Due to COVID-19, the OHA Board of Trustees and its standing committees will hold virtual meetings until further notice. The virtual meeting can be viewed and observed via livestream on OHA’s website at www.oha.org/livestream or listened by phone: (213) 338-8477. A physical meeting location open to the general public will be available at UH Maui College Cafeteria, Pā‘ina Bldg, 310 W. Ka‘ahumanu Ave., Kahului HI 96732. All members of the public that wish to access the physical meeting location must wear a mask and follow all applicable COVID-19 requirements of the meeting venue.

Minutes of the
MAUI ISLAND COMMUNITY MEETING
MINUTES
Wednesday, May 25, 2022
6:00pm

ATTENDANCE:
Chairperson Carmen Hulu Lindsey
Trustee Leina‘ala Ahu Isa
Trustee Dan Ahuna
Trustee Kaleihikina Akaka
Trustee Keliʻi Akina
Trustee Luana Alapa
Trustee Brendon Kaleiʻaina Lee
Trustee Mililani Trask
Trustee John Waiheʻe, IV

ADMINISTRATION:
Sylvia Hussey, CEO
Casey Brown, COO
Everett Ohta, Interim General Counsel
Lei-Ming Ayat-Verdadero, Beneficiary Svcs. Mgr.
Erin Nakamura, IT Suppport
Arlene Aguinaldo, IT Support
Tiger Li, IT Mgr.
Roy Newton, Beneficiary Services Agent
Zach Smith, Research Systems Administrator
Josh Koh, Multi-Media Designer

BOT STAFF:
Amber Kalua, Trustee Aide
Kanani Iaea, Trustee Aide
Lehua Itokazu, Board Secretary
Crayn Akina, Trustee Aide
Anuhea Diamond, Trustee Aide
Kauikeaoalani Wailehua, Trustee Aide
Brandon Mitsuda, Trustee Aide
Evalani Canto, Trustee Aide
Nathan Takeuchi, Trustee Aide

GUEST:
Tiare Lawrence
Daniel Kanahele
Kaniloa Kamaunu
Call to Order

Chair Hulu Lindsey Calls the Board of Trustees Meeting to order for Wednesday, May 25, 2022 at 6:05 p.m. Board Secretary, please do a roll call.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBERS</th>
<th>Present</th>
<th>TIME ARRIVED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TRUSTEE LEINA’ALA</td>
<td>AHU ISA</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRUSTEE DAN</td>
<td>AHUNA</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRUSTEE KALEI</td>
<td>AKAKA</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRUSTEE KELIʻI</td>
<td>AKINA</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRUSTEE LUANA</td>
<td>ALAPA</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRUSTEE BRENDON KALEIʻĀINA</td>
<td>LEE</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRUSTEE MILILANI</td>
<td>TRASK</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRUSTEE JOHN</td>
<td>WAIHEʻE</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHAIRPERSON CARMEN HULU</td>
<td>LINDSEY</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At the Call to Order, nine (9) Trustees are PRESENT, thereby constituting a quorum.

Chair Hulu Lindsey Aloha kākou and welcome to our Maui Island Community Meeting. Inaudible
We are also hosting this meeting on Zoom to allow some of our presenters in Hāna to participate in tonight’s meeting. As a reminder for everyone on Zoom, please mute your mics when you are not speaking and keep your cameras turned off until called upon. The virtual meeting can be viewed by livestream on OHA’s website, www.oha.org/livestream. Before we begin, I would like to ask each Trustee to introduce themselves and their staff at this time.

Introductions

Trustee Lee Aloha mai kākou, I am Trustee Lee from the island of Oʻahu. I am an At-Large Trustee. My staff is not here, one is ill at home and the other one had a meeting on Oʻahu. Mahalo everyone for coming out this evening and we look forward to hearing from everyone.

Trustee Akina Aloha mai kākou, I want to extend my gratitude to Chair Hulu Lindsey for her hospitality on the island and for hosting us tonight, and my condolences on the passing of Trustee Colette Machado. I have with me this evening Evalani Canto. She hails from Maui herself. Thank you for serving on my Trustee team. I am very glad to be with the beneficiaries of Maui and I hope that we can serve you, and we look forward to hearing from you this evening. Aloha.

Trustee Trask Aloha Maui ʻohana, I am Mililani Trask. My mother is Haunani Haia Cooper. My Tutu is Iwalani Haia. Our family is born and raised in Hāna and buried in the historic church there. I am so happy to be back here and to introduce my Aide, Kaui Wailehua.

