

2024 EAST MEETS WEST

HONOLULU, HI - MARCH 14 & 15



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH htdc

TITLE SPONSOR





LETTER FROM OUR HOSTS

Aloha,

We are so excited to celebrate 10 years of East Meets West! The first East Meets West conference was in 2014 and over the years we have developed quite a great community of folks that return every year - it will be nice to see everyone again and see new faces as we celebrate 10 years!

One of the things we love most about East Meets West is that we are bringing the world to Hawai'i for this event. We don't have to get on a plane to talk to a founder from Hong Kong, a venture capitalist from New York, or a technologist from California - they are all coming to us and it is up to us to take advantage of these opportunities to connect and network both within and outside our state. Long-term we are building a startup ecosystem in Hawai'i that is rooted here, but reaches beyond our shores to serve the world with our own Hawai'i grown innovations.

Mahalo for joining us and supporting East Meets West.
Signed your hosts —



Maya Rogers

CEO,
TETRIS COMPANY



Chenoa Farnsworth

MANAGING PARTNER,
BLUE STARTUPS



Casey Lau

HEAD OF ASIA,
WEB SUMMIT



CONFERENCE AGENDA

March 15 - Prince Waikiki Hotel

8:00 – 9:00 AM	Registration, Coffee, & Pastries	
9:00 – 9:10 AM	Welcome	Introduction to Blue Startups and Sponsors
9:10 – 9:15 AM	Title Sponsor Welcome	Kamehameha Schools
9:15 – 9:45 AM	Panel: Regulating AI - Hawai'i Jumps into the Debate	Moderator: Ryan Ozawa Speakers: Olin Lagon, Ryley Higa, Rep. Trish La Chica
9:45 – 10:15 AM	Keynote: Blitzscaling and AI: Cutting Through The Hype	Speaker: Chris Yeh
10:15 – 10:45 AM	Break Decompression & Wellness Micro-session	
10:45 – 11:15 AM	Keynote: Unleashing Business & Cultural Value through Branding & Design	Speaker: Yiyang Lu
11:15 – 11:45 PM	Panel: The Indigenous Lens – Using Ancient Wisdom to Solve Modern Problems	Moderator: En Young Speakers: Kuhao Zane, Kamuela Enos, Tianna Johnson, Lala Nuss
11:45 – 12:05 PM	Fireside Chat with Bill Reichert	Moderator: Chenoa Farnsworth
12:05 – 1:05 PM	Lunch	

1:15 – 3:00 PM	VC One-on-Ones	Makiki Room
Deep Dives: Sector Innovations & Entrepreneurs Bootcamp		
1:15 – 2:00 PM	Travel Futures – New Technology and New Opportunities in Travel Tech	Speakers: Gilad Berenstein, Kalani Ka'anā'anā
1:15 – 2:00 PM	Panel: Unleash Your Startup's Potential with AI-Powered Marketing & PR Tools	Moderator: Liya Safina Speakers: Adam Rosen, Ronjini Joshua, Megan Hall
2:00 – 2:30 PM	Panel: Blue Horizons – Harnessing AI for Ocean Sustainability	Moderator: Keith Matsumoto Speakers: Nobu Morita, Brian Glazer, Doreen Wong
2:00 – 2:30 PM	Keynote: Virtual Characters and Real-Time Content Creation	Speaker: Jia Shen
2:30 – 3:00 PM	Panel: Pioneering the Future: Eco-Friendly Transportation Innovations	Moderator: Katie Rooney Speakers: Todd Boulanger, Grant Overton, Alex Morley
2:30 – 3:00 PM	Keynote: Why Founders Fail	Speaker: Gregory Shepard
3:00 – 3:30 PM	Break Wellness Micro-session	
3:30 – 4:30 PM	Pitch Competition	Startup World Cup Qualifier
4:30 – 5:00 PM	Panel: How to Go Global – Tactical Advice for Founders	Moderator: Casey Lau Speakers: Edgar Chiu, Yiyang Lu, Jia Shen
5:00 – 5:15 PM	Wrap-Up and Startup World Cup Pitch Winner Announced	
5:30 – 7:00 PM	Reception	Pau Hana Place
7:30 PM	Fireworks	Hilton Lagoon

Our 'āina.
Our 'ōpio.
Our future.



A thriving lāhui is rooted in the wellbeing of our 'āina.
By teaching and inspiring our keiki to be stewards of our 'āina
we can create a brighter, more sustainable future for us all.

