



# Ka Wai Ola

NEWS FOR THE LĀHUI

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## RESTORING KAUA'I'S MOST FAMOUS FISHPOND

PAGES 18-20

Kili Williams, a haumana at Kanuikapono PCS, proudly holds up the invasive tilapia he caught in Alakoko Fishpond. Thanks to the efforts of nonprofit Mālama Hule'ia, this once neglected Kaua'i wahi pana is being restored and will be protected in perpetuity. - Photo: Tina Aiu



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## THERE IS HONOR IN HARD WORK

**Hana** (nvt. To work, labor, do, behave, commit, make, create, perform, prepare.)

Aloha mai kākou,

**M**y parents raised me to work hard. Dad was the oldest of eight children and his parents died young. He attended school through the eighth grade and then went to work on the sugar plantation in order to provide for his younger siblings.

Mom was the second oldest of 15 children and in large families everyone worked. She attended school through the ninth grade and then got a job as a nanny for the plantation manager's wife. She would walk from her house up ma uka in Wai'āpuka to the Hala'ula Mill each week, returning home on the weekends to spend time with her 'ohana.

At both my mother's and father's funerals, we talked about their work ethic – this core value that they passed along to their children. They taught us to be dependable. They taught us that if you are assigned a task or a kuleana, then you show up and you work hard for as long as it takes. The value of hard work was their humble legacy to us children.

When I reflect on this legacy, I realize how honorable is that characteristic – to hana (labor) honestly with effort, integrity and dignity. Our work, whether at home, at our job, or in the community, becomes our legacy. Thus, the quality of that work, good or bad, contributes to the foundation that those who come after us will have to build upon. If such is the case, shouldn't we always work hard, be industrious, and strive for excellence?

In mo'olelo, the menehune are known for being industrious workers who could complete large, complex building projects in a single night. One of the projects for which they are credited is Alakoko Fishpond on Kaua'i – indeed,

Alakoko's nickname is "Menehune Fishpond."

Built along the Hulē'ia River, the fishpond is enclosed by a rock wall that is a half-mile long. At places, the river is 10 feet deep. Such is the quality of its construction that the fishpond wall still stands solid despite 600 years of floods and hurricanes, and a century of disuse and neglect.

In this issue of *Ka Wai Ola*, we highlight the efforts of nonprofit Mālama Hulē'ia, the stewards of Alakoko since 2017. They have taken on the arduous task of removing acres of invasive mangrove trees that had overgrown the fishpond and was choking out the river and estuary. Their vision is to restore the fishpond and surrounding area to abundance and beyond that, to create a place where the next generation and those who follow can learn and carry this 'ike forward. In this way, they are building upon the work that began 600 years ago.

Continuing to shine the spotlight this month on the island of Kaua'i, we learn about the work of OHA grantee Kūku-lu Kumuhana o Anahola and we meet Kaua'i Kumu Hula Leinā'ala Pavao Jardin whose hard work paid off when her hālau took top honors at Merrie Monarch this year.

"Aia ke ola i ka hana; Life is in labor." ■



Sylvia M. Hussey, Ed.D.  
Chief Executive Officer



Sylvia M. Hussey, Ed.D.  
Ka Pouhana  
Chief Executive Officer

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BY ADAM KEAWE MANALO-CAMP

Kawelo of Kaua'i was famous for his intelligence, wisdom, leadership, and mastery of diverse skills from fishing to warfare.





Hau māna from Kanuikapono Public Charter School receive a “Certificate of Completion” for their participation in the Resilient Leaders and Food Security program led by Kapule Torio. - Photos: Courtesy



Keiki are building life skills by building raised garden planter boxes for their kūpuna. In the process they learned how to use various carpentry tools including skill saws.



Kūkulu Kumuhana o Anahola partnered with the Surfrider Foundation, United Airlines and Anahola community members to remove over 5,600 tons of trash from the Anahola Beach coastline.

# Rallying Anahola

Born out of tragedy, Kūkulu Kumuhana O Anahola is building community resilience with the support of three grants from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs

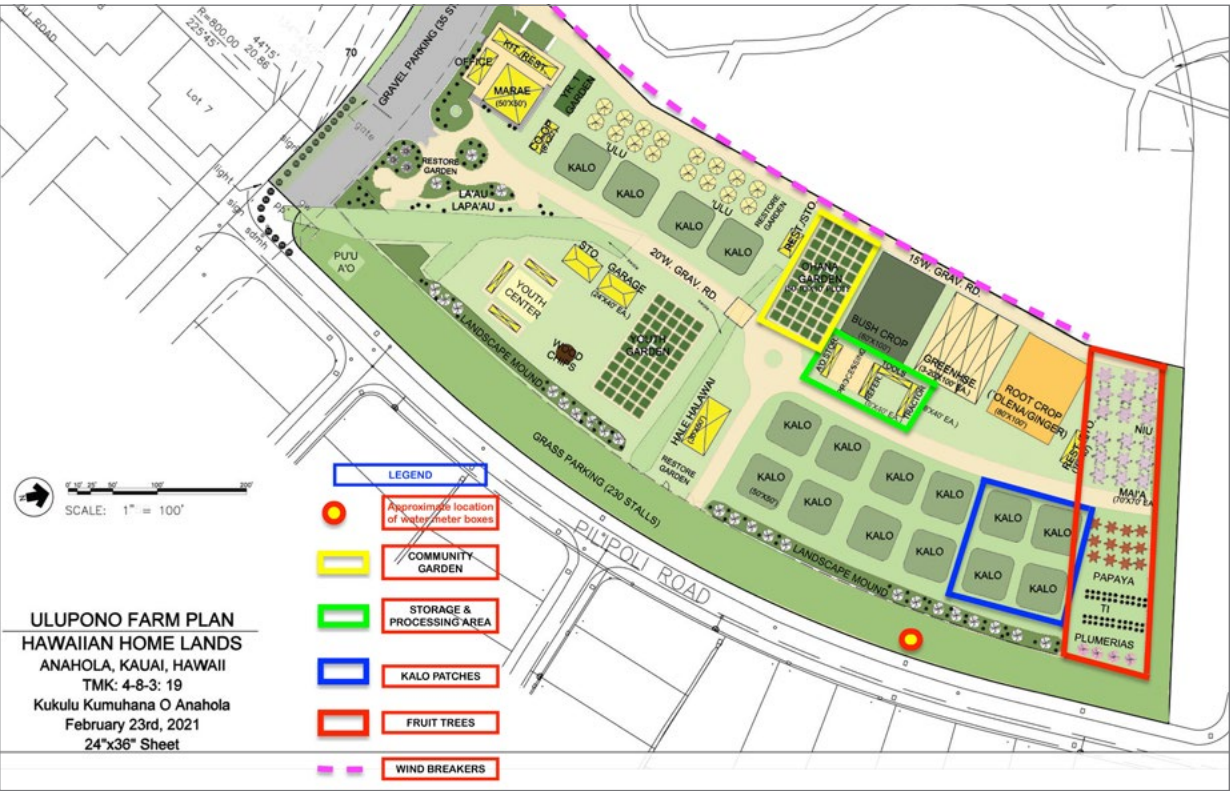
By Ed Kalama

“He kēhau ho‘oma‘ema‘e ke aloha.  
Love is like cleansing dew.”  
Love removes hurt.

It was October of 2008 when the Hawaiian community at Anahola on Kaua‘i was shaken as they mourned the loss of three young Native Hawaiians who tragically took their own lives. Coming together to remember these ‘ōpio, concerned residents formed Kūkulu Kumuhana O Anahola (KKOA), a community nonprofit with a mission to provide safe places to deter suicide by building life skills that strengthen Hawaiian cultural identity, empowering individuals to successfully manage their future. Three separate grants from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) are helping the organization to achieve its vision of a healthy and thriving Hawaiian community in Anahola that is active in traditional and modern culture; utilizes new technologies to enhance the old; and

establishes and manages its own food system to provide a healthy and sustainable way of living. A key piece to KKOAs overall strategy has been the ongoing development of the Ulupono Anahola Agricultural Community and Youth Center. The 10-acre facility, located on Hawaiian Home Lands, will include kalo patches, fruit trees, a community garden, a storage and processing area, meeting rooms and more. A \$75,000 OHA grant is currently being used to install a water irrigation system for the farm while another \$100,000 grant has been awarded to KKOAs for its “Hana Ka Lima” initiative which is providing programs and opportunities to the homestead community to establish thriving ‘ōpio with well-developed skills and involve mākuā and community leaders who are invested in nurturing ‘Ōiwi leaders. A \$10,000 OHA ‘Ahahui grant sponsored the group’s three-day “‘Āina to ‘Ōpū” community event held in December 2021 where cultural practioners provided educational demonstrations to help restore proficiency of kalo as a heritage plant and homestead food resource. KKOAs Co-Founder and President Ku‘uleialoha Punua and Executive Director Rae Makanani Nam have impressed OHAs Grants staff with their dedication, passion and community spirit. “Ku‘uleialoha and Rae have worked around the clock

SEE RALLYING ANAHOLA ON PAGE 5



Site map of the planned Ulupono Anahola Agricultural Community and Youth Center. A \$75,000 OHA grant is being used to install a water irrigation system for the farm while another \$100,000 OHA grant will be used to provide programs for the community for skills training.



## RALLYING ANAHOLA

Continued from page 4

to meet the needs of the Anahola community and to accomplish their dream of establishing an agricultural and youth training center in Anahola. Working with the women who run KKO, visiting scholars have seen firsthand the small, daily tasks involved in their longer-term struggle to express their aloha 'āina through supporting the youth and families of Anahola, and via securing land for Hawaiian food sovereignty and prosperity," said OHA Grants Officer Strather Ing.

Nam joined KKO as a board member in 2013 and stepped into the role of executive director in November 2020 to oversee the Ulupono Anahola project, which is expected to open in phases with the first phase comprised of student and community garden training beginning in November 2022. The entire project is planned for completion in three to five years, depending on funding.

"With Ulupono Anahola, we'll be able to provide so much more that will impact the community. This project will provide a certified kitchen for the community to use, community gardens for both 'ohana and youth, a youth center, a hale hālāwai, a nursery and a medicinal garden area. We still have an additional 20 acres we requested in our original right of entry, but for now we'll start with this 10-acre property," Nam said.

Nam said she is very appreciative of being awarded the grants, with OHA just one of several organizations that support the work of KKO.

"The OHA grants will help our youth be resilient and realize their value and worth to their families and community, allow them to continue to perpetuate their culture, and provide a healthy and thriving food system in the community that will help them to not be dependent

*"The OHA grants will help our youth be resilient and realize their value and worth to their families and community..."*

-RAE NAM

on imported foods," she said.

"These grants will also provide a safe place for resources and gatherings that will strengthen these children individually and collectively. The grants will also open doors for economic stability in the future and educate both our youth and 'ohana in growing their own foods. All of these opportunities are proven to deter suicide, which has been a concern on Kaua'i and specifically in the Anahola community for years."

Nam said there's a bigger picture to what the OHA Grants Program is achieving.

"What OHA is helping with is not just accomplishing KKO's projects or goals for the Anahola community. Their grants are literally changing the landscape of the 'āina in the Anahola community, which is triggering a chain reaction that isn't only affecting the 'āina, but it's affecting people and moving them to participate and not just be bystanders," she said.

"The grants provide for workshops and programs that perpetuate our culture – like making their own papa ku'i'ai, planting or harvesting kalo, learning from cultural practitioners and our kūpuna and more – OHA's assistance is helping KKO to trigger all the possibilities of drawing out the very best from this community." ■



Keiki prepare harvested kalo for processing and huli for replanting. - Photos: Courtesy



Activities that strengthen Hawaiian cultural identity - like harvesting kalo and pounding poi - are a core part of Kūkulu Kumuhana O Anahola's curriculum.



## Everybody Loves Rae

By Ed Kalama

Rae Makaanani Nam's 'āno is so powerfully beautiful that you can feel it come right through your computer email.

Ask the executive director of Kūkulu Kumuhana O Anahola to respond to nine email questions, and she will pour her heart out in 12-pages of response explaining exactly how much passion and aloha she has for her Anahola community.

Office of Hawaiian Affairs Grants Management System Administrator Karlen Oneha said working with Nam has been an inspiration.

"Every interaction I've had with her reminds me to keep pushing each day. Her passion and diligence inspire me to be a better worker and community member," Oneha said. "Rae juggles multiple hats at KKO and continues to get the job done with grace and dedication to the lāhui."

"Everybody who knows Auntie Rae, loves Auntie Rae," says KKO Co-Founder and President Ku'uleialoha Punua. "Rae expresses the heart of KKO with such joy and excellence. Her ability to navigate through many waters in this stage of KKO's journey is beyond commendable. She leads with so much aloha, wisdom, kindness, patience, inner strength, confidence and focus - everyone loves Auntie Rae!"

Nam was credited by Hawaiian Homes Commissioner Dennis Neves of Kaua'i at an April 2022 Department of Hawaiian Homelands meeting for spearheading the community suicides training in Anahola, specifically bringing about a great amount of healing. The goal of KKO's SAFETALK Suicide Prevention training is to have someone, or a family, trained on every street in Anahola.

Nam, a Kamehameha Schools graduate and Kaua'i native, is so nice that back in the day when she worked as a front desk clerk at the Sheraton Moana/Surfrider Hotel, the bellhops placed a bet that she would not make it past her probationary period because she was too nice to deal with unhappy and rude tourists. Not only did she last 11 years at Sheraton and destroy the bellhops' bet, "little did they know that I would end up marrying one of them," Nam said.

If the Anahola community loves Auntie Rae, Auntie Rae loves them right back.

"Through all the years as a KKO board member and serving the Anahola community, I have really loved this community. When I got this job I asked my friends to pray that I would get past my inadequacies and stay focused on the people," she said.

"The best thing about this job is that I have a front row seat to what could possibly be the most life changing time for the Anahola community. I love working with the different organizations that impact Anahola as well because our common bond, aside from the love of the people, is that we all know we can't do it alone. I love connecting with the people and KKO opens opportunities for us to make a difference in individual lives, in revitalizing our lands, and allows us to learn and grow as well.

"I want to be clear that there is absolutely nothing that we've done that we did alone. From the very beginning, KKO has had incredible partnerships that have helped us in every way that has allowed our organization to grow. Those partnerships continue to stand alongside us as we represent Anahola the best way we can." ■





**DONNA KALI KO SANTOS**  
Beneficiary Service Agent  
Hui Huliāmahi (Beneficiary Services)  
25 years at OHA

FROM:  
Ha‘ikū and Kīpū (ahupua‘a), Puna (moku), Kaua‘i (mokupuni)

EDUCATION:  
• Kaua‘i High School  
• Kaua‘i Community College

**What is your kuleana at OHA?**  
*I am currently a Beneficiary Services Agent. I serve as a liaison/conduit for my community to the services and programs that OHA provides – like the Hawaiian Registry Program, Native Hawaiian Revolving Loan Fund and our Grants Program – as well as with other resources in our community that can help our beneficiaries in their particular situations. I also help OHA to connect with Kaua‘i community issues.*

**Why did you choose to work for OHA?**  
*I came to OHA at the request of Carmen “Boots” Panui who needed help in the Kaua‘i office as a temp hire and that turned into a full-time position.*

**What is the best thing about working at OHA?**  
*The fun people I work with, of course! I enjoy learning from them.*

**What is something interesting for people to know about you?**  
*I have worked with every OHA Kaua‘i community liaison (although that title has changed throughout the years) and I have worked with every OHA Kaua‘i/Ni‘ihau trustee since the organization was formed.*

**Who has been your role model?**  
*There are many: Carmen Panui, the Kaua‘i community liaisons I’ve worked with over the years, the OHA trustees representing Kaua‘i and Ni‘ihau, and all the kūpuna who have poured into me their ‘ike, mo‘olelo and passion. I’ve been paying it forward ever since.*

**What is your best OHA memory?**  
*I had been with OHA for some time and at a community meeting I was attending I realized that the meeting facilitator looked so familiar. During the first break I went over to introduce myself – only to realize that it was the former OHA administrator who actually hired me! We have laughed about that ever since – and now I never forget her face! ■*

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# Wiliwili (Erythrina sandwicensis)

By Bobby Camara

*“Ka wiliwili o Kaupe‘a; The wiliwili grove of Kaupe‘a.” In ‘Ewa, O‘ahu. Said to be where homeless ghosts wander among the trees. - ‘Ōlelo No‘eau #1666*



Brilliant red seeds, one or two per pod, decorate bare branches, while pua of varied colors surprise. Variability is a signature of some of our endemic trees. - Photos: Seeds and white pua - F. & K. Starr; green pua - D. Eickhoff; salmon and ivory pua - Jeffrey Saito.



While wandering lava lands, familiar splashes of color beckon. - Photos: Bark detail - J.B. Friday; tree in full bloom - F. & K. Starr.

The arid coralline limestone plain of Honouliuli ma kai, west of Pu‘uloa, grew many thousands of years ago when the sea level was much higher. It was the site of Kaupe‘a and its wiliwili grove until recently when the trees were bulldozed for development. Gone are gnarled orange-trunked kumulā‘au. Now spirits wander, lost, looking for a resting place. Wiliwili grows easily and quickly, as long as you file through its bright red seed coat so water can enter and feed it. With dryland friends such as ‘ōhai, ma‘o, ‘a‘ali‘i, and pili, wiliwili thrive in dry coastal lowlands with just a little rain. Its very light-weight wood is used for papa he‘e nalu and ‘ama. ■

# Public Land Trust Bill Awaits Governor's Signature

By Ed Kalama

A Public Land Trust bill that would increase the Office of Hawaiian Affairs' pro rata share of the Public Land Trust revenue has been passed by the 2022 Hawai'i State Legislature and is currently awaiting Gov. David Ige's signature.

Bills that were delivered to the governor this year after April 18 will become law if signed or not vetoed by July 12. The governor has until June 27 to inform the Legislature of an intention to veto any such bills.

To override any vetoed bills, the Legislature would have to convene a special session at or before noon on July 12 and gather a two-thirds majority vote.

SB2021 SD1 HD2 CD1 would raise annual revenue payments to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs from \$15.1 million to \$21.5 million, provide an additional sum of \$64 million, and form a working group to continue discussion of this long-debated issue.

The bill cleared both the House and Senate floor votes unanimously.

"It has been extremely gratifying to observe this year's legislative session and know that not only were concerns

for the Native Hawaiian people listened to and heard but attended to as well. We have always, and will continue to, advocate for what is just, fair and pono for our people," said OHA Board Chair Carmen "Hulu" Lindsey.

"We would like to thank our legislators for addressing the state's constitutional obligation to Native Hawaiians and agreeing to continue to work toward a resolution of this issue. We mahalo House Finance Chair Sylvia Luke and Reps. Mark Nakashima, Stacelynn Eli, Daniel Holt and Gene Ward as well as Senate Ways and Means Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, Senate Vice President Michelle Kidani, and Sens. Maile Shimabukuro, Jarrett Keohokale and Kurt Fevella for their leadership and support on behalf of Native Hawaiians," Lindsey said.

Lindsey said that OHA is looking forward to the upcoming working group discussions.

"The formation of a working group is important progress that we hope will lead to increased discussion and a better understanding of the state's constitutional obligation to the Native Hawaiian people and strategies to fulfill it," she said.

Lindsey said the decision of where to prudently deploy these additional funds will be decided by OHA's Board of Trustees in fulfillment of their fiduciary duties considering the agency's investment and spending policies and in

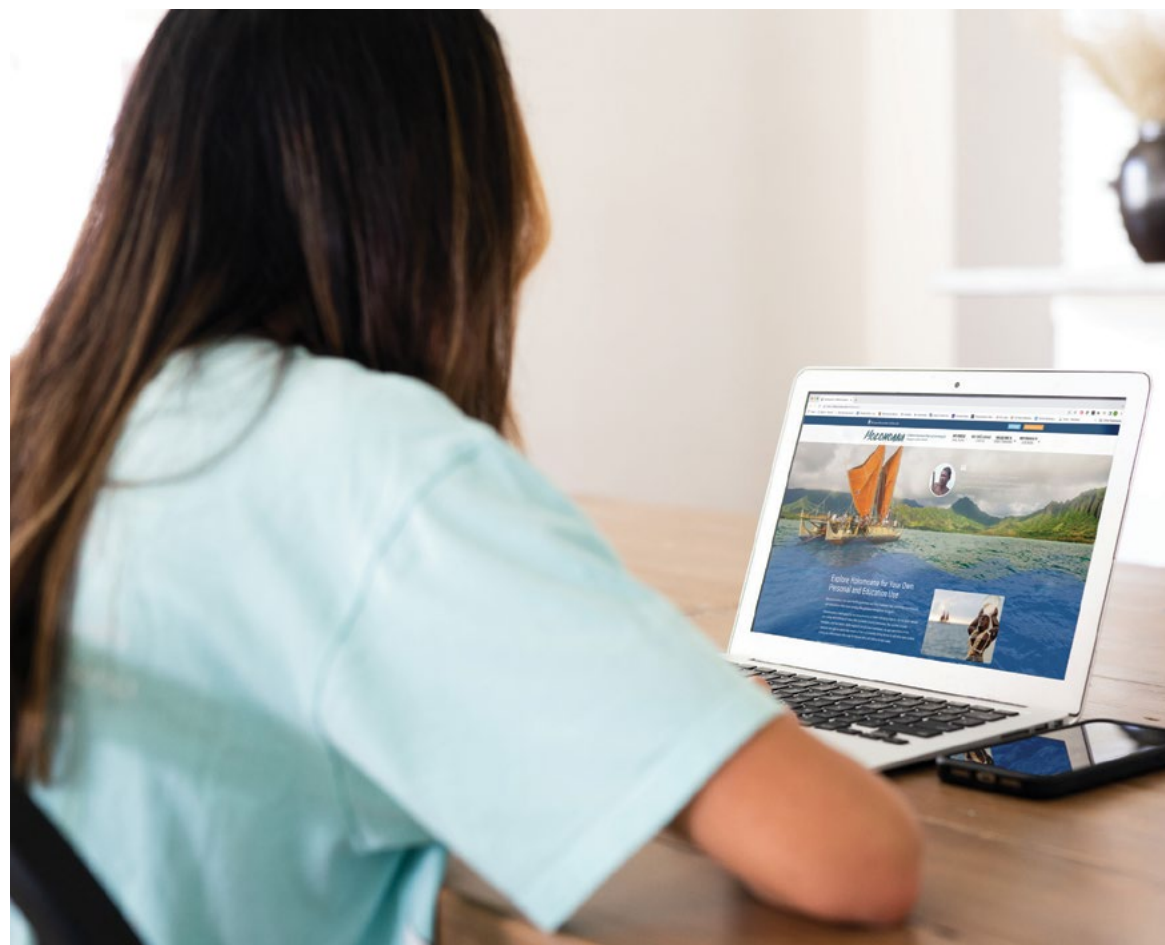
alignment with the organization's 15-year Mana i Maui Ola Strategic Plan.