Trustee Alapa Aloha everyone, my name is Luana Alapa and I am the Trustee for Molokaʻi/ Lānaʻi. I am so pleased to be here this evening, my first Maui Board meeting as a new Trustee. It’s been a year and a half going in and serving our people. I am so happy and proud to be here amongst our friends and family. I am looking forward to a wonderful meeting this evening. Mahalo.
Trustee Waiheʻe  Aloha mai kākou, I am Trustee John Waiheʻe IV, Trustee At-Large. I want to express my joy for being able to be here in person, here on Maui, it’s been too long. I also want to thank our lovely Chairperson, Hulu Lindsey for hosting us tonight. I want to thank everyone whose come in person and joining us virtually as well and for participating in our community meeting. I look forward to what you have to say. Joining me tonight is my Aide, Crayn Akina. Again, thank you very much.

Trustee Ahu Isa  Aloha mai kākou, aloha Maui and to everyone joining us on Zoom. I am Trustee Lei Ahu Isa, Trustee At-Large. I love the island of Maui. I am so happy to be here after two years of COVID. Maui nō ka ʻoi! Our Chair is from Maui and her great beef stew. My Aide is Nathan Takeuchi. If you have any questions, you can always ask me or my Aide. We are At-Large so we also cover Maui too. Mahalo.

Trustee Akaka  Aloha mai kākou e Maui, I am so happy to be here with you in person after about two years. It is wonderful to see everyone here with us tonight. Mahalo for the time you are spending here with us and sharing your manaʻo. I also want to introduce my Aide, Brandon Mitsuda, and my forever loving husband and baby. I also want to say mahalo nui to our Chair for always being a gracious host and to her staff who helped make the meaʻai for us, and to our Maui staff. Aunty Thelma, we are going to miss you dearly but we are so happy that you are joining us today. I also wanted to acknowledge that we have Represenative Patrick Bronco here. Mahalo for joining us and being a part of our meeting, and always being so supportive of our efforts at the legislature. It is so important that we have these collaborative relationships so that we can do even more to help our people.

Mahalo again everyone, we look forward to hearing your manaʻo so that we can learn how to further collaborate for our Maui Hawaiian community, which in turn uplifts a community as a whole. Mahalo nui and aloha.

Trustee Ahuna  Welina mai me ke aloha, my name is Dan Ahuna and I represent the island of Kauaʻi. With me today is my Aide, Anuhea Diamond. I want to thank our Chair for taking us to Kaʻehu and Waiʻehu today, it was a very nice visit. It is nice to see everyone back.

Chair Hulu Lindsey  Thank you Tustees. I would like to introduce our CEO, Sylvia Hussey, who will introduce herself and her administrative staff supporting us here this evening.

Sylvia Hussey, CEO  Thank you. Aloha mai kākou, we have here today in support of the Board meeting: Roy Newton – Beneficiary Services, Josh Koh-Communications, Lei Ayat-Verdadero – Beneficiary Services, Zach Smith – Research, and joining us online, Arlene, Tiger, and Erin - our IT Support, and lastly online our Interim General Counsel – Everett Ohta. We are pleased to be here to support the Trustees in this first meeting and thank you for your hospitality.

Status of OHA Activities

Chair Hulu Lindsey  Moving on to item III on our agenda, I will give the time over to our Pouhana again as she will give an activity report on OHA’s activities.

Sylvia Hussey, CEO  The Executive Summary of the Community Report is found in the Board packet and the full report will be posted to the website. Administration has prepared for our community, a fifteen-minute grants overview of what is here in Maui. - Video shared

Public Testimony and Community Concerns
Tiare Lawrence  Aloha, so happy to you guys. I haven’t seen you guys in 2 ½ years. I am so grateful to be here; and that we all survived the pandemic, and that you guys are all healthy. I was saddened by the loss of Trustee Machado. She was an ‘āina warrior and someone that I looked up to. I just want to share a quote that was shared on the news, “she can take a punch and she could throw a punch, but always for the justice of the people and to protect the land.” This is what I admired about her. I do want to aloha Trustee Mililani Trask, grateful to have you here. I am going to speak to three items on the agenda. I am in strong support of item B, the MEO food vouchers. I was part of the Kaukau for Keiki program through my work at Mahi Pono. I had families coming to me desperate for food, literally our shelves were empty, and MEO had a huge hand in feeding our lāhui. Secondly, strong support on item G, Hawaiian Island Land Trust (HILT). There is so much passion and aloha that goes into the ‘āina down there and so much of our people have been involved in the process. No offense to Scott, but I am loving that Kīʻi is there so, I offer strong support in all that HILT is doing in that area. Item H, Ke Kula ‘o Pi’ilani, my daughter Hinatea Kodani was the first graduate of Ke Kula ‘o Pi’ilani. When we started this school, we started it in a year. I was concerned as a makua, am I making the right choice? I can tell you today that I know I made the right choice. During the pandemic, we went to Lo‘i’ola and before we entered, my kids stopped me and said we have to ask permission. Without any hesitation, full throttle, oli and went into their protocol. I looked at my kids at that moment and I cried. I knew at that moment that I made the right decision. Giving my kids aloha ‘āina, place-based education was the best thing I could’ve ever done. Through the pandemic, our school prospered. They did all the protocols and they provided online education. I want to finish with Kapanewai, a place with so much history. We have keiki there everyday chanting. They have brought mana back to Kapanewai and that is Ke Kula ‘o Pi’ilani. Mahalo.

