



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD
News Release

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

FRANCINE WAI
DIRECTOR
Phone: (808) 586-8121
Fax: (808) 586-8129

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FOUR HAWAI'I DESIGNERS AWARDED FOR ACCESSIBLE DESIGNS

HONOLULU - At the 2009 Accessible Design Awards, two design firms, a state agency and a county agency were recognized by the Hawai'i Disability and Communication Access Board. The awards recognize buildings, facilities, sites, or design features that promote full integration, independence, equal access, or improves the quality of life for people of all ages and abilities.

"By recognizing and awarding exemplary design, we hope other design professionals will see examples of how accessible design is functional, as well as, creative and attractive," said Francine Wai, executive director of the Disability and Communication Access Board.

The following were recognized for exemplary design in accessibility:

1. Private Design-Award of Merit: Mauna Kea Beach Resort, room 717 by John Hara Associates Inc. and Paul Sheriff Incorporated
2. Residential Design-Award of Merit: Pelkey Home by Dean Johnston Designs
3. Public Design-Award of Merit: Ke Ala Hele Makalae, Phase II by the County of Kaua'i, Department of Parks and Recreation
4. Public Design-Award of Merit: Lahaina Small Boat Harbor Comfort Station Improvements, Department of Land and Natural Resources

This year, in addition to nominations being submitted by design professionals and State and County agencies, the general public was able to nominate buildings that they felt promote access and provide functional and aesthetically pleasing solutions.

The design awards ceremony was held in conjunction with the *Disability Access Conference: Design For All* on September 23, 2009. The “design for all” conference awards program was another way to emphasize the importance of accessibility in buildings, facilities and sites.

Descriptions and photos of the award winners can be found on the Disability and Communication Access Board’s web site at:

www.hawaii.gov/health/dcab/2009accessibleaward/index.htm.

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For more information, contact:

Francine Wai
Executive Director
Disability and Communication Access Board
Phone: 586-8121
E-mail: francine.wai@doh.hawaii.gov

Mona Higa
Facility Access Specialist
Disability and Communication Access Board
Phone: 586-8121 v/tty
E-mail: mona.higa@doh.hawaii.gov