



DANIEL K. INOUE
INSTITUTE

September 28, 2026

Dear friends, family and members of our DKI ohana,

We're excited to share a new chapter in our partnership with the Hawaii International Film Festival (HIFF).

For seven years, DKII proudly supported HIFF's Future Filmmakers program, which gave students across Hawaii and Alaska an opportunity to tell their own stories through film. This year, we are starting something new: AAPI Filmmaker in Focus, presented by the Daniel K. Inouye Institute to celebrate the power of Asian American and Pacific Islander storytelling.

In this inaugural year, HIFF and DKII will highlight and feature two new short films about the Japanese American experience during World War II, and the legacy which is carried forward through the generations. We hope you'll join us on October 25th at the Kahala Theaters at 1:45 – 3:30 pm.



ENOUGH, directed by Brian Tee and starring Tee, Tamlyn Tomita, and Amy Hill, follows two young women separated by time but united by purpose. Ashley is a present-day biracial student frustrated by the erasure of racial justice efforts. In her school library's archives, she discovers the story of Erika, a Japanese American teenager in 1981. Erika's father, Brian Takakura, is a reserved and reluctant attorney who is drawn into a landmark reparations hearing for WWII incarceration survivors. Younger activists, community leaders, and his own daughter all push him, and Brian must decide whether to speak from legal logic or from personal truth. The film is a powerful reckoning with the lasting trauma of incarceration, the generational cost of silence, and the courage it takes to break it.



THUMBPRINT, written and directed by Chris Naoki Lee and starring Steve Terada, Yuji Okumoto and Miki Ishikawa, is based on a true story. Midori Shimoda came to America alone from Hiroshima at age nine and grew up to become a photographer. During the wartime roundup, he was among the roughly 5% of Japanese and Japanese Americans who escaped California. After his capture and interrogation by the FBI, Midori recounts his journey and his lifelong dream of owning a photography studio in New York City.



The films will be shown twice at Consolidated Kahala Theatres:

- **Sunday, October 25, 2026, at 1:45 p.m.:** screening followed by a panel discussion with the filmmakers, cast and special guests about AAPI representation, historical memory, and reclaiming community stories through cinema
- **Tuesday, October 27, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.:** encore screening (films only, no panel) If you'd like to hear from the filmmakers, please plan to join us on October 25. Tickets are available on the HIFF website:

GET TICKETS --

<https://boxoffice.hiff.org/events/AAPIFILMMAKERINFOCUSENOUGHTHUMBPRINT> --

We hope to see you there, and please feel free to bring family and friends who would enjoy these stories.

We are deeply thankful for your support and friendship as we continue to share the Senator's enduring legacy through partnerships and educational programs that remain both relevant and important in these tumultuous times. We are now our own 501(c)(3) nonprofit so every gift — no matter the size — will make a meaningful difference. You can donate online using this link: <https://dkii.org/donate>.

Aloha,
Jennifer, Sara and DKII Team

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Daniel K. Inouye Institute | 725 Kapiolani Blvd, Suite C400 | Honolulu, HI 96813 US

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