New Business

A.  Action Item BOT#22-07: Recognizing Thelma Shimaoka as a Mamo Makamae O Ka Po’e Hawai‘i: Precious Treasure of the Hawaiian People

Chair Hulu Lindsey  Moving on to item V., I would like to call upon Roy Newton. I want to mention that every island we go to, we are able to choose a very special person, Mamo Makamae O Ka Po’e Hawai‘i, which means special treasure of the Hawaiian people. Tonight, we have the pleasure of doing a resolution for Aunty Thelma who has worked for OHA 39 ½ years. Roy, I would like to ask you to read the resolution.

Roy Newton  A resolution of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs recognizing Thelma Shimaoka as a Mamo Makamae O Ka Po’e Hawai‘i: Precious Treasure of the Hawaiian People.

WHEREAS, Thelma Shimaoka was born on January 25, 1942, to Joseph Kia Naeole and Mary Young Peck; and, WHEREAS, Thelma Shimaoka is a proud makua wahine to children John Duvauchelle Jr., Eloise Lehuanani Duvauchelle, June Ku’ulei Arce and Gerard Noburo Shimaoka; and,

WHEREAS, Thelma Shimaoka is the family matriarch and beloved kupuna to 18 grandchildren and 29 great-grandchildren; and,

WHEREAS, Thelma Shimaoka is a member of Maluhia Church of the denomination of Ke Ali‘i O Nā Ali‘i A Me Ka Haku O Nā Haku and holds the position of Ha i ‘Euanelio or Evangelist, and leads the church missionary group as Ke Alaka‘i O Ka Ohana Ka‘ahele or Leader of the Traveling Family; and,
WHEREAS, in January of 1982, Thelma Shimaoka began her employment at the Office of Hawaiian Affairs through a partnership with Alu Like, Inc. She was hired as a clerk/typist and assigned to Office of Hawaiian Affairs Hilo office; and,

WHEREAS, six months later, in July of 1982, Thelma Shimaoka began working directly for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs in Hilo; and,

WHEREAS, for the next decade, Thelma Shimaoka would proudly serve the Hilo community on behalf of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, earning titles such as Interim Community Resource Specialist Hilo and Interim OHA Liaison Hilo; and,

WHEREAS, in 1992, Thelma Shimaoka was promoted to the position of OHA Liaison Maui and began work in the Office of Hawaiian Affairs Maui office; and,

WHEREAS, for the next 20 years, Thelma Shimaoka would serve the Native Hawaiian community on Maui as an OHA Community Affairs Coordinator Maui, Community Resources Coordinator Maui, and Community Outreach Coordinator Maui; and,

WHEREAS, on December 30, 2021, Thelma Shimaoka officially retired from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs after 40 years of faithful service to the agency and to the communities in her care; and,

WHEREAS, for the last 40 years, Thelma Shimaoka has demonstrated her love for Hawai‘i and its people as she has honorably served the Lāhui as an employee of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs with passion, dedication, commitment and aloha; and,

WHEREAS, Thelma Shimaoka has served countless Native Hawaiian beneficiaries on the islands of Hawai‘i and Maui representing the Office of Hawaiian Affairs with dignity, class and a pono attitude of putting beneficiaries concerns first; and,

WHEREAS, Thelma Shimaoka will forever be held as a much beloved member of the OHAna, a role model employee for all who would follow and a person to whom the Office of Hawaiian Affairs will always be in her debt; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the undersigned duly recognized as the board chair and trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, on the 25th day of May 2022, do set forth their hand to recognize, honor and hold in high regard the 40-year Office of Hawaiian Affairs career of Thelma Shimaoka; and ADOPTED, this 25th day of May, island of Maui, State of Hawai‘i, by the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs in its regular meeting assembled.

