



Commendation

presented to

GREEN THUMB CHALLENGE

On behalf of the people of Hawai'i, we extend our personal greetings of aloha and offer a warm mahalo to the participants of the Green Thumb Challenge program.

We appreciate the efforts of the Hawai'i State School Garden Network working in conjunction with The Green Foundation and Lowes' Green Thumb Challenge to participate in a nationwide effort to develop 10,000 school and community gardens in the country by the end of 2010.

By connecting children with nature, and encouraging the healthy benefits of gardening, the Green Thumb Challenge offers participants with beginner-friendly resources to plant gardens of any size, as well as fun activities and standards-based lessons linking the classroom to the garden. Whether sowing seeds during a class period, planting bulbs in one afternoon or planning an outdoor garden, students across the country have committed to this exciting activity.

We would also like to recognize the other participants of the Green Thumb Challenge including the Kohala Center, 'Aina in Schools Program/Kokua Hawai'i Foundation – O'ahu, Kaua'i School Garden Network/Malama Kaua'i and Maui School Garden Network/Sustainable Living Institute of Maui. Your efforts will have a significant and long-lasting impact for many generations to come.

Best wishes for a memorable summer school garden teacher seminar, *Smart By Nature: Growing School Garden Curriculum* on Hawai'i Island on July 16 – 18, 2010, and continued success in future endeavors.

Aloha,

Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai'i

James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i