



## Spotlight on HSCPA Scholarship Recipient Maya Hananoki

By Trisha Nomura



Supporting the next generation of CPAs is incredibly important to the future of our profession. It is one of the reasons that the YCPA Squad focuses many of our efforts on students majoring in accounting and considering the CPA pathway. It is also why each year, the HSCPA awards scholarships to local students.

This month, we are following up on a past award recipient, Maya Hananoki. Maya received the CPA Exam Award in 2013, and we caught up with her to find out what she has been doing since then and how receiving the award has impacted her career.

Maya said, “The award was beneficial in helping me reduce my part-time work schedule from around 24-30 hours per week to about 10-15 hours a week (along with some family assistance) and offset my CPA exam costs, so that I could study and sit for the CPA exam prior to starting work full-time (as I was completing my Master of Accounting degree).” As a result, she was able to pass three out of the four sections prior to starting her full-time job and received her CPA license within a year after she started working. She has been a member of the HSCPA since 2013.

Maya has now been at Accuity LLP for over six years, and is an Assurance Manager. She chose audit after speaking with a few mentors who recommended that it would be an enriching career path for her. “This has turned out to be true as I have learned so much from being exposed to many different companies, industries, and people, and I have developed enjoyable relationships with clients and coworkers,” she said.



When asked what it means to her to be a CPA, she responded, “I take the ethical requirements very seriously both at work and outside. As CPAs, we are representing our firm and the profession. Any unethical missteps could have serious implications. To fulfill the ethics continuing education requirement for licensure, I have attended many training sessions on

how to avoid ethical conflicts, which are actually thought-provoking at times.” As the dynamics of our current environment are changing every day, Maya sees the increased use of data analytics software and outsourcing of work as important issues facing our profession.

Maya has been involved in the YCPA Committee, and has spoken to students about what a career as a CPA is like. Looking back at the award, she is very appreciative and said, “Thank you, I am very grateful!”

If you know a student majoring in accounting, please encourage them to consider applying for the HSCPA scholarships we have available:

- [Hawaii Society of Certified Public Accountants Scholarship](#) (administered through the Hawaii Community Foundation – keyword: accounting)
- [HSCPA Family Scholarship Endowment](#) (administered through the University of Hawaii Foundation)
- [HSCPA CPA Exam Scholarship](#)