

**Contact:**

[info@omidyarfellows.org](mailto:info@omidyarfellows.org)

808-380-3570

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## **Hawai'i's High Impact Leaders Join Omidyar Fellows Program 15 Local Leaders Selected as Cohort VII**

HONOLULU – Omidyar Fellows today welcomed 15 emerging leaders and change makers to its seventh cohort. The Omidyar Fellows program seeks to cultivate the conditions in which Hawai'i thrives by equipping mid-career leaders with the skills and cross-sector relationships necessary to collectively affect societal change. The individuals were selected through a rigorous application process, based on their accomplishments and their motivation and ability to make positive change in Hawai'i.

“We welcome this seventh cohort of inspiring leaders that are committed to improving Hawai'i's future as they join a network of 85 transformative leaders in the Forum of Fellows,” said Bill Coy, director of Omidyar Fellows.

This year's cohort includes the following local leaders:

- Lia Hunt (Pālolo, O'ahu), president and chief educational officer, Goldwings Supply Service, Inc.
- Meli James (Kahala, O'ahu), co-founder, Mana Up
- Kalani Ka'anā'anā (Kailua, O'ahu), director of Hawaiian Cultural Affairs, Hawai'i Tourism Authority
- Sondra Leiggi Brandon (Mililani, O'ahu), systems director, behavioral health services, Queen's Medical Center
- Kawika McKeague (Kāne'ohe, O'ahu), planning principal, G70
- Brandee Menino (Kea'au Ag Lots, Hawai'i Island), chief executive officer, HOPE Services Hawai'i, Inc.
- Jess Munoz (North Shore, O'ahu), president and founder, Ho'ōla Nā Pua
- Kanakolu Noa (Kuliouou, O'ahu), manager of strategy development, community engagement and resources, Kamehameha Schools
- Mark Noguchi (Mānoa, O'ahu), chef and co-founder, Pili Group; curriculum specialist, Punahou School
- Chris Sakuda (Kāne'ohe, O'ahu), executive director, Transform Hawai'i Government
- Rachel Solemsaas (Kaumana, Hawai'i Island), chancellor, Hawai'i Community College
- Claire Sullivan (Wai'alae, O'ahu), director of development and impact, MA'O Organic Farms

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- Ann Teranishi (Wilhemina, O‘ahu), executive vice president of operations, American Savings Bank
- Darcie Yukimura (Līhu‘e, Kaua‘i), director of community philanthropy, Kaua‘i, Hawai‘i Community Foundation
- Kuhao Zane (Keaukaha, Hawai‘i Island), creative director and chief of operations, Sig Zane Designs and SigZaneKaiao LLC

For headshots, [click here](#). To access biographies for each Omidyar Fellow, visit [www.omidyarfellows.org](http://www.omidyarfellows.org).

Cohort VII commences in October 2019 with 15 months of structured curriculum, which includes one full-day session each month, executive coaching, conversations with community, business, and government leaders, and more. After the curriculum portion concludes, the cohort becomes fully engaged in the Forum of Fellows, an active network of 85 cross-sector leaders and change makers, all of whom are dedicated to making positive movement on Hawai‘i’s most pressing issues.

The Omidyar Fellows, a program of the Hawai‘i Leadership Forum, launched in 2012 with 13 Fellows in its inaugural year. For additional information about Omidyar Fellows, please visit [www.omidyarfellows.org](http://www.omidyarfellows.org). Omidyar Fellows is also on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/OmidyarFellowsHI](https://www.facebook.com/OmidyarFellowsHI).

### **About Omidyar Fellows**

The Hawai‘i Leadership Forum’s cornerstone program, Omidyar Fellows, is a societal change program, seeking to cultivate the conditions in which Hawai‘i thrives.

Omidyar Fellows believes that effective leadership is essential to the development of a community of engaged citizens. Leaders help make sense of our current reality, provide a vision for what is possible, build relationships, and address sticky, complex problems. The Omidyar Fellows program is dedicated to making positive movement on Hawai‘i’s most pressing issues.

For more information about Omidyar Fellows, visit [www.omidyarfellows.org](http://www.omidyarfellows.org) or Facebook at [www.facebook.com/OmidyarFellowsHI](https://www.facebook.com/OmidyarFellowsHI).

### **About Hawai‘i Leadership Forum**

The Hawai‘i Leadership Forum is dedicated to advancing leadership in and for Hawai‘i. A part of The Omidyar Group, the Forum receives funding from the Omidyar ‘Ohana Fund at the Hawai‘i Community Foundation.

### **About The Omidyar Group**

The Omidyar Group is a diverse collection of companies, organizations, and initiatives each guided by its own approach, but all united by a desire to catalyze social impact. The Omidyars are guided by a common set of values – a deeply rooted belief in humanity, and a conviction

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that the world thrives when we prioritize treating others with compassion, dignity, and a vision for positive change powered by the individual.

Working across many sectors and geographies, the Omidyars have contributed more than \$1.5 billion to causes ranging from economic advancement for the underserved and human rights to government accountability and sustainability initiatives. To fulfill their mission Pierre and Pam are deeply engaged in the organizations they founded, and while each organization across [The Omidyar Group](#) has a specific focus, they are united in that they all aim to create opportunities for people to improve their quality of life and that of their communities. For more, visit [www.omidyargroup.com](http://www.omidyargroup.com).

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