MidWeek

Representing Santa With Joy

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By Mike Ching Chief Elf, Honolulu Santa

We all know Santa is busy this time of year so busy he can't be everywhere at once. In Hawaii, Honolulu Santa is often the first place he calls to help him schedule appearances locally. We help Santa appear at his best at malls, media and special events.

Honolulu Santa is an offshoot of our year-round party business.

Entertaining is all about providing delight, and we are qualified to provide a great experience.

We pride ourselves in working mostly oneto four-hour special Santa appearances helping to promote Santa and his personality.

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Our business purpose is simple and idealistic: Everyone deserves a great experience with Santa. Believing in Santa makes Christmas magical for children, so giving them a realistic Santa means everything to us.

If we have one secret, it is to strive for Santa's attitude.

People forget he began as St. Nicholas, a beloved bishop. He cared about everyone, so we try to give that experience of complete acceptance back to the community.

Child or adult, we hope that everyone who meets one of our Santas senses how happy he is to see them.

Entertainment had been a hobby of mine since age 6, when I was doing magic. Turning entertainment from hobby to a business taught me discipline. I learned to arrive early to eliminate problematic issues and calm sometimes nervous clients. I learned to work as much as possible not just for money, but also for practice and continual improvement.

Most importantly, working from an early age showed me how to remain afloat through high and low economic cycles. I believe those in any business who provide quality product with a reputation for fairness have a better chance of surviving through down times.

We only use experienced performers who have worked with youths and families. We have scholastic art teachers, concierges and family entertainers. Each performer is carefully selected, and each season we



Honolulu Santa helps Santa be

discuss tips on what to do and how to handle various situations. It is well known that our Santas will listen to all children's present inquires, but certainly know not to promise anything.

everywhere at once. Photo courtesy Honolulu Santa

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We'll always do the best we can to bring Santa to children and adults. The holidays are about giving joy and, to us, it isn't Christmas until we get to help Santa with his appearances. If we do it well, our audiences give us back the experience of Santa himself.

It's just the best job in the world.

For more information, visit honolulusanta.com or call 836-1800.

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