



STATE OF HAWAI'I
KA MOKU 'ĀINA O HAWAI'I

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KE KIA'ĀINA

DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
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HAWAI'I STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS

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**STATE ART MUSEUM DEDICATES GOVERNOR IGE'S OFFICIAL
STATE PORTRAIT**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 21, 2025

HONOLULU — The official state portrait of Governor David Ige was unveiled and dedicated on September 21 at Capitol Modern: the Hawai'i State Art Museum. Governor Ige served as the state's eighth governor, from 2014 to 2022. He is a Democrat and an engineer by profession.

"Serving the people of this state for two terms has been a profound privilege," said Governor Ige. "I've always viewed public service not merely as a job, but as a true calling. It was an honor to guide Hawai'i through some of the most critical junctures in

our history, including the coronavirus pandemic. Our spirit of 'ohana remained strong, even in those tough times. The most inspiring part was seeing our people and our public servants work together to forge a new reality for the sake of our community."

"Governors' portraits serve as visual public records of Hawai'i history and provide an emotional link between audiences and past administrations," said Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA) Director Karen Ewald.

SFCA is tasked with commissioning and facilitating the creation of these portraits to ensure a complete story is captured within these works of art. By working alongside our governors and an Art Advisory Committee made up of community members, the SFCA selects portrait artists based on extensive portfolio reviews and in-person interviews.

Governor Ige's portrait was painted by Native Hawaiian artist and Maui resident Kirk Kurokawa. He holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree with distinction in illustration from the California College of Arts and Crafts. An award-winning portrait artist, he is the first and only Hawaiian to paint the official portraits of not one, but two former Hawai'i Governors — Neil Abercrombie and now David Ige, as well as the late U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye.

Amy Ige is one of the committee members as well as Governor Ige's daughter. "Watching this portrait come to life has been a truly meaningful experience, and I'm grateful to have been a part of it. Kirk [Kurokawa] made it clear from the beginning that his goal was to do more than just paint a likeness; he wanted to capture the essence of a leader. Kirk has woven the story of Governor Ige's humble and steadfast dedication to our state through his art. This piece is a permanent tribute to a legacy of service, and we are incredibly proud of the results," reflected Ige.

About the SFCA

The Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA), a government agency administratively attached to the [Department of Accounting and General Services](#) (Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 9), was established by the Hawai'i State Legislature in 1965, to promote, perpetuate, preserve and encourage culture and the arts, history and the humanities as central to the quality of life of the people of Hawai'i. SFCA funding is provided by the state of Hawai'i and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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RESOURCES

(Image courtesy: SFCA/ DAGS)

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