"Together, with the support from our state Legislature, we will continue our work to better the lives of the Native Hawaiian people and create a thriving lāhui," she said.

Lindsey thanked her fellow trustees for their professionalism and for operating in a spirit of lōkahi and congratulated the staff and administration at OHA led by Chief Executive Officer/Ka Pouhana Dr. Sylvia Hussey, Chief Operating Officer Casey Brown and Chief Advocate Na'u Kamali'i for their stellar work in seeing the bill through the legislative session.

"We have worked very hard to raise awareness and educate the public, including our legislators, on the issues surrounding the Public Land Trust, and we will continue this work until we can come up with a resolution to this issue that honors the state's obligations to Native Hawaiians," Lindsey said.

"I'd like to send a special mahalo to our beneficiaries, community organizations and every individual who took the time to offer testimony in support of this bill. In truth, the Public Land Trust bill is not a bill for OHA, it is a bill for the Native Hawaiian people." ■



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# Hawaiian Ancestral Human Remains and Treasures Repatriated from Ireland

By Alice Malepeai Silbanuz

Following ongoing dialogue with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) and Hui Iwi Kuamo'o, the National Museums Northern Ireland (NMNI) hosted an official handover ceremony at Ulster Museum in Belfast in May and successfully repatriated iwi kūpuna (ancestral Hawaiian human remains) and five mea makamae pili ali'i (treasures associated with ali'i) which were a part of the museums' World Cultures Collection.

The repatriation process involved a private ceremony followed by a public ceremony at Ulster Museum. Hawaiian representatives, NMNI colleagues, and delegates from the United States Embassy were in attendance.

"The return of the iwi kūpuna and mea makamae pili ali'i to this delegation of Native Hawaiians, so that they may be returned home to Hawai'i, is an act of compassion and understanding that is much needed and long overdue," said OHA Board Chair Carmen "Hulu" Lindsey.

Following extensive research into the provenance of each of the materials, it is believed that Gordon Augustus Thomson, who had travelled to Hawai'i Island in 1840, had removed iwi kūpuna from burial caves and donated them to the Belfast Natural History and Philosophical Society in 1857. The iwi kūpuna were included

in a 1910 donation to the Belfast Museum and Art Gallery, a precursor to NMNI.

Kathryn Thomson, chief executive at NMNI said: "National Museums Northern Ireland believes it has legal and ethical responsibilities to redress the injustices shown to Native Hawaiian cultural values and traditions, and so through ongoing dialogue, it was agreed that these iwi kūpuna and mea makamae pili ali'i should be returned by repatriation to Native Hawaiians through the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, a self-governing corporate body of the State of Hawai'i.

"We are re-evaluating our World Cultures Collection on an ongoing basis, to better understand the complex global stories of some 4,500 items – and how and why they came to be in Belfast. We understand and respect cultural values and are in ongoing liaison with source communities and their representatives to establish if items within the collection can and should be returned to their ancestral homes. We remain open to further repatriations as these engagements develop."

The return of the iwi kūpuna and mea makamae pili ali'i has great significance on a cultural level for the people of Hawai'i. The five mea makamae pili ali'i are considered sacred by Native Hawaiians and incorporate either human hair, bone, or teeth. The use of human remains was done purposefully and with meaning to infuse objects with mana, spiritual power. The lei niho palaoa, whale tooth necklaces,



Pictured L-R at the official ceremony at Ulster Museum are Kathryn Thompson, chief executive of NMNI; Hui Iwi Kuamo'o representatives Dane Uluwehi Maxwell, Mana Caceres, Kolehua Caceres and Starr Kalahiki; and Aaron Snipe of the U.S. Embassy in London. - Photo: Courtesy

were traditionally provided to ali'i (chiefs) and worn around the neck to show a connection between the chiefly class and the akua (gods). The bracelet and fan intertwined with human hair were reserved for ali'i and used only during ceremonies rather than for everyday use. The wooden ipu kuha (spittoon) and ipu 'aina (scrap bowl) were made exclusively for ali'i so their attendants could carefully dispose of food scraps and bodily remains, lest the material fall into the hands of a kahuna 'anā'anā (sorcerer) and be used to harm or kill the chief.

In modern times, Hawaiian leaders and cultural practitioners still revere the use

of such objects and typically or use them during ceremonies. The fan, in particular, is one of a very few early 19th century styles not typically available to Native Hawaiians today for ceremony, due to their rarity.

On the same trip, the Hawaiian delegation also repatriated an iwi po'o (skull) from Surgeons' Hall Museums in Edinburgh, and engaged in repatriation consultations in London. The iwi kūpuna will be reburied on Moloka'i and Hawai'i Island from which they were taken. The five mea makamae pili ali'i will be properly stewarded by OHA. ■



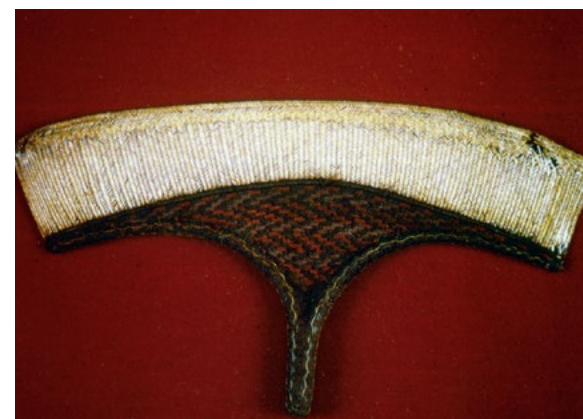
Ipu kuha and ipu 'aina - Photos: Courtesy



Kūpē'e



Lei niho palaoa



Pe'ahi



# A New Era at the Office of Hawaiian Affairs

By OHA Board of Trustees Chair Carmen "Hulu" Lindsey and  
Chief Executive Officer/Ka Pouhana Dr. Sylvia M. Hussey

*This article was originally printed in the Honolulu Star-Advertiser on April 26, 2022.*

**T**he Office of Hawaiian Affairs' decades-long fight to receive its fair share of Public Land Trust revenues was detailed recently in a Star-Advertiser editorial ("Sharper pencils, eyes on Office of Hawaiian Affairs funds," Our View, April 21).

As Senate Bill 2021 SD1 HD2 continues to work its way through the Legislature, we invite everyone to focus on where the agency is today, and how we are managing the funds entrusted in us to better the conditions of Native Hawaiians.

This is a new era at the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Our 2020-2035 strategic plan, Mana i Maui Ola, responds to community input by focusing on the immediate needs of the Native Hawaiian people in the areas of education, health, housing, and economic stability - all on a foundation of strengthened 'Ohana, Mo'omeheu and 'Āina.

There is new leadership across the organization, which builds on the efforts of all who have served this mission

in the past. Over the last two years we have welcomed a new chair of the Board of Trustees and a new chief executive officer, complemented with a new chief operating officer, chief financial officer, chief advocate and land director, who all serve side by side with research, community engagement, communications and strategy management directors and staff who are focused on strategic plan implementation.

Trustees have implemented a new governance structure and policy framework and moved forward to activate and revitalize the 30-acres of waterfront properties in Kaka'ako Makai. We have reorganized the agency, reducing overhead costs, streamlining operations and redirecting resources to our beneficiaries and communities.

Our grant awards to community organizations increased from \$6 million in 2006 to \$16 million last fiscal year - a record for the agency. Our overall two-year fiscal biennium budget for grants and sponsorships has been set at \$30.2 million - also a record for the agency - and up from the \$24.5 million that was set for the last fiscal biennium.

Posted on OHA's website, under "Quick Links, Financial Transparency," readers will find 18 years of financial statements and audit information- from June 30, 2004, to June 30, 2021 - plus three years of single audits of the Na-

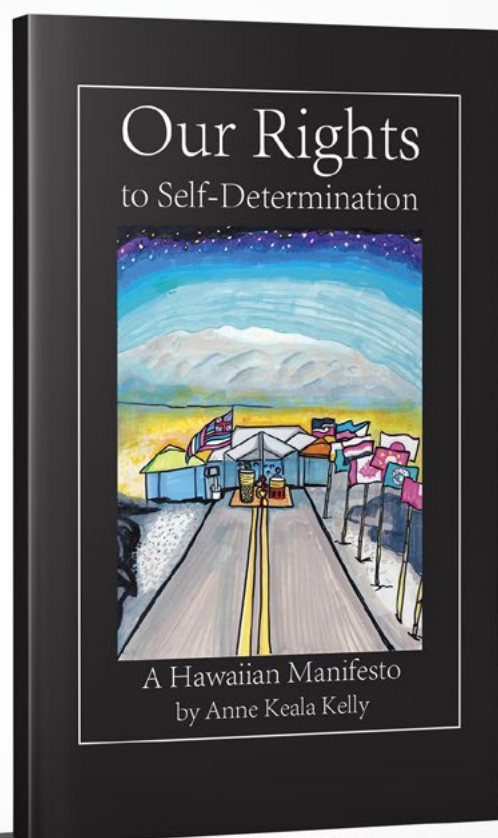
tive Hawaiian Revolving Loan Fund, completed by four independent audit firms. Each audit conducted by those independent firms opined an "unqualified" or "clean" opinion.

In May 2019, the Board approved the winddown of existing LLCs with only Hi'ilei Aloha LLC, parent of Hi'i-paka LLC dba Waimea Valley, still in existence. Waimea Valley is a peaceful and serene example of preserving and perpetuating human, cultural and natural resources.

It is our fiduciary duty to continue this fight for what is rightfully owed to the Native Hawaiian people. It is the State of Hawai'i's constitutional obligation to Native Hawaiians that is at stake here, and we are appreciative of the Hawai'i state legislators who have worked with us this session to advance Senate Bill 2021 SD1 HD2 this far.

We note the increase in the proposed interim payment amount from \$15.1 million to \$21.5 million to adjust for inflation. We stand ready to discuss this issue further through the formulation of a working group as this is a complicated matter with broad impacts.

This is a new day at OHA. We seek a just, fair and pono resolution to this ongoing issue that will move us toward our mission of creating a thriving lāhui. Let us all sharpen our pencils and get to work as we strive to better the conditions of the Native Hawaiian people. ■



SOVEREIGNTY  
NATIVE  
KĀNAKA  
TRIBE  
STATE

KA PAE 'ĀINA O HAWAI'I  
OCCUPATION  
'ŌIWI  
AMERICAN  
KAPU ALOHA

HAWAI'I  
OVERTHROW  
MAOLI  
HAWAIIAN  
INDEPENDENCE

This little book is 12,000 words long. Small enough to fit in the palm of a hand, powerful enough to fill Hawaiian hearts with truth, urgency and the courage to stand up for our rights as a people and a nation.

Buy it at [kuleanaworks.com](http://kuleanaworks.com)  
\$20 includes S&H in Hawai'i & the U.S.

Cover art, by Makaiwa Kanui, depicts the kūpuna tent blocking the road to Mauna Kea to protest the TMT.



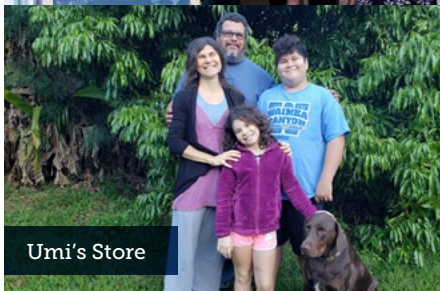
## OHA Mālama Loans proudly support Kaua'i businesses



Hāloalaunuiākea Early Learning Center



Salt + Sea



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808-592-1888



## He Kino Hou o ka Waihona Puke Uila Hawai'i 'o ka Ulukau

Kākau 'ia na Robert Stauffer a unuhi 'ia na Kamalani Johnson

**O** ka Waihona Puke Uila Hawai'i 'o ka Ulukau kekahi o nā kahuapa'a 'ōlelo 'ōiwi keke nui loa 'ia o ka poepoe honua e 'e'e ai ka po'e mai Hawai'i, nā moku'āina he 50 pau pū me ka 'Āpana 'o Kolumepia, a me ka 122 kaumoku'āina ma ka lili'i loa. E 'oli'oli nō paha ka na'au o ka mea 'ōlelo Hawai'i a puni ka poepoe honua ke lohe a'e i ke kele 'ia o ka Ulukau he 50,000 manawa o ka lā, e kokoke ana i ka 400 miliona kele 'ana mai kona ho'okumu mua 'ia i ka makahiki 2002. He manuahi ka Ulukau mai kinohi mai i holo ma luna o ka lā lūlū 'ia mai na nā lālā a hui kāko'o o ke kaiaulu.

Ka'a hope akula he 20 makahiki mai kona ho'okumu mua 'ia 'ana, ke hō'ano hou makamua 'ia nei ka Ulukau. Inā e kele aku i ulukau.org i kēia lā, ma laila e 'ike 'ia ai he ki'i nani a me nā koho a ala hou e 'ike 'ia ai kona mau 'ohina he 20, nā puke ma nā haneli, a me nā 'ao'ao nūpepa ma nā kaukani.

Hiki pū ke kele i wehewehe.org, kahi keke nui 'ia o ka Ulukau e 'ike 'ia ai kona ki'i nani hou a me kona kino pa'a e huli hua'ōlelo ai ('ōlelo Hawai'i-'ōlelo Pelekānia a mai ka 'ōlelo Pelekānia-'ōlelo Hawai'i).

'O kekahi holomua nui ka hō'ano hou 'ia o ka 'ohina puke (puke. ulukau.org). E kele aku i kēia māhele o ka waihona puke a me kona lau hou. 'Ānō, hiki ke nānā 'ia ka puke ma nā ala hou, ma ke kamepiula, ke kamepiula lawe lima, ka papa uila, a kelepona pū.

Ma ka holo o nā māhina e hiki mai auane'i, e hō'ano hou pū 'ia nā 'ohina hou aku o ka Ulukau. He pū'olo ho'i kēia e hāpai 'ia a'e nei na kēia waihona puke uila aloha nui 'ia i nā mea 'ōlelo Hawai'i a puni ka poepoe honua. Ma kēia piha makahiki 20, ke pāhola aku nei nā hui ho'okumu o ka Ulukau – ke koleke 'ōlelo Hawai'i 'o Ka Haka 'Ula o Ke'elikōlani ma ke Kulanui o Hawai'i ma Hilo a me Alu Like – i ka mahalo i ke kāko'o o ke kaiaulu a me nā hoa kāko'o ma nā makahiki he 20 i ka'a hope akula 'oiai e kūlia ana i ka ho'ōla a ho'oholomua i nā ala 'ōlelo a 'ike Hawai'i no ka wā e hiki mai ana. ■

## A New Vision for the Ulukau Hawaiian Electronic Library

By Robert Stauffer

**U**lukau, the Hawaiian Electronic Library, is one of the most-used Indigenous language websites in the world with patrons from across Hawai'i, all 50 states including the District of Columbia, and at least 122 countries.

Speakers of 'ōlelo Hawai'i around the world may be delighted to know that Ulukau receives over 50,000 hits per day, nearing 400 million hits since its inception in 2002. Ulukau has always been free and was built, and is maintained, on a shoestring budget all thanks to dozens of community partners and local supporters.

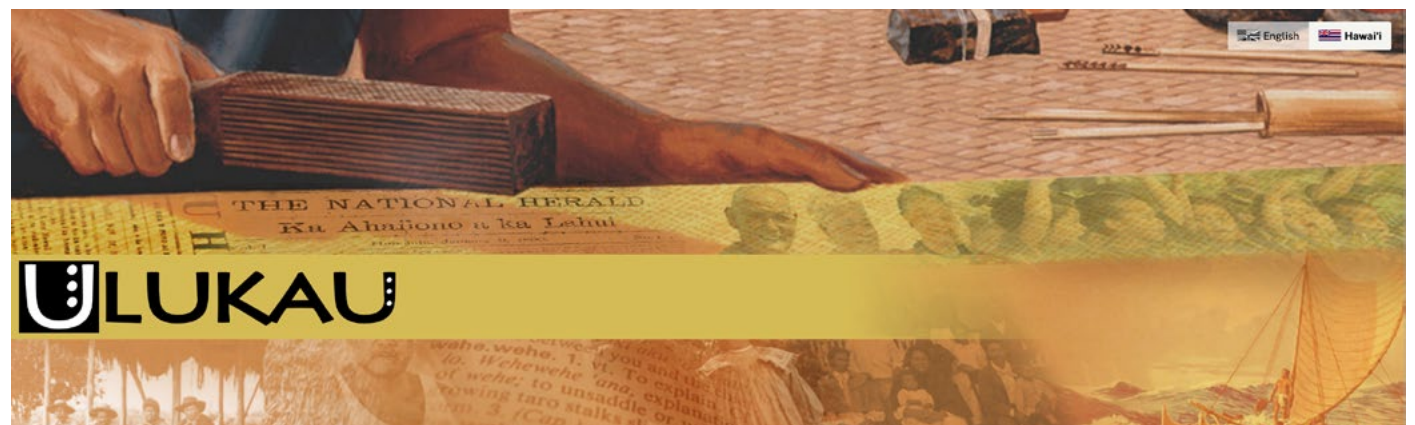
Twenty years after its beginnings, Ulukau is having its first major overhaul. Go to ulukau.org today and you will see a nice image and new and modern ways to see and retrieve its 20 collections, hundreds of books, and tens of thousands of newspaper pages.

Likewise, go to wehewehe.org, the most popular part of Ulukau, and view its nice new image and its solid and trustworthy ways to look up words ('ōlelo Hawai'i-English and English-'ōlelo Hawai'i). Use its default two standard dictionaries or choose any combination of up to eight dictionaries.

An exciting advance is a major overhaul of the books collection (puke.ulukau.org). Visit this section of the library and its modern design. You can now interact with the books in so many new ways from your computer, laptop, tablet, or phone.

In the coming months, Ulukau will expand its upgrade across its other collections. 'ōlelo Hawai'i speakers across the world deserve no less from this legendary online library.

On this 20th year celebration the founding organizations of Ulukau - Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language at UH Hilo and Alu Like - wish to extend its appreciation for the two decades of community support from its many contributors, partners and patrons as it strives to perpetuate and advance 'ōlelo Hawai'i and 'ike Hawai'i access into the future. ■





# The Pākōlea Program: Encouraging a Circular Economy

By Kanoë Takitani-Puahi, Director of Programs,  
Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association

Established to bolster Hawai'i's emerging entrepreneurs and encourage a circular economy throughout the islands, the Pākōlea pilot program has taken its cohort members through a month-long virtual pitch bootcamp aimed to dramatically improve and refine their sales pitches, as well as to develop a better understanding of the standards of local and regional distribution partners.

A group of 16 wāhine-led businessowners from across Hawai'i were selected, showcasing a wide array of new, local products that share the Hawaiian Islands in authentic ways and provide connections between retailers and distributors, laying the foundation for symbiotic, fruitful partnerships that add value to our local entrepreneurial ecosystem.

The Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association (NaHHA), in partnership with the Purple Mai'a Foundation (PMF), developed the Pākōlea program to build relationships between kama'aina entrepreneurs and distribution channels throughout the visitor industry to start conversations



The very first Pākōlea Program cohort included 16 Hawai'i-based businesswomen. It was a month-long virtual bootcamp designed to help them improve their businesses. All of the wāhine sell products that showcase Hawai'i in a pono way and that target visitors as a primary or secondary audience. - Photo: Courtesy

and create opportunities to place authentic, locally made products in front of visitors to Hawai'i.

The intensive accelerator program provided platforms through which the cohort members could connect with and learn from experienced entrepreneurs and experts to further develop their pitch strategy and their businesses

in the direction of distribution. In addition to building pilina with 15 other cohort members, having ample opportunities to pitch and receive live feedback, and having the chance to connect with numerous local and regional buyers, Pākōlea participants were able to collaboratively grow their businesses together.

