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OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
Polynesian Voyaging Society





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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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Over 40 years ago, a small group of visionaries, Herb Kane, Tommy Holmes, and Ben Finney, founded the Polynesian Voyaging Society (PVS), thus putting their dreams into motion beginning with the *Hōkūle`a*, a double-hull canoe which eventually evolved into an internationally recognized symbol of Hawaiian culture and a reconnection to ancestral lands via sailing voyages to Polynesia.

The Polynesian Voyaging Society reintroduced the lost art of *wayfinding* by embarking on a series of long distance voyages starting with the construction of double hull ocean voyaging canoes. In 1975, the *Hōkūle`a* was built followed a few years later by the *Hawai`iloa*, and the *Hikianalia* in 2012.

Hōkūle`a as drawn worldwide attention since its voyage of rediscovery in 1976, retracing the routes of settlement used by Polynesian ancestors. Today, *Hōkūle`a* and its sister ship, *Hikianalia*, have chosen to not only promote Hawaiian culture, but to draw attention to the modern day problems that plague our Island Earth.

Their 2013 worldwide voyage is named *Mālama Honua* (Care for the Earth) and will cover a four-year span beginning with a training voyage around the Hawaiian Islands called *Mālama Hawai`i* with scheduled stops at 32 locations. Scientific and cultural data will be collected, distributed, and put into practice to help ensure a safe, productive worldwide voyage for *Hōkūle`a* and *Hikianalia* as they promote Hawaiian knowledge and cultural practices throughout the Pacific and along their worldwide voyage.

Findings

OHA provided PVS with \$300,000 for a one year period during which time *Hōkūle`a* and *Hikianalia* acted as “floating classrooms” to bridge culture, tradition, indigenous knowledge, and modern technology while gathering and sharing scientific and cultural data. PVS was successful in perpetuating cultural practices such as *wayfinding* navigation, canoe construction, protocols, and ocean resource management as they traveled throughout the Pacific ending in Waitangi, Aotearoa (New Zealand).

Hōkūle`a and *Hikianalia* were successful in drawing attention to universal problems such as climate change, rising sea levels, and Earth’s vanishing natural resources. They obtained pledges from governments, organizations and individuals to raise awareness and join in protecting the Earth’s resources as demonstrated below:

- Tahiti’s Declaration - to protect 20% of marine environments by 2020; primary schools will teach the values of *Mālama Honua*.
- American Sāmoa’s Declaration - to be good stewards of natural and cultural environments for longevity of Samoan culture and tradition.
- Apia, Sāmoa, United Nations Secretary-General, Ban Ki-Moon - to rally more leaders to the common cause of a more sustainable future.
- Hawai`i - Promise to Pae`āina O Hawai`i - to bring individuals and organizations together to increase the health of Hawai`i’s oceans by mid-2017.





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The Ocean provides 86% of fresh water on the Earth and produces 50% of the World's oxygen.

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- French Polynesia - all primary schools committed to teaching and learning the values of *Mālama Honua* over the next three years.
- French Polynesia Declaration - Twenty diverse organizations agreed to join efforts to protect ocean resources and utilize renewable energy sources.
- PVS leadership, staff and crewmembers partnered with NOAA, UNESCO, Conservation International to discuss action plans about ocean awareness.
- United Nations Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States - PVS President, Nainoa Thompson addressed heads of state, government and business leaders in Sāmoa regarding global sustainability.

PVS successfully undertook a major role by encouraging people seeking to maintain their traditions, heritage and culture in societies that do not always place a high priority on such things.

An average of eight crewmembers per leg trained as apprentice navigators throughout the six legs of the voyage covered by this contract.

For the *Mālama Hawai`i* leg of the voyage, *Hōkūle`a* and *Hikianalia* visited 32 communities, hosted 175 schools and organizations, completed 20 community service projects and attracted over 23,300 students and community members. Some of the community projects involved removing invasive species from Popoia Island, planting niu at Na Pohaku o Hauwahine, restoring lo`i at Ulupo Heiau and Kawainui Marsh, to planting trees and engaging with kapa weavers in Tonga to learn their techniques.