Hānai i ke keiki, ola ka lāhui



Kamehameha Schools®

SESSION SPEAKERS

March 15 - CONFERENCE

Regulating AI - Hawai'i Jumps into the Debate

9:15 - 9:45 AM held in Pi'inaio Ballroom

Moderator

Speakers



Ryan Ozawa

FOUNDER,
HAWAII HUI



Olin Lagon

CO-FOUNDER AND CTO,
SHIFTED ENERGY



Rep. Trish La Chica

HAWAII STATE
REPRESENTATIVE

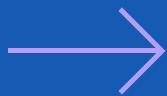


Ryley Higa

SENIOR MACHINE
LEARNING ENGINEER,
SUMO LOGIC

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

9:45 - 10:15 AM held in Pi'inaio Ballroom



CHRIS YEH

FOUNDING PARTNER,
BLITZSCALING VENTURES

Blitzscaling and AI:
Cutting Through The Hype

SESSION SPEAKERS

March 15 - CONFERENCE

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

10:45 - 11:15 AM held in Pi'inaio Ballroom



YIYING LU

ARTIST OF TWITTER WHALE 🐳
& 🍷🍹🍷🍷🍷🍷 EMOJIS

Unleashing Business &
Cultural Value through
Branding & Design

The Indigenous Lens – Using Ancient Wisdom to Solve Modern Problems

11:15 – 11:45 AM held in Pi'inaio Ballroom

Moderator

Speakers



En Young

DIRECTOR OF
SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRY
DEVELOPMENT,
KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS



Kuhao Zane

CREATIVE DIRECTOR,
SIG ZANE DESIGNS



Kamuela Enos

DIRECTOR,
OFFICE OF INDIGENOUS
KNOWLEDGE AND
INNOVATION



Tianna Johnson

TALENT LEADER,
PEOPLE CULTURE
TALENT



Lala Nuss

FOUNDER,
CONSCIOUS CONCEPTS

FIRESIDE CHAT

March 15 - CONFERENCE

Fireside Chat with Bill Reichert

11:45 – 12:05 PM *held in Pi'inaio Ballroom*

Moderated by



Chenoa Farnsworth

MANAGING PARTNER,
BLUE STARTUPS

Speaker



Bill Reichert

GENERAL PARTNER,
PEGASUS TECH VENTURES

WHERE EAST MEETS WEST, INNOVATION MEETS OPPORTUNITY

Investing in Hawai'i's tech future by transforming ideas into reality with funding, mentorship, and collaboration.



DEEP DIVES

March 15 - CONFERENCE

Unleash Your Startup's Potential with AI-Powered Marketing and PR Tools

1:15 – 2:00 PM held in Pi'inaio Ballroom 2

Moderator

Speakers



Liya Safina

CEO, SAFINA &
SHEKHTMAN, INC



Adam Rosen

CO-FOUNDER, EMAIL
OUTREACH COMPANY



Ronjini Joshua

FOUNDER & CEO, THE
SILVER TELEGRAM



Megan Hall

FOUNDER & CEO,
SEGMENT X

Travel Futures – New Technology and Opportunities

1:15 – 2:00 PM held in Pi'inaio Ballroom 1

Moderated by

Speaker



Kalani Ka'anā'anā

CHIEF BRAND
OFFICER, HAWAI'I
TOURISM AUTHORITY



Gilad Berenstein

FOUNDER & MANAGING
DIRECTOR, BROOK BAY
CAPITAL

DEEP DIVES

March 15 - CONFERENCE

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

2:00 – 2:30 PM *held in Pi'inaio Ballroom 2*



JIA SHEN

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER,
AKA VIRTUAL

Virtual Characters
and Real-Time
Content Creation

Blue Horizons – Harnessing AI for Ocean Sustainability

2:00 – 2:30 PM *held in Pi'inaio Ballroom 1*

Moderator



Keith Matsumoto

PROGRAMS DIRECTOR, PACIFIC
INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR HIGH
TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH

Speakers



Brian Glazer

FOUNDER, HOHONU



Doreen Wong

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR,
SEABIRD VENTURES



Nobu Morita

DIRECTOR OF
INNOVATIONS, NEC X
VENTURE STUDIO

DEEP DIVES

March 15 - CONFERENCE

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

2:30 – 3:00 PM held in Pi'inaio Ballroom 2



GREGORY SHEPARD

AUTHOR | INVESTOR | FOUNDER |
CEO OF STARTUPSCIENCE.IO

Why Founders Fail

Pioneering the Future: Eco-Friendly Transportation Innovations

2:30 – 3:00 PM held in Pi'inaio Ballroom 1

Moderator



Katie Rooney

DIRECTOR OF
TRANSPORTATION,
ULUPONO INITIATIVE

Speakers



Todd Boulanger

CEO,
BIKESHARE HAWAII (BIKI)