At the conclusion of the program, cohort members were given an opportunity to present their newly enhanced sales pitch at an in-person hō'ike at the Royal Hawaiian Center in Waikīkī. Not only did this showcase allow for four hours of live pitching, but cohort members were able to network and receive direct strategic feedback from buyers and representatives, both local and regional.

Pākōlea was developed specifically to help businesses that have a proven product, but need assistance with distribution and with forging connections with the visitor industry. The pilot program focused on all wāhine-owned businesses, with the majority being Native Hawaiian, an initiative inspired by Hawai'i FoundHER. Acknowledging the complex challenges that female businessowners often face, this initial cohort was created with the goal

SEE THE PĀKŌLEA PROGRAM ON PAGE 12



PRESENTED BY THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN  
HOSPITALITY ASSOCIATION

## KA HUINA 2022

June 8 - 9, 9:30a.m.- noon

*Eia Hawai'i, Ka Huina O ke Ao*

*Here is Hawai'i at the Crossroads of the World.*

In the middle of the vast Moananuiākea, Hawai'i lies at the crossroads of a rapidly changing world – the intersection of heaven and earth, of east and west, of tradition and innovation. The global pandemic of 2020-2022 has further accelerated the changes already compelling us to reimagine our future. Our collective success in preserving the Hawai'i we love for future generations is dependent upon our ability to navigate this intersection.

Literally translated, KA HUINA refers to an intersection or nexus. This term serves as the central theme to the Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association's upcoming two-day virtual conference, which explores the nexus – the huina – of community, culture, tourism and sustainability. These are four distinct pillars leaning upon one another for support, ultimately bringing foundation and structure toward our goals for a regenerative tourism future. How they intersect, how they depend on each other, how they allow us to reimagine our future – these are the opportunities Ka Huina seeks to uncover and celebrate.

For the first time in Ka Huina history, content will be available in both 'ōlelo Hawai'i and English. The conference will also boast four panel discussions, one of which will be purely 'ōlelo Hawai'i with English subtitles, as well as multiple speak-

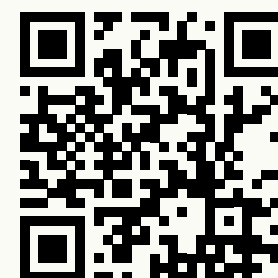
ers and question and answer sessions where viewers can submit questions live, with opportunities to directly influence the flow of discussion.

Ka Huina 2022 presentations will showcase the industry's top project-leaders that converge at the intersection of Hawaiian tradition and innovation, and will cover an array of topics, including:

- What Hawaiian values are driving Hawai'i's efforts to manage tourism and educate visitors?
- What are the opportunities ahead of us in the shift toward a circular economy and regenerative tourism?
- What innovations are advancing the visitor industry's efforts to be better stewards of Hawai'i's natural resources?
- How has technology accelerated efforts to grow the community of Hawaiian language speakers, including those within the visitor industry?

It is our sincere hope that participants of Ka Huina will depart with a reinvigorated sense of kuleana and commitment to the Hawai'i we share, the Hawai'i we will leave for our children, and for the generations to come.

Join us as we gather to leverage our connections at Ka Huina, June 8-9, 2022, from 9:30 a.m. to noon. This year's Ka Huina will be entirely virtual and available completely free for everyone; registration is required. For more information, including a recap of last year's virtual conference, visit [nahha.com/kahuina](http://nahha.com/kahuina). To register for Ka Huina, please follow the QR code provided or email [info@nahha.com](mailto:info@nahha.com)





THE PĀKŌLEA PROGRAM

Continued from page 11

of uplifting female entrepreneurs in Hawaiʻi and inspiring collaboration between like-minded individuals in the industry.

Under that direction, this year’s cohort participants were carefully selected based on a range of qualifications, the primary criteria being: the business is Hawaiʻi-based, the owner is a permanent resident of Hawaiʻi, the business has a CPG (Consumer Packaged Goods) product that showcases Hawaiʻi in a pono way, and its products target visitors as a primary or secondary audience.


Priority was given to those whose business are in earlier stages and have not yet gained access to larger distribution channels, but who maintain a realized proof-of-concept with products that have potential to be scaled for distribution.

“We are incredibly proud of Pākōlea and our kamaʻāina, wahine-

owned businesses that participated in this inaugural cohort.” said Mālia Sanders, executive director of the Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association. “We hope this initiative will set the foundation for a long-term mission of strengthening, elevating, and bridging the gap between Hawaiʻi’s locally owned businesses and the visitor industry.” ■

*You can help support the hardworking wāhine who participated the pilot Pākōlea program, as well as other kamaʻāina-owned businesses, by shopping local throughout the Hawaiian Islands. For a full listing of the Pākōlea cohort members, please visit [www.nahha.com/pakolea](http://www.nahha.com/pakolea) or scan the QR code below.*





# COME SHARE YOUR MANA'O

This month's meeting:

**Kaua'i**



**Dan Ahuna**  
Trustee for Kaua'i & Ni'ihau

**COMMUNITY MEETING**

**Wednesday,  
June 22, 2022**

**OHA BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**Thursday,  
June 23, 2022**

*Time and location to be determined for both meetings.*

**Watch Live!** 

All meetings will be available to view via live stream video broadcast. For future meeting schedules, please visit:

[www.OHA.org/bot](http://www.OHA.org/bot)





# COMPASS

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RS-76567





### The Healer Stones of Kapaemahu Exhibit

June 18 – Oct. 16, 2022 | O‘ahu

This Bishop Museum exhibit explores the past and contemporary meanings of four large stones placed on Waikīkī Beach to honor four māhū who brought healing arts to Hawai‘i. For more info: [www.bishopmuseum.org/kapaemahu](http://www.bishopmuseum.org/kapaemahu)

### ‘Iolani Palace Hosts Platinum Jubilee

June 2, 10:00 a.m. | O‘ahu

‘Iolani Palace joins the global celebration of Queen Elizabeth II’s Platinum Jubilee. Hawai‘i was invited to participate because of the close relationship between the Hawaiian monarchs and British royals. For more information call 808-522-0822 or visit [www.iolani-palace.org](http://www.iolani-palace.org).

### Royal Hawaiian Band Lunchtime Concerts

June 3, 10, 17 & 24, noon | O‘ahu

Free lunchtime concerts at the ‘Iolani Palace every Friday at noon. Open to the public. For more information call 808-522-0822 or visit [www.iolani-palace.org](http://www.iolani-palace.org).

### Bishop Museum’s Virtual Stars Tonight

June 4, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. | Virtual

A program from the J. Watumull Planetarium. Learn how to use the Hawaiian star line Kaiwikuamo‘o to star-hop through six constellations and get a preview of the summertime skies. Registration Required: [www.bishop-museum.org/events/](http://www.bishop-museum.org/events/)

### Lomilomi for Beginners

June 8 & 22,

6:00 – 7:30 p.m. | O‘ahu, Virtual

Keiki O Ka ‘Āina and Kumu Mele present in-person and virtual lessons at Windward Mall on massage techniques for physical and mental wellness. For more info: [www.koka.org/nohona](http://www.koka.org/nohona)

### Ka Huina

June 8-9, 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Virtual

Hosted by the Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association, this two-day virtual conference will explore the nexus of community, culture, tourism, and sustainability. To register email [info@nahha.com](mailto:info@nahha.com).

### He Mele Lāhui

June 8 & 22,

9:00 – 11:00 a.m. | O‘ahu

Live performances by Kuuipo Kumukahi in the imprisonment room at ‘Iolani Palace. For more info: [www.IolaniPalace.org](http://www.IolaniPalace.org) or call 808-522-0822.

### Bishop Museum’s After Hours

June 10, 5:30 – 9 p.m. | O‘ahu

Explore the museum’s current exhibitions, hear about the latest scientific discoveries, and engage with Hawaiian cultural practitioners. No admission after 8:00 p.m. Pre-registration recommended: [www.bishopmuseum.org/events/](http://www.bishopmuseum.org/events/)

### ‘Iolani Palace Hear Hawai‘i Workshop

June 11

Noon – 1:00 p.m. & 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

O‘ahu

This month’s Hawaiian culture workshop, presented at the Hale Koa theatre, features the music of Nā Lani ‘Ehā (the royal siblings). For more information, visit [www.hearhawaii.org](http://www.hearhawaii.org)

### 2022 Hawaiian Steel Guitar Festival

June 11, 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. | O‘ahu

Windward Mall will host this free performance by steel guitar masters from O‘ahu. For more information go to [www.hawaiiansteelguitarfestival.com](http://www.hawaiiansteelguitarfestival.com) or contact Alan Akaka at [alan@himele.org](mailto:alan@himele.org).

### Waimea Valley Moon Walk

June 11, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. | O‘ahu

Waimea Valley’s Summer 2022 Moon Walk series includes a kauhale tour and guided moonlit walks to the waterfall. For more information email [events@waimeavalley.net](mailto:events@waimeavalley.net) or call 808-638-5858

### Lā‘au Lapa‘au Workshop

June 16 & 30

6:00 – 7:00 p.m. | O‘ahu, Virtual

Keiki O Ka ‘Āina presents an in-person and virtual workshop on medicinal recipes using native Hawaiian plants and herbs. For more info: [www.koka.org/nohona](http://www.koka.org/nohona)

### The Healer Stones of Kapaemahu: Premiere Film Screening

June 17, 5:30 – 9:00 p.m. | O‘ahu

The in-person documentary screening at Bishop Museum will be followed by a Q&A with film directors and exhibit co-curators Hinaimoana Wong-Kalu, Dean Hamer and Joe Wilson. For more info: [www.bishopmuseum.org/events](http://www.bishopmuseum.org/events)

### OHA Presents Live Music at Kaka‘ako Makai

June 18, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. | O‘ahu

On the third Saturday of each month at the Kaka‘ako Farmers’ Market (ma kai side of Ala Moana Blvd.) OHA presents a talent showcase featuring Hawaiian entertainers. Join us for free live music and support local farmers and artisans. Free parking at Fisherman’s Wharf.

### Kumu Kahua Theatre Presents “Blue” by Wil Kahele

May 26 – June 26, | O‘ahu

A musical duo discovers that sometimes the entertainment they provide has profound impacts. There will be a talk story with the cast and crew after the June 3 performance. For more info or to purchase tickets: [www.kumukahua.org](http://www.kumukahua.org) ■

## Kamehameha Day Celebrations Across the Pae ‘Āina

### • HAWAI‘I ISLAND •

#### Statue Lei Draping, Floral Parade & Ho‘olaule‘a

June 11 | Kōhala

Includes lei draping at 8:00 a.m., a Pā‘ū Unit Parade at 9:00 a.m., a Floral Parade at 10:00 a.m., and a Ho‘olaule‘a at 11:00 a.m.

#### Floral Parade & Ho‘olaule‘a

June 11 | Kailua-Kona

Parade begins at the Old Kona Airport at 9:00 a.m. and ends at the Royal Kona Resort. Ho‘olaule‘a at Hulihe‘e Palace begins at 11:30 a.m.

### • KAUAI •

#### ‘Ohana Day

June 11 | Līhu‘e

Kamehameha Day celebration at the Royal Sonesta Kauai Resort, 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

### • MAUI •

#### Commemorative Ho‘olaule‘a & Pā‘ū Parade

June 18 | Lāhainā

The Ho‘olaule‘a begins at 9:00 a.m. A Pā‘ū Parade begins at 9:45 a.m. on Front St.

### • MOLOKA‘I •

#### King Kamehameha Pā‘ū Parade & Ho‘olaule‘a

June 4 | Kaunakakai

Pā‘ū Parade at 4:00 p.m. followed by a Ho‘olaule‘a at Ball Park from 5:00 – 10:00 p.m.

#### Kamehameha Paniolo Heritage Rodeo

June 11 & 12 | Kaunakakai

Rodeo at the Jimmy Duvauchelle Arena from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. each day.

### • O‘AHU •

#### Lei Draping Ceremony

June 10 | Honolulu

Annual lei draping at Kamehameha’s statue in front of Ali‘iolani Hale at 2:30 p.m.

#### Floral Parade & Ho‘olaule‘a

June 11 | Honolulu/Waikīkī

Floral Parade begins at 9:00 a.m. in front of ‘Iolani Palace and concludes at Kapi‘olani Park. Ho‘olaule‘a at Kapi‘olani Park from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

#### For a full list of King Kamehameha Celebration

events visit: <https://sfca.hawaii.gov/resources/king-kamehameha-celebration-commission/>

#### Facebook and Instagram:

@KingKamehamehaCelebration



# Broadband Connectivity and Digital Equity

By Peter Apo

Nestled within the \$1 trillion infrastructure bill that President Biden signed off on are billions of dollars set aside to ramp up broadband connectivity and increase digital equity for Native American tribes, Alaska native entities, and Native Hawaiian organizations.

This infrastructure package represents a once-in-a-generation investment in broadband that, for Hawai'i, will positively impact the geo-culturally positioned Native Hawaiian communities spread throughout the islands and, most profoundly, those living in rural areas.

Access to the internet and its platforms is access to unlimited business opportunity, particularly for Indigenous peoples. The pandemic, the systemic inequities it exposed, and the subsequent economic fallout have put an exclamation point on the crucial role that technology service, its providers, and its regulators play in our everyday lives.

As positive as this pop-up financial investment in the nation's infrastructure may be, there is a downside of the initiative as Congress also gives serious consideration to altering the framework of the competition laws.

One of the proposed provisions would heighten the federal gatekeeper system by requiring the system's framework to be better shielded by new government approval processes prior to mergers and acquisitions by private companies.

Certainly there are issues that need to be addressed – such as strengthening the public policy framework relating to the broadband connectivity and internet equity sectors. But increasing the gauntlet of regulatory hurdles is a short-sighted, risk averse approach.

The thinking behind the proposal basically flips the constitutional principle that one is presumed innocent until proven guilty and assumes guilty until proven in-

nocent, placing undue punitive burdens on the very platforms the Biden Administration is seeking to make more accessible for underserved communities.

Thus, the intended positive effect of this massive financial investment will be diminished if mired in arduous and ill-considered regulatory hurdles.

As we become more connected through technology, we cannot stifle the innovators who would use this new infrastructure to expand Hawai'i's technology community from 30,000 to potentially over 100,000 as access to the internet improves throughout the state.

The infrastructure bill by the very nature of its existence validates that the digital divide is real and that Congress needs to continue to focus on equal access to technology.

The Native Hawaiian community – as well as other Indigenous people's business sectors – need to chime in. Our congressional leaders need to continue the commitment to equal access to technology advancement opportunities. The work to bridge the digital divide through tech equity is just beginning. ■



Peter Apo. - Photo: Courtesy

*Peter Apo is president of The Peter Apo Company providing consulting services to companies doing business in Hawai'i for the first time. He has served as a trustee of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, a Hawai'i State legislator, special assistant on Hawaiian Affairs to Gov. Ben Cayetano, director of Waikiki Development under Mayor Jeremy Harris, a regent of Chaminade University, a civilian aide to the Secretary of the Army for Hawai'i, and a founder of the Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association. He continues his commitment to community service by serving on numerous boards and commissions.*

# A Few Thoughts About Kamehameha I

Na Anakala Hinano Brumaghim

The State of Hawai'i celebrates Kamehameha I Day on June 11, an event which began on Dec. 11, 1871, as a day to celebrate the birthday of Kamehameha V with horseback riding and other sporting events.

At the time, it was agreed to make it an annual event but not on December 11 because of uncertain weather. Hence, a change was made to June 11 to honor Kamehameha I as well (Kamakau, *Ruling Chiefs*, p. 68).

Kamehameha I was born in 1736 during the Hawaiian month of Ikuwa, a month which coincides with February/March and a month which brings thunder and lightning (Kamakau, *Ruling Chiefs*, p. 210; Kamakau, *Ke Kumu Aupuni*, p. 2).

At his conception, his mother, Keku'iapoiwa, was intimate with two chiefs, Kalanikupuaipakalaninui Keoua and Kahekili'ahumanu, making Kamehameha I "po'olua," and a descendant of two chiefly lines. In life, Kamehameha I had 21 wives and when he died on May 8, 1819, he left behind four widows: Ka'ahumanu, Keōpūolani, Kalākua and Namahana.

As his final kauoha (testament, decree), Kamehameha divided his legacy between his son Kalanikua Liholiho (Kamehameha II) who inherited the kingdom, and his nephew Ka'oa Kekua-okalani, who inherited the war god Ku-ka'ilimoku.

Kamehameha further directed that Ka'ahumanu rule alongside his son as Kuhina Nui (Prime Minister), giving wahine a place in government in 1819. In comparison, the U.S. did not pass the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, which gave women a place in government, until 1920.

Kamehameha I is famous for uniting the Hawaiian archipelago, but he was not the first to attempt it. In the year 1270, Hawai'i Island Chief Kalaunui-ohua conquered Maui, Moloka'i and

O'ahu before he was defeated at Po'ipū by Chief Kukona of Kaua'i.

Then, five centuries later, Kamehameha I defeated Hawai'i chiefs Kalani Kauikeaouli Kīwala'ō and Keōua Kū-ahu'ula, and Chief Kalanikūpule of O'ahu. Subsequently, the chief of Maui, Kahekili'ahumanu, died of old age and Chief Kaumuali'i ceded Kaua'i and Ni'ihau to Kamehameha.

At his passing in 1819, Kamehameha was buried in North Kohala by his two closest friends, the high chiefs Ho'olulu (1794-1865) and Hoapili (1776-1840). Then, at the passing of Queen Ka'ahumanu on June 5, 1832, the two high chiefs buried the queen in the secret place beside her mō'i as Kamehameha had directed. No laila, Kamehameha I ruled justly, absolutely, and was a student of history, taking a lesson from Kalaunui-ohua's failure to unite the archipelago and following the wisdom of Līloa's who divided his legacy between his sons, Hakau and 'Umi.

For the record, the late curator of Mauna 'Ala, William Kaihe'ekai Mai-oho, a descendant of Ho'olulu, was a humble man. He took my breath away when he told me that it was his family's duty to "mālama i nā ali'i." Also, I wish to share that my tūtū wahine, Minnie Bailey Brede of Wailuku, was my first Hawaiian history teacher. ■



Hinano Brumaghim - Photo: Courtesy

*Wayne Hinano Brumaghim is a graduate of Kamehameha Schools and the University of Maine where he earned a BA in mathematics/engineering. He served in the U.S. Air Force and lived on the continent until 1984 when he returned to O'ahu to care for his mother. He retired from the Sheraton Waikiki in 2005 and returned to school at UH Mānoa, earning both BA and MA degrees in Hawaiian studies in his 60s. He resides in Papakōlea.*



# Kaua'i's Hālau Ka Lei Mokihana o Leinā'ala Brings Home Top Merrie Monarch Awards



Hālau Ka Lei Mokihana o Leinā'ala performed "Kaua'i Lana i ke Kai" by Robert Cazimero as their 'auana number and "Ho'ohenohono no ka Poli Laua'e" by Wahinekeouli Pa as their kahiko presentation. - Photos: Merrie Monarch Festival/Bruce Omori

By Cheryl Chee Tsutsumi

When Hālau Ka Lei Mokihana o Leinā'ala emerged from the jetway at Līhu'e Airport the afternoon of April 24, they were greeted with smiles, cheers and applause from passengers waiting at the gate to board their flight. More than a hundred other well-wishers, including Kaua'i Mayor Derek Kawakami, engulfed them at the baggage claim area, eager to embrace them and drape them with lei.

There was good reason for the excitement.

Returning from Hilo, the Kalāheo-based hālau, under the direction of Kumu Hula Leinā'ala Pavao Jardin, had achieved what no other hālau from Kaua'i had done before: They won First Place Overall at the Merrie Monarch Festival, the most prestigious and longest-running hula competition in the world. In addition, they placed first in the Wāhine Kahiko, Wāhine 'Auana and Wāhine Overall categories of the event, which observed its 59th anniversary this year.

"There were lots and lots of happy tears at the airport," Jardin said. "Kaua'i has been through devastating floods and hurricanes, and every time our people have come together and rebuilt their homes, businesses and lives. We are strong, we are resilient. Kaua'i is special, and it felt good to bring the Merrie Monarch recognitions home to them. I am honored and humbled that the passion-filled work of my haumāna was acknowledged."

This was the 10th year that Hālau Ka Lei Mokihana o



Kumu Hula Leinā'ala Pavao Jardin.

- Photo: Courtesy

chanter and haku mele.

The oli takes listeners on a huaka'i to places on Kaua'i that were dear to Pa, beginning with Kukuilolono in Kalāheo where beautiful flower gardens once flourished. It also describes noted sites in west Kaua'i where Pa would frequently visit 'ohana, ending in Hā'ena, which is famous for its abundant lau'a o Makana.

"As I learned more about the mele, I thought, 'It's per-

fect for our kahiko segment,'" Jardin recalled. "Our hālau would be celebrating 10 years of participation in Merrie Monarch – why not transport the audience to our home, to Kaua'i?"

Jardin was able to meet several members of Pa's family. "My promise to them was to bring their tutu's story to life," she said. "This year, I took 14 ladies to Hilo. In the seven minutes they danced to *Ho'ohenohono no ka Poli Laua'e*, I felt everyone in the Edith Kanaka'ole Stadium was with them, seeing, smelling, touching, enjoying the beauty of Kaua'i."

