



## Hawaii's Plantation Villages names 2009 Board of Directors

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 16, 2009

**WAIPAHU, Hawaii** – Jeffrey Higa, Executive Director for Hawaii's Plantation Village, recently announced confirmation of the 2009 Board of Directors for the Friends of Waipahu Cultural Garden Park dba Hawaii's Plantation Village (HPV).

#### Board of Directors Executive Committee:

President: Faith Evans  
1st Vice-President: Deanna Espinas  
2nd Vice-President: Loretta Pang  
3rd Vice-President: Richard Oshiro  
Secretary: Robert Castro  
Treasurer: Glenn Ifuku  
Past-President: Richard Hirata

#### Board of Directors:

Jason Chang	Dave Mueller
Shirley Colon	Steven Pang
Tricia Evans	Amy Sakuma
Pam Funai	Shari Tamashiro
Toni Lee	Jeffrey Ventura
Domingo Los Banos	Yoshiko Yamauchi
Melvin Makii	Stephen Yuen

“We’re pleased to have Faith (see photo) take on the role of HPV President,” said Higa. “It’s a position that also serves as the chief executive officer with general supervision over the business and activities of HPV and Faith is ideal for the position. Her long association with us, natural leadership qualities and positive energy will serve the board and our organization very well.”



2009 continues to be a challenging year for Hawai‘i tourism and for HPV. As a small visitor attraction in Leeward Oahu, the village remains open for self-guided and docent-led tours; however, the decrease in Japanese visitor numbers has resulted in staff reductions.

“The downturn in tourism and its effect on HPV are at the top of our list,” commented Evans. “The board and I will be brainstorming ways to increase membership and encourage visits from military and kamaaina families to offset some of the loss in revenue.”

High-rez DIGITAL IMAGE available upon request.

### **About HPV**

Hawaii's Plantation Village is a non-profit, living history museum and ethno-botanical garden located on a 50-acre site in the heart of sugar plantation country in Waipahu. Established by the Friends of Waipahu Cultural Garden Park, its mission is to ensure that the struggles, sacrifices, innovations and contributions of Hawaii's sugar plantation forebears are preserved and acknowledged as the cornerstone of Hawaii's successful multi-ethnic society.

The village complex includes a replica of the 1909 Tsoong Nyee Society Hall, community cook house (on the Hawai'i Register of Historic Buildings), Inari Shrine, barbershop furnished with actual items from the Kodama family shop, community bathhouse and more.



Hawaii's Plantation Village opened its doors in 1992 and offers docent-led tours through the Village as well as special events and activities. It is located near the old sugar mill in historic Waipahu town, at 94-695 Waipahu Street, Waipahu, HI 96797. For more information please contact the Village at 677-0110 or visit our Website at [www.hawaiiplantationvillage.org](http://www.hawaiiplantationvillage.org).

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