“America is a great country. There is no other nation where the grandson of poor immigrants who worked in the sugar fields of Hawai‘i, and who, as a young man was deemed an enemy alien during WWII solely because of the color of my skin, could rise to become President Pro Tem of the U.S. Senate and third in succession to the presidency. We are fortunate to live in a democracy with boundless opportunities, if you are willing to work hard and dream big.”

SENATOR DANIEL K. INOUYE
The Daniel K. Inouye Institute will ensure a fitting tribute to a man whose leadership – as a champion of freedom and fairness – continues to inspire people around the world.

FREEDOM. Whether through his own heroic actions as a member of the famed 442nd Regimental Combat Team, for which he received the Congressional Medal of Honor, or ensuring as Chair of the Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee that our nation’s armed forces had the very best to defend democracy and our way of life, Dan Inouye knew that freedom wasn’t free.

FAIRNESS. Dan Inouye spoke for those without a voice, and for whom there was often no place at the table. He gave voice to Native Americans, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians. He did the same for Japanese Americans and Filipino World War II veterans, and called upon our great nation to recognize past injustices and make amends. He was a stalwart supporter of Israel, knowing it was in America’s best interest.

Senator Dan Inouye was regularly called upon to tackle difficult tasks where moral courage and bipartisan leadership were essential: as the first Chair of the Senate Committee on Intelligence, member of the Watergate Committee, and Chair of the Iran-Contra Investigative Committee. He executed each assignment with a quiet dignity, steadfast resolve, and an unwavering hope for the future.

The Daniel K. Inouye Institute will work with affiliated organizations to:

PRESERVE Senator Inouye’s papers in collaboration with the University of Hawaii and the Library of Congress.
- The Congressional Papers Collection at the University of Hawaii at Manoa’s Hamilton Library houses the personal and political papers of the Senator, archiving his life and career, and serving as a catalyst for community outreach and academic inquiry.
- An oral history project was done to encapsulate Senator’s story through the voices of colleagues, staff, national and international leaders, and the people of Hawaii. Snippets available on www.danielkinouyeinstitute.org
- The digitization of papers for broader dissemination and academic research, as well as a lecture series at the Library of Congress focusing on topics of national and international interest.
- Ongoing discussions with accomplished authors about a second book on Dan Inouye’s story and legacy, building upon his Journey to Washington.

SUPPORT civic engagement, community connections, lessons in democracy and cross-cultural exchanges.
- Lectures and forums rooted in a civics-based platform offering lessons about leadership based on Senator’s life story, as well as insights into the democratic process.
- Partnering with the Smithsonian, Zocalo Public Square and the Hawaii International Film Festival.
- Support for Senator’s core values and beliefs—increasing understanding and tolerance—through partnerships and programs that foster cross-cultural exchanges involving the United States, Japan, and Israel.

LOOKING FORWARD and establishing a School of Public Policy at the University of Hawaii.
- A post-doctoral fellowship and travel awards established at the University of Hawaii to advance research and leadership policy using the Senator’s papers and archival collection.
- Expanding the Hawaii International Film Festival’s Daniel K. Inouye Student Film Initiative for Middle and High School Students, and the nationally recognized Talk Story series with Zocalo Public Square to the Neighbor Islands and Los Angeles.

Please join us honoring Dan Inouye by enabling his legacy to carry forward.