



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION
CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTH NEEDS BRANCH
EARLY INTERVENTION SECTION
1350 SOUTH KING STREET, SUITE 200
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814
PHONE: (808) 594-0000 • FAX: (808) 594-0015

Hanafuda Hawaii, LLC.
Helen Nakano, Founder
P.O. Box 61623
Honolulu, Hawaii 96839

Dear Helen:

This letter is written to thank you for the lunchtime Hanafuda workshop you provided to our staff at the Early Intervention Section on August 4th, 2010.

The workshop was tremendously enjoyed by the staff, many of whom had very fond childhood memories of playing with their grandparents, especially their grandmothers. Several of the staff remarked that they enjoyed learning about the history of the game and it's cultural significance during immigration to Hawaii. They are all looking forward to teaching and playing with their children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Those who were already familiar with the game really enjoyed the easy to distinguish yaku images on the cards as well as the inclusion of the numerical values and the kanji.

In your effort to teach Hanafuda to 1000 children, I strongly urge you to pursue offering this workshop in the schools wherever you can. As a parent, I think Hawai'i's school children would enjoy learning about the unique history of Hanafuda and how it has served to not just entertain, but also connect families and friends from other cultures in Hawai'i for over 125 years. I also see Hanafuda as being valuable to school children because it offers a way for students of all ages to expand their social skills and practice other important cognitive skills like math and reasoning. It also offers an opportunity for children to play the game with their families. For some children it would open a door to talk-story with and maybe even learn a few things that they never knew about their grandparents and great-grandparents.

I wish you the best of luck in your efforts to revitalize Hanafuda and in the process connect children and adults, especially the elderly. Please feel free to use this letter or any statements in the letter as a testimonial.

Much Aloha,

Tammy R Bopp
Tammy Bopp