Then one day she was online, skimming through issues of *Ka Nūpepa Kū'oko'a*, a Hawaiian language newspaper that was published in Honolulu from 1861 to 1927. In the Dec. 7, 1917, edition she came across an oli entitled *Ho'ohenohono no ka Poli Laua'e* (A Tribute for the Heart of Laua'e) written by Wahinekeouli Pa (1862-1951), a revered Kaua'i kumu hula,

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So it was with the hālau's 'auana presentation, *Kaua'i Lana i ke Kai* (Kaua'i Afloat in the Sea), composed by Kumu Hula Robert Uluwehi Cazimero.

Last December, he and multiple Nā Hōkū Hanohano award winner Kuana Torres Kahele headlined a benefit concert on Kaua'i to help Hālau Ka Lei Mokihana o Leinā'ala pay for Merrie Monarch expenses. During that visit, Cazimero shared *Kaua'i Lana i ke Kai* with Jardin, who immediately fell in love with it. She asked her close friend if he would allow her hālau to share it as their 'auana presentation.

*Kaua'i Lana i ke Kai* expresses Cazimero's adoration for Kaua'i as he visits the moku of Halele'a and its landmarks of Hanalei, Limahuli, Makana and Hā'ena. Vivid imagery awakens the senses: pounding winter surf, majestic Makana Peak, rain pelting the wetlands, winds carrying the fragrance of maile lau līlī'i and the breathtaking panorama revealed from the bluff above fertile Hanalei

SEE KA LEI MOKIHANA O LEINĀ'ALA ON PAGE 22



# The Epic Story of Kawelo of Hanalei

By Adam Keawe Manalo-Camp

The story of Kawelo is one of the most well-known epics from Kauaʻi.

Kawelo is claimed as an ancestor to Kauaʻi aliʻi including King Kaumualiʻi and Queen Kapiʻolani. When Kaʻahumanu toured Kauaʻi with Kaumualiʻi in 1822, he took her to places named in that epic, including to the island of Nīhoa.

Princess Liliʻuokalani also visited places associated with Kawelo. In mele honoring King Kalākaua during his Jubilee, the king is compared to Kawelo.



Stories about Kawelo appeared in many early newspapers, as in this 1908 example from *Hoku o Hawaii*. - Photo: Courtesy

aloha for his akua, family, and homeland.

Kaweloleimakua, also known as Kawelo-a-Maihunaliʻi or simply as Kawelo, is a kupua (demigod) raised within the ruling house of Kauaʻi. He was a middle child. His grand-uncle was Kawelomahamahala who, after he passed away, becomes a shark guardian of Kauaʻi.

Kawelo and his cousin, Kawelo-aikanaka (or simply Aikanaka), and Kauahoa the giant, were born the same day. Growing up in Hanalei, his cousins and uncles vied for power. As a child, Kawelo was bullied by his older siblings, by Kauahoa, and by his cousins; but he is be-

loved and hānai by his grandparents.

As Kawelo grew older, he realized that he had supernatural strength and so his grandparents taught him how to redirect it. They also taught him philosophy, moʻolelo, and other deep Hawaiian knowledge.

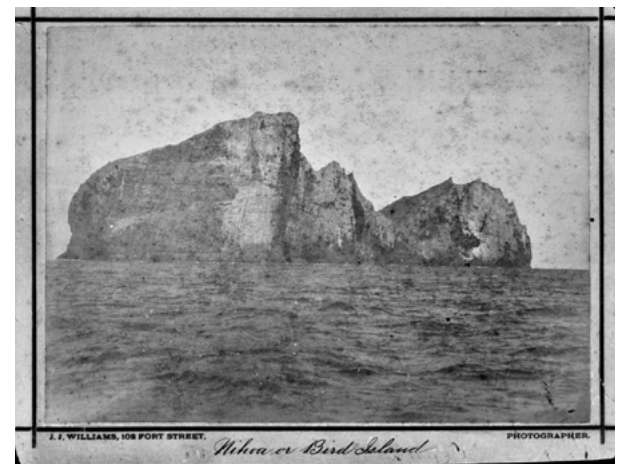
Aikanaka, who is Kawelomahamahala's, grandson, becomes king. Rats warn Kawelo that Aikanaka plans to kill him out of jealousy. Kawelo goes into self-exile and hides in Kōlekole, Waiʻanae, with his grandparents and his youngest sibling, Kamālama.

At the suggestion of his grandparents, Kawelo mastered farming, canoeing, surfing, lua (hand-to-hand fighting), and mokomoko (boxing). His mokomoko skills gained notice, and, after he won a match with a much larger opponent, the king of Oʻahu gave Kawelo lands in Ulukou, Waikīkī, near where the Outrigger Hotel is today.

After learning lua and boxing, Kawelo began training in hula and in the arts of war. He learned more moʻolelo, ceremonies, and chants through hula, which helped ground him. While learning hula, he meets his wahine, Kanewahineikiaoha. She also studies the art of war with him and becomes a skilled warrior, particularly with the ʻīkoi (tripping club). Kawelo then adopts two kupua boys, Kalaumeke and Kaʻeleha.

While learning fishing, Kawelo encounters Uhumākaʻikaʻi, a gigantic supernatural fish. As they battle, Uhumākaʻikaʻi drags both Kawelo and his fishing kumu around Waiʻanae, Kauaʻi, Nīihau, and Nīhoa for two days. By invoking his ancestral gods, Kawelo is able to subdue and kill Uhumākaʻikaʻi. Again, it is not his physical strength but his spiritual strength that makes him victorious.

Kawelo's family was dispossessed of their homelands at Hanamāʻulu by Aikanaka, leaving them houseless – which must have resonated with readers in the 1900s. Messengers were sent to Kawelo, but were unable to make their journey because they did not pray properly. The epic reminds us of the continued importance of protocols. Eventually, Kawelo discovers his family's dispossession and appealed to his ancestral gods. Kawelo then



Rare photo of Nīhoa Island taken in 1885 during (then) Princess Liliʻuokalani's trip to Nīhoa and Moku Manamana, a tour similar to that taken by Kaʻahumanu 63 years earlier. - Photo: Hawaiʻi State Archives.

prepares for war, but he does so only to avenge his parents, not to seek power.

Before invading Kauaʻi, Kawelo humbled himself before his gods and builds a temple. He conducts the correct ceremonies, and the gods hear him. He gathered up seven mighty warriors known as Nāʻulu, his adopted sons, his wife Kanewahineikiaoha, and other women to invade Kauaʻi. His father-in-law gave Kawelo a supernatural spear and war club, Kuʻikaʻa. He then prayed and conducted ceremonies either at Kaneʻaki or Mahuka heiau invoking his ancestral gods.

Kawelo and his warriors arrived on Kauaʻi and, through skill, defeated Kauahoa the giant. Kawelo fought several battles with his magical spear and war club and wins. In Anahola, he threw his spear so hard that it pierced the mountain.

Between battles, he composed oli to honor his akua and chants in admiration of the beauty of his homeland. With reluctance, Kawelo agreed to become ruler of Kauaʻi and reorganizes the island. His knowledge of farming and fishing help him increase food for his people. He made Hanalei his capital.

Aikanaka retreated to Hanapepe, plotting a rebellion against Kawelo and killing his parents. When Kawelo goes to Hanapepe to avenge his parents Aikanaka's men stone him. Believing that Kawelo is dead, Aikanaka lays him on an altar. Kawelo then leaped up and eliminated Aikanaka and the rebels.

Just as it did during the time of the aliʻi and the Home Rule Party, this Kauaʻi epic teaches us that Kawelo became a ruler not because of his bloodline, but because of his merit and his mastery of Hawaiian skills, wisdom, dedication, and spirituality. Kawelo then, and now, reminds us to hold fast to everything that makes us Kānaka Maoli. Never give up on being Kānaka Maoli. ■

Adam Keawe Manalo-Camp grew up in Papakōlea and is a Hawaiian and Filipino writer, blogger and independent researcher.



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# Wainiha Community Resilience Center

## A Vision to Help the Isolated North Shore of Kaua'i Prepare for Disaster Events

By Lisa Huynh Eller

Record-breaking rainstorms battered the North Shore of Kaua'i in April 2018. The torrential downpour was Kaua'i's worst storm since Hurricane 'Iniki in 1992 and triggered severe flooding and more than a dozen landslides, shutting down the highway and isolating the communities of Hā'ena and Wainiha.

Though residents were experienced in responding to emergencies, the scale of those recent events underscored the need for a permanent place to gather and organize. That place, the Wainiha Community Resilience Center, is slated for construction this summer.

"This isolated area is accessible by seven single-lane bridges and is extremely vulnerable to a number of environmental hazards," said Caren Diamond, executive director of Mālama Kua'āina, a nonprofit organization focused on the preservation and protection of public trust resources and the natural environment of Kaua'i.

"Having this space is an opportunity for the community to be more prepared and resilient when faced with disaster events. As there are presently no emergency services located in this area, the community center will be incredibly useful during emergencies."

The 2018 storm events generated numerous conversations about access to emergency services and resources, according to Alan Clinton, project manager with the County of Kaua'i Planning Department.

"As the community worked together in assisting each other, they called for a shared space to gather," he said. "These conversations, in addition to community resilience planning efforts, were the prime contributions to the

first design of the facility that was presented to the community in 2020."

The initial design for the facility was shared with the Hanalei to Hā'ena Community Association and other residents in late 2019, Clinton noted. The designs were then shared at a community open house in early 2020. The project team made adjustments to the design based on a number of community concerns related to burial mitigation considerations and wastewater treatment. Clinton said the concerns were addressed via the inclusion of a UV aerobic septic system, including mounded leach fields, and the reduction of the height of the facility.

The Wainiha Community Resilience Center is intended to provide emergency response and recovery services during emergency periods and to function as a community center for structured events and operations during the rest of the year, according to county officials.

It is not and will not function as a certified emergency shelter. The center's tenants will include State Parks, County of Kaua'i Fire, County of Kaua'i Police, and a community organization.

Maka'ala Ka'aumoana, executive director of the Hanalei Watershed Hui, said the center is not replacing the community, but rather enhancing the wealth of knowledge and experience that has long existed. "The communities in this place, in Hā'ena and Wainiha, are resilient for a reason. They know their place," said Ka'aumoana.

"They're not resilient by education or training or anything like that. They're resilient because they know their place. They know which rock is going to come down. They know which mountain is going to slide. They know

SEE WAINIHA COMMUNITY RESILIENCE CENTER ON PAGE 22



In April 2018, a series of thunderstorms produced record-breaking rainfall on Kaua'i. Between April 14 and 15, an astounding 49.69 inches of rain fell in north Kaua'i - among some of the heaviest rainfall ever recorded worldwide in a 24-hour period. It caused catastrophic flash flooding and landslides. More than 500 homes were destroyed or damaged, as were roads and several bridges. Overall damage was estimated at \$125 million. For a year, regular traffic to Wainiha and Hā'ena was limited due to ongoing road repairs.



Artist's rendering of the planned Wainiha Community Resilience Center. Construction is slated to begin this summer. - Photos: Courtesy



# ALAKOKO

## RESTORING KAUA'I'S MOST FAMOUS FISHPOND

BY PUANANI FERNANDEZ-AKAMINE

*"It is said that his fishpond was built in a single night, and that the rocks that were laid for both of the fishponds came from the sea below Makali'i, which is perhaps a mile or so away from Niumalu, but it is also said that the distance away could be two miles or longer."*

**O**n the verdant east side of the island of Kaua'i, Hulē'ia River flows into Nāwiliwili Bay.

At a wide point near the mouth of the Hulē'ia River, just before it empties into the sea, is the 600-year-old Alakoko Fishpond, described by Kaua'i archaeologist Bill Kikuchi as "one of the finest examples in the entire archipelago of prehistoric stonework and fishpond construction."

Those who are not kama'āina to Kaua'i may know Alakoko as the "Menehune Fishpond." Mo'olelo about this wahi pana attribute construction of the fishpond wall – an engineering marvel that is a half-mile long and traverses portions of the river that are up to 10 feet deep – to the Menehune, a people who lived alongside,

but separate from, Kānaka Maoli.

This mysterious race was renowned for their skill as builders and are credited with other epic construction projects including the 1.3-mile long Kīkīaola (agricultural) Ditch in Waimea, Kaua'i, that is over 20 feet high in places, and Ulupō Heiau in Kailua, O'ahu, a massive heiau with walls up to 30 feet high.

### AN ABUNDANT LAND OVERRUN BY MANGROVES

Located just south of Līhu'e, Alakoko Fishpond is in the ahupua'a of Niumalu within the moku of Puna. The area has long been a center of activity on Kaua'i, as this 'āina momona is a region known for its abundance.

Along with the resources of Nāwiliwili Bay, at one time there were at least six fishponds in the area. Lo'i kalo and other food crops flourished along the many streams and valleys of the nearby Hā'upu mountain range. The region includes an extensive wetland and estuary that is home to endangered native birds.

At the Māhele of 1848, Alakoko and the surrounding land was given to Princess Victoria Kamāmalu. It then transferred to her father, Kekūanā'ō'a, and later to Princess Ruth Ke'elikōlani. In 1880, Ke'elikōlani sold the property to Paul Kanoa and for 106 years the land was part of the Kanoa 'Ohana estate. In 1986, the Kanoa Estate sold the property to the Okada Trucking Company.



Volunteers work to restore a historic 'auwai (irrigation ditch) at a community workday. An average of 60 community members will show up on any scheduled workday. Over the years, thousands of volunteers have contributed to the restoration of Alakoko. - Photo: Mālama Hulē'ia





Mālama Hulē'ia staff and board members joined with staff from the Trust for Public Land to celebrate the transfer of the 102-acres of land that includes Alakoko Fishpond and the surrounding area to Mālama Hulē'ia. The key contributors of mana'o and 'ike for this article are: Mason Chock (third from the left); Sara Bowen (fourth from the left); Peleke Flores (eighth from the left); and Jan TenBruggencate (fourth from the right). - Photo: Mālama Hulē'ia

For most of the 20th century, Alakoko was neglected, becoming overrun by invasive red mangrove. The trees were introduced to Hawai'i in 1902 by sugar planters to mitigate erosion caused by their plantations and ranching. By 1977, dense thickets of mangrove occupied a third of Hawai'i's estuarine habitats, adversely affecting native ecosystems and impacting native species across the pae āina.

Mangrove thrived unchecked along the Hulē'ia River, growing over the walls of the Alakoko Fishpond, narrowing the river, and threatening the health of the wetlands.

## MĀLAMA HULĒ'IA IS BORN

Despite the declining condition of the fishpond, in 1973 it was listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and continued to be a treasured wahi pana for the people of Kaua'i.

In 1999, the community's concern for the ongoing degradation of the watersheds that feed into Nāwiliwili Bay – including Hulē'ia River and other streams – led to the founding of the Nāwiliwili Bay Watershed Council. The council's goals were to restore Alakoko Fishpond, correct stream diversions, control sources of water pollution, and restore lo'i kalo in the region.

Paddlers from the Kaiola Canoe Club who practice on the Hulē'ia River also felt an increasing sense of urgency to address the mangrove invasion. In 2012, they initiated a mangrove removal project near the club's site at Niumalu Beach Park removing nearly four acres of mangrove by hand.

In 2013 and 2014, the club received grants to begin mangrove eradication at a "demonstration" site next to Niumalu Beach Park. The grants also provided funding for native plant restoration and for building community support and partnerships for long term stewardship.

In partnership with the Nāwiliwili Bay Watershed

Council, members of Kaiola Canoe Club, under the leadership of Stevan Yee, formed Mālama Hulē'ia in 2015 as a nonprofit dedicated to removing the mangrove in and around the Hulē'ia River, including Alakoko.

Jan TenBruggencate, president of Mālama Hulē'ia's board of directors, was a paddler with Kaiola when he was asked by Yee to sit on his founding board of directors. "Stevan recognized that mangrove was a scourge on the landscape and proposed that we start cutting it – and a large plurality of the mangrove lands were around the fishpond. We started as a mangrove removal operation and we became a fishpond conservation organization," he said.

Much of the mangrove that needed to be removed, including in and around Alakoko Fishpond, was within the 102-acre property owned by the Okada 'Ohana – which meant access, risk and liability issues had to be addressed and resolved with the landowner before work could begin.

"We had a million-dollar grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Coastal Wetlands Restoration Program pending that required a 20-year maintenance commitment," explained Mālama Hulē'ia Executive Director Sara Bowen. "We needed to have an agreement in place with the Okadas, so we were diligent in finding solutions for their concerns."

After two years of negotiations, access to the land was granted to Mālama Hulē'ia in 2017.

## MANGROVE REMOVAL BEGINS IN EARNEST

With grants secured and a lease agreement, Mālama Hulē'ia could begin the laborious process of removing acres of mangrove from the watershed in earnest. Along with community volunteers, kōkua to start the work came from an unexpected place.

"A friend, Bryan Valett, with a background in earth-

work and heavy equipment operation was visiting from Washington," said Bowen. "We hiked down to the fishpond and when he saw all the mangrove his eyes got bright and he said, 'this project is calling to me.'"

Mālama Hulē'ia rented a fleet of excavation machines and cranes, and Valett returned to Kaua'i in January 2019 with a highly skilled crew that was willing to work for airfare and accommodations. Within three months the crew from Washington removed 10 acres of mangrove from the property.

Since then, Mālama Hulē'ia has cleared out an additional 16 acres of mangrove from the fishpond and surrounding area using an amphibious excavator designed to work in muddy areas. While big machines have been used to help clear the landward perimeter of Alakoko, the removal work along the half-mile-long wall had to be done by hand.

"The hand work was all done by volunteers who we lovingly call our 'menehune crew,'" said Bowen. "The crew is comprised of six retirees, all of whom are skilled chainsaw operators. They came to Alakoko a couple of days a week for nearly two years until the entire wall was cleared."

Removing acres of mangrove is more than just cutting the trees – aside from debris removal, roots and seeds must be pulled up by hand. Much of the work was accomplished by volunteers who help on community workdays, or through various school and community volunteer groups.

When the pandemic hit, lockdowns prevented volunteer groups from coming out but the amphibious excavator had just arrived and so their work continued.

Then in January 2021, the Okada family put Alakoko up for sale.

## A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

Leadership at Mālama Hulē'ia knew that their lease to the land could be terminated, and they hoped to position themselves to be able to purchase the land should the Okadas decide to sell. However, they did not anticipate it would happen so quickly.

"As an organization we always had an interest in purchasing," said Mālama Hulē'ia board member and past president Mason Chock. "Our vision is about management of the entire estuary and watershed. This is a historical gem with cultural significance; it was in our interest to purchase Alakoko from a community protection standpoint."

An online petition in support of Mālama Hulē'ia purchasing Alakoko garnered more than 5,000 signatures.

Overwhelming community support aside, the property was listed for \$3 million and Mālama Hulē'ia did not have that kind of money. So they reached out to The Trust for Public Land (TPL).

"They [TPL] have a long, solid history of land acquisition, specifically for what we were trying to accomplish," said Chock. "So it was easy to connect with them and ask them to serve as our broker. I think the whole acquisition was successful due to them."

"At the time, there was a lot of land being purchased



## ALAKOKO

Continued from page 19

sight unseen by people from the mainland who have all this disposable income,” said Bowen. “So there was a lot of stress. We needed to get this done quickly. We had so much community support, but the processes for accessing public funds can take years to negotiate so partnering with the Trust for Public Land was really important.”

“I don’t know how we could have done this deal without them,” said TenBruggencate. “They were a key and stalwart partner. They handled the negotiations on our behalf. We clear invasive weeds and protect historic sites – we’re not dealers in land, that’s not our skill set.”

The Trust for Public Land helped Mālama Hulē’ia secure a private donation from the Chan Zuckerberg Kaua’i Community Fund of the Hawai’i Community Foundation. The community support helped expedite the process and in November 2021 title for the property was transferred to Mālama Hulē’ia.

## LOOKING FORWARD

With ownership of the property secured – and restrictions added to the deed to ensure that the land is protected forever – Mālama Hulē’ia can focus on the future. The organization updated their strategic plan to add in the kuleana of ownership and stewardship of the land in perpetuity, but recognize the need to involve the community in visioning.

“A major component of our stewardship is developing a master plan that has deep community involvement,” said Bowen. “Master planning will address clearing the mangrove from the rest of the watershed and bringing the fishpond into health and vitality. We are also interested in revitalizing the lo’i kalo and planting dryland crops to get back to being more food sustainable and we want to involve the community – but what does that look like?”

“We’re also actively developing our partnership with our neighbor, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Hulē’ia Refuge bird sanctuary. Part of restoring the health and proper functioning of the fishpond is reconnecting the hydrology that is part of the land. This partnership will allow us to take an ecosystem approach to our work.”

Education is core to their vision and over the years thousands of haumāna have visited Alakoko. It’s a perfect outdoor classroom where subjects like math, science, language arts, history and culture can be easily integrated into the organization’s restoration efforts. During the pandemic, when school visits were disallowed, Mālama Hulē’ia partnered with Kamehameha Schools to develop six online curriculum units that reinforce what students learn when they come to Al-



Matuanui Kitashima, a haumāna from Kanuikapono Public Charter School, pulls out stubborn mangrove seedlings from the loko i’a (fishpond). - Photo: Tina Aiu

akoko. Five Kaua’i schools and one O’ahu school are helping pilot the curriculum.

With pandemic restrictions relaxing, Mālama Hulē’ia resumed its community workdays in March and will resume school visits in the new school year.

“Alakoko is at the pinnacle of what can be because it’s all-inclusive,” said Chock. “It can be a living learning center. It also gives us the ability to build social and economic capacity for our community. If you think about it from a kānaka perspective, everything we want in terms of self-determination stems from our ability to have places where we can learn who we are and who we want to be.”

