



**Plantation Legacy Awards Dinner and Fundraiser
Saturday, September 26, honors six outstanding individuals**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 16, 2009

WAIPAHU, Hawaii – Hawaii’s Plantation Village is pleased to pay tribute to six individuals in the second annual Plantation Legacy Awards Dinner and Fundraiser taking place on Saturday, September 26 at Hale Ikena, Ft. Shafter.

“Over the years, the six people we are honoring have shown tremendous commitment and dedication to Hawaii’s Plantation Village (HPV) and the legacy of our sugar plantation heritage,” said Jeffrey Higa, HPV executive director. “HPV is privileged and grateful to be a recipient of their on-going support and loyalty.”

Daniel Boylan – Professor of History and one of the founding members of UH-West Oahu. A frequently requested commentator on both local and national politics, Dan Boylan is the host of "Insights on PBS" and writes a weekly column for Midweek. He is an active volunteer in the community, and was instrumental in establishing the early governance of Hawaii's Plantation Village. He has served in a number of HPV board leadership positions and continues to teach the younger generation the significance of Hawaii’s plantation history and its contributions towards our multicultural heritage.

Glenn Okada – Son of "Major" Okada, founder of HPV. A Waipahu High School and University of Hawaii graduate, Glenn Okada worked for Bank of Hawaii and AMFAC before starting his own successful development business, GO Development Company. Now retired, HPV has been a frequent benefactor of his largess. He has given tirelessly to HPV and the organization would not be in the solid and stable financial position it is in today, without his generosity and leadership.

Richard Hirata – HPV past-President
Richard Hirata earned a B.S. in Electrical Engineering and was a manager with Hawaii Finance and Development Corporation (HFDC). During his tenure there, he spearheaded the development of over ten thousand affordable housing units, including the first development in Kapolei. He was named 1994 Manager of the Year for the State of Hawaii. Bringing decades of management and financial leadership to HPV, Hirata has served in numerous leadership positions including Vice-President and President. He currently is serving as past-President.

Marlene Hirata – Daughter of "Major" Okada, HPV founder

With over 25 years experience as an elementary school teacher, Marlene Hirata was most recently at Pohakea Elementary School and she was named Hawaii State Teacher of the Year in 1994. She continues to volunteer at Pohakea and Hawaii's Plantation Village where she chairs many events including the annual Bon Dance festivities and weekly seniors' crafters group and workshop.

Yoshiko Yamauchi – HPV Volunteer

Former Department of Education Resource teacher, Yoshiko Yamauchi was the first DOE assigned teacher at HPV. She established the format for the school tours and aligned our curriculum with DOE teaching standards. As a volunteer, she continues to guide and advise our educational program making it the only one of its kind in the nation. Thanks to her efforts, she has increased participation of Hawaii's schools from a handful at the outset to over 14,000 school children annually.

James Yamauchi – HPV Volunteer

Former Department of Water Supply employee, James Yamauchi has been involved with Hawaii's Plantation Village as long as his wife, Yoshiko. More of a "behind the scenes" volunteer, he is HPV's principal carpenter and fabricator. He established and maintains the Ethnic Garden, and volunteers almost daily, over seeing a variety of projects.

"Tickets for HPV's Plantation Legacy Awards Dinner and Fundraiser are still available," added Higa. "People attending the event will have a chance to meet and talk to the six individuals we are honoring as well as the many HPV volunteers that will be present. Buying a ticket also supports HPV - a museum which has been keeping the important story and memories of Hawaii's unique sugar plantation history alive since 1992."

The cost is \$100 per person (\$50 is tax deductible). The details are:

Date:	Saturday, September 26, 2009
Time:	5:30 – 8:30 pm
Place:	Dinner, Presentation of Awards, Live Entertainment, Silent Auction Hale Ikena, Building 711, Morton Drive, Fort Shafter

Please call 808-677-0110 for reservations or more information.

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.

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Page 3

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.

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