

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:
Alyssa Amasol
(808) 539-3437
alyssa.amasol@anthologygroup.com

The Center for West O'ahu Welcomes Kumon Math and Reading Center of Ewa Villages West at Ka Makana Ali'i

The after-school enrichment center assists students preschool through high school with math and reading

KAPOLEI, HI (September 10, 2020) —The Center for West O'ahu is pleased to welcome Kumon Math and Reading Center of Ewa Villages West to Ka Makana Ali'i. Kumon opened on Wednesday, September 2 in the Macy's wing of the Center next to Tricked Out Accessories.

"Kumon Math and Reading Center is a novel addition to Ka Makana Ali'i," said Stephanie England, general manager of the Center. "With many students in our community experiencing online academics and distance learning this year, we're grateful we can provide families with a program that develops the skills needed to nurture confident and independent thinkers."

Kumon is an after-school math and reading enrichment program that unlocks the potential of children so they can achieve more on their own. As a comprehensive program, Kumon serves children in preschool through high school. The learning method uses an individualized approach that helps children develop a solid command of math and reading skills. Through daily practice and mastery of materials, students increase confidence, improve concentration and develop better study skills. Founded in 1958, Kumon has more than four million students enrolled at nearly 25,000 learning centers in 51 countries and regions.

"Locally, we know how important education is and Kumon provides an option for parents who are looking to supplement their child's education," said Robin Raquedan-Kawaa, owner of Kumon Math and Reading Center of Ewa Villages West at Ka Makana Ali'i. "Students have been out of school for months and it has been exciting to see how Kumon students have been able to excel beyond their grade levels and get ahead during the pandemic. Kumon is a year-round program and without a doubt, our students have been able to persevere and thrive in their education."

Kumon adapted a new "Kumon at Home" experience where families can choose between virtual or in-person classes. Beyond offering virtual services, Kumon Math and Reading Center of Ewa Villages West opened with new precautions in order to keep its students and staff safe. Kumon's cleanliness policy follows the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, state and city guidelines, and ensures proper social distancing in seating and scheduling. Additional precautions include conducting temperature checks of anyone who enters, as well as having all students and staff wash their hands or use hand sanitizer upon arrival.

Families and staff are asked to remain at home if they are sick, and will be screened prior to returning after absences. All students and staff are required to wear masks at all times, while some will also wear face shields. All surfaces are cleaned and disinfected prior to students entering. As part of its kuleana to ensure the safety of students, staff and all 'ohana, Kumon staff developed a daily checklist along with hourly procedures out of an abundance of caution.

Raquedan-Kawaa is the instructor at Kumon Math and Reading Center of Ewa Villages West, but the program is not about teaching. It is about developing independent self-learners using individualized lesson plans that do not require teaching in the way that tutors do. It's not about passive learning where students are taught how to solve problems, rather students will discover the process on their own. This provides a deeper understanding and a more exciting learning experience.

To enroll students at Kumon Math and Reading Center of Ewa Villages West, please call (808) 294-6594. The after-school enrichment center has 26 other locations on O'ahu. For a limited time, Kumon is offering free parent orientations and keiki placement tests, along with waiving the \$50 registration fee. Kumon's Ka Makana Ali'i hours are as follows:

• Monday: 2—6 p.m.

• Wednesday: 10 a.m.—6 p.m.

• Thursday: 2—6 p.m.

• Saturday: 10 a.m.—1 p.m.

Visit our website at www.kamakanaalii.com for more details about upcoming promotions and exciting Center events. For the latest news and updates, follow Ka Makana Ali'i on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, all with profile name @kamakanaalii.

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About Ka Makana Ali'i

Ka Makana Ali'i offers residents and visitors a family-friendly, mixed-use center in the heart of Hawai'i's fastest growing community. The 750,000-square-foot Macy's-anchored center features more than 100 exciting stores, restaurants, a state-of-the-art Consolidated Theatres and the state's first Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton located on property. The newest development, The Grove at Ka Makana Ali'i, creates an additional 109,000 square feet of space with lifestyle retailers, eateries and services, such as 24 Hour Fitness, Foodland Farms, Straub Clinic and Urgent Care, and PetSmart. Serving as the premier gathering place in Kapolei, Ka Makana Ali'i fulfills the shopping and dining needs of the ever-expanding community. Its

convenient location offers excellent highway access, ample parking and public transportation for shoppers. Through an innovative partnership with Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, Ka Makana Ali'i will financially support programs benefiting Native Hawaiian interests statewide for decades to come. For more information, please visit www.kamakanaalii.com.

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