



**Agricultural  
Leadership  
Foundation of  
Hawai'i**

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **A & B Foundation awards \$10,000 to Agricultural Leadership Foundation of Hawai'i**

The Agricultural Leadership Foundation of Hawai'i is pleased to announce an award of \$10,000 from the A & B Foundation in support of its Agricultural Leadership Program. The A&B grant award kicks off a renewed effort to secure multiple revenue streams for this 25-year-old organization. A fund development program launched earlier this year will solicit contributions from businesses and individuals, as well as, foundations.

*"The Agricultural Leadership program plays an important role in helping participants enhance their leadership skills and gain a broader perspective of the agricultural industry, its challenges and needs," said A&B Foundation President Meredith Ching. "We believe that cultivating the next generation of agricultural leaders is essential to the future of agriculture in Hawaii and we are pleased to support the growth of the Agricultural Leadership Foundation of Hawaii so it can continue its role in sustaining agriculture in our state."*

For 25 years the Agricultural Leadership Foundation has provided a statewide multi-disciplinary Leadership Training Program for those working in agricultural businesses and organizations as well as those in other sectors that impact and benefit agriculture. Admission into this program is competitive and selective. Applicants are interviewed by a panel to ensure their ability to commit to the significant investment of time - 35 plus days over 2 years, including a 2-week trip to the mainland. Class size is kept small (10-14) to provide maximum opportunities for one-to-one and small group learning with the facilitator, the presenters and each other. The cost of the program is \$10,000 per participant with 60-70% of the costs underwritten by charitable contributions.

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PROVIDING LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR HAWAII'S AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY

[www.agleaderhi.org](http://www.agleaderhi.org)



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Program Participant Outcomes include:

- Refreshed, reframed and expanded leadership skills
- Ability to analyze complex contemporary issues
- Increased knowledge and better understanding of the diverse agriculture issues and endeavors
- A broader perspective on their role within the agricultural industry throughout the state
- Enhanced strategic thinking and planning skills and techniques
- Self-confidence to lead their companies and communities
- Better able to turn vision into action
- Inspired and better equipped to be actively committed beyond their own endeavors
- A renewed personal culture for lifelong learning, leading and fostering results-oriented leadership
- New and deepened relationships with colleagues, cohort and other industry leaders
- A long-term statewide network of community, industry and sector leaders

Well-trained and effective leaders are essential for the success of any endeavor, in particular, solving complex problems. Many in our community display the capacity for leadership but need refinement and training to better utilize their skills. The lack of coordinated efforts to solve their common problems, the difficulty of achieving sustainability and the lack of opportunities to study and become articulate in public affairs issues are challenges to overcome. These leaders must continue the process of bringing people together to address key issues, such as land and water, food and energy security, changing communities and globalization. Hawaii's future depends on urban and rural communities working together because the economic vitality of agriculture and rural communities has reverberating effects throughout our entire society. If we as a community maintain that a healthy thriving sustainable agricultural sector is an important piece of Hawaii's overall future we must continue to support those who will help us get there. We need strong, effective voices and actions showing the way. Once again, A & B Foundation is demonstrating its commitment to good stewardship for our special island communities and home.



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*About the Alexander & Baldwin Foundation*

The Alexander & Baldwin Foundation was chartered in 1992, but the company's philanthropic mission dates back to its founding by Samuel T. Alexander and Henry Perrine Baldwin, and corporate records starting in 1900 reflect donations to many causes. The Foundation is funded entirely by Alexander & Baldwin, Inc., and its operating companies, including Matson Navigation Company, Inc. and its subsidiaries; A&B Properties, Inc. and its subsidiaries; and A&B's agricultural operations including (on Maui) Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company, East Maui Irrigation Company, Ltd. and Kahului Trucking and Storage Company, as well as (on Kauai) Kauai Coffee Company and Kauai Commercial Company. Over the years, the A&B Foundation has worked hard to establish a responsive, far-reaching program of support in the areas of health & human services, education, the community, culture and the environment. The Foundation's grant preferences are given to organizations and projects that address significant community needs, have the active support of A&B employees, and have the demonstrated support of the community.

*About the Agricultural Leadership Foundation of Hawai'i*

The Agricultural Leadership Foundation of Hawai'i, a Hawai'i not-for-profit organization founded in 1982, was established to develop and support effective leaders in the agricultural industry, through a multi-disciplinary leadership-training program. The Foundation is also a host of the Statewide Agriculture Conference that features training and networking opportunities for all of Hawaii's agricultural sectors. The leadership training program was designed to expand the participant's access to beneficial resources, build confidence, enhance leadership skills, broaden the participant's perspective of statewide agriculture, understand common problems and to envision community based solutions. The Foundations goal is to develop leaders who are able to understand, articulate and build collaborative strategies to address Hawaii's agriculture issues and problems. For more information call (808) 947-2914 or visit [www.agleaderhi.org](http://www.agleaderhi.org).

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