Chair Hulu Lindsey I will call on Trustee Waihe‘e to make the motion.

Trustee Waihe‘e Madame Chair I would like to move that we approve action item BOT #22-07: Recognizing Thelma Shimaoka.

Trustee Akaka Seconds the motion.
Trustee Waiheʻe Moves

Approve action item BOT #22-07: Recognizing Thelma Shimaoka.

Trustee Akaka Seconds the motion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>‘AE (YES)</th>
<th>‘A’OL E (NO)</th>
<th>KANALUA (ABSTAIN)</th>
<th>EXCUSED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TRUSTEE LEI</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRUSTEE DAN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRUSTEE KALEI</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRUSTEE KELI‘I</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRUSTEE LUANA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRUSTEE BRENDON</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRUSTEE MILILANI</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRUSTEE JOHN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHAIRPERSON HULU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|                  | 9 |
| TRUSTEE LEI     |   |
| TRUSTEE DAN     |   |
| TRUSTEE KALEI   |   |
| TRUSTEE KELI‘I  |   |
| TRUSTEE LUANA   |   |
| TRUSTEE BRENDON |   |
| TRUSTEE MILILANI|   |
| TRUSTEE JOHN    |   |
| CHAIRPERSON HULU|   |

TOTAL VOTE COUNT 9

MOTION: [ ] UNANIMOUS [X] PASSED [ ] DEFERRED [ ] FAILED

Motion passes with nine (9) YES votes, zero (0) NO votes and zero (0) ABSTENTION votes.

Chair Hulu Lindsey Thank you. I would like to say that working along side of Thelma and Roy for the last ten years, I‘ve seen her work humbly with our community. Never wanting a praise, but always being there when people call for help. I am deeply grateful for the service this beautiful lady has given the lāhui of Maui. Mahalo Thelma.

Thelma Shimaoka Thank you, it has been an honor to work for OHA and every Trustee. I am so happy to see you all.

Chair Hulu Lindsey We are moving on to community presentations. I will call on Scott Crawford.

A. Community Presentations A. Ke Ao Hali‘i – Pule ‘Āina o Maka‘alae me Mokaenui

Scott Crawford Thank you Chair and Trustees for allowing us a space to provide information to all of you virtually. My name is Scott Crawford and I am the Chair of Ke Ao Hāi‘i. I want to congratulate Aunty Thelma on her well deserved retirement. I’ve worked with her for many years in her role there and always appreciated her support for all of our efforts in various different organizations out here in Hāna. Love you Aunty.

I just wanted to give a quick report on Ke Ao Hāi‘i, it’s a relatively new organization that was established in 2018 to help acquire and steward some very important coastal lands that had been on the market in Hāna, and to return the stewardship of these lands to the community and to the families who have maintained a connection with these lands. We're still in the process of completing, sort of, a four phase acquisition, but we have been successful in aquiring very significant parcels, and being able to start our management plan and
stewardship activities on these lands. Originally, we had applied for an ʻAhahui grant to be able to do a celebration event and a blessing, pule ʻāina event that would recognize the return of these lands back into community stewardship. Unfortunately, because of Covid and other things, we delayed the event and did not hold it during the time of the grant period so we have rescheduled it for July 30th which is also the weekend of Lā Hoʻihoʻiʻi Ea. We would like to invite the Trustees and everyone to come out to that event. This will be our in-person celebration and ceremony for these lands being returned to community stewardship. Leading up to the event, we are trying to gather stories, history, and family connections that existed with the families of this area. We were able to succeed in this area. We worked with Kaui Kanakaʻole and Ala Kukui who really helped us with research and moʻolelo, and created an oli komo and oli kāhea for us.

We really appreciate OHAs support and we feel like we are in a very blessed situation to have had the support of the County of Maui, the Open Space Fund, and the State Legacy Land Conservation Program to be able to protect these lands and bring them back. We are now in the process of transitioning from the acquisition phase to the stewardship and management phase. We have much ahead of us in this regard. Aunty Mary will speak next about the iwi which has been a very significant part of this plan over the last year. On behalf of all of us and the families of this area, we want to express our appreciation to OHA for your support.

**Trustee Akaka** Chair, I would like to do a quick mahalo to Scott for all his efforts and what he has done within the community all these years. We do look forward to an in-person visit with you folks, mahalo.

