

## 2026 Eddie Would Go Essay Contest

### PROMPT - 'Ōlelo

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 Hōkūle'a. 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.

He kanaka lokomaika'i 'o Eddie Aikau i ho'ohanohano nui 'ia no kona mākaukau ma ka he'enalu a no kona lilo 'ana 'o ia ke Kia'i Ola mua loa ma Waimea Bay. Ua kaulana ho'i kona ola no kāna mōlia nui 'ana no Hōkūle'a ma 1978. I ka wā i kahuli ai ia wa'a holomoana he 60 kapua'i i loko o ka 'ino, hoe akula 'o Eddie ma luna o kona papa he'enalu e 'imi aku i kōkua, a nalohia ihola, 'a'ohe ho'i mai.

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 'Āina (The Land and Environment)

'O kekahi kumu nui o kona ho'omana'o 'ia, 'o ia ka Lōkahi, 'o ia ho'i ka laulima, ke kaulike, a me ka hana pū. Nānā nui 'ia kēia mana'o ma ke 'ano he huinakolu e hō'ike ana i ke kaulike ma waena o 'ekolu mau pilina ko'iko'i:

Ke Akua

Ke Kanaka

Ka 'Āina

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.

E wehewehe mai i ke 'ano i 'ike 'ia ai ka Lōkahi ma nā hana a me ke ola o Eddie Aikau. E kāko'o i kou mau mana'o me nā la'ana kiko'i.

E wehewehe mai i ke 'ano e paipai ai ka mana'o o ka Lōkahi i kou holomua ma ke ola a me nā hana āu e ho'okō ai ma kou ola pono'i. E kāko'o i kou mana'o me nā la'ana kiko'i.