“The key is to create a successful model so the community feels ownership and the fishpond is still managed properly. We want to create a learning environment that will endure for generations.” ■

For more information about Alakoko, or to volunteer or donate to the work of Mālama Hulē’ia go to: <https://malamahuleia.org/organization/>.

The opening quote is taken from “Moolelo o ka Lahui Kanaka i Kapaia Menehune, o Kauai,” a story by James H. Kuhau Kaiwi, transcribed and translated by Tiele-Lauren Doudt of Mālama Hulē’ia. It was part of a compilation published in 1920 by Thomas G. Thrum as “Story of the Race of People Called the Menehunes, of Kauai” in the “Journal of the Polynesian Society.”

## OUR KŪPUNA AMPLIFIED THEIR NATURAL RESOURCES

By Puanani Fernandez-Akamine

Peleke Flores recalls his tūtū talking about seeing huge “blooms” of fish like shadow balls on the shoreline when she was growing up – and telling him that her own tūtū told her they used to be much bigger.

“Within the past 100 years the size of those blooms has decreased,” said Flores. “Back then they could actually do hukilau way more often. Today, if we did hukilau as regularly as they did it would be considered overfishing.”

Flores manages operations, community outreach and cultural protocol for Mālama Hulē’ia. He learned about fishpond management while working with Hi’ilei Kawelo and Keli’i Kotubetey of Paepae o He’eia in Kāne’ohe, O’ahu, where he worked for eight years before returning home to Kaua’i.

He notes that the role of the fishpond (loko i’a) within the ahupua’a system extends well beyond the shoreline, and that the health of the loko i’a absolutely affects wild fish populations.

“When we sit in agency meetings and talk about why the wild fish population is degrading, the top three reasons discussed are overfishing, pollution and climate change. But one of the main puzzle pieces, the question no one is asking, is what kept those wild fish populations so big in the first place?”

Flores notes that early surveys documented hundreds of fishponds across the pae āina, but he believes that the actual number likely exceeds one thousand based on his own research.

Fishponds functioned as incubators for hundreds of millions of baby fish (pua). At least half of the pua born within the fish-

ponds find their way out and become part of the wild fish population and, ultimately, part of the food chain for smaller nearshore carnivores, who in turn become food for larger carnivores and so on all the way to pelagic (open ocean) fish.

As fishponds have been lost to development, disrepair or freshwater diversion, the pua have decreased proportionately, adversely affecting the entire food chain – a fourth reason for the decrease of the wild fish population.

“People often have the mindset that fishponds are like fish pens where you grow fish, eat fish, then put in some more fish through natural recruitment or restocking,” said Flores. “But by understanding fishponds as incubators, our kūpuna amplified their natural resources to create wai momona – the base of a productive food chain that feeds the pua. In turn, the excess pua from the fishponds helped amplify wild populations.”

According to Flores, one adult ‘anae (mullet) can produce 200,000 to 400,000 pua in one season. Because the loko i’a created abundance within the larger ecosystem, there were more opportunities for fishing. Thus, our kūpuna rarely took fish to eat directly from the fishpond; they could easily catch fish along the shoreline and – on Kaua’i – in the rivers.

“Alakoko is one of our biggest fishponds on Kaua’i,” said Flores. “If we can get this loko i’a back to a functioning state, there shouldn’t be any excuse for not restoring other fishponds on this island, no matter how damaged. If we start fixing all our incubators and re-starting this machine, then when something happens that affects our food security – be it the weather, a pandemic, whatever – we’ll be ready.” ■





# What is the Trust for Public Land?

## A Conversation with Lea Hong, TPL associate vice president and Hawai'i state director

By Kelli Soileau

**T**he Trust for Public Land is a national non-profit organization working to protect land as parks and open space. They are not a government agency, although they sometimes work with agencies to protect land.

**The Trust for Public Land was formed in 1972 – what needs were the founders trying to address?**

**Hong:** Since 1972, Trust for Public Land (TPL) has worked nationwide to connect everyone to the benefits and joys of the outdoors. We focus our work in communities where parks and public lands are needed most.

**How long has TPL operated in Hawai'i and what was its first project?**

**Hong:** In 1979, TPL completed its first project in Hawai'i, growing Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park by almost 270 acres. Since then, our work has expanded to nearly every Hawaiian island, helping communities on Maui, Kaua'i, Hawai'i Island, Moloka'i and O'ahu. In the nearly 50 years that we've been working in Hawai'i, we've protected and conserved more than 59,000 acres and 47 special, culturally significant places.

**What is the role of Trust for Public Land relative to that of government agencies such as the State Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) or the National Park Service?**

**Hong:** We're committed to creating parks and protecting land for people to ensure healthy, livable communities for generations to come. Through community engagement and programs that reconnect people to the land, we hope to improve the wellbeing of Native Hawaiians and the broader community here in Hawai'i.

TPL does not own or manage land. We are truly a partnership organization – so to that end we're proud to work with government agencies, partner organizations and nonprofits who steward protected lands in partnership with local communities.

**How does TPL determine which projects/land purchases to pursue?**

**Hong:** Our commitment to improving communities drives every decision we make. Our decision-making process on how and where to build new parks and protect threatened lands is determined by collaboration with community groups and public officials, innova-

tive data collection and sharing, and cultivating strong philanthropic and political relationships to foster investment.

**What are some of TPL's current projects?**

**Hong:** The goal for our Parks for People Program is to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to connect with the outdoors within a 10-minute walk of their home, and we have a pilot project at 'A'ala Park. Our Sustainable Hawai'i Program supports self-sufficiency, abundant food production, and protection of our water resources by working to help Hawai'i develop capacity to feed and nourish its people, provide ample clean drinking water now and in the future, and enhance the nearshore water quality of our ocean. To do this, we purchase agricultural, watershed, and coastal lands in partnership with public and nonprofit partners committed to local food production, conservation, and/or water quality, and we secure conservation easements over productive agricultural land or conservation land that prevents future development and encourages improved management. Through this program we are currently working on projects in Maui, including coastal land near Ma'alaea Bay and the Nā Wai 'Ehā watershed lands.

**What is TPL's Aloha 'Āina Program?**

**Hong:** The Aloha 'Āina Program reconnects people to their ancestors, culture, history and each other. Established through a start-up grant from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs in the mid-2000s, the program is especially for Native Hawaiian communities trying to protect lands that perpetuate Hawaiian culture and, in many cases, return ownership and stewardship to Native Hawaiian led organizations. Thanks to OHA's initial and visionary investment, Trust for Public Land has partnered with many Native Hawaiian communities to protect and return unique and sacred places across the state to community stewardship. ■

Partnerships often begin with a simple call or email. If you're interested in working with The Trust for Public Land, email [hawaii@tpl.org](mailto:hawaii@tpl.org). For more information visit [www.tpl.org/our-work/hawaii](http://www.tpl.org/our-work/hawaii).

The Trust for Public Land "TPL," should not be confused with "PLT" which refers to the Public Land Trust, which is completely different. The PLT was a hot topic during the past legislative session (see article about the PLT on page 7).

The Trust for Public Land's Aloha 'Āina Program has returned land to the ownership and stewardship of the following Native Hawaiian organizations:

- Ala Kahakai Trail Association, Waikapuna & Kaunāmano, Hawai'i Island
- Aloha Kuamo'o 'Āina, Kuamo'o Battlefield & Burial Grounds, Hawai'i Island
- Hālawā Valley Land Trust, Hālawā Valley parcels, Moloka'i
- Ho'āla 'Āina Kūpono, Hakipu'u Lo'i Kalo, O'ahu
- Ka Lau Ona One O Puna, Puna, Kahauale'a, Hawai'i Island
- Ka'ala Cultural Learning Center, Wai'ānae, O'ahu
- Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui, Hāwea Heiau, Keawāwa Wetlands & Ka Iwi Coast Ma Uka Lands, O'ahu
- MA'O Organic Farm (three projects), Lualualei, O'ahu
- Makani Kamakani O Kohala, Kauhola Point, Hawai'i Island
- Mālama Hulē'ia, Alakoko Fishpond, Kaua'i
- Maunaloa Fishpond Heritage Center, Kānewai Spring, O'ahu
- Office of Hawaiian Affairs/Hi'ipaka LLC, Waimea Valley & Pu'ukua, O'ahu
- Office of Hawaiian Affairs, lands surrounding Kūkaniloko in Central O'ahu
- Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Wao Kele O Puna, Hawai'i Island

Current/pending Aloha 'Āina projects include:

- Ala Kahakai Trail Association, Kiolaka'a, Hawai'i Island
- Hawai'i Land Trust/Aloha 'Āina Health Center, Kāne'ohe, O'ahu
- Ho'okua 'āina, Palawai, Maunawili, O'ahu
- Kauluakalana, Makali'i, Maunawili, O'ahu
- Waipā Foundation, Halulu Fishpond Access, Kaua'i





# Statement from OHA Board Chair Carmen “Hulu” Lindsey on the passing of former Board Chair Colette Machado



The Office of Hawaiian Affairs was shocked and saddened by the news of the passing of former OHA Board Chair Colette Machado on May 23, 2022. Colette proudly served the Molokaʻi and Lānaʻi communities for 24 years as a dedicated and committed trustee. She was a true mana wahine who spent her life in service to the Native Hawaiian community and she will be dearly missed. Although this is a sad time at the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, we will continue the work that Colette so passionately undertook as a role model in serving Native Hawaiians. Our deepest condolences and aloha go out to Uncle Myron and the Machado ʻohana. ■

## WAINIHA COMMUNITY RESILIENCE CENTER

Continued from page 17

which road is going to flood. To try and do this kind of work, or to respond to those kinds of incidents as someone from the outside, would be a waste of time.”

Kaʻaumoana’s group developed the Hanalei to Hāʻena Community Disaster Resilience Plan, which helped identify gaps in preparedness, risks and vulnerabilities, resources, knowledge and visions for improving resilience.

The \$2.5 million project is funded by State of Hawaiʻi monies tied to the 2018 flooding events in Kauaʻi. The construction of the center is slated to begin this summer and is anticipated to take just under 11 months to complete. The project team is currently finalizing the site and grading plan with County of Kauaʻi

Public Works. The County of Kauaʻi will initially assume costs for regular facility use and operations. They said future financial responsibilities, and the long-term management of the center, will be determined in conversation with the communities themselves.

Kaʻaumoana said the creation of the center is a good example of how community and government can work successfully together. She pointed out that county staff and the Hāʻena community have built a foundation of trust after working closely together in the aftermath of the devastating storms.

“With the 2018 flood, the county embedded staff in Hāʻena because access was very limited and they learned what that community was really like, on a day-to-day, night-to-night basis living in the community and working with the community,” she said. “Those lessons were golden.” ■



Ready access to sufficient supplies of non-perishable food items to feed the community in the event of another disaster, along with other basic supplies, is just one gap in community preparedness that needs to be rectified. - Photo: Courtesy

## KA LEI MOKIHANA O LEINĀʻALA

Continued from page 15

Valley.

“We were so blessed to have Kumu Robert and Kuana on the stage with our ladies to provide vocals and music; they helped them paint those incredible pictures of Kauaʻi,” Jardin said. “It was a great celebration of our island, and we’re so grateful everyone appreciated it.”

In her opinion, hula is not a performance; it is a responsibility that balances technical skill with knowledge, understanding and the ability to connect with a mele, live it and deliver its message as its composer intended.

“That is my manaʻo,” Jardin said. “I always tell my haumāna that we are storytellers. For Merrie Monarch, I look for dancers who can remove themselves from the competitive space and take on the kuleana of being the voice, so to speak, of the haku mele. Hula tells the stories of our ancestors, and future generations will be telling the stories we are creating today. To keep the Hawaiian culture alive, we must perpetuate that — continue to share the stories.” ■

*Cheryl Chee Tsutsumi has written 12 books and countless newspaper, magazine and website articles about Hawaiʻi’s history, culture, food and lifestyle.*

## THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA DEPARTMENT OF NURSING IS CONDUCTING A RESEARCH STUDY

*Understanding the impact COVID-19 has on asthma management among Native Hawaiian adults with Asthma*

- DO YOU SELF-IDENTIFY AS A NATIVE HAWAIIAN?
- DO YOU RESIDE IN THE STATE OF HAWAII?
- DO YOU READ AND SPEAK ENGLISH?
- ARE YOU 18 YEARS OR OLDER?
- DO YOU HAVE ASTHMA?

**You may be eligible to participate**

If you’d like to participate or learn more about the study please contact

**Donna-Marie Palakiko**  
**Phone: (808) 220-5437**  
**Email: [dmp@hawaii.edu](mailto:dmp@hawaii.edu)**

OR Complete a short survey at

[bit.ly/NHAsthmaCV](https://bit.ly/NHAsthmaCV)



# E Hō‘ike mai ana ka Lā‘au ke Kia Manu



By Tapa Miloli'i Andrade, Class of 2022  
Kanuikapono Public Charter School

*“E hō‘ike mai ana ka lā‘au ke kia manu; The stick of the birdcatcher will tell.”*

This ‘ōlelo no‘eau encourages me to produce my best in everything I’m doing. It means, “We know how successful one is by what he produces.” I believe in starting small and working my way up as I learn different hana no‘eau.

In middle school, I learned how to make lei po‘o using techniques like haku and wili. In turn, I helped younger students at Kanuikapono, where I have attended school since kindergarten, to learn how to make lei for hula performances and special events. In ninth grade, on a first trip to the library, I found a book on making lei hulu. I borrowed it and started teaching myself how to make them with help from a few of my aunts and a kumu from school.

This past summer, I took on a greater challenge when I created a lapa‘iki (small drum) at a workshop taught by Kumu Hula Aua of Hilo. I learned the full process of making a pahu lapa‘iki including sanding, carving, and lashing. I also learned hula and oli that use the lapa‘iki. This experience inspired me to create a pahu heiau from start to finish.

I began by harvesting the stump of the niu which I put it under my house for two months to dry.

When it was ready, I trimmed the edges of the stump to make it flush and even so that it would sit flat. I drilled and carved out the center of the pahu until it was deep like a

giant bowl. I ground it until it was smooth and flat, then I drilled out the bottom to form a space to make the ‘ōpū of the drum to improve the sound. I created a stencil design for the bottom of the pahu, transferred it to the pahu, and then chiseled out the design. After making the ‘ōpū and sanding everything, I prepared the skin, making puka to string the pahu. After oiling the pahu it was pau.

When I work, the time is peaceful and stress-free. Although there were a number of steps to create all the pahu, I feel a sense of accomplishment.

Keeping the ‘ōlelo no‘eau, “e hō‘ike mai ana ka lā‘au ke kia manu” in my thoughts as I worked through the process helped me produce my best work. Now that I have finished the pahu heiau, I want it to reflect all the mana and hard work I put into making it. I hope to be able to use the pahu now to perpetuate traditional practices of hula, oli, and hana no‘eau.

A life lesson I’ve learned from attending Kanuikapono is that if you want to learn something there is always someone who can help you get resources; you just have to be able to ask and put in the work to show you want to learn.

Before teaching, most kūpuna simply want to make sure that you will mālama the tradition and not be kāpulu when learning or doing it. I am very thankful that my mom chose this school for me for kindergarten and supported my decision when I wanted to stay because it has taught me more than I ever would have learned in a regular public school. These lessons will help me to keep Hawaiian traditions alive and pass them down to the future generations. ■

*Tapa Miloli'i Andrade is from Wailua and is a 2022 graduate of Kanuikapono Public Charter School in Anahola on Kaua'i.*

# Kaua'i Island Project Updates



By Cedric Duarte

Last Month, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands provided a status update for several projects occurring on Maui. As this edition of *Ka Wai Ola* focuses on the island of Kaua'i, we'll explore DHHL initiatives impacting current and future Kaua'i beneficiaries.

Two of DHHL's proposed homestead developments for Kaua'i have completed their final Environmental Assessments, an early but critical step in the Department's development that is a result of extensive planning and beneficiary consultation. The Department has completed its engineering and design process for additional lots in Hanapēpē, and recently awarded Anahola residential vacant lots to beneficiaries on the Kaua'i Island waiting list.

The legislature's recent passage of a \$600 million allocation of funding to the Department will help to advance homestead development projects on Kaua'i and throughout the state.

## Pu'u 'Ōpae

A Final Environmental Assessment (EA) with a Finding of “no significant impact” for the Pu'u 'Ōpae Homestead Settlement in Waimea, Kaua'i, was published at the onset of the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic. The Pu'u 'Ōpae settlement plan focuses on the development of a kuleana homestead on the ma uka Waimea lands of Kaua'i. The project area consists of approximately 1,421 acres, 231 acres of which are under DHHL License No. 816 by the Kekaha Hawaiian Homestead Association.

Planning for Pu'u 'Ōpae began with the 2011 DHHL West Kaua'i Regional Plan, which identified the development of an agricultural and water plan for the restoration and use of the Pu'u 'Ōpae area as a priority project. The land was selected as an ideal location for Kuleana Homesteading because of constraints due to the physical characteristics of the land, including topography, drainage, accessibility, proximity to water, wildfire risk, and proximity to natural and cultural resources.

## Anahola Homestead Settlement Plan

The Final EA for DHHL's Anahola Home-

stead Settlement Plan in the Kawaihau District of Kaua'i was published last year. The plan focuses on the development of a 462-acre Kuleana Homestead on the windward side of Kaua'i within the traditional ahupua'a of Anahola and Kamalomalo'o that will ultimately be awarded as kuleana subsistence agriculture and pastoral lots to beneficiaries on the Kaua'i Island agriculture and pastoral waiting lists.

## Hanapēpē Homestead Community

DHHL identified the Hanapēpē Homestead Community in the 2004 Kaua'i Island Plan as one of three priority areas for new residential and agricultural homestead development. The homestead community, which currently consists of a 47-lot residential subdivision known as Phase 1, is envisioned to be the Department's largest residential and agricultural community on the west side of Kaua'i.

Engineering designs have been completed for Phase 2 of the Hanapēpē Homestead Community which is expected to consist of up to 75 residential homestead lots and the expansion of existing homestead lots along Moi Road.

Upon project completion, the Hanapēpē Homestead Community is proposed to offer 440 new residential homestead lots and up to 111 new subsistence agricultural homestead lots.

## Pi'ilani Mai Ke Kai

In April, the Department offered 51 residential vacant lots within its Pi'ilani Mai Ke Kai Subdivision in Anahola. DHHL hosted the lot selection meeting at the Chiefess Kamakahelei Middle School as its first in-person gathering since the onset of the pandemic.

DHHL's residential vacant lot offering is among a variety of options provided to beneficiaries of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act and allows a family to construct a home that best fits their needs on a homestead lot that has been developed with roads and utility infrastructure.

I welcome you to track DHHL construction projects on Kaua'i and across the homelands by monitoring the Department's website, [dhhl.hawaii.gov](http://dhhl.hawaii.gov). ■

*Cedric R. Duarte is the Information & Community Relations Officer for the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. He has worked in communications and marketing since 1999 and is a longtime event organizer. A product of Kamehameha Schools and the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, he resides in 'Aiea with his wife and two daughters.*



# A Journey to Repatriate Iwi Kūpuna and Mea Makamae Pili Ali'i from the United Kingdom



By Edward Halealoha Ayau

Following successful repatriation efforts in Germany and Austria earlier this year, Hui Iwi Kuamo'o and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) conducted additional efforts in the United Kingdom in May to return more iwi kūpuna and several mea makamae pili ali'i (treasures associated with ali'i) from three museums.

Significantly, OHA authorized Lead Compliance Specialist Kamakana Ferreira to participate in the effort and gain valuable training in international repatriation. Hui Iwi Kuamo'o was represented by myself along with Mana Caceres, Kalehua Caceres, Starr Kalāhiki, and Dane Uluwehi Maxwell. This trip also served as a training for delegation members to gain valuable, first-hand experience in planning for these complex processes.

The first repatriation involved an iwi po'o held by the Natural History Museum in London, England, which was repatriated to Hui Iwi Kuamo'o.

In August 2013, when I was the executive director of Hui Mālama i Nā Kūpuna o Hawai'i Nei, a team comprised of our members repatriated 144 iwi kūpuna from this same museum. That effort took 23 years and required passage of an Act of Parliament called the Human Tissues Act. However, at that time, the museum nonetheless withheld eight iwi kūpuna based on erroneous craniometric studies test results despite the existence of collection information indicating the places of origins of the iwi and without providing any explanation as to why the historical documentation was discounted.

I continued to pursue the return of the eight withheld iwi kūpuna, during which time an additional skull was identified. I

kept OHA apprised of the status of these consultations and the progress made to get all nine iwi released. At a meeting with Natural History Museum officials during last month's trip, we reached an agreement for Hui Iwi Kuamo'o to pursue repatriation of the remaining skulls later this summer.

The second repatriation involved the Surgeons Hall Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh (RCSE) in Scotland.

In 2000, Hui Mālama repatriated 49 iwi po'o from the nearby University of Edinburgh. An iwi po'o missing from the university's collection was thought to be held by the RCSE. However, after a visit and meeting it was not located among the RCSE's collections. Years later, the Surgeons Hall Museum was able to locate the missing skull once it was clarified that the Hawaiian Islands was also known as the Sandwich Isles. Following advocacy for its permanent release led by Kamakana Ferreira of OHA, this skull was repatriated by Hui Iwi Kuamo'o on behalf of OHA.