**B. Maui Economic Opportunity (MEO) - ʻAi Hui Project**

**Cassie Yamashita, MEO** Aloha and good evening, I am Cassie Yamashita. I am the Community Services Director for Maui Economic Opportunity (MEO). At MEO, we are community action which means we go out to meet the needs of the community. We had the opportunity to work with a lot of individuals during the pandemic, we served thousands of individuals. Our mission at MEO is to strengthen the community by helping people in need restore their hope, reach their potential, and enrich their lives. When we came up with the concept of a program that we could serve the most individuals possible and have a lasting effect, we wanted to look at the needs that were requested the most during the pandemic. A lot of he families requested food vouchers. It wasn’t just about the food, but how could we support the farmers and our local economy? How could we support our Native Hawaiian families?

We partnered with over 21 local vendors. We wanted to connect our local farmers with our Hawaiian families. Families that were medically affected by the pandemic or their income was affected were found eligible. These families received food vouchers every month until we had no funding. So, there is a tier for a family of four. They can receive up to $100 a month in food vouchers to be redeemed at these farmers’ markets. Along with that, every month they get these little inserts, very simple inserts. There's information on the nutritional value of the different ingredients that they may be purchasing, or the farm vendors that they're going to be picking up their items from. We really wanted to make this a well-rounded program, not just a one-time experience. Our goal was to serve 150 families. As of the first of January, we’ve received 150 applications, 78 approved. We are serving 445 individuals 387 are Native Hawaiian. We have already issued in this short time, 2,319 coupons to these families. They will continue to get these coupons until there is no funding.

We also did a pre and post survey because that's what MEO is about. We're about seeing the impact, so we wanted to do a survey at the beginning to check on their nutritional knowledge and the way they interact with their children. You can see the results of the main five questions that we ask. We take applications or they are available online.
Jennifer McGurn, MEO  Cassie is our numbers girl and the tech queen. There's a need out there for low-income families, especially Native Hawaiian low-income families, for access to healthy nutritional food. As we all know, it is cheaper to go to McDonald’s and get a $1 menu item than it is to feed your family a healthy meal. Through this program, we saw an opportunity to open people's eyes. I've talked to some of our clients who had never shopped at the farmers’ markets before. To me, being here where there's such a huge amount of local produce available, fresh, healthy, and the farmers’ markets are cheaper than Safeway and all those kinds of places. I’ve seen incredible responses from our clients. We see them every month to get their coupons. The program, the responses we've gotten is that the application is simple, easy, qualification is simple, and then using the vouchers is also easy. Our vendors, the farmers, are happy as well. This is bringing them new business. I am grateful for the program. We’ve been happy with the results and we still have room for more applicants. Thank you.

Trustee Ahu Isa  Where did you get the $10 from? Sorry, maybe I missed it.

Cassie Yamashita, MEO  Each of the vouchers are worth $10 so that they can redeemed at the farmers’ market, they don’t get cash.

Trustee Ahu Isa  We did something like this with our tourist. We have a farmers’ market at Kakaʻako and they can only use it if they buy something, the tourist love it.

Jennifer McGurn, MEO  I just want to share one story, someone just came to pick up her vouchers yesterday and she lives in low-income housing in Kihei with her two kids. She just found out that her rent is going up $220 a month. For a single mom with two kids, it’s pretty devastating. She is thankful that she gets $100 worth of coupons. It makes a difference so thank you so much.

Trustee Akina  I first became familiar with your group as I've shared the podium from year to year at the West Maui Taxpayer Association Conventions, and I'm very impressed with what you do especially with Native Hawaiians. What is the overall purpose and mission of the MEO organization?

Cassie Yamashita  Basically to restore hope, help them reach their potential, and enrich their lives.

Trustee Akina  The word “economic,” what does that mean to you?

Cassie Yamashita, MEO  Economic could be anything. It could be increasing their skill set so that they could have a better paying job, or as simple as helping to pay their utility bill for that month.

Trustee Akina  Keep up the good work.

Trustee Akaka  Mahalo for all of your work for our people. Some of the meaʻai that you have provided through the farmers, is it on this list? I want to mahalo you folks for all of your hard work and for providing the much needed healthy, ʻāina source meaʻai for our people. I look forward to hearing more of the good work that you folks are doing. Please let us know how we can further collaborate with you folks.

Trustee Lee  In the program description, it says the coupons are valid until the end of September. When do you anticipate the agrigate of the post survey?
Cassie Yamashita, MEO It will probably be in August when we send out the second surveys. We send these inserts out every month with their coupons, or they will pick them up, and all of these are available on our website.

