



## PBS Hawaii's Planned Media Innovation Center

The more technology connects us digitally, the more important it is for us to connect face to face, especially when it comes to developing the 21st-century skills of teamwork, critical thinking and creative problem solving. What's needed for this kind of in-person collaboration is a place that is con-

"The opportunities for the students to partner with students from other schools and to work and receive feedback from industry professionals are priceless. My students have gained knowledge of what quality, techniques and standards would be expected of them should they enter a career in broadcast journalism. I have also increased the rigor of my news projects to reflect those standards."

**Michelle Rundbaken**  
Teacher, Kapaa High School, Kauai

ducive to innovative, open thinking. A place without physical or conceptual walls. A place that is flexible and malleable.

PBS Hawaii's new Media Innovation Center will be that place for **HIKI NŌ** students, teachers and mentors to train, learn, collaborate, discover and play.

Located on the second floor of the building, the Media Innovation Center will have 2,000 square feet of open space with tables and chairs that can be arranged in an infinite number of configurations.

Picture a HIKI NŌ workshop with 30 middle and high school students, their teachers and a handful of media professionals, divided into teams of five,

all spread out around the Media Innovation Center at their movable workstations. They are editing news stories on the latest electronic mobile devices of the day, working feverishly to meet the 2:00 pm deadline to present the first "rough cut." The deadline is met and the first team shows its rough cut to the entire group on a wall-sized screen. The rough cut fades to black and there is spirited applause.

The story works! Teammates exchange high-fives, but a student on another team suggests that they switch around some wording in the first voice-over. The reporter and audio person on the team run into a portable audio booth to record the new voice-over. Half an hour later,

after all first rough cuts have been screened, Team One shows its revised version to the group. Everyone agrees it is better. Why? They discuss the reasons and come up with a theory that all can refer to in future projects. Something is learned. The day is a success.

This is just one scenario of what might take place at PBS Hawaii's Media Innovation Center. Its potential will be as limitless as the number of ways its furniture can be configured. Whatever activities take place there, Hawaii's future innovators will be learning the skills needed to succeed in the 21st century, from teachers, mentors and, most importantly, from free-flowing collaborations with their peers.