The third repatriation involved the Ulster Museum located in Belfast, Northern Ireland. This case involved the return of two iwi kūpuna and five mea makamae pili ali'i including two lei niho palaoa, one pe'ahi (fan), one ipu kuha (spittoon), and one kūpe'e (bracelet).

This case is the first example of the return of sacred objects from an international institution and was based upon a request to respect Hawaiian humanity.

Again, Ferreira was the lead advocate on this case while I provided him with strategy advice. The Hui Iwi Kuamo'o team, led by Mana Caceres and featuring mele by Starr Kalāhiki and the wisdom of Dane "Diggy" Maxwell, carried out the repatriation protocols at the Handover Ceremony and safely brought the iwi and mea makamae pili ali'i home. ■

*Edward Halealoha Ayau is the former executive director of Hui Mālama i Nā Kūpuna O Hawai'i Nei, a group that has repatriated and reinterred thousands of ancestral Native Hawaiian remains and funerary objects.*

To read this article in 'Ōlelo Hawai'i, go to [kawaiola.news](http://kawaiola.news).

# Treat Your Migraines by Eating More Greens



By Jodi Leslie Matsuo, DrPH

Anyone who has suffered a migraine knows how crippling it can be. Native Hawaiians, and women in general, are among those at higher risk of having migraines.

Migraines are a type of headache commonly accompanied by blurry vision, nausea, vomiting, and sensitivities to touch, smell, sound, and light. A migraine can last from four hours to three days. Nine out of 10 people who get a migraine cannot work or perform their everyday activities.

Certain things can trigger a migraine attack.

Daily caffeine use of more than 100mg per day is a common trigger, regardless of whether the caffeine is from medications or beverages. If you are experiencing daily headaches, try avoiding caffeine completely. If that is difficult, then reduce your intake of caffeinated beverages by about 25% per day. This helps to minimize caffeine withdrawal symptoms.

Skipping meals or long periods of time between meals may trigger a migraine due to low blood glucose levels. Eating regular meals at regular times each day, along with a regular sleep schedule and exercise, may help reduce the frequency of migraines. Staying hydrated and avoiding excessive heat also helps.

Dietary triggers of migraines include alcohol, chocolate, aged cheese, processed meats, smoked fish, yeast extract, and certain food preservatives (nitrates, artificial sweeteners, and MSG (monosodium glutamate)).

Some people are only sensitive to specific foods; others may find that

a combination of these foods will do them in. Pay attention to what you eat and drink on the days you get migraines and see if you notice a pattern. Then try avoiding those specific foods or beverages to see if that makes a difference.

While all these things can help reduce your risk of getting migraines, health experts caution that following each recommendation closely may not prevent migraines altogether.

It is believed that one's genetics play a critical role in the onset of migraines, along with environmental and lifestyle factors. However, research is showing that a person can change the way their genes work by changing their dietary habits.

A recent study described a patient who was able to treat and prevent his migraines by switching to a plant-based diet rich in dark green leafy vegetables. For years he tried medication, eliminating known migraine triggers from his diet, and practicing yoga and other stress-reducing techniques without success. As part of his new diet, he drank a 32-ounce smoothie that included 8 ounces of leafy greens and ate 5 ounces (about ¼ cup) of cooked dark leafy greens daily.

Two months after changing his diet, he went from about 18-24 migraines a month to just one migraine. After three months, he was migraine-free and hasn't had another one in nearly eight years. Doctors believe this may be the longest period that a migraine has been in remission.

Examples of leafy dark greens include lū'au, bok choy, spinach, kalamungay, and kale. Our ancestors knew what was right in eating their greens daily. ■

*Born and raised in Kona, Hawai'i, Dr. Jodi Leslie Matsuo is a Native Hawaiian Registered Dietician and certified diabetes educator, with training in Integrative and Functional Nutrition. Follow her on Facebook (@DrJodiLeslieMatsuo), Instagram (@drlesliematsuo) and on Twitter (@DrLeslieMatsuo).*



# \$600M Appropriation to DHHL Passes Legislature



By Robin Puanani Danner and Mike Kahikina

**C**ongratulations to the Hawai'i State Legislature and to Hawaiian Home Land beneficiaries on the waitlist and on the land! A special mahalo to all of the homestead public policy advocates that work together year-round to advance greater awareness and understanding on the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act (HHCA)! The appropriation by the Hawai'i State Legislature to fund \$600 million to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) as the state agency responsible to fulfill the duties of state government, made to native Hawaiians in 1959 at statehood, is good news.

The section of the bill that attempts to pay people to remove themselves from the waitlist will very likely require Congressional action. There is no provision in the HHCA that would allow the state government to remove someone from the waitlist, to summarily disregard the birthrights of an HHCA beneficiary, even if paid money.

However, the initiative to provide down payment or rental support to an HHCA beneficiary is well within the HHCA. Said simply, these services can definitely be provided, but removal from the waitlist cannot be imposed without Congressional action.

The SCHHA supports the assistance but would adamantly oppose any removal from the waitlist.

Most exciting is that the majority of the \$600 million to implement the HHCA and get waitlisted Hawaiians and their families a homestead land award, will be spent on installing infrastructure – power, roads and water to our lands! And indeed, by purchasing additional lands for this purpose too!

Let's not repeat the reality of the 1995 appropriation of \$600 million where \$150 million still remains in DHHL's coffers unspent!

In August, all of us, both on and off homesteads, get to vote in the Democratic primary for governor. The Hawai'i State Legislature has appropriated \$600 million – a major step, but only half the solution. The next governor will have the kuleana to move these funds quickly in order to move land into Hawaiian hands and move the waitlist.

Let's vote Hawaiians, like our lives depend on it, like our lands depend on it.

Congratulations to everyone. Special mahalo to all that are on the Hawaiian Home Land waitlist. We mahalo you for your diligence and patience with the state government. ■

*A national policy advocate for native self-governance, Robin Puanani Danner is the elected chair of the Sovereign Council of Hawaiian Homestead Associations, the oldest and largest coalition of native Hawaiians on or waiting for Hawaiian Home Lands. Born on Kaua'i, Robin grew up in Niumalu, and the homelands of the Navajo, Hopi and Inuit peoples. She and her husband raised four children on homesteads in Anahola, Kaua'i, where they continue to reside today.*

*Guest co-author Mike Kahikina is the Association of Hawaiians for Homestead Lands waitlist chairman.*

# Nā Menehune: He Lāhui 'I'o nō



Na Kalani Akana, Ph.D.

**H**e lāhui 'i'o nō ka po'e Menehune. Ma kekahi hana helu kanaka i ka makahiki 1820, ua hō'ike 'ia i ka luna helu kōnaka aia he 65 mau kōnaka Menehune e noho ana ma Wainiha, Kaua'i.

'A'ole lākou he po'e 'e'epa e like me nā po'e peke o nā kōnaka 'Eulo. He lāhui kū'oko'a nō lākou. Wahi a Katherine Luomala, he lāhui 'oko'a nā Menehune i hiki 'ē mai i Hawai'i ma mua o nā kūpuna Hawai'i no Tahiti a no Nu'uhiwa. He po'e poupu, 'ilikou, a no'eau i ke hana kūkulu. Ma Kahiki, ko lākou kulāiwi, kapa 'ia lākou 'o lākou nā Manahune a he mau kōnaka lawelawe nō lākou. 'Ilihune (hune) ko lākou mana; no laila mai ka inoa kapakapa 'o Manahune.

Ma Hawai'i nei, ua lilo ka puana 'ana o Manahune a lilo i ka inoa hou, Menehune, ka po'e kaulana i ka 'oihana kūkulu. 'O ka loko i'a 'o 'Alekoko ma Niumalu kekahi o nā hana kupanaha a ka Menehune. Wahi a ka mea ha'i mo'olelo kaulana o Kaua'i, 'o Fred Wichman, 'o ka hiki 'ole a nā ali'i 'o 'Alekoko me Kalālālehua ke mālama i ke kapu Menehune ke kumu o ka inoa 'o 'Alekoko. 'O ia kapu Menehune 'o ia ka ho'opāpā 'ana e 'ike maka i ka hana a nā Menehune.

Ma muli o ka hana kuli o ka hana kāpili a kūkulu i ke kuapā, ua nīele a kī'eī hālō nā ali'i 'elua i ka hana a nā Menehune. 'O ka nānā hewa nō ia a 'Alekoko me Kalālālehua, ua kū pau ka hana a nā

Menehune. Kauoha ke ali'i Menehune iā lākou e ho'okū i ka hana, holoi i ka lima ma nā 'ale o ka loko wai, a ho'i i kauhale. Ua koko ko lākou lima no ka mea 'a'ole pāhe'ehe'e nā pōhaku.

He mau pōhaku nihoniho a 'a'anapu'u no Wahiawa, Kaua'i mai. Ua kūmaumau nā Menehune mai Wahiawa ā hiki i Niumalu, ma kahi o 'iwakalua mile, a hāpai li'ili'i aku, hāpai aku i nā pōhaku nui i laila i ka pō'ele'ele o ka pō. Ma Niumalu, ua kā a kālai 'ia na pōhaku nihoniho e hiki i nā limahana ke kāpili pono a pili likiliki nā pōhaku kekahi i kekahi. He mea kupanaha nō kēlā hana ma Hawai'i a puni.

'O ke ali'i kaulana o ia lāhui Menehune 'o Ola. Kaulana nā hana kupanaha a Ola ā hiki i kēia lā. 'O Kikī-a-Ola ka 'auwai nui ma Waimea i kūkulu 'ia me nā pōhaku i kālai 'ia i pōhaku palahalaha. 'O Hālau-a-Ola kekahi ulu lā'au koa a Ola. Ma laila i kua 'ia ai nā kumu koa a i kālai 'ia ai i wa'a. Ua hele 'o Kuini 'Emalani i o Hālauala ma kāna huaka'i mākā'ika'i i Kilohana, kēlā wahi nānā ma ka pali 'ale'o o Hā'ena. Iā ia ma Alaka'i ua hehi 'o ia ma luna o ke Kīpapa-a-Ola, he ala hele i hana 'ia me nā kumu hāpu'u i hina a ho'okīpapa 'ia ma luna o kēlā 'aina ma'u a 'olokele o Alaka'i.

Ma ka mo'olelo o Hawai'iloa na Kamakau, ua hiki mai kēia ali'i holo moana 'o Hawai'iloa a ua kapa 'o ia i ka mokupuni mua āna i kipa ai ma kona inoa a me kekahi a'e ma ka inoa o kāna keikikāne 'o Māui. Ma ia mau mokupuni 'o ia i hui ai me kekahi mau kōnaka ha'a a poupu, he mau mamo a Kalani Menehune. 'O kēia mau po'e nā mamo a Lua Nu'u (Kānehoalani, Kūmāmenehune) e like me Hawai'iloa. Wahi a Beckwith, 'o Luanu'u a me Me'ehakulani (Me'ehiwa) nā mākua o nā Menehune.

No laila, he 'ohana loa ka po'e Menehune i ka 'ohana Hawai'i. He lāhui 'i'o nō lākou. He mau kūpuna nō ho'i lākou. ■

*Kalani Akana, Ph.D., is a kumu of hula, oli and 'ōlelo Hawai'i, and a research analyst at the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. He has authored numerous articles on Indigenous ways of knowing and doing.*

To read this article in English, go to [kawaiiola.news](http://kawaiiola.news).

<sup>i</sup> Joesting, E. (1987). Kaua'i, The Separate Kingdom. Honolulu, HI: University of Hawai'i Press and Kaua'i Museum Association, p. 20-22.

<sup>ii</sup> Luomala, K. (1951): "The Menehune of Polynesia and Other Mythical Little People of Oceania". Bernice P. Bishop Museum Bulletin Vol. 203; Kraus Reprint, Millwood, N.Y., 1986

<sup>iii</sup> Wichman, F. (1997). More Kaua'i Tales. Honolulu: Bamboo Ridge Press.

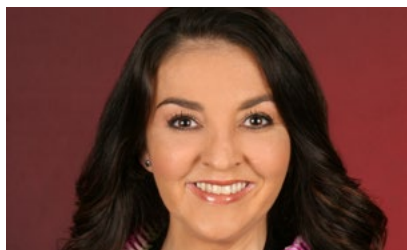
<sup>iv</sup> Beckwith, M. (1976). Hawaiian Mythology. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press.



Nā pōhaku o ka 'auwai nui o Kikī-a-Ola i kālai a kāpili 'ia e nā Menehune. - Kī'i: Courtesy



# Our Place in Tourism vs. Tourism in Our Place



By Mālia Sanders

In many ways, the ideals of regenerative tourism are not new. Native Hawaiians have been nurturing regenerative systems in Hawai'i since the first voyage from Kahiki. The ahupua'a model of living systems stewardship and Hawaiian values like ho'okaulike, mālama and aloha 'āina are just a few that Native Hawaiians have applied and made actionable since time immemorial.

But no matter the context, Native Hawaiian culture remains key to a regenerative future – not just for tourism. We can all agree that better tourism remains a key ingredient toward such a future.

The communities that make up Hawai'i are extremely diverse; we aren't always in alignment in what each of us believes our roles are. As kānaka, we may ask ourselves, "What should be our place in tourism?" With one such question, we negate our role altogether. The question we must ask instead is, "What is tourism's role in our place and how do we achieve ho'okaulike, true balance?"

The relationship between guest, host and place is of critical importance in the regenerative tourism model as host and place hold the most weight when combined together. The necessary shift in perspective prioritizes our place, our community, and culture as a result.

Regenerative tourism, by definition, must conform to the realities of regenerative life itself – founded upon the unique, environmental system of aloha 'āina. The land is what feeds us, nurtures us, and allows us to live in aloha with ourselves, with others, and

in our relationships with nature and our surroundings.

Management is administrative and references the skill or process of decision-making over something, while stewardship recognizes the ability to act, to care of and for, and to be entrusted with the responsibility. Stewardship, specifically mālama, is a reciprocal relationship that has a shared interest for both the steward and that which is being stewarded. It is also one of the guiding principles behind regenerative tourism in Hawai'i.

Whatever paths may lie ahead, one thing is for sure – we are in charge of the lens through which the world views, understands, and loves Hawai'i.

We must be extremely vigilant in ensuring that how we present ourselves to the world is a true reflection of who we are at home. As we grow into betterment, so shall our ability to achieve something truly regenerative. While the beginnings of change are imminent, if not already in progress, the fruit of our labor will be enjoyed by our keiki and mo'opuna.

If we are to leave them with a better chance to be kānaka in our place and to inherit the Hawai'i we envision, we must consider our actions today as the foundation upon which they will thrive.

Please join us as we convene Ka Huina 2022 where we will explore these intersections and nexuses with invited members of our community and the visitor industry on June 8-9, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. For more information, please visit [www.nahha.com](http://www.nahha.com). ■

*Mālia Sanders is the executive director of the Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association (NaHHA). Working to better connect the Hawaiian community to the visitor industry, NaHHA supports the people who provide authentic experiences to Hawai'i's visitors. For more information go to [www.nahha.com](http://www.nahha.com). Follow NaHHA on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter @nahha808 and @kuhikuhi808.*

# As King Kamehameha I Commanded...



By Napali Woode

The ingenuity, resourcefulness and grit of the Hawaiian people is well-known – perhaps, no more so personified, than in the works of King Kamehameha I.

As we honor the king this month, we reflect on his leadership with a renewed sense of purpose. It is the mission of the Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce (NHCC) to mālama Native Hawaiians in business and commerce through leadership, relationships, and connections to economic resources and opportunities.

The Chamber strives to achieve its mission by providing opportunities for members to meet and network, providing marketing and exposure opportunities for members, and by providing training and resource opportunities in areas that will help Native Hawaiian businesses grow. As our kūpuna have for generations, we continue our kuleana to them, to our ali'i and to the lāhui: E Ola ka Inoa 'o Kamehameha!

As an organization focused on the success of Native Hawaiian business, and understanding the need for networking, resources, and training, the Chamber also understands that businesses need revenue to grow.

With that understanding, we make a concerted effort to utilize Native Hawaiian businesses in the work we do for our members. Over the past 12 months, we have hired the services of a number of Native Hawaiian businesses:

- **Bubbly & Bleu:** Cheryl DeAngelo provided training on how to make charcuterie boards, as well as providing all the items for the boards
- **Tastes of Aloha** provided coffee and

snack items for our Coffee Chat with members

- **Kaiwi'ula Strategies:** Jacob Aki assisted with tracking key legislation at the State Legislature
- **Hana Koa Brewing Co.:** Josh Kopp provides a great location for our member networking events
- **Hui Mālama Tax and Consulting LLC:** Abel Soares prepares our annual tax return
- **Naupaka Services:** Dayna Wong provides the Chamber with administrative support services
- **Ian Custino** provides the Chamber with programming support services

"In utilizing the services of Native Hawaiian-owned businesses, the Chamber has direct experience with Native Hawaiian businesses and consultants and can reaffirm what all Native Hawaiian-owned businesses already know...that Native Hawaiians are highly qualified and accomplished business owners and entrepreneurs," said Shannon Edie, NHCC President.

NHCC will continue to promote the interests of Native Hawaiian businesses and support them with programming that meets their needs. We remain committed to walk-the-talk and to continue supporting Native Hawaiian businesses by hiring them when we need high quality products and services.

Before his passing, King Kamehameha I commanded his people to continue the work he started. As kānaka, we each have kuleana in fulfilling his command. Our kuleana is Native Hawaiian businesses. If our work speaks to you, join us and help us honor our kuleana! ■

*Napali Woode is the treasurer for the Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce. He is a realtor with Keller Williams Honolulu and operates his own accounting and financial consulting business. He can be reached at [domer88llc@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:domer88llc@hawaii.rr.com) or 808-551-0651.*

*For more information about the Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce or a listing of our Native Hawaiian business members, visit our website at [www.nativehawaiian-chamberofcommerce.org](http://www.nativehawaiian-chamberofcommerce.org).*



# Pu'u Lei o Lili'u: Aunties' Hui



By Sonny Ferreira

*"Through the collective, kamali'i and 'ohana will thrive." - Richard Likeke Paglinawan*

Native Hawaiian (NH) kamali'i are disproportionately represented in the Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice Systems. They are also overrepresented in terms of chronic absenteeism from public schools. However, we know that our kamali'i have the inherent mana and potential to thrive – they just need support from caring community members.

Lili'uokalani Trust's strategic plan embraces the vision of Nā Kama-lei Lupalupa or Thriving Hawaiian Children. The aim is to change the life trajectories of systems-involved kamali'i and set them on a path toward thriving. This vision is best accomplished through collective community efforts.

Pu'u Lei o Lili'u (PLOL), a new LT program, works with the Aunties' Hui, a group formed by representatives from LT, Adult Friends for Youth, Hale Kipa, the Judiciary, the Department of Health Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division, and the Leeward District Department of Education. Together, PLOL and the Hui are working to address the needs of systems-involved kamali'i and provide a ho'okahua and healing connection for them.

Grounded in culture and supportive relationships, PLOL helps 13-18-year-old keiki who are transitioning out of the Juvenile Justice System, involved with the Child Welfare System, and/or who are

struggling academically. With support, they discover their cultural heritage and gain feelings of confidence, worthiness, and comfort that provides a strong foundation for a positive future.

The PLOL pilot is on O'ahu and focuses on:

- 1. Aloha Nui Loa, Queen's Culture:** Cultural and spiritual reaffirmation of identity.
- 2. Education:** Building pathways for post-high school educational/vocational opportunities through social-emotional and cultural learning.
- 3. Employment:** Introduction to employment skills (e.g., interviewing, attire), and career possibilities (e.g., site visits).

In each component, shared mo'olelo are the medicine for kamali'i to know their past, be present, and plan for their futures.

PLOL recently completed the first step in its pilot program. Kamali'i revealed that through Hawaiian ways of knowing, being, and doing they felt a sense of pu'u honua (e.g., physical and emotional safety), connection to their cultural identity, and confidence.

"It was the people who made you feel not a nuisance to be there; they wanted us to see a better future [for ourselves]," one youth shared.

This program is opening new doors for kamali'i to connect with peers and adult supporters in an authentic, meaningful ways. This collective work comes alongside other existing community resources to help our kamali'i heal and obtain the skills they need to thrive. ■

*Sonny Ferreira is a direct service specialist at Lili'uokalani Trust. She embraces a Native Hawaiian value-based approach to connect with young people so they feel valued, secure, and confident.*

# My Time as an Intern at the Legislature

By Hema Kealohanuikaia Watson, Grade 11  
Hālau Kū Māna New Century Public Charter School

E o'u mau po'e heluhelu mai kahakihi ā kahakihi, aloha!

This past legislative session, I had the opportunity to intern for Rep. Jeanné Kapela at the state capitol. During my time with her, I was able to conduct my own personal research and reflect about where I stand and what I'd like to do with my future.

As part of my work, I was tasked with



Hema Watson and his fellow KONO peers with Rep. Daniel Holt. - Photo: Courtesy

finding bills and tracking them. I even had the opportunity to offer testimony on a few measures. I recognize that some may consider this process mundane, but it holds extreme value – especially for me and others.

This legislative session was historic for our lāhui, as we are set to receive a record amount of funding and benefits:

- \$600 million was allocated to the Department of Hawaiian Homelands. This significant amount of aid will provide support that our Hawaiian people deserve and need.
- Our education systems will be receiving a well-deserved upgrade of \$10 million for fans and cooling units.
- Over \$130 million will be spent for better teacher pay (with \$32.5 million for teacher shortage differentials).
- \$2 million to address menstrual equity in public schools.