Trustee Lee I’m sure I am not the only one, but I would be curious to see the difference of scoring from the pre to the post.

Cassie Yamashita, MEO Yes, me as well. That is the dorky side of me, I look for all of that.

Trustee Trask I am so happy to see this. For years, I’ve worked with Hawai‘i County Economic Opportunity Council. I think this idea is good idea. I am going to take this back to the Big Island. We have an Economic Opportunity Council in every county, but I see only one that does this, and we have significant lands on the Big Island. I would like to ask if you could send a small article about this for Ka Wai Ola, our newspaper. Really good work.

Chair Hulu Lindsey Thank you ladies. Moving on to V.C.

C. Hawaiian Church of Hawai‘i Nei – E Ho‘omau O Na Malama I Na Iwi Kupuna

‘Ihilani Chu Aloha mai kākou and mahalo to Chair Hulu Lindsey, Board of Trustees, and Ka Pouhana for having us here today and for allowing us to do a presentation on our iwi kūpuna repatriation and reinternment grant project. I am ‘Ihilani Chu, Project Mngr., and Kahu Loko’olu Quintero, who is the lead cultural and spiritual expert.

Kahu Loko’olu Quintero We are here on behalf of Hawaiian Church of Hawai‘i Nei. The mission of our hale pule is to strengthen and empower Hawaiian spirituality through traditional Hawaiian ceremonies, rituals and protocols. E Ho‘omau o Na Malama I Na Iwi Kupuna is just one of the many projects that we are committed to.

Slide – insert

‘Ihilani Chu At first, the need was to bring kūpuna home from around the world. So many were treated with disrespect, and bundled together, and bags put on shelves or in glass containers. Twenty years later with the rise in development, so came a rise from our own kūpuna. Now, there is a need to mālama, to take care of. In Hawaiian, it is a sign; walk lightly, take baby steps; appreciate what we do have for we are only on an island with limited resources. It is with these limited resources that we return to because they were the resources of our kūpuna. We relearn in the process, the value of our resources; the way our kūpuna valued the ‘āina with great aloha, hō‘ihi and kuleana to mālama. E holomua kakou e Ho‘omau o Na Malama I Na Iwi Kupuna.

This project is to empower our Native Hawaiian community to prepare and provide sacred items using our ‘āina resources by organizing and conducting workshops to make sacred cultural items needed and provide them to lineal descendants, Native Hawaiian groups and State of Hawai‘i organizations, such as the State Historic Preservation Division, the Island Burial Councils and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, throughout the pae ‘āina to mālama nā iwi kūpuna in preparation for repatriation and reinterment. Our project made a significant impact on the Native Hawaiian community and is needed in order to rebury nā iwi kūpuna culturally and properly. All participants in the workshops are properly prepared and culturally educated, gaining knowledge as well as the skill to make these items traditionally. They learn from these workshops in order to authentically pass down all the cultural knowledge and skills to the next generation to carry on the
hana in their moku or ahupua‘a. This strengthens the mana and fosters a healthy sense of Hawaiian cultural identity of the Hawaiian people. These workshops are pono and necessary to maintain spiritual balance and harmony for Native Hawaiians and their communities.

The sacred items and resources are:
The Hīna‘i Lauhala (lauhala basket) and Lauhala Kūka‘a (lauhala rolls)
The Kaula hau (Hau cordage), Hau fibers, and
The Kapa and the Wauke fibers

The kapa is used to wrap nā iwi kūpuna, the kaula is used to bind the kapa and sometimes the hīna‘i lauhala is where our kūpuna rest in for eternity.

**Kahu Loko‘olu Quintero** We wanted to share our achievements and successes. Our achievements and successes: our project was statewide, covering four major islands. We completed 25 of 28 proposed workshops. Numerous Native Hawaiian communities throughout the State of Hawai‘i benefitted and were impacted as sacred items were donated from each workshop. More than 100 completed sacred items are made and donated to the lineal descendants for active and future reburials. Our workshops provided the cultural training needed for Native Hawaiian community members to be empowered on how to make cultural materials for the care of iwi kūpuna. One of our greatest successes is right here on Maui where Native Hawaiian families and community members attended our workshops in August and September of 2021, and reburied their iwi kūpuna in October 2021 using the knowledge gained from our workshops and materials made in those workshops. Most of the sacred items produced from the workshops on the island of Maui are already buried with iwi kūpuna. Participants from the Maui, Kaua‘i and Hawai‘i Island workshops formed working groups at our workshops for future burials. These work groups have allowed our communities to communicate again with each other, aloha i ke kahi i ke kahi, bringing our families back together. All working groups have continued to follow the process on their own and provide their community with sacred items to care for iwi kūpuna as more recent burials are discovered. Our lāhui has strongly requested us to continue these workshops to kōkua them.