Grant Overton

CO-FOUNDER & CEO,
AGRIPELAGO



Alex Morley

SENIOR ASSOCIATE,
ALPACA VC

PITCH COMPETITION

March 15 - CONFERENCE

3:30 – 4:30 PM held in Pi'inaio Ballroom

Judges



Chris Yeh

FOUNDING PARTNER,
BLITZSCALING VENTURES



Amy Cheetham

PARTNER,
COSTANOA VENTURES



Lawrence Yen

PARTNER,
CLIMATE IMPACT CAPITAL



Doreen Wong

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR,
SEABIRD VENTURES

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PARTNER



Startup World Cup is a global competition that brings together the top startups, VCs, entrepreneurs and world-class tech CEOs. This year East Meets West will serve as a regional qualifier with the winner going on to the semi-finals for a chance to win \$1,000,000!

Sustainability is a gift to the next generation.

Featured Sustainable Crop:



'Ulu
A single 'ulu tree can live for 50 to 100 years or more and produce hundreds, even over a thousand, pounds of fruit annually.

Candice Marrs and her son visit the sustainable crops at Kualoa Ranch, O'ahu.



PHOTO BY SEAN MARRS

As our island communities work toward recovery and greater resilience, Ulupono Initiative is actively partnering to invest and advocate in support of locally produced food, renewable energy, clean transportation, and better management of fresh water for Hawai'i.

Learn more about our commitment at ulupono.com.



Committed to a Sustainable, Resilient Hawai'i

How to Go Global: Tactical Advice for Founders

4:30 – 5:00PM held in Pi'inaio Ballroom

Moderator



Casey Lau

HEAD OF ASIA,
WEB SUMMIT

Speakers



Edgar Chiu

CO-FOUNDER AND
MANAGING PARTNER,
SPARKLABS TAIWAN



Yiying Lu

ARTIST OF TWITTER
WHALE 🐳 & 🍷🍷🍷🍷🍷
EMOJIS



Jia Shen

CO-FOUNDER & CEO,
AKA VIRTUAL

Since 2002, Hawai'i Angels has been proud to support founders in Hawai'i with capital and coaching for the venture fundraising process.



Accredited investor?

Come join as a guest for one of our meetings!

Founder?

Apply to pitch your startup! We've provided the first outside funds for many Hawai'i-based startups over the past two decades.

hawaiiangels.org

Our group of nearly fifty "angel investors" comes together monthly for lunch to hear from entrepreneurs pitching their Pre-seed, Seed, and Series A venture investments, all with an eye toward earning appropriate returns and supporting the local startup ecosystem.

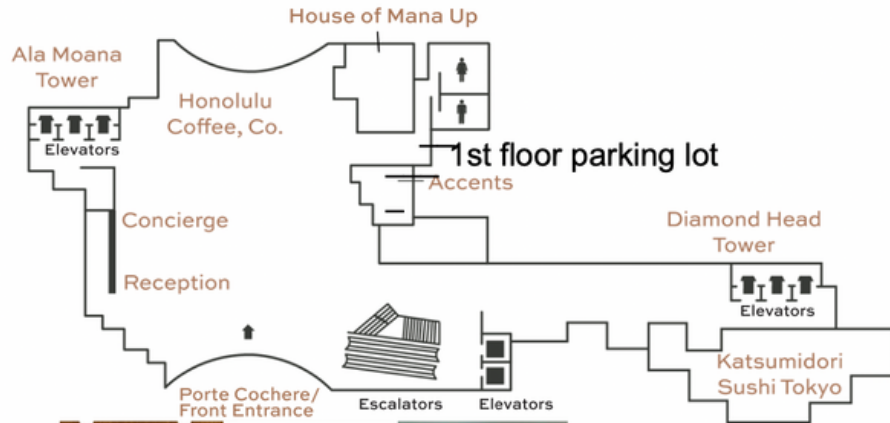
HAWAII TOURISM
AUTHORITY





PRINCE WAIKIKI EVENT MAP

LOBBY LEVEL



MEZZANINE, 2nd floor



FUNCTION LEVEL, 3rd Floor

Take lobby escalators or elevators to access the 3rd floor.



MAHALO TO OUR SPONSORS

PLATINUM SPONSOR



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COMMUNITY SPONSORS



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Cohort 16

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