Another major highlight of the legislative session was being able to provide my mana'o on SB2021, a measure that would increase the Office of Hawaiian Affairs' pro rata share of the Public Land Trust revenue. When I heard SB2021 was being considered by the House, I took action and made sure to write a letter to every House member to ensure that my voice (and the voices of my peers) was heard.

That turned out to be one of the best ideas because when the bill was being debated on the House floor, Rep. Daniel Holt stood up and used part of my letter in his speech urging his colleagues to support the measure.

It felt powerful to hear my words, to hear my name recognized, and to feel our collective voice expressed through my words and Rep. Holt's ea.

On May 3, 2022, I was able to visit the capitol to watch hundreds of bills be considered during final reading. Ka Leo O Nā 'Ōpio (KONO)

invited me and some of my peers to witness this important day in the legislative session. We learned a lot about the process and found it within ourselves to grow and find new answers.

We, as Kānaka Maoli, must make those first moves to become literate like our kūpuna, becoming educated and steady people of this land. We cannot let these high tides wash our resolve or dreams away like small grains of sand.

It may seem easy to look at my progress and applaud it – or look at it and not care – but I am a Hawaiian. I am Kanaka Maoli, a part of the Kānaka Maoli, and a part of who I am lives in this lāhui. Furthering my studies and strengthening my confidence in running this system assures my success and therefore my people's success. Hā'awi aku, hā'awi mai: What you give is what you receive.

A hui hou, mālama pono! ■



## E NHLC...



**I found records in OHA's Kīpuka Database that my ancestor was awarded, and owned, kuleana lands. I am a direct descendant and want to reclaim ownership of these lands. What do I do next?**

By Li'ulā Kotaki, NHLC Staff Attorney

**D**iscovering our kūpuna's connections to 'āina in public records is exciting. These records can raise questions about who legally owns the parcel of land today. If you're not sure, the next step is to research the chain of title - or complete history of ownership - since the land was awarded.

The records that you found are likely a Land Commission Award or a Royal Patent. A Land Commission Award granted ownership of property to a maka'āinana (commoner) claimed under the Kuleana Land Act of 1850. A Royal Patent shows that payment was made, and the government no longer claims to own it. These lands are commonly known as "kuleana lands."

'Ohana are sometimes unsure about whether kuleana lands can be sold or otherwise transferred outside of their 'ohana. Hawai'i's courts have consistently treated kuleana lands as fee simple property. This means that kuleana land can be transferred in all the ways that fee simple land can be transferred. As a result, title to kuleana land can be permanently transferred outside of the 'ohana. These are examples of how fee simple land transfers can occur:

- by sale
- as a gift
- through inheritance or as a gift in a will
- partially, by partition or land division
- as a loss in foreclosure (if used to secure a mortgage, or due to non-payment of taxes or a claim of adverse possession)

If you do not already have documents showing all of the ownership history to the property

since your kupuna's grant up to today, research is needed to establish and document that history. This history and documentation is called the "chain of title" for the land. Researching chain of title means finding the links in the chain since your kupuna's grant, or in other words, the later owners.

The information needed relates to the land's ownership, including any deeds showing sales, gifts, or other transfers. Court cases dealing with the land can also provide documentation of ownership transfers. Genealogy can be important for filling in breaks in the chain too - for example, when someone dies, and the property passes to family by inheritance.

Some 'ohana continue to own and hold legal title to kuleana lands granted to their kūpuna. For others, only part of the 'ohana continues to hold legal title. This happens when someone leaves the property by will to one 'ohana member instead of to all their descendants. And, unfortunately, some 'ohana no longer have legal claim or title to their kūpuna's kuleana land at all, due to sales or other land transfers. Each 'ohana and parcel of land has a unique history that must be researched and documented.

You can hire title search companies to research the chain of title, and some law firms do this work as well. You can also look for self-help resources. *Title Searching for the Non-Professional*, by Jackie Mahi Erickson, is available online for free at [www.ulukau.org](http://www.ulukau.org) and provides title research guidance.

You should seek legal advice if you believe that you can document legal rights to kuleana land but do not currently have title, or are facing a challenge by others. Importantly, if your 'ohana is named in a lawsuit or served a legal complaint regarding title to land, there is a very short period of time to respond. Seek assistance from legal counsel as soon as possible to best preserve your rights. ■

*E Nīnau iā NHLC provides general information about the law, not legal advice. You can contact NHLC about your legal needs by calling NHLC's office at 808-521-2302. You can also learn more about NHLC at [nativehawaiianlegalcorp.org](http://nativehawaiianlegalcorp.org).*

*The Native Hawaiian Legal Corporation (NHLC) is a nonprofit law firm dedicated to the advancement and protection of Native Hawaiian identity and culture. Each month, NHLC attorneys will answer questions from readers about legal issues relating to Native Hawaiian rights and protections, including issues regarding housing, land, water, and traditional and cultural practice. You can submit questions at [NinauNHLC@nhlchi.org](mailto:NinauNHLC@nhlchi.org).*

## OHA Welcomes New Community Engagement Director

By Puanani Fernandez-Akamine

**C**apsun M. Poe has joined the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) as the agency's new community engagement director. Poe previously worked for the State of Hawai'i Department of Education where he served as the branch administrator and legislative coordinator. In this capacity, Poe functioned as a program director, project manager, marketing specialist and as legislative session staff.

Poe has a master's degree in public health and 19 years of experience in planning, management, analysis, and in the administration of government and nonprofit programs; as well as extensive experience with relationship management and stakeholder engagement. He previously worked at OHA from 2007-2016 serving as trustee aide, policy advocate and board secretary.

"The community engagement director is a key position within the restructured OHA executive team and we are pleased that Capsun returns to OHA with his broad community, legislative and policy experiences to advance our Mana i Maui Ola strategic plan through statewide community-based public policy and advocacy work," said OHA CEO Dr. Sylvia Hussey.

In his new role at the agency, Poe will report to OHA Chief Operations Officer Casey Brown and oversee OHA's Compliance and Enforcement Department, and Community Engagement's



Capsun M. Poe, OHA Community Engagement Director. - Photo: Courtesy

Public Policy team with staff located on O'ahu and at OHA's neighbor island offices.

Poe will also collaborate with OHA's chief advocate and her team to advance public policy activities at the community, county and state levels, and with OHA's communications department and beneficiary services to engage with communities throughout the pae 'āina.

"I am grateful and excited for this opportunity to return to the 'OHana in service of a thriving lāhui," said Poe. "With the collective efforts of our community, employees, partners, and policy makers, we can create opportunities to engage and take action for the betterment of the conditions for Native Hawaiians. I look forward to the conversations, collaboration, and work that lies ahead to fulfill OHA's Mana i Maui Ola strategic plan." ■



## OHA Film Wins Telly Award



OHA's *Mana i Maui Ola* short film has won a Telly Award. The 25-minute film features stories and perspectives from the Native Hawaiian community tied to the framework of OHA's 2020-2035 *Mana i Maui Ola* (Strength to Wellbeing) Strategic Plan. Professionals from OHA's Communications team collaborated on the film with Gepadeaux, an Indigenous film company.

Founded in 1979 to honor commercials made for cable and local TV, the Telly Awards have evolved to reflect an expanding television and video universe, adding new categories honoring social media, immersive video, branded content, and corporate video. There were over 12,000 entries this year.

The *Mana i Maui Ola* film earned a Silver Telly in the Social Video - Social Impact category. Winning video submissions in this category shed light on a variety of social justice topics.

View the film at [www.oha.org/strategicplan](http://www.oha.org/strategicplan).

## 150th Kamehameha Day Celebration

Festivities are planned across the pae 'āina for the 150th Annual King Kamehameha Day celebration.

The Lei Draping Ceremony will be on Friday, June 10, at 2:30 p.m. at the Kamehameha statue fronting Ali'iolani Hale. The 105th floral parade is scheduled for Saturday, June 11. It starts at

9:00 a.m. and will begin in front of 'Iolani Palace, then travel down Punchbowl Street to Ala Moana Blvd. and then Kalākaua Ave. The parade is expected to reach Kapi'olani Park around 11:30 a.m. This year, the parade theme is "E Ola ka Inoa 'o Kamehameha."

Following the parade there will be live music, food and more at Kapi'olani Park from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Exhibits, displays and other activities across the pae 'āina are also scheduled to celebrate the holiday. King Kamehameha Celebration Commission statewide partners include the Honolulu Museum of Art, 'Iolani Palace, Queen Emma Summer Palace, Hulihe'e Palace, Volcano Art Center, Hale Hō'ike'ike - Bailey House, and Kaua'i Museum. Check *Ka Wai Ola's* June Calendar on page 13 for neighbor island events.

## \$14M to Help Save Native Birds

Hawai'i will receive \$14 million to help save at least four species of native Hawaiian honeycreepers from extinction.

The funding is part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law recently passed by Congress, which includes \$1.4 billion for ecosystem restoration and resilience. The \$14 million allocation to Hawai'i was made by the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Four species of honeycreepers – 'akikiki, kiwīkiu, 'ākohekohe and 'akeke'e – face extinction if the epidemic of avian malaria cannot be stopped. Spread by mosquitos, the disease has been decimating native bird populations throughout the pae 'āina and has been encroaching into higher elevation forests where these highly endangered birds live.

There are an estimated 135 kiwīkiu left in the wild on Maui, and perhaps 45 'akikiki remain-

ing in the wild on Kaua'i.

## Wenska a Native American TV Writers Fellow



Meilani Wenska media fellows for its seventh annual Native American TV Writers Lab, one of whom, Meilani Wenska, is Native Hawaiian.

NAMA is an advocate group for Indigenous people in the entertainment industry, and their TV Writers Lab – a partnership

In April, the Native American Media Alliance (NAMA) announced their selection of 12

with industry giants like Netflix, Amazon Studios and others, was created to "improve Indigenous representation in media and increase accurate portrayals of Native people in television shows."

By the end of the eight-week lab, each fellow is expected to develop and complete a television pilot program.

Wenska is a Kamehameha Schools graduate with a degree in fine arts (painting). She has worked as a graphic designer, but more recently discovered a passion for screenwriting, directing and acting. She has written two feature-length screenplays, two pilots, five shorts and a book of poetry. She has directed five

## OHA Office Blessings



As part of OHA's reopening of its offices to the public after two years of teleworking, office blessings were planned for all OHA offices across the pae 'āina. Top (l-r): Sylvia Hussey, Starr Kalilikane, Kaimo Muhlestein, Kahu Hailama Farden, Alice Silbanuz, Lei Ayat-Verdadero, Casey Brown, and Na'u Kamali'i following the blessing of OHA's Honolulu office. Bottom (l-r) OHA staffers Kahu Roy Newton, Alice Silbanuz, Carmen "Hulu" Lindsey, Sylvia Hussey, and Lei Ayat-Verdadero at the blessing of OHA's Maui office.

short films, two of which have won awards. She has also done voiceover work and some acting.

## Ho'oilina Streaming in June

By popular demand, the UH Mānoa Department of Theatre and Dance's Hana Keaka season finale production, *Ho'oilina*, will be available for streaming on demand for a limited time.

The production, presented in 'ōlelo Hawai'i, pidgin and 'ōlelo mähū is a farcical comedy that focuses on family relationships, identity and future, the diversity of Kānaka Maoli, and asks the central question: "What does it take to be considered Hawaiian?"

*Ho'oilina* was written and directed by Hawaiian Theatre MFA graduate Ākea Kahikina. It is available as video-on-demand now through June 11. Streaming prices range from \$5-\$15 and can be purchased at [www.ShowTix4U.com/events/kenedytheatre](http://www.ShowTix4U.com/events/kenedytheatre).

## Kapaemahu Film Premiere

A short film about four mysterious boulders on Waikīkī Beach, *The Healer Stones of Kapaemahu*, will premiere on the Great Lawn at the Bishop Museum on Friday, June 17. The screening is a companion piece to the gallery exhibition which opens to the public on June 18.

Written, directed, narrated and co-produced by Hinaleimoana Wong-Kalu, *Kapaemahu* won critical acclaim on the international film festival circuit. Co-producers are Dean Hamer and Joe Wilson. The film is illustrated by Daniel Sousa and narrated in 'ōlelo Ni'ihau with English subtitles.

It is a re-telling of a traditional



## NEWS BRIEFS

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mo'olelo about four individuals of dual male and female spirit, or māhū, who brought healing arts to Hawai'i from Tahiti. They settled in Waikīkī and were beloved for their gentle ways and miraculous cures. Before they departed, four huge stones were placed near their dwelling place. The healers transferred their names and healing powers into the stones then vanished.

The evening includes the film screening, a post-screening Q&A with the filmmakers, and a preview of the exhibit. Food trucks and live music will be provided. For more information go to: [www.bishopmuseum.org/events/](http://www.bishopmuseum.org/events/).

## He Mele Lāhui Returns

After a two-year hiatus, 'Iolani Palace's He Mele Lāhui program resumed in May. The program celebrates the mele of the Hawaiian monarchs, many of whom were brilliant composers and musicians, as performed by Nā Hōkū Hanohano award winning musician Ku'uipo Kumukahi.

Performances are presented in the Palace's Imprisonment Room, where Queen Lili'uokalani was detained after the overthrow of the kingdom in 1893. He Mele Lāhui will be offered on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month.

"He Mele Lāhui was launched in 2019 and paused in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Over two years later we are thrilled to welcome Ku'uipo and her music back into the palace," said Paula Akana, executive director of the Friends of 'Iolani Palace.

June performances are scheduled for the 8th and the 22nd. Performances are included with admission to the palace. For more information visit [www.IolaniPalace.org](http://www.IolaniPalace.org) or call 808-522-0822.

## Kahoilua-Clebsch a Presidential Scholar



Kea Kahoilua-Clebsch

Last month Kea Kahoilua-Clebsch was selected as one of two Hawai'i scholars of the 58th class of U.S. Presidential Scholars.

The White House Commission on Presidential Scholars selects students annually based on their academic success, artistic and technical excellence, essays, school evaluations and transcripts, as well as their demonstrated commitment to community service and leadership. This year, 161 high school seniors were recognized for their accomplishments.

Kahoilua-Clebsch is a 2022 graduate of Kealakehe High School on Hawai'i Island. She graduated with a cumulative GPA of 4.316, taking 14 advanced placement (AP) courses and four college courses during her high school career. She was involved in Kealakehe's Model United Nations program, Pacific and Asian Affairs Council, American Rocketry clubs, and has won awards for science and art.

She has received a full four-year scholarship to attend Stanford University in California, where she plans to major in comparative race and ethnic studies with a minor in fine art.

"We are very proud of Kea," said Kealakehe High School Principal Dr. James Denight. "Her accomplishments represent the collective hard work of her family, fellow students, diligent teachers and amazing school staff. Kea represents our Kealakehe community well and we hope all of our students aspire to be a community steward like she is."

## Monk Seal Population Increases

In May the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) reported some good news – after decades of declining numbers, this year the endangered Hawaiian monk seal population has surpassed 1,500 individuals for the first time in more than 20 years.

In 2013, the population of monk seals began to slowly increase across the entire pae 'āina including Papahānaumokuākea. This is evidence of the species' resilience and diligent conservation work.

The Hawaiian monk seal is one of the world's most endangered seal species. From 2013 to 2021 the monk seal population grew at a rate of 2% per year, however the level required for the species to be down-listed from "endangered" to "threatened" under the Endangered Species Act is more than double the current population.

The recent loss of crucial land habitat at Lalo (French Frigate Shoals) due to rising sea levels, and the poor survival rate of seal pups at some sites, are reminders of how fragile their recovery is. In May, NOAA deployed field teams to Papahānaumokuākea for four months to study the monk seals and Hawaiian green sea turtles, and actively engage in life-saving interventions.

## \$25,000 Received for Ulupō

Hika'alani, a Kailua, O'ahu, nonprofit dedicated to the restoration of Native Hawaiian culture in the ahupua'a of Kailua has received a \$25,000 grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Telling the Full History Preservation Fund.

The grant awarded to Hika'alani is one of 80 grants that were awarded to organizations nationwide with projects that help

## Free Conference on Protecting Iwi

The public is invited to attend a free three-day conference at UH Mānoa's Hālau o Haumea Kamakakūokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies, June 6-8. Entitled "Kaulana Nā Pua: Famous Are The Children; Protecting Iwi: Our Most Cherished Possession," presentations will address the systemic failures of government agencies to protect iwi, as well as related issues. Presenters include representatives from Standing Rock and the Department of the Interior, and Kānaka Maoli iwi protectors. Standing Rock representatives will present their resolution to amend the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act in light of the federal Indian Boarding School Initiative and subsequent investigation. To register go to: <https://bit.ly/3yU2pEp>.

preserve, interpret and activate historic places to tell the stories of underrepresented people groups in the United States.

The funding will support "Ulupō as Told by Kupa 'Āina" a the project designed to interpret and preserve the integrity and unique cultural history of Ulupō, a heiau and historic site in Kawainui, Kailua.

Hika'alani Executive Director Māpuana de Silva said, "Our long-range project goal is to create and install appropriate, accurate signage at Ulupō, with QR code access to a website of Indigenous stories of significant sites in Kailua. All who visit Ulupō and/or our new website will be enriched with knowledge and native perspectives." ■



## 156th Anniversary of the Royal Order of Kamehameha

I was honored to attend the last Jubilee celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Royal Order of Kamehameha in Wailea, Maui, in 2016. The celebration was attended by many notable leaders throughout our community – all dressed for the occasion.

The evening reminded me of historical accounts of celebrations at 'Iolani Palace when the festivities would include music by the Royal Hawaiian Band that could be heard throughout downtown Honolulu.

This wonderful annual milestone not only represents the strength of this distinguished Hawaiian organization, but also reminds us that the time of our ali'i isn't just a distant memory that exists only in history. The vibrancy of this organization exemplifies the fluidity and health of our culture, people, and place.

Established in 1865 by Kamehameha V, Lot Kapuāiwa, the Royal Order of Kamehameha was founded to honor the legacy of Kamehameha I. The organization is dedicated to defending the sovereignty of Hawai'i, carrying out the kuleana to uplift Kānaka Maoli, and uphold Hawaiian values and characteristics such as friendship, benevolence, charity, leadership, good moral character, and physical health.

The simple existence, let alone the success, of the Royal Order of Kamehameha with its various chapters throughout Hawai'i, is an example of Hawaiian values and kuleana thriving in 2022. They bring to the forefront the ways of our ali'i and remind us to adhere to the fundamental model demonstrated by their presence and work.

Similarly, other ali'i societies such as the 'Ahahui Ka'ahumanu and Hale o Nā Ali'i also encourage us to continue practicing our culture. The status, stature and respect afforded to these organizations are a testament to the importance of the core characteristics embodied by our ali'i, kūpuna, and people; characteristics that are still relevant and important today.



**Carmen  
"Hulu"  
Lindsey**

Chair,  
Trustee, Maui

Just like many other ali'i trusts, the foresight of Kamehameha V continues to benefit our people, even 156 years later. The intellect of our ali'i allowed them to adhere to traditional values, practices, and beliefs, while adapting to a changing society, working within a foreign structure and appropriating it to their own lāhui's benefit. This was a heavy kuleana for our ali'i, one they navigated successfully.

This same kuleana continues to exist today. As kānaka living in 2022, we have the same kuleana to uphold, mālama, and invest in the wellbeing of our lāhui through all avenues. This kuleana is increasingly important in Hawai'i's contemporary society and equally as challenging.

Personally, I believe that one of the avenues through which we solidify our voices is through voting. Whether we are encouraged and thankful to our elected officials or whether we are unhappy with the current leadership, we must vote.

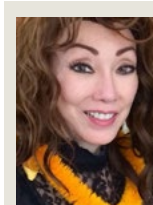
The primary election is scheduled for August 13 with the general election taking place on November 8. Every registered voter in Hawai'i automatically receives a ballot in the mail, in accordance with an all-mail election state law that went into effect in 2020. Mail-in ballots must be received by 7 p.m. on the primary and general election dates.

Mail-in voting allows you to cast your vote without having to leave the comfort of your own home. To register in person, visit your County Clerk's Office or go online to: [www.elections.hawaii.gov](http://www.elections.hawaii.gov) to register.

We must remember the examples already set forth for us by our ali'i and kūpuna; honoring their foresight, drawing on the intellect of those who came before us. Our kuleana to Hawai'i is a great burden, but also a great honor. I congratulate the leadership and members of the Royal Order of Kamehameha for 156 years of honoring Kamehameha and encourage us all to look to their example and follow in our ali'i's footsteps. ■

## Na 'auao...Insights from a Trip to Dubai

Presented with an opportunity to visit Dubai, I was apprehensive at first given all the turmoil in the Middle East but am glad I went as I received an education that one could only experience by visiting there and speaking with the people. I also wanted to meet my son's Kamehameha Schools classmate, Julianne Kailihiwa, who owns Sumo Sushi and Bento in Dubai! Yes, there are Hawaiians living there.



**Leina'ala  
Ahu Isa,  
Ph.D.**

Vice Chair,  
Trustee, At-large

between the rich and the poor. But why? After speaking with many of them (some were my HPU students that I met at Expo2020), I found that they asked themselves these questions as young people: weren't they going to pursue a job in a charitable or social field? Didn't they really want a job they could fully devote themselves to, ideally, for the sake of altruism alone?