We also offer to lineal descendants, Native Hawaiian groups the opportunity to use the tools and equipment that OHA had purchased for us, for the church, and continue to hana nui and mālama i nā iwi kūpuna.

**ʻIhilani Chu** Finally, I want to thank our partners and supporters that assisted in our project, the various communities, our venues, our beloved palaces, but most of all, mahalo piha to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for this grant. We were able to purchase all the traditional tools and workshop items that we needed in order to carry on this important kuleana. Thank you.

**Trustee Akaka** I want to say mahalo nui for being the hana lima taking care of our ancestors. We need more people like you. Mahalo for doing it in such a loving, tender, and caring way. Mahalo.

**Chair Hulu Lindsey** Mahalo nui. Remember, this is the early stages of our iwi kūpuna grants so it is very nice to hear what you folks are doing with it.
D. Maui Family Support Services – Hoʻowaiwai Kaiaulu

Daphne Ladia Aloha mai kākou, before I start the presentation, I want to introduce our CEO, Edeluisa Baguio-Larena

Edeluisa Baguio-Larena Before Daphne goes over the report, I want to take the time to share our appreciation to all the Trustees. We would not be able to expand our services on Molokaʻi and Maui without your support. Mahalo nui for your support for the families we are serving.

Daphne Ladia Before I start, I want to say mahalo and congratulate Aunty Thelma. She has been a partner with my Family Support Services, supporting some of our projects in the past. I'm going to be sharing about our Hoʻowaiwai Kaiāulu Program which is made up of multiple programs.

MFSS has been strengthening families in Maui County since 1980, over 40 years. Preventing child abuse and neglect is our main focus on all these programs that we provide. If I recall it correctly, 10 programs that directly serve children and families in Maui County; and some of our programs that are not funded by OHA, are our Early Head Start Program, our Healthy Families America - home visiting program on Lānaʻi. We have our Ka Puʻu`uwai O Na Keki – home visiting program that specifically works with children and families that have services from Child and Welfare Services. We have Quality Care for Hawaiian Keiki program that serves Native Hawaiian children and Maui County Early Childhood Resource Center.

Our Hoʻowaiwai Kaiāulu is an umbrella program funded by OHA and Department of Education Native Hawaiian Program. It encompasses multiple components, the first is our outreach and resource team. This program goes into the hospital here in Maui and meets with all the new moms. We find out what kind of resources they need and we provide resource support, including connecting them to our own programs and services. This can include housing and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Kāne Connections- Hui Kāne & Kalama Parenting Group, and Hale Hi`ipo - Infant/Toddler Center.

Our community grant funding from OHA provides a grant for Maui and Molokaʻi as well. We have a person on Molokaʻi that does outreach and recruits families. We do hospital visits here on Maui seven days a week,
and we generally see over 1,000 families a year. Every family in the hospital, whether we get to see them or not, receives a resource packet and that packet provides different handouts on parenting, also community resource booklets. The resource booklets cover various resources such as food, housing, medical, and Hawaiian community resources. As of our last OHA report which covered December, January, and February, we served, at the hospital, 298 families. 132 of those families were Native Hawaiian.

More programs that are offered are Ho‘owaiwai Kaiāulu-Home Visiting and Kāne Connections. As of the last report, we had 38 parents and children served in the Ho‘owaiwai home visiting and 22 of those were Native Hawaiian. Hui Kāne is a program just for men. We are currently meeting in person at Aloha House and the other groups are meeting virtually. The recent report on these groups, specifically the ones getting funding from OHA, there were 22 men served and 10 were Hawaiian men. Below are a few more programs that are offered.

Trustee Akaka Mahalo for all your work. It is so nice to see that there is a program to support new parents and support for individuals that need a second chance in life and to have that guidance. I truly believe that when you have the support as an ‘ohana and when you are able to have a happy and healthy family, that means we have a happier and healthier community. Mahalo.

Chair Hulu Lindsey Thank you Daphne for all your hard work and the positive impacts it makes in our community.

Trustee Trask I wanted to say I am very interested in this and I would like any additional information that you may have. I will be sharing your program with Men of Pa‘a, a program for Hawaiian men coming out of prison. They are a recovery and resiliency program. I plan to recommend to them to look at your program and I say the same to you, look at their program, you may have a partner.

