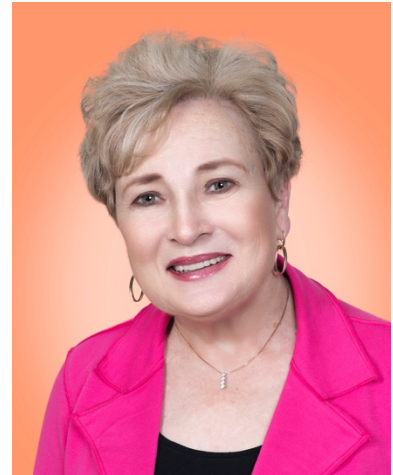


National Coalition of Girls' Schools



**2018-2019 Ransome Prize Winner
Betty White**

Betty White has devoted over 45 years to Sacred Hearts Academy, Honolulu, HI, being appointed as the first layperson Head of School in 1991. White has served as Head of the all-girls Catholic school for 27 years, following a successful career in teaching. White said, “Many of my happiest memories are teaching and leading Sacred Hearts Academy students who are now making a difference in their communities, families, and world through their work. I am grateful for the dedication of my team and the support they have shown me through the years in creating an environment for girls’ education where girls thrive, excel and achieve.”



Betty White is a staunch advocate for all-girls’ education, never wavering in her belief in single gender education. She served as a trustee on the National Coalition of Girls’ Schools. White’s many accomplishments include transitioning Sacred Hearts Academy from religious to lay leadership and leading the school’s multi-year building plans. She was responsible for overseeing the addition of the Clarence T.C. Ching Student Center, Mother Louis Henriette Performing Arts Center, McKeough Arts Center, and renovating the Nobriga Gymnasium.

Betty is a true visionary who earned the respect of Hawaii community leaders by exhibiting sterling character, a tremendous work ethic, and an absolutely professional approach to every task she undertakes. A gracious and humble leader, Betty shares her talents and ideas with Oahu teachers, students, and parents. She is the force behind others’ successes and is the first to recognize their accomplishments. Betty is an articulate voice for girls’ education and women’s issues in the community through her published articles and public speaking engagements.

Betty committed her efforts to instilling in young women the drive to gain the knowledge and the confidence that will empower them to achieve their full potential and be active participants in addressing society’s complex challenges. Betty firmly believes that today’s leaders have an obligation to coach and mentor our youth, and that this obligation mandates a comprehensive, community-wide youth advocacy effort – an effort extending far beyond the classroom. Betty lives that belief: she is a leader whose mission is to inspire the next generation.

Examples of Betty’s support and conceptualization of community-wide youth advocacy include:

- Sponsoring The Science Symposium for Girls for the past 25 consecutive years. This annual no fee event is Hawaii girls, grades 5 through 8. The program encourages young girls of all backgrounds to explore the exciting and dynamic careers available in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math. Annually, the Symposium reaches over 450 Oahu girls and over 400 parents.
- Sponsoring The Economic Summit for Girls in grades 8, 9 and 10 for sixteen (16) consecutive years. The week-long Summit reaches out to girls from Oahu's public and private schools, encouraging girls to consider the exciting career opportunities in medicine, engineering, communications, law and technology.
- In 2014 and 2016, sponsoring the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco's Personal Finance Education Day for Girls where young women in the community learned about the *Purposes and Functions of the Federal Reserve Bank*, Personal Finance, and *How to Finance College*. To inspire young women, there was an entrepreneurship panel discussion featuring community business leaders.
- Collaborating with the East-West Center's Changing Faces program where 60 Sacred Hearts Academy girls (in the past three years) had the opportunity to interact and learn from 26 innovative women leaders from the Asia Pacific and the United States who participated in the East-West Center's "Changing Faces, Women's Leadership Seminar – Women As Innovators and Entrepreneurs.