

# 2026 Eddie Would Go Essay Contest

## FOR THE STUDENT: TIPS AND REMINDERS FOR WRITING YOUR ESSAY

### **Before you write, do some research. Possible resources include:**

Read the book, "Eddie Would Go" by Stuart Coleman (found in St of HI public libraries).

View the **ESPN** documentary, "Hawaiian: The Legend of Eddie Aikau" *Teachers or parents may email the Foundation & we will arrange to lend a copy of the documentary to be shown to the students, subject to availability of supplies. Email the Foundation at: [info@eddieaikaufoundation.org](mailto:info@eddieaikaufoundation.org) to make the arrangements.*

Search the internet e.g., newspaper articles in *The Honolulu Star Advertiser*, various other magazines, and media resources.

Visit the Eddie Aikau Foundation website: [www.eddieaikaufoundation.org](http://www.eddieaikaufoundation.org)

Visit the Polynesian Voyaging Society website: <http://www.hokulea.com/voyages/our-story/>

Visit the Wikipedia website and learn about the history of the Big Wave Invitational In Memory of Eddie Aikau. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Eddie](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Eddie)

Visit the current website of "THE EDDIE" Big Wave Invitational, managed by the Eddie Aikau Foundation: <https://www.theeddieaikau.com/>

### **When you write:**

- Introduce yourself and your thoughts to the reader. Use an appropriate title that states your point of view to be expressed in the essay.
- Create an original piece of writing that takes the reader from your title, to the introduction, through the body of your essay, and finally to the conclusion, in a clear, concise manner.
- Develop a topic you can focus on which will deliver your ideas to the reader clearly and convincingly.
- Finish your essay well ahead of time so you can take a day or two to read it again for a final review. Read it aloud to yourself or an adult to decide if changes are needed.

#### **Check that you've met all of the contest requirements:**

- The essay must be the student's OWN work.
- The essay should have a TITLE that captures the idea of the essay.
- The essay must NOT reveal the Student's Name or School anywhere on, or within the essay.
- The essay should be a MAXIMUM of 1000 words in length.
- The essay must be **typewritten, double-spaced**, and in **12-point font** size.
- Two (2) hard copies (**single side only**) of the essay should be submitted when mailed. Or the essay can be emailed as a WORD, or a pdf document. **Do NOT send it both ways.**
- **The essay answers the following Prompt:**

Central to Eddie's 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)

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

Email Essay & Signed Student Application to: [eaf5446@gmail.com](mailto:eaf5446@gmail.com) **OR**

Mail the signed Student Application and **2 hard copies (single side only)** of the completed Essay to: **The Eddie Aikau Foundation – 94-641 Kupuna Loop, Waipahu, HI 96797**

Email date or Postmark date Deadline is: **Friday February 20, 2026**