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## **TACO BELL FOUNDATION AWARDS TWO HAWAII EMPLOYEES WITH \$10,000 LIVE MÁS SCHOLARSHIPS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION**

HONOLULU (May 2, 2022) – The Taco Bell Foundation recently awarded two Hawaii Taco Bell employees with \$10,000 Live Más Scholarships to pursue higher education. **Eric Naleieha**, a Team Member at Taco Bell Kaneohe, and **Janelle Kama**, a Team Member at Taco Bell Kailua, were selected from a pool of over 8,000 applicants.

Naleieha's goal is to become a professional audio engineer/producer/musician. It has been his dream to create and perform his own music since he was six years old. Naleieha gives back to the community through piano and beatboxing lessons, providing others with a creative outlet and new form of expression. The Live Más Scholarship will allow him to attend school for audio engineering, giving him the tools necessary to work toward a career in the music industry.

Kama is passionate about acting, singing and dancing. She is involved with various performing arts groups and has participated in a few productions over the years. Kama enjoys creating special moments for others, like the pockets of laughter and joy one experiences while watching a performance. She hopes to continue doing this in the future as an event planner. Kama will use the funds from the Live Más Scholarship to study public relations at California Baptist University, where she will gain skills for her future career while pursuing her passion in performing arts outside of class.

The Live Más Scholarship was designed to support innovative and creative students aged 16-26, who are passionate about creating a better future and making a positive impact on their community. The scholarship helps recipients to pursue unique passions that may not necessarily fit into the traditional “academic” or “athletic” scholarship categories. In addition to financial support, the Taco Bell Foundation also gives recipients access to connections and opportunities to provide them with the most impactful experiences.

### **About Taco Bell Foundation**

Taco Bell Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) public charity that helps America's young people pursue their educational goals and career aspirations. Since 1992, the Foundation has reached more than 4 million youth across the country and has awarded more than \$110 million in Live Más Scholarships and grants, focused on education and career readiness. For more information about the Taco Bell Foundation, visit [www.tacobellfoundation.org](http://www.tacobellfoundation.org).

## About TD Food Group

TD Food Group operates 61 Pizza Hut and Taco Bell restaurants throughout the Hawaiian Islands and 13 Pizza Hut and Taco Bell restaurants in Guam and Saipan.

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Left to right: Kevin Kurihara, TD Food Group; Janelle Kama; and Yong Min Kim, Taco Bell Hawaii.



Eric Naleieha