



2026 Eddie Would Go Essay Contest – PROMPT

Eddie Aikau, a well-known Hawaiian big wave surfer and the North Shore's first City & County Lifeguard at Waimea Bay, embodied the spirit of selflessness. His life culminated in an act of ultimate sacrifice during the 1978 voyage of the Hōkūleʻa. When the 60-foot voyaging canoe capsized in a storm, Eddie paddled out on his surfboard to seek help, and was subsequently lost at sea.

Central to his legacy is the fundamental Hawaiian value of ***Lōkahi***, which translates to **harmony, unity, and balance**. This concept is often visualized as a triangle representing the balance between three essential relationships:

- *Ke Akua* (The Divine or Spiritual Realm)
- *Ke Kanaka* (Humanity/People)
- *Ka ʻĀina* (The Land and Environment)

Describe how the value of ***Lōkahi*** was reflected in the actions and life of Eddie Aikau. Support your response with specific examples or evidence.

Describe how the value of ***Lōkahi*** influences your personal philosophy and the actions you take in your life. Support your response with specific examples or evidence