



# 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.  
Visitacion 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 Mills 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.

### HAWA'I ISLAND

#### Hilo

Chiefess Kapi'olani Elem.  
Ha'aeo 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."*