Maritime Patrol Association Scholar

Matthew Meinert

Kailua, HI

Sponsor: CDR Kevin Michael Meinert

College: University of Puget Sound

2026-2027: Freshman

Major: Physics & Music with Minor in Japanese

Academic & Extracurricular Highlights:

- Eagle Scout/Junior Asst Scoutmaster, Troop 311, Scouts BSA
- Hawaii Youth Symphony, Principal Horn and Section Leader
- President/Drum Major, Kalaheo High School Symphonic Band & Pep Band
- Captain, Kalaheo High School Varsity Swim Team
- Student Teacher, Hawaii Department of Education (HIDOE)



Receiving the Maritime Patrol Association Scholarship represents a meaningful jump start to my educational journey and the career I hope to build. My dream is to become a teacher, pursuing a double major in physics and music, followed by a teaching degree and certification, with the goal of inspiring students the way my own mentors have inspired me. This scholarship makes that path more accessible by helping defer education costs so I can graduate with less burden.

Growing up in a Naval Aviation family shaped my commitment to service and learning. My dad served for 24 years, and the values I learned from watching his career — commitment, work ethic, and understanding — are values I will bring into the classroom. Being supported by the MPA community honors where I come from while opening doors to where I am going. This scholarship is more than financial assistance. It is an investment in the next generation of educators and recognition that learning is a lifelong endeavor worth supporting. Thank you to the generous donors who make these opportunities possible. I am proud to be a Maritime Patrol Association Scholar and excited to make the most of this opportunity.