



Kristi Yamaguchi's ALWAYS DREAM

Our Mission



At Kristi Yamaguchi's Always Dream, we believe that literacy is the foundation for pursuing dreams.

Our Always Reading program ensures that children have access to high-quality books in the home environment and extensive family engagement support.

Our Approach



Our Always Reading program promotes at home reading for transitional and pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students by providing knowledge for families to support their children in building early literacy skills as they enter the school system.

The Reality of Literacy Today

Book Access

Communities of concentrated poverty have 1 book for every 300 children.



Reading Engagement

Less than 50% of young children are read aloud to by a family member each day.

"I've enjoyed watching my child learn new words, start reading on her own, and find new favorite books."

—Always Reading Program Participant



Our Three Key Pillars



Equity through Technology

Each student receives a digital tablet and a data connection (if needed) for the program's duration, ensuring equal opportunities for learning. Families keep the tablets once they complete the program.



Access to High-Quality Books

Families gain unlimited access to a digital children's library featuring 40,000 high-quality titles and are gifted hardcopy books for their home libraries throughout the year.



Family Engagement

Our Book Coaches support caregivers in integrating reading into their daily routines. Through regular check-ins and education sessions, we empower families to make reading a lifelong habit.

Program Outcomes

**from the 2024–25 school year*

75%

of families report their child **looks at books with them more times per week** since participating in Always Reading

98%

of families report that Always Reading helped them understand that they play an important role in creating reading routines for their child

95%

of families report they are **better able to help their child develop a love of reading**



5,400+

Children and family members served in 2025-26

40

School partners across Northern California & Hawai'i

2025–26 School Partners

California

San Francisco

El Dorado Elem.
Visitation Valley Elem.

San Pablo

Bayview Elem.

San Jose

Bachrodt Elem.
Empire Gardens Elem.
Grant Elem.

Oakland

Franklin Elem.
Markham Elem.

Fremont

Blacow Elem.
Brier Elem.
Cabrillo Elem.
Vallejo Hills Elem.

East San Jose

LUCHA
Hubbard Elem.
Aptitud Academy
McCollam Elem.
Adelante I (Pre-K only)
Adelante II (Pre-K only)

Sacramento

Hazel Strauch Elem.

Hawai'i

O'AHU

Honolulu

Kalihi Kai Elem.
Linapuni Elem.
Pu'uhale Elem.
Kalihi Waena Elem.

Kailua

Kailua Elem.
Keolu Elem.

Waimānalo

Blanche Pope Elem.
Mālama Honua Charter

Wai'anae

Nānāikapono Elem.
Wai'anae Elem.
Mākaha Elem.

MAUI

Lāhainā

King Kamehameha III Elem.
Princess Nāhi'ena'ena Elem.

MOLOKA'I

Kaunakakai Elem.
Kilohana Elem.
Maunaloa Elem.

HAWAII ISLAND

Hilo

Chiefess Kapi'olani Elem.
Ha'aheo Elem.
Ka'ūmana Elem.

Ka'ū

Nā'ālehu Elem.

Pāhoa

Pāhoa Elem.

Media Resources

[Always Dream Media Archive](#)

[Always Dream Brand Assets](#)

Media Contact

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From Kristi Yamaguchi, Founder of Always Dream

"As a mom of two, I've witnessed the transformative power of reading in my daughters' lives and in the lives of the countless children and families we've worked with over the years. I feel books unlock the imagination in children, and that's where dreams are born."



alwaydream.org



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@Kristi Yamaguchi's Always Dream