know many Democrats in all of our communities from Wahiawa down to Kahaluu. I am in regular contact with many of them working on issues that are important to our region.

If re-elected I will work toward pulling our members together and to promote our county platform as well as support our members.