The project was expertly planned and strongly supported by the U.S. Congress, by the Administration for Native Americans with a grant of \$238,000 and by influential organizations in Hawai`i including Hawaiian Airlines, Bank of Hawaii Foundation, Hawaiian Electric Industries, Harold K.L. Castle Foundation, American Savings Bank, First Hawaiian Bank, University of Hawaii, Outrigger Hotels, Kaiser Permanente, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Hawaii Community Foundation, and many other major benefactors.

Recommendation

In general, OHA should increase its support in leadership training, conservation of natural resources, and perpetuation of the Hawaiian culture.





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INTRODUCTION



Purpose of the Evaluation

The purpose of this evaluation is to determine whether the \$300,000 invested in this project designed to perpetuate traditional navigation and ocean voyaging, was successful in educating and promoting Hawaiian culture throughout the Hawaiian Islands, to the Polynesia Triangle and on to foreign sea ports in the Pacific, Indian and Atlantic Oceans they visited or will be visiting on their 4-year worldwide voyage.

Scope of the Evaluation

The scope of the evaluation covers the contract period from November 1, 2013 to December 31, 2014 with the voyaging canoes, *Hōkūleʻa* and *Hikianalia*, having ended the first leg of their worldwide voyage called *Mālama Hawaiʻi*, in April 2014 which took them from Hawaiʻi Island to Nihoa. It continues to five connected international voyages ending December 31, 2014.

Methodology

Data was obtained from progress reports and other correspondence without the normal site visits and interviews because of the timing of this report and the extent of details provided on the PVS quarterly reports.

OHA Strategic Priority

The project aligns with several OHA Strategic Priorities:

Moʻomeheu (Culture) - to strengthen identity, Native Hawaiians will preserve, practice and perpetuate their culture.

ʻĀina (Land & Water) - to maintain the connection to the past and a viable land base, Native Hawaiians will participate in and benefit from responsible stewardship of Ka Pae ʻĀina O Hawaiʻi.

Mauli Ola (Health) - To improve the quality and longevity of life, Native Hawaiians will enjoy healthy lifestyles and experience reduced onset of chronic diseases.





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BACKGROUND

Polynesian Voyaging Society (PVS)

The Polynesian Voyaging Society (PVS) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) founded in 1973 with the purpose to learn and share traditional Polynesian voyaging and wayfinding skills while intensifying the preservation and perpetuation of Hawaiian culture.



PVS was founded by nautical anthropologist Ben Finney, artist Herb Kane, and waterman Tommy Holmes who shared the dream of proving that early Hawaiians settled the Polynesian Triangle navigating without instrument. The triangle has at each corner, Hawaii, Easter Island, (Rapa Nui), and New Zealand (Aotearoa) with Tahiti in the middle.

Hōkūleʻa, their first double hull voyaging canoe, was built in 1975 and successfully sailed to Tahiti in 1976 under the guidance of Mau Piailug, a master navigator (pwo) from Satawal, a small island in Micronesia. Two years later, another attempt to sail to Tahiti was met with disaster when it capsized near Lānai and crew member Eddie Aikau was lost.

In 1975 when the *Hōkūleʻa* was launched, Hawaiians reclaimed the art of wayfinding - ocean navigation using traditional principles that embraced ocean currents, celestial navigation, wind, temperatures, bird migrations and sea creatures. Today, there are 25 deep-sea voyaging canoes with crews from 13 different Pacific countries. There are only 10 master navigators of which five are from Hawaiʻi and are training the next generation of wayfinders.

In 1980, Nainoa Thompson and crewmembers, under the guidance of Mau Piailug, sailed Hōkūleʻa to Tahiti and back again to Hawaii using the ancient art of *wayfinding* navigation, inspiring a cultural revival in Hawaii that has grown stronger through the years and inspired many trips to other Pacific locations. Since then, the Hōkūleʻa has been joined by other voyaging canoes, the Hawaiʻi Iloa and the Hikianalia.

In 2013, the PVS proposed a four-year worldwide voyage (2013-2017) that will take *Hōkūleʻa* and her support vessel, *Hikianalia*, which is outfitted with photovoltaic panels, electric motors, satellite communication and modern technology, out of the Pacific region for the first time venturing into the Indian Ocean off the coast of Africa and touching 62 ports in 26 countries.

Why OHA funded this Project

The *Mālama Honua* (*Care for the Earth*) Project supports several of the OHA Strategic Priorities to increase Native Hawaiian involvement in the preservation, practice, and perpetuation of Hawaiian culture that includes language, subsistence, and traditional navigation which inspires others to respect and learn from each other in a united effort to care for Island Earth.

