Journalists at work and at play. Top, the Gridiron cast kicks back. Center, Ben Gutierrez, weather anchor for KITV 4 News This Morning. Bottom, Keoki Kerr has been honored by the SPJ 16 times for his investigative and enterprise reporting.
Summer Internships. Our paid summer internship program helps give students real-world experience and a foot in the door to Hawai‘i’s media world.

The Gridiron. Every year, we host a comedy musical in which we rip off Broadway and pop songs, altering the lyrics to make fun of local current events. The we get a bunch of J-geeks onstage, wearing stilts, wigs and—ahem—towels. Needless to say, this musical extravaganza sells out. Proceeds go toward funding our annual summer internships.

SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS, HAWAI‘I CHAPTER

WHO ARE WE?

The Hawai‘i Pro chapter consists of about 100 members. We are daily newspaper reporters, freelance writers, TV anchors, magazine editors, Web masters, bloggers, radio commentators. If it involves the media, we’re there. We also have associate members in the related fields of public relations and marketing.

WHAT WE DO:

• Our annual SPJ contest. Honors the best in journalism during our contest and awards dinner.

• First Amendment Advocacy. We advocate to protect working journalists.

• Sunshine Laws. We work to support access to documents and proceedings, as part of the Freedom of Information Act.

• The Gridiron. Every year, we host a comedy musical in which we rip off Broadway and pop songs, altering the lyrics to make fun of local current events. The we get a bunch of J-geeks onstage, wearing stilts, wigs and—ahem—towels. Needless to say, this musical extravaganza sells out. Proceeds go toward funding our annual summer internships.

Can the cast of The Gridiron make fun of drug policies, politicians and poultry, all in one song? Why yes, they can.

• Mix and Mingle. We host conferences, invite speakers from the Mainland and abroad, such as Lance Williams of the San Francisco Chronicle and Byron Acohido from USA Today, conduct workshops and occasionally raise a glass or two at mixer events.

• Oh, and we win awards. In the past two years, we have won two awards from the national level of the Society of Professional Journalists, including “Freedom of Information Efforts by a Small Chapter” and “Campus Relations Efforts” for our funded internship program.

WANT TO JOIN US?

It’s easy. Sign up at http://www.spj.org/join.asp. Visit our local chapter’s site at www.hawaiispj.org for an application. Membership includes free subscriptions to the Quill, SPJ’s quarterly magazine, and ‘Aha’ilono, the Hawai‘i chapter’s quarterly newsletter. You’ll also receive special discounts to SPJ events and contest entries, including first-choice picks for discounted tickets to the annual Gridiron. Welcome!