Whatever their hopes and wishes were, these young people seem to be striving for perfection.

But the sense of insecurity has led them to question whether they are serving the "right" gods and being guided by an outlook on life that really resonates with them. Or are they secretly dreaming of uncovering answers to the big philosophical questions of existence, and thereby becoming "good" persons?

Appearances can be deceiving – a realization that has them feeling disappointed



Ka'ahumanu sister Aulani Ahmad in the sand dunes of Abu Dhabi. - Photo: Courtesy

Have you ever wanted to see the world's richest country? Luxurious cars everywhere you look, and exotic, artificially created beaches. Dubai is the home to Burj Khalifa (the tallest building in the world), the Palm Jumeirah (world's largest man-made island), the biggest mall in the world, and some of the world's wealthiest people. Young people come from all over the world to experience a culture like nothing else, and to gain na'auao (insights) which they might incorporate in their own lives. Young people love this city so much that they will move from another country to live and work there. Na'auao filled my mind as I journeyed from place to place.

Sure, Dubai is a beautiful country that will surely entertain you, the Burj Khalifa can also signify how large the gap is

at times, but they also said that even if the "enlightenment" they secretly longed for never quite happens, the feeling that they are doing something good for their families back home brought them great happiness. Lessons learned: by foregoing some of the comforts they had been accustomed to and setting new goals for themselves, they could awaken slumbering talents that brought them fulfilling moments and growing successes.

Again, it's up to the individual (your talents, your mana'o) that will be valuable resources in helping you discover new horizons and perspectives. The world is yours! Holomua!

A hui hou until we meet again, as this is my last column till after the elections, Trustee Leina'ala

P.S. Mahalo to Guy Koanui for his letter of appreciation of our Ka Wai Ola. ■



## From the Merrie Monarch Royal Parade to a Public Land Trust Win

What an honor to represent OHA in the 59th Annual Merrie Monarch Royal Parade. I was overjoyed to ride alongside my dear husband, Tyler, our beloved baby, Ana Kapuahilehua-āiwaiwamaikahikinai'ōla'a, and my treasured parents, Anna Lui-Kwan Akaka and Daniel Kahikina Akaka, Jr.



**Kaleihikina Akaka**

Trustee,  
O'ahu

for such a special experience.

Participating in parades has been a tradition for my 'ohana through the years that we hold dear to our hearts. I'm thankful to now share this with my husband and daughter. I am honored to pass on these values and traditions as we carry on our 'ohana's legacy of service to our people. Mahalo nui to the organizers, attendees, participants and all who make the festival and parade such a great success.

It is my honor to serve as OHA's O'ahu trustee and as chair of OHA's Committee on Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment. Working steadfastly side-by-side with our OHA Board Chair, CEO, COO, Public Policy Team, Counsel, Communications Team, Resource Management Chair and BAE Leadership Team has culminated in a landmark decision by our state legislature.

The Public Land Trust has been, and remains, an integral part of my work and strategic mission for our people. The outcome of this year's legislative session, with the passing of the Public Land Trust bill, is remarkable and something of which to be very proud. This momentous legislation provides more funds to OHA and enables us to do even more for our beneficiaries.

Mahalo a nui loa to all who sent in testimony in support of the Public Land Trust. Mahalo a nui loa to all who have worked tirelessly towards the passage of this legislation. This is monumental and long overdue for our people.

Our collective voices have been heard and we need to continue our advocacy for our lāhui, keiki to kūpuna. More work is ahead to make this right - from the proper accounting of inven-

tory of ceded lands to receiving the full 20% of the Public Land Trust monies that are due to Native Hawaiians. Together, we can further collaborate and work towards the betterment of our Hawaiian people which, in turn, uplifts Hawai'i as a whole. ■



Trustee Akaka and her 'ohana riding in the Merrie Monarch Festival parade in April. - Photos: Courtesy



(L-R) Trustee Akaka, Sen. Donna Mercado-Kim, Trustee Alapa, Trustee Lindsey, Rep. Val Okimoto and Rep. Sylvia Luke celebrate passage of the PLT bill.

Hilo is the hometown of my mother so there was 'ohana from our Hawai'i Island side of the family, my brothers with their 'ohana, friends, fellow officials, and former staffers of my grandfather's U.S. Senate seat in Washington D.C. Seeing our keiki and everyone together made

## Congratulations to the Class of 2022 at Hawai'i Community College

On May 13, 2022, I had the honor of delivering the commencement address to the Class of 2022 at Hawai'i Community College on the island of Hawai'i. Congratulations to nā haumāna and all of the parents, grandparents, 'ohana and friends that stood with them during their academic journey.



**Keli'i Akina, Ph.D.**

Trustee,  
At-large

Hawai'i Community College is part of the University of Hawai'i system. Nearly half of the student population is Native Hawaiian, and hundreds of these learners are first generation students. Through the Native Hawaiian Student Success Initiatives, the University of Hawai'i Community College "embraces its responsibilities to the Indigenous people of Hawai'i by ensuring that Native Hawaiians...have every opportunity to achieve success."

I chanted and shared wisdom from the 'Oli Aloha and the mo'olelo of Manono. Below are excerpts from my commencement address to the graduating class.

**On Life's Challenges:** "I salute you who are completing a significant milestone in your educational path and life journey...you will discover many opportunities and a chance to fulfill your dreams...you will also encounter many obstacles and challenges...You may even face relentless opposition and injustice."

**Personal Homecoming:** "While this is your commencement, it is a homecoming for me.

Edith Kanaka'ole, for whom this stadium is named, and her husband, Luke Kanaka'ole, are my ancestors. On my mother's side, I am a Lupenui. And on my father's side, I am descended from the long line of the Akina 'Ohana...my 'ohana hail from the Ka'ū District of this great island of Moku o Keawe, and my ances-

tors lived in little towns across the moku such as Pāhoa, Kohala and Miloli'i."

**Live with Aloha:** "...A hiti mai no 'outou, A hiti pu no me te aloha." Fill your heart with aloha...this is your call to move beyond your time at Hawai'i Community College and into a new time of transforming yourselves and the world around you."

**Call to Service:** "...throughout...Hawai'i, there is poverty, homelessness...injustice...lack of medical services, environmental and cultural threats...these challenges are opportunities...they show that love's in need of love today. They are your calling to go forth and serve...We, your kūpuna, your 'ohana, your ancestors, and community are looking to you to create the future of Hawai'i."

**On Perseverance:** "...If we think of ourselves as victims and blame other people or the circumstances around us...we have no power to change our condition...when we realize that others do not have the power to take away our love, joy, and peace, we will never be their victims...we have the power to determine our happiness and how we face life."

**On Change:** "...Confucius shared the secret of how to change the world: 'If you want to change the world, then change your country. If you want to change your country, then change your city. If you want to change your city, then change your village. If you want to change your village, then change your family. If you want to change your family, then change yourself.'" ■

Your feedback on this column is welcomed at [TrusteeAkina@oha.org](mailto:TrusteeAkina@oha.org).



## A Look Back

My first term as an OHA Trustee has been a busy one. In 2019, I brought the idea of a new governance model to then Board Chair Colette Machado for her consideration. Forming a Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) to investigate this possibility, Trustees Machado, Robert Lindsey, and Hulu Lindsey worked together under my leadership to accomplish several groundbreaking things.

First, we looked at the fact that OHA was actually two different entities and needed to be treated as such. Under a new set of Lāhui Level policies as an overarching umbrella, we used a pyramid approach to map out the new governance model. The Lāhui Level policies include the board's bylaws, which we identified needed updating. They had not been updated in 13 years.

Under the bylaws, governance is now spit in two, flowing down the pyramid. One half being OHA, the government agency as formed under the 1978 constitutional convention. The other half is the Native Hawaiian Trust which includes its \$480 million portfolio and now its \$291 million in land assets becoming the new endowment model. While this new model was adopted, new policies needed to be drafted and approved to complete the process.

Once the work for the first PIG had been completed, I was once again selected to be the chair of a new PIG to update the bylaws. Over the next six months myself, Trustees Machado, Robert Lindsey, and Hulu Lindsey edited and updated the bylaws. In February 2020, they were unanimously approved.

The investment policy requires Trustees to attend a minimum of two financial trainings a year so that they can be properly educated on managing OHA's \$480 million portfolio. Over the last four years I have attended 14, not including the educational presentations to Trustees

during committee meetings conducted by our portfolio managers per the Resource Management Committee.

The biggest impact to my process and ideas on how to better manage the portfolio and how to tie OHA's vast land holdings into the portfolio came from attending the Commonfund Institute held each year at the Yale University School of Management. This helped me see that, as the 13th largest land holder

in the state, OHA should be leveraging those holdings against the Native Hawaiian Trust portfolio to allow OHA to not spend money on hedge funds as downside protection against the market.

Not only will this save OHA millions each year in fees, but it will also allow for greater gains to the overall portfolio. If OHA had an endowment model in place since the inception of the Native Hawaiian Trust, there is no doubt in my mind the Native Hawaiian Trust would be beyond the billion-dollar mark.

During the pandemic shutdown I began the conversation with both the governor's and lieutenant governor's offices and key legislators to release to OHA the \$31 million in the Carry Forward Trust Holding Account (CFTHA) to help Native Hawaiians with COVID-19 relief. While I was unsuccessful during the shutdown, OHA is finally receiving those funds through new legislation passed a few weeks ago.

During the shutdown, OHA was able to acquire two major land parcels adjacent to Nā Lama Kukui. This is something I have been working on since 2019. With the help of Chief Operating Officer Casey Brown and Land Director Kalani Fronda, this Transit Oriented Development land acquisition has the potential to begin to address the critical housing needs of Native Hawaiians.

These are just a few accomplishments. There have been countless meetings with beneficiaries to address their concerns and needs. With the help of my fellow Trustees, let's make this list grow and expand. ■



**Brendon  
Kale'aina  
Lee**

Trustee,  
At-large

## LEO 'ELELE TRUSTEE MESSAGES

### Celebration of Life for Dr. Haunani-Kay Trask set for July 9, 2022

Aloha 'Ohana, I am posting this notice to all of the 'ohana who loved and knew my sister, Haunani-Kay, who died on July 3, 2021. Her passing was a great loss to everyone and to our family as well. She was greatly loved and respected by many who had been her students and friends throughout her lifetime.



**Mililani B.  
Trask**

Trustee,  
Hawai'i



The outpourings of sentiment, sadness and love that we received were truly overwhelming and a testament to the ALOHA of those whose lives she touched, shaped and influenced. Notes, letters, and cards came from all over the world and from every island. Mahalo a nui loa.

When Haunani-Kay died, the family knew her last wishes. She wanted to have her iwi placed at Kilauea so that she could sleep in the bosom of Tutu Pele. She rests there now.

We retained some of her iwi for Ho'olewa Celebrations on O'ahu, in Hilo, Hawai'i, and in Hāna, Maui. For several weeks we considered how and where these events could be held. Many ideas were discussed, and many people came forward to offer support and mana'o.

We were very thankful for this support and, after much consideration, decided that we would work with the team from Kamehameha Schools (KS) who graciously offered to co-host

Haunani-Kay's Ho'olewa at the Kamehameha Schools Kapālama campus on O'ahu where she attended school for grades 7-12, graduating in 1967.

We have had many discussions with Randy Fong from KS who is not only facilitating the planning, but has also helped us to identify a good site for the event

with parking and restroom facilities and an area where we can embrace, listen to Hawaiian music, kūkā and reflect. We continue to go forward and are pleased to announce that a date has been set for her Celebration of Life on O'ahu. This event will be jointly sponsored by the Trask/Cooper 'Ohana and the folks from Kamehameha.

We will be gathering on Saturday, July 9, 2022, at the Ka'i-wakīloumoku Hawaiian Cultural Center (Ululani Hale) from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm to honor the passing of Haunani-Kay. The venue can accommodate 500 people. The Bernice Pauahi Bishop Memorial Chapel will also be opened during this time, but the event, honoring and music will be at Ka'i-wakīloumoku in the courtyard and abutting classroom area.

KS staff and security will kōkua with the event and many graduates will come to sing, play music and kāko'o. Mahalo to our cousin, Kawika Trask, and to all of the entertainers and musicians who are coming, as well as to Haunani-Kay's special friends who have agreed to honor her with words and remembrances.

We send a special ALOHA to the class of 1967 who graduated with Haunani-Kay, we hope to see you there. ■

*We are asking that everyone take care to ensure the safety and health of all. Please bring and wear a mask. We do not want our sister's Celebration of Life to become a COVID-19 spreading event.*



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*Note: Trustee columns represent the views of individual trustees and may not reflect the official positions adopted by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs Board of Trustees.*

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To create a space for our readers to honor their loved ones, Ka Wai Ola will print *Hali'a Aloha - obituaries and mele kanikau (mourning chants)*. Hali'a Aloha appearing in the print version of Ka Wai Ola should be recent (within six months of passing) and should not exceed 250 words in length. All other Hali'a Aloha submitted will be published on kawaiola.news. Hali'a Aloha must be submitted by the 15th of the month for publication the following month. Photos accompanying Hali'a Aloha will only be included in the print version of the newspaper if space permits. However, all photos will be shared on kawaiola.news.

## RICHARD "DICKIE" NELSON, III (DEC. 11, 1933 – FEB. 27, 2022)



Richard Nelson, III, (88) passed away on February 27 in North Kona, Hawai'i. Known as "Dickie" to 'ohana and friends, he was born in Kālia, O'ahu, to Richard Nelson, Jr., and Pearl Kaimookalani (Harbottle) Nelson. Dickie was raised on O'ahu until the 'ohana moved to Maui. Dickie worked as a manager at Hawaiian Telephone for 25 years. After retiring, Dickie was the Hawai'i Region administrator for the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ

of Latter Day Saints from 1977 to 1988, serving the church ministry abroad. He also dedicated his time to serving our lāhui. He was a Department of Hawaiian Home Lands Commissioner for West Hawai'i from 1997 to 2001. In 2014, Hawai'i Island Mayor Billy Kenoi presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation for his contributions to the Leeward Planning Commission. Dickie used his skills to help Native Hawaiian leaders kickstart Hawaiian culture-based programs in their communities. His commitment to our lāhui is highlighted in his work to address the State of Hawai'i's constitutional duty to sufficiently fund the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands – litigation known informally as the "Nelson Case," as he was the lead plaintiff. When he learned, before passing away, that the legislature was considering unprecedented funding for DHHL during this session he was filled with joy. Dickie is predeceased by his beloved wife, Esther Leina'ala (Roy) Nelson, and they left their 'ohana a legacy of aloha. He is survived by his children, Debbie Baxter, Kaimookalani Muhlestein, Napela Menor and Nakoa Nelson, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. ■

**E nā 'ohana Hawai'i:** If you are planning a reunion or looking for genealogical information, Ka Wai Ola will print your listing at no charge on a space-available basis. Listings should not exceed 200 words. OHA reserves the right to edit all submissions for length. Send your information by mail, or e-mail kwo@OHA.org. E ola nā mamo a Hāloa!

### SEARCH

**LINDSEY** – Lindsey Genealogy update/Descendant updates sought: The Lindsey Ohana book, originally published in 1983, is being updated. The book was based on information compiled in a 1947 booklet, which held 532 Lindsey descendants. The latest edition, published in 1989, showed 1,969 descendants and an index of 4,000 names. Now, 33 years later, an update is in order. We are looking for all of the descendants of Thomas Weston Lindsey 1. and George Kynaston Lindsey 2. The deadline to submit updates for inclusion in the book is May 31, 2022. The book/document will be available for purchase upon completion, with the projected timeline slated for Sept. 1, 2022. Please submit updates/entries: via email to jvduet1@gmail.com; by mail to Rose Marie H. Duey, 575 Iao Valley Rd., Wailuku, HI, 96793;

or call/text 808-870-2553 for more information.

**TITCOMB** – Family Reunion for the descendants of Charles and Kanikele (Kamalenui) Titcomb. The date has been rescheduled to June 30-July 2, 2023 at Lōkahi Center, Wai'anae, O'ahu. Children are: Susan (Christian Bertelmann); Julius (Malia Kalaupuhupuhi, Sophie Houghtailing); Emma (August Dreier); MaryAnn (James Hall Fiddes or Feddes); Angeline (John Spencer); Louis (Hannah Sheldon); George Rufus (Caroline Mae Morteno); Hattie (Frederick Weber); and Kanikele. For more information or to kokua, contact: K. Nani Kawaa at titcombfamilyreunion@gmail.com or visit our 'ohana website <https://titcombsofhawaii.com> ■

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Classified ads only \$12.50 - Type or clearly write your ad of no more than 175 characters (including spaces and punctuation) and mail, along with a check for \$12.50, to: **Ka Wai Ola Classifieds, Office of Hawaiian Affairs**, 560 N. Nimitz Hwy., Suite 200, Honolulu, HI 96817. Make check payable to OHA. (We cannot accept credit cards.) Ads and payment must be received by the 15th for the next month's edition of *Ka Wai Ola*. Send your information by mail, or e-mail [kwo@oha.org](mailto:kwo@oha.org) with the subject "Makeke/Classified." OHA reserves the right to refuse any advertisement, for any reason, at our discretion.

**BALLARD FAMILY MORTUARY, NORMAN'S MORTUARY & VALLEY ISLE MEMORIAL PARK MAUI.** Assist with pre-planning funeral, cremation and cemetery needs. Call Momi Hai at (808) 250-1044.

**FORMING A NONPROFIT FARMERS' COOPERATIVE IN KOHALA** to offer possibility of buying a small farm as part of a larger land parcel making ag land more affordable with opportunities for cooperation and collaboration with neighbors. Minimum cost to participate is \$150,000 cash and includes land and a small home. Call 808-493-3905.

**HOMES WITH ALOHA**- Unique property in Papakolea one story level lot with a warehouse like structure attached. Must see \$950,000. This is a leasehold property - Charmaine I. Quilit Poki (Realtor) (808) 295-4474. RB-15998 Keller Williams Honolulu RB-21303.

**HOMES WITH ALOHA**- Kula Maui 43, 168 sq. ft. lot with a 2, 816 sq.ft. unfinished home. Ocean views, wraparound lanai. \$590,000. This is a leasehold property - Charmaine I. Quilit Poki (Realtor) (808) 295-4474. RB-15998 Keller Williams Honolulu RB-21303.

**HOMES WITH ALOHA HAS A QUALIFIED BUYER'S LIST:** Looking for homes in the Kapolei, Waimanalo, Papakolea, Nanakuli, Big Island areas, Maui areas.

If you are thinking of selling please call, text or email Charmaine I. Quilit Poki (Realtor) (808) 295-4474. RB-15998 Keller Williams Honolulu RB-21303. [charmaine@homeswithaloha.com](mailto:charmaine@homeswithaloha.com)

**MEDICARE KŌKUA WITH ALOHA** call Catalina 808-756-5899 or email [catalina.hartwell.hi@gmail.com](mailto:catalina.hartwell.hi@gmail.com) for your Medicare/Medicaid needs. Serving residents in the State of Hawai'i.

**SELLERS OF DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME (DHHL) HAWAIIAN RESIDENTIAL HOMES AND AGRICULTURE LOTS WANTED** in the following areas: 1) Lālāmilo (Waimea); 2) Waimea; 3) Kawaihae; 4) La'i'ōpua; 5) Waikōloa; 6) Papakōlea area (including Kalāwahine); 7) Waimānalo; 8) Kapolei. Buyer is DHHL qualified and financially ready and qualified. Call A'ala at 808 351-6999 or Ku at (808) 557-9313.

**THINKING OF BUYING OR SELLING A HOME? CALL THE EXPERT.** Call Charmaine I. Quilit Poki (R) 295- 4474 RB-15998. Keller Williams Honolulu RB-21303. To view current listings, go to my website [HomeswithAloha.com](http://HomeswithAloha.com). Call, Text or email [Charmaine@HomeswithAloha.com](mailto:Charmaine@HomeswithAloha.com) to make an appointment to learn more about homeownership. Mahalo nui! Specialize in Fee Simple & Homestead Properties for over 35 years. ■

## E Ō Mai, e Kuleana Land Holders!

**THE KULEANA LAND TAX** exemption helps Native Hawaiians keep their ancestral lands by reducing the rising cost of property taxes. All four counties have ordinances in place that allow eligible kuleana land owners to pay minimal to zero property taxes. Applications are available on each county's website.

For more information go to [www.oha.org/kuleanaland](http://www.oha.org/kuleanaland) or call 808-286-8033.



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## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER FOR PRIMARY ELECTIONS 2022...

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26

**CHECK YOUR MAIL!**  
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AUG  
3

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER**  
To vote at the polls.

AUG  
13

**VOTE!**  
Primary Election.



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**Expanded**

## Six ways OHA's **Ka Wailele** emergency fund can help:

- car repairs
- funeral expenses
- medical expenses
- past due rent, mortgage
- rent deposits
- utilities

As of Feb. 1, 2022 OHA expanded the assistance available to Native Hawaiians to include car repairs, out-of-pocket medical expenses and funeral expenses. Maximum awards increased from \$1,500 to \$2,000.

Minimum program requirements:

- Be Native Hawaiian residing in Hawai'i
- At least 18 years old
- Be in financial hardship; and
- Have documents showing past due rent, mortgage, utilities, rental deposit, car repairs, funeral or medical expenses.

Visit [www.KaWailele.org](http://www.KaWailele.org) or call **808-587-7656**.