Although this contract contains the normal performance measures detailing progress and expenditures, the core focus of this project is to use the *Hōkūleʻa* and *Hikianalia* as floating classrooms to bridge cultures, traditions, indigenous knowledge, and modern technology to perpetuate cultural practices such as wayfinding navigation, canoe construction, protocol, and ocean resource management as they travel to more than 62 ports in more than 26 countries.

OHA Sponsorship

OHA provided PVS with \$300,000 for the first six legs of a 27-leg voyage that took *Hōkūleʻa* and *Hikianalia* around the Hawaiian Islands, ending in Aotearoa. They were promoting their Mālama Hawaiʻi and Mālama Honua World-wide Voyage and introducing communities to their “floating classrooms”.



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...6 of the 27 legs of the Worldwide Voyage.

Scientific and cultural data will be collected, distributed, and put into practice to help ensure a safe AND productive world-wide voyage for *Hōkūle`a* and *Hikianalia* as they promote Hawaiian knowledge and cultural practices. They also seek to unite people around universal problems regarding climate change, rising seas, and Earth's vanishing natural resources. PENDING ANY

In all, OHA funding covered six of the 27 legs of the Worldwide Voyage that took them from Hawaii to Tahiti, Samoa, Aotearoa, Waitangi, and Auckland, New Zealand, where OHA's funding ended. PHOTO

PRELUDE TO WORLDWIDE VOYAGE

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In Hawai`i, schools and organizations were invited to register for canoe tours, presentations or outreach opportunities with PVS crew and leaders at the Marine Education Training Center on Sand Island. The response far exceeded PVS expectations resulting in the need to extend the school canoe tours from January to March which served 28 schools and 3,289 students. APPROVALS

PVS also conducted school and community presentations, hosting more than 175 schools and organizations with an estimated 23,335 community members participating in Mālama Hawai`i,

the first leg of the Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage. This leg of the voyage scheduled stops at 32 ports among the Hawaiian Islands to spread their message.

Other educational aspects included leadership training, drydock and maintenance work for the canoes resulting in over 1,100 volunteers participating in the work during the first and second quarters. Maintenance and preparation for winter in Aotearoa included sanding, varnishing, painting, re-lashing, re-rigging, and measuring for new sails for both canoes to match sailing speeds.

Hōkūle`a crew members have also participated in community projects ranging from removal of invasive species to planting and lo`i restoration. Their message is the same - preservation and perpetuation of Hawaiian culture and Island Earth.

Table 1. 2013 Mālama Hawai`i Voyage Outputs

Outputs	1 st Qtr.	2 nd Qtr.	3 rd Qtr.	4 th Qtr.
Number of Hawaii schools visiting the wa`a.	39	22	*	*
Number of Hawaii students/teachers visiting the wa`a.	3,000	2,154	*	*
Number of volunteers assisting with dry dock, voy-aging preparations, etc.	260	872	250	156
Number of crew training days. ^a	21 sails (Training)	24 sails (Training)	75 away from HI	45 away from HI
Number of crew members trained ^b (Native Hawaiians & non-Hawaiians)	400+	60+	70+	60+
Number of cultural practices perpetuated.	2	2	2	1
Number outreached through social media, ^c website, radio, television, print.	50,000	75,000	300,000	300,000

* By the 3rd & 4th Quarters, both canoes had left Hawai`i and would not return until 2015 & 2017.

^a Sails are short duration training trips around Hawai`i.

^b Numbers were greater while in Hawaii waters; crew members, including guests, varied. Selection of crew members became more restrictive as they ventured further away from Hawai`i; numbers rounded

^c Web analytics from Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Google rounded off.



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In the upcoming decades, many of the collective needs and emerging scientific opportunities that ~~AND~~ will face involve interaction among the natural environment, its biota, and people which are highly complex and unpredictable. PVS will be well positioned, in terms of its information resources, technological capabilities and ~~range of processes and expertise~~, to provide well-coordinated, comprehensive responses to priorities of society and science.

