

## State News for NSPE Members

### Nominations Open for Hawaii Engineer of the Year and Young Engineer Awards

The Hawaii Society of Professional Engineers is accepting nominations for Engineer of the Year and the Young Engineer of the Year awards. These awards are intended to give due recognition to the outstanding accomplishments, contributions, and achievements of individuals in the different specialized fields of engineering. The winners will be presented at the Engineers Week Banquet in February.

NSPE-HI, in partnership with the Hawaii Council of Engineering Societies, is also seeking candidates for the Lifetime Achievement and the Student of the Year awards (enrolled at the University of Hawaii at Manoa).

Nomination forms can be accessed on the HCES [website](#) or by contacting [Kurt Kunimune, P.E.](#) Please submit nominations by **Monday, December 27**.

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### Infrastructure Law Funds Bridge and Road Repair, Transportation Upgrades

The bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will pay to repair and rebuild roads and bridges in Hawaii with a focus on climate change mitigation, resilience, equity, and safety for all users, including cyclists and pedestrians.

In Hawaii, there are 84 bridges and over 664 miles of highway in poor condition, according to the [US Department of Transportation](#). The state is expected to receive approximately \$1.5 billion over five years in federal highway formula funding for highways and bridges.

In addition, \$316 million over five years will be spent on improving public transportation in Hawaii. Funding will also cover modernization of freight rail, increased EV charging options, airport improvements, and other infrastructure updates.

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## Ala Wai Flood Mitigation Plan Switching Gears

A \$1.6 million grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Federation will help fund the removal of invasive plant species on O'ahu, which will result in a reduction in flood and landslide risk. Other positive outcomes will include cleaner water for coastal ecosystems, fewer brown water days, less stress on corals, less debris in waterways, improved water recharge, and protected habitat for rare plants and animals, the [governor's office reports](#).

Recent flooding caused by heavy rainfall illustrated the necessity for protective measures on the island. Since 2019, the state has worked with the Army Corps of Engineers to develop a flood mitigation system for the Ala Wai Watershed. The Honolulu community opposed the Corps' plan to build 4-foot-high walls along the canal, and advocated for more sustainable ecosystem restoration options. Over the next two years, the Corps will take public comment and work on a report to inform a new plan.



NSPE's **Job Board** is your one-stop resource for professional engineering employment. Whether you are on the hunt for your next career move or looking for today's top engineering leaders and talent, you will find it here.

NSPE provides the tools PEs need to keep current in the profession and advance their careers.

### Featured Job

[Two Faculty Positions – Mechanical Engineering](#)

Honolulu, HI

*Find more job openings or reach the right employees on the [NSPE Job Board](#).*

*Stay up to date on legislative issues through the [NSPE Advocacy Center](#).*

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**Share Your Story #IAMNSPE**

## Who is NSPE?

NSPE is its members. NSPE members—like you—bring a unique story and perspective to the engineering profession. Learn more about your peers and [share your own story](#) with a 30-second video and the hashtag, #IAMNSPE.

### I Am Innovative

**Ben Amaba, P.E., LEED AP, CPIM, BD+C**  
**CTO Digital Transformation with Technology Innovation**

**NSPE is “the perfect venue to learn, network, and advance your skills,” according to Ben Amaba, an innovator at IBM. It brings together a diverse set of professionals who are innovating the world, and has helped him both personally and professionally.**



## Honor Awards Open for Nominations

The NSPE Honor Awards promote the professional engineer’s contributions to society and recognize the achievements of the profession’s very best. The deadline for [award submissions](#) is **January 31, 2022**.

### NSPE Award

The NSPE Award is the highest award given to an individual by the Society. It is presented to an engineer who has made outstanding contributions to the

engineering profession, the public welfare, and humankind. **Steven Arndt, Ph.D., P.E., F.NSPE**, a world-renowned authority in the field of nuclear engineering, received the award in 2020.



### [New Professional Award](#)

This award recognizes a young NSPE member who has made outstanding contributions to the engineering profession and the community during the early years of one's career. **Stephanie Blain, P.E.**, received the award in 2021. She is employed with Palmer Engineering Company in Lexington, Kentucky.



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## **Get Your 15 Free PDHs for 2021—While They Last**

Access to the 2021 selection of 15 free courses ends in January, so claim them before it's too late. Members can conveniently view courses from the comfort of their home or office.

PDHs from these courses are recognized by most US states, including Florida, and are earned after passing a quiz with a score of 70% or higher. Simply “purchase” the webinars and add them to your NSPE member account.

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