

experience Summer @ hpa

Students looking for an exciting way to spend the summer will find it at HPA. Summer programs are open to everyone and are a great introduction to the HPA Experience. For more information about these and other summer programs, contact the Special Programs Office at 881-4088 (e-mail: summer@hpa.edu). Here's what's coming up:

Summer Session 2001: June 19-July 20

Middle and Upper School students can choose from a variety of one- and two-hour courses. Math and computer offerings have been expanded to include the following integrated Upper and Middle School classes: Critical Math Skills, Pre-Algebra, Computer Web Design, Graphic Design (art), and Math in Our Lives. The popular SAT Prep course also will be offered. New Middle School offerings include Marine Biology and Creative Writing. Tuition: \$3,500 (boarding); \$2,200 (day).

Day Camp 2001: June 11-July 20

Camp coordinator Rae Uyeno and her staff have planned a fun program for students entering grades one through six. The program is flexible and students can enroll for one, two, three, four, five weeks, or the entire six-week program. Each week is based on a theme with games, activities, arts and crafts, and field trips:

Week 1: Send in the Clowns
(June 11-15)

Week 2: Critters & Creatures
(June 18-22)

Week 3: Sweets & Treats
(June 25-29)

Week 4: Survivor!
(July 2-6)

Week 5: Hawaiiana & The Heavens
(July 9-13)

Week 6: Water & Whales
(July 16-20)

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HPA STUDENTS VOLUNTEER FOR SEA TURTLE RESCUE TEAM

School Also Sets Up Turtle Hotline

5 HPA students have formed a volunteer sea turtle rescue team for West and North Hawaii in partnership with the Marine Turtle Research Program, Honolulu Laboratory of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Under the supervision of Marc Rice, director of the Cooperative Sea Turtle Research Project and HPA marine science instructor, the team will respond to reports from the general public of stranded sea turtles along the Big Island's west and north shores—from Honokohau Harbor to Pololu Valley.

“... residents should not be alarmed. If a basking turtle is observed it is best to leave the animal alone.”



The HPA team is one of four in the State of Hawaii—and the only team of high school students—working and training with George Balazs, leader of Hawaiian Marine Turtle Research for NMFS. HPA is providing program funding and NMFS is providing all tools for the program, including stretchers and animal carriers, as well as shipping and veterinary services. According to Rice, the school set up a turtle hotline (phone: 881-4200) in January, which is open from sunrise to sunset. After-hour emergency calls will be taken at 987-6903. Callers should provide their name and phone number, location, and a brief description of the turtle's location and condition. A member of the rescue team will return the call within an hour.

A stranded sea turtle is any ocean turtle found injured, sick, tumored, deceased, or otherwise abnormal and sometimes even “normal” in appearance and out of the water, usually along the shoreline. All sea turtles, both dead and alive,

are legally protected under the U.S. Endangered Species Act and wildlife laws of the State of Hawaii.

Once a report is received, Rice directs the student volunteers throughout the process. The students—Garry Burns, Jessica Sanders, Laura Morgan, Jill Quaintance, and Katie Harrington—contact NMFS experts for advice on what should be done for the turtle. The animal might be sent to Oahu for veterinary evaluation and any required treatment. If a turtle is deceased, the rescue team will pick up the animal, freeze it, and ship it to Oahu for necropsy.

The team already has responded to calls in Puako. Rice said students air-shipped an injured turtle to Oahu for treat-



The HPA Sea Turtle Rescue Team (l to r): Marc Rice, marine science instructor; Jill Quaintance, Jessica Sanders, Garry Burns, Laura Morgan, and Katie Harrington.

ment; the team assisted a second turtle entangled in a fishing line, after consulting with NMFS.

“We're very excited about the opportunity to offer this service to the West and North Hawaii areas,” says Rice. “We hope residents and visitors will use our hotline anytime they observe a turtle in need.” Rice notes that turtles are being observed “basking,” or resting, on shore for extended periods of time. This is happening more often, and residents should not be alarmed. If a basking turtle is observed it is best to leave the animal alone.

HPA students have been working with NMFS since 1987 to assist the federal agency's investigations of turtles in West Hawaii. For more information about HPA's marine science program, visit the school's web site at www.hpa.edu.