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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Maj. Gen. Darryll D.M. Wong '68 To Receive Kekumano Award

HONOLULU (March 20, 2017) – Maj. Gen. Darryll D.M. Wong '68 will receive Maryknoll School's *Noblesse Oblige* Service Award at the 19th Annual Monsignor Charles A. Kekumano Award and Scholarship Dinner on Saturday, May 13, 2017 at the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel for his lifetime of service to his country, state, community and alma mater.

In addition to his illustrious career as a leader in the U.S. military and Hawai'i state government, Wong has been highly involved in giving back to the community for decades as a mentor for at-risk youth; a champion for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education; and a coach for youth athletics.

“Darryll is an inspiring leader not only because of his exceptional accomplishments, but because he has devoted his life to helping others realize their full potential,” said Maryknoll President Perry Martin. “Through his community involvement, he has been instrumental in increasing opportunities for Hawaii's young people, including at-risk youth, to develop knowledge, life skills, discipline and a passion for lifelong learning.”

Wong's achievements span the Pacific and the nation. He flew C-141's worldwide as a member of the Air Force and near the end of the Vietnam War. He was also an Aloha Airlines pilot for more than 32 years. From 2011 to 2015, he served as the Adjutant General of the State of Hawai'i, overseeing 5,500 soldiers and airmen of the Hawaii National Guard. Wong was instrumental in strengthening Hawaii's readiness for man-made and natural disasters as the Director of State Civil Defense and Homeland Security Advisor to Gov. Neil Abercrombie. His awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, FBI Director's Community Leadership Award and the Hawaii State Law Enforcement Association's Military Officer of the Year Award.

He currently serves on numerous boards, including the Maryknoll School Board, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) National Advisory Council, and the board of the National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program. As a member of the Polynesian Voyaging Society, he has sailed twice on the Hōkūle'a, and strives to inspire the next generation with a passion for environmental sustainability.

(more)

He is also one of the founders of the Hawai'i Exemplary State Foundation, which aims to build sustainable communities by engaging K-12 schools in place-based STEM research and education. Wong's support and involvement have been instrumental in the development and launch of Maryknoll's Mx Scholar Programs to prepare students in grades 9-12 for the careers of the future in four areas including STEM & Aerospace, Medical Innovation, Business & Diplomacy, and Creative Arts & Expression.

An avid athlete, Wong was a star basketball player in high school at Maryknoll, under legendary Coach Tony Sellitto, and has coached both basketball and volleyball at Maryknoll and in the community. He has also paddled across the Moloka'i Channel eight times.

All proceeds from the Kekumano Award & Scholarship Dinner will benefit Maryknoll School's Kekumano Scholarship Endowment Fund. At the Dinner, Kekumano Scholarships will be awarded to 16 Maryknoll students for their academic excellence and commitment to community service. To reserve a table, purchase tickets, and/or make a monetary or in kind donation, call (808) 952-7310 or visit maryknollschoo.org/giving/kekumano-scholarship-dinner.

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About Maryknoll School

Founded in 1927 by the Maryknoll Sisters, Maryknoll School is Hawaii's largest co-educational Catholic school serving students from kindergarten through grade 12. Maryknoll offers an innovative, student-centered learning environment that develops the whole child and prepares students for the careers of the future through cultivating knowledge, creativity, self-discipline, social responsibility, and spiritual and physical growth. The school is committed to creating 21st century learners, leaders and global citizens of character. Visit maryknollschoo.org for more information.

About the Noblesse Oblige Service Award

The Noblesse Oblige Service Award, created in 1998 to honor the late Monsignor Charles A. Kekumano, recognizes leaders in the community for their selfless contributions to society. Past honorees include: Dr. Livingston M.F. Wong '48, James H. Gahler, Irmgard Farden Aluli, Cha and Jack Thompson, Nina Kealiawahamana Rapozo '54, Dr. Jorge Camara, Gov. George Ariyoshi, Dr. Gabriel Wai Chiu Ma, Alfred M.K. Wong, Wally Yonamine, Peter Ng, Galen Ho '63, Dr. Lawrence Tseu, Dr. Thomas and Mrs. Mi Kosasa, Larry Rodriguez, Ginny Tiu, Bob and Frances Bean, and John Uekawa.