CVPIEL 25' IMPACT REPORT

ABOUT CVPIEL

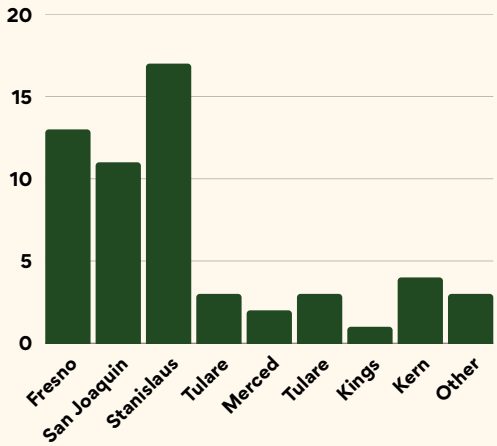
The Central Valley Pacific Islander Emerging Leaders (CVPIEL) conference is an annual convening designed to uplift Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NH/PI) youth and families across California's Central Valley. Created with high school students in mind, CVPIEL provides a culturally rooted space where youth feel seen, valued, and empowered. This year we expanded to include participants up to age 20, recognizing the continued need for connection, guidance, and leadership development among young adults in our community.

CVPIEL NUMBERS

57 Friday Participants

96 Saturday Participants

15 Volunteers



PARTICPANT DEMOGRAPHICS

48%

52%

NH/PI ISLAND AFFILIATION

Samoan - 90%	Native Hawaiian - 1%
Tongan - 6%	Palauan - <1 %
CHamorru - 2%	Fijian - <1%

"Everything about this weekend made me so proud of who I am, every time I'm with CVPIA I feel seen."
- CVPIEL Attendee

"You guys never fail to make the most comfortable and safe environment for us all to be open and willing to learning the new things you guys teach and share. I appreciate everything you do for all of us and have so much love for you and all of the cvpia staff."
- CVPIEL Attendee

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KEY HIGHLIGHTS

CVPIEL successfully met its core objectives, including:

- Community-building with Pasefika peers in culturally-affirming spaces
- Hands-on cultural learning and intergenerational knowledge-sharing
- Leadership development rooted in identity and cultural values
- Personal and professional skill-building
- 2 venues: Yosemite Lake, UCM, 9 workshops over 2 days, completely free event

SPACE AND PLACE

CVPIEL was intentionally held at the University of California, Merced to empower Pacific Islander youth to see themselves in higher education. By living in dorms and participating in workshops across campus, participants reimagined their place in institutions where they've long been underrepresented - right here in the region we call home.



"You took our young people from across a region that is severely overlooked and underfunded, held a conference and dorms in a higher institution, that's located in the Central Valley, and brought local and national Pasefika leaders to facilitate a conference of topics your young people chose. Now they can feel less intimidated to be in higher institutions and know they belong because of this." CVPIEL Facilitator







