

# Kumu's News

## Kumu's Cupboard Newsletter, January 2026

Happy New Year! May it be a year of health, happiness, and peace for you all.

Kumu's Cupboard is excited to welcome in the New Year. January is our anniversary month. We're celebrating nine years of serving Kauai's public, private and charter school educators.

In these nine years, we've grown in the physical space we occupy, the number of shoppers we serve, the breadth of what we carry and the limits of what our shoppers can take each visit.

We are pleased to inform you that this growth is continuing. When shopping in January you'll notice a new shelf of games in the electives section and some new items throughout the store. You'll also see that some limits have been increased and that the size of some packages has also grown. These increases are based on shoppers input and requests as well as on availability and cost of items. Please be sure to

**"Great teachers give us our wings and let us think we taught ourselves to fly."**

take and follow the new inventory sheets when you next shop.

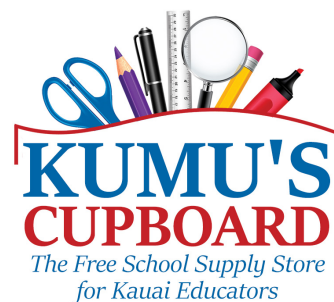
We hope that you have a wonderful second semester of the school year.

## Reminders

- Please remember to bring your own bags when you shop. We try to have boxes and bags for you, but sometimes we run out.
- If you haven't already shown us proof of employment this school year, please be prepared to show it on your next visit. You can't continue shopping without doing so. You can show us an ID badge from this year, a current contract or pay stub, a recent email from your principal/administrator or office.
- Please remember that our closing hours are the time when we lock our doors. Please arrive at Kumu's Cupboard early enough to shop and check out by closing time. Although our volunteers enjoy working with you, they want to leave at closing.
- Remember that we keep backpacks stuffed with the basics available all year long. If you have a student in need, you can come in any time and ask for them.

## Save the Date

This year's Charity Walk is on Saturday, May 2nd. Plan to walk on our team and/or help in our keiki booth which is co-sponsored by HLTA Kauai. More details will be in the April newsletter.



## Store Closures for the Remainder of the School Year:

President's Day: 2/13 – 2/15

Spring Break: 3/13 – 3/20

Holiday Weekend: 4/3 – 4/5

Charity Walk: 5/1 – 5/2

Memorial Day: 5/22 – 5/24

Closed for summer:  
5/27 – late July

## Store Hours

Tuesdays: 3pm-6:30pm

Fridays: 3pm-6:30pm

Saturdays: 10am-3pm

Sundays: 1pm-4pm

*Please remember that the closing time is when our volunteers expect to leave so please arrive with plenty of time to shop before closing.*

## Kumu's Cupboard Contact Information

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Lihue, 96766

808-647-6989

kumuscupboard@gmail.com

www.kumuscupboard.org

Kumu's Cupboard is Kauai's nonprofit that provides FREE school supplies to teachers and other educational staff.

Our store is located in  
Kukui Grove Center,  
near Target, in Lihue.

Kumu's Cupboard's space is generously provided by Kukui Grove Center.

## MINI GRANTS GALORE

Mid-December marked the due date for fall mini grant evaluations.

We are so impressed with the creativity, dedication and hard work that our grantees put into their projects.

Gardens were planted and grown, race cars were designed and built, play props were created, books were read and so much more.

As these grant projects were wrapping up, we were busily buying the supplies for the next round of grants. We funded 25 of these larger grants. Projects include creating a canoe garden, teaching linear math through games, learning about Hawaiian culture, doing literature studies, learning about the stock market, student leadership, field hockey and more. Kumu's Cupboard is pleased to be able to help with these innovative ideas.

Remember to read our newsletters to find out about future grant opportunities.

Our mini grants are funded through a generous grant from the Doyle Foundation.



*Dan Meharg's Class Planted a Garden at Kekaha Elementary School*

## Kumu's Cupboard Shoppers Use Supplies in Creative Ways



Pipe cleaners became these lovely flowers created by students in Blaise La Madrid-Nakamura class at Kauai High School

## Grant Inquiry Leads to Scholarship Competition Opportunity

While speaking with the team at Rapunzl, the creators of the financial literacy software used by one of our grantees, I learned about a scholarship competition open to all middle and high school students. Their 6th Annual National Scholarship Competition gives students the opportunity to build a stock portfolio, learn the skills to make smart money choices, and compete for scholarship prizes. Students can participate using the free downloadable portion of the software, we've included their flyer at the end of this newsletter.

INTRODUCING RAPUNZL'S

# \$25,000 SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION



[www.rapunzl.com](http://www.rapunzl.com)



## Available To All US Middle & High School Students

Rapunzl is hosting our **6th Annual National Scholarship Competition** where you have the opportunity to build a stock portfolio, learn the skills to make smart money choices, and compete for scholarship prizes.

- 💡 **Building Everyday Money Skills** 💡

Students simulate a free \$10,000 stock portfolio and buy & sell companies with real-time pricing, provided by Nasdaq.

- 🏠 **Turning Practice Into Real Rewards** 🏠

Top students will receive scholarships from our annual competition in 529 Savings Accounts while the best performing students at each participating school will win \$25 in fractional shares of real stock!

- 🎯 **Accessible for Every Student** 🎯

Participation is free and assumes no prior understanding of the stock market.



### How To Get Started

1. Download the free Rapunzl app for iOS and Android or visit [www.rapunzl.com](http://www.rapunzl.com) and create an account.
2. Email us at [hello@rapunzl.com](mailto:hello@rapunzl.com) to register your school and district.
3. Start building your portfolio by purchasing stock in companies.
4. When the competition begins, we will track your portfolio's percentage performance.
5. Submit a Portfolio Essay in April to be eligible for the scholarship prize!

### Are you a teacher interested in bringing Rapunzl to your classroom?

Send us an email for a free demo of Rapunzl's Teacher Dashboard & Personal Finance Curriculum!



### Competition Details

<b>Student Sign-Up:</b>	Now - Rolling Entry
<b>Competition Begins:</b>	January 19th, 2026
<b>Competition Ends:</b>	May 8th, 2026



### More Info On Prizes

The **top 3 students win \$2,000 scholarships** while **4 runners-up receive \$1,000**. All scholarships are awarded into 529 Savings Accounts.

The top performing student at each school with over 25 participating students will receive \$25 in fractional shares of a company of their choosing.



### About Rapunzl

Rapunzl is an award-winning learning platform that helps students explore personal finance and investing through fun, hands-on experiences.

Our program is built around a real-time \$10,000 investment simulator where students practice decision-making in a safe, risk-free way.

This ensures students feel confident managing money and building healthy financial habits.

Learn more about Rapunzl at: [www.rapunzl.com](http://www.rapunzl.com)

Or email us at: [hello@rapunzl.com](mailto:hello@rapunzl.com)