



# Research Drones

Jackson Solomon '15, Nicky Palleschi '15,  
Abe Binder '15, Juan Miche-Rosales '16

Teamwork was a key element in our success this year as the 2015 HPA drone team. It was necessary while flying the inspire drone, because this high tech piece of equipment requires two people to fly it at once; one piloting the drone and one controlling the camera's movement.

Capturing on film the surreal beauty of HPA was a bumpy ride. We had so many unique structures to choose from, but no set plan to go by. With the help of Mr. Schorn we made a schedule for days to film, angles to film from, what to film, and what to do if the weather prevented us from filming. We started with HPA's energy lab, a state of the art environmentally designed building . We used a series of precise shots to capture the essence of this

remarkable building. We captured the newly set up solar panels behind the energy lab, the student life outside, and the eco-friendly architecture of the energy lab. After completion of the energy lab we moved on to the cross country course. It is only fitting that HPA's cross country course is one of the most unique in the state of Hawaii, with steep hills and part of the course shrouded by giant trees. For this



Libero purus sodales mauris, eu  
vehicula lectus velit nec velit.

particular shoot, we used a steadicam in addition to our drone to add the perspective of what it would feel like for a person to run our course. We spilt the footage in two; half from the drone's aerial perspective and half from the perspective of a runner. From the cross country course we moved onto the topic of filming sports at HPA. It took lots of careful planning, precision flying, and camera rotation work to be able to fully encapsulate the true essence of HPA sports. Not to mention just the mere difficulty of flying a very powerful flying piece of equipment within a close radius of people. For this specific project we used a lot of shots looking straight down onto the various sports fields, lots of panoramas, and a few shots from the steadicam on the sidelines. After covering HPA sports we moved on to the famous bamboo classroom and HPA garden run by Mr. Emmons. While filming this project, we really wanted to focus on broadcasting the splendor of nature coexisting with the man made properties of the bamboo classroom. To accomplish this specific vision, we made sure to get plenty of footage where we would fly over the length of the garden and slowly come down to the center of the classroom and pan around it. Thus giving the effect of slowly beginning with nature and eventually coming to a point where nature and man made materials create a positive learning environment for the students here at HPA. To round out our semester of putting a few of HPA's prominent features into the spotlight, we were given the task of filming Mr. Braithwaite's AP Literature class as they ventured into the

hills behind HPA. This particular event was the hardest to film for a few reasons; we were trying to keep up with a moving target, it was extremely windy, and we were far away from the energy lab and we had limited battery power. However in my opinion it was also the most fun shoot we did all semester. The specific shots we used consisted of lots of circling patterns around the moving class, lots of flying in front of them and then back over them, and lots of diving shots where we would take the drone up really high and have it dive towards them and then pull up and fly over them. Being part of the drone team this year was an experience of a lifetime. I learned many skills from this project such as; flying a drone, project management, and editing high quality videos which are all very applicable after high school. Thank you for the opportunity to be part of this wonderful experience.