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OHA FUNDING

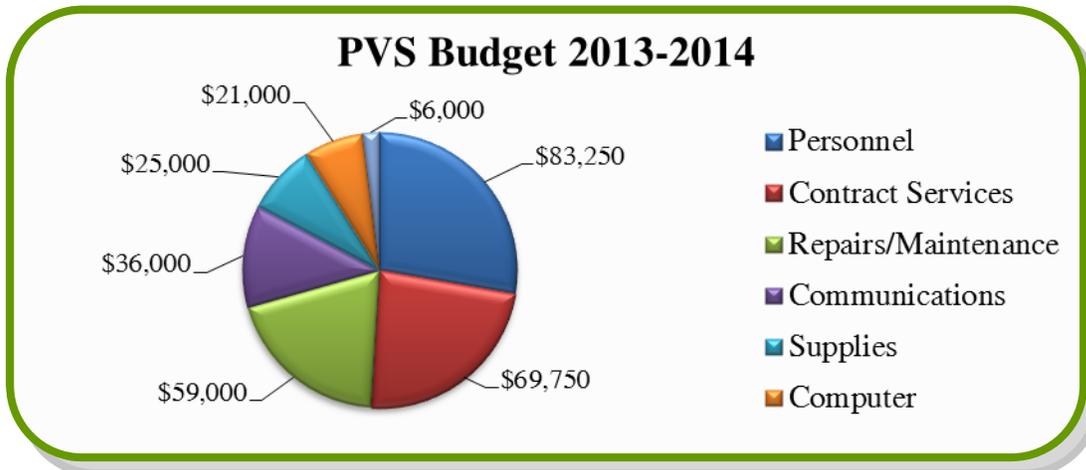
PVS requested \$1.5 million over a five-year period with \$500,000 for the first increment. OHA provided an award of \$300,000 for one year and required match funds in return which exceeded their needs:

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Table 2. Matching Funds

Grantor > Match Funds	Amount of Award
Office of Hawaiian Affairs	\$300,000
Hawaii Tourism Authority	\$125,000
Harold K.L. Castle Foundation	\$ 75,000
Pacific Resources for Education & Learning	\$ 26,443
TOTAL	\$526,443

Figure 1. Polynesian Voyaging Society Budget



By the end of the first six months, PVS had expensed 73% of the OHA funds with the majority meeting contract services for video/media and repair/maintenance of the canoes. Accurate accounting records show PVS had planned carefully for their voyage by meeting anticipated expenses as scheduled.





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FINDINGS

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RECOMMENDATION

In general, OHA should increase its support in leadership training, conservation of natural resources, and perpetuation of the Hawaiian culture.





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ATTACHMENT 1
Worldwide Voyage - 2013
First Leg Port List* - Malama Hawai`i

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1. Marine Education Training Center - Sand Island, O`ahu
2. Kualoa/Hakipu`u, O`ahu
3. Hilo, Hawai`i
4. Kalae, Hawai`i
5. Miloli`i, Hawai`i
6. Hōnaunau, Hawai`i
7. Keauhou, Hawai`i
8. Kawaihae, Hawai`i
9. Holomoana, Hawai`i
10. Hana, Maui
11. Mā`alaea, Maui
12. Kealaikahiki, Kaho`olawe
13. Mānele, Lana`i
14. Lahaina, Maui
15. Honolua, Maui
16. Kalaupapa, Moloka`i
17. Kaunakakai, Moloka`i
18. Waimānalo, O`ahu
19. Kailua, O`ahu
20. Mokuolo`e, O`ahu
21. Kāne`ohe, O`ahu
22. Kualoa/Hakipu`u, O`ahu
23. Kahana, O`ahu
24. Hale`iwa, O`ahu
25. Hanalei, O`ahu
26. Nihoa (*Hikianalia* only)
27. Ni`ihau
28. Nāwiliwili, Kaua`i
29. Wai`anae, O`ahu
30. Ko`olina, O`ahu
31. Maunaloa, O`ahu
32. Marine Education Training Center - Sand Island, O`ahu

*Subject to change.



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ATTACHMENT 2

Worldwide Voyage Leg Numbering
November 2013 to December 2014

Hökūle`a and Hikianalia

- Leg 1 - Malama Hawai`i
- Leg 2 - Hawai`i to Tahiti
- Leg 3 - Tahiti to Sāmoa
- Leg 4 - Sāmoa & Phoenix
- Leg 5 - Sāmoa to Aotearoa
- Leg 6 - Aotearoa: Waitangi to Auckland