E. Ke Ao Hāli‘i – Nā Kia‘i Iwi Kūpuna O Hāna – MaryAnn Kahana
MaryAnn Kahana  Aloha mai kākou, mahalo for having me tonight. Mahalo Chair, Board of Trustees, and the rest of OHA support personnel. I come from the Pi‘ilani lineage out here in Hāna. I am the Project Manager for Nā Kia‘i Iwi Kūpuna O Hāna. I didn‘t know what iwi was about, I recently retired in 2017 and found myself in this project in 2018. This was my first grant that I wrote. I had to teach myself how to write a grant and so I am very grateful for this grant. My project is hands-on, caring for our iwi kūpuna out here at Hāmoa and Mokae. We are grateful we had training from Halealoha Ayau who taught us the requirements of caring for our iwi kūpuna. The fundings were used on training, as well as having to follow the burial treatment plan that was written by Dawn Chang. I followed the burial treatment plan with my grant write up; this entailed installing the ahu at Hāmoa. I just retired from the service and came home to take care of my papa’s land and get engage with the community so I had to really learn all the different organizations. I really learned a lot about the different organizations and what they do. I am also grateful for Nohopapa services as they are familiar with caring for our iwi kūpuna. We did reintern some of our iwi kūpuna that was stored at SHPD for over 30 years. This grant has a huge impact. I feel like if we didn’t get this grant, I don’t believe any workload would have been done.

2018, a man got arrested for climbing down into a hole where the hotel was building a septic tank. They knew there was iwi there and they continued to do the work. Part of my plan that I wrote with the grant was to have this area be known, written, and registered as a known burial site. I want to share with all of you that this was a learning curve and brand new for me. I worked 20 years in the military, and I came home to face this. It has been a challenge, but a good learning experience. I am grateful to all the Hāna descendants and the Hāna community. I can only hope that we have done right with our iwi kūpuna and they are looking down at us that we did the right thing in the best we know how. I also want to mahalo the grant specialist who has worked with us along the way, which is Miki Cachola. Mahalo having me and I appreciate this grant.

Chair Hulu Lindsey  Mahalo and thank you for your work.

F. Hawai‘i Community Lending – Ka Wailele – Kahaunani Mahoe-Thoene

Kahaunani Mahoe-Thoene  Aloha, calling in from Honolulu. Kala mai, I am not there tonight. On behalf Hawaiian Community Assets and Hawai‘i Community Lending (HCL), our condolences to the OHA ‘ohana on the passing of your former Chair, Colette Machado. I am here to speak on the Ka Wailele program. In the first year of COVID, we were able to disperse more than $5M to the Big island and Kaua‘i. OHA approached HCL with a goal to disperse your emergency financial assistance program. We did a partnership with OHA, and with the help of Maile Lu‘uwai and Miki, we launched Ka Wailele on June 1, 2021 and, during the first quarter, we received 524 applications. We identified the emergencies for those who were facing eviction, foreclosure, disconnection of services, funerals, car repairs, and medical expenses. Some of the challenges that we continue to hear from our Native Hawaiians is the increase of the cost of living for our kūpuna with fixed income. We continue to see the economic challenges in housing, workplace development and replacement, and access to government assistance due to the strict eligibility requirements. Since June 2021, we since disbursed $657,377.29. Specifically for the Maui County, we disbursed $194,929.59 to 149 families on Maui and 10 families on Moloka‘i. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Trustee Akina  I appreciate what your organization is doing and I am proud of OHA to be apart of it. When funds are provided for Hawaiians going through an emergency, what happens afterwards? How many of them can sustain their living beyond the use of the emergency funds they have received? Do you track that?
Kahaunani Mahoe-Thoene We offer resources such as continuing financial education through Hawaii Community Assets. Hawaii Community Lending has emergency loans that we offer families who are not eligible for your Ka Wailele program due to the restrictions. I would say there is no one solution to this growing challenge in our community and I think we need more organizations across the lāhui that can come in and support our Native Hawaiian families at risk.

Trustee Akina Do most of your clients take advantage of these additional resources?

Kahaunani Mahoe-Thoene Yes, they do.

Trustee Akina Thank you and mahalo for your work.

Trustee Akaka Aloha and mahalo to you and Jeff. I am always impressed with all the work you folks are able to put out and the amount of our people you reach. I want to get a sense of how many people you have reached since then and what is the best way you are able to get your messaging out? I remember that part of the challenge was our people didn’t know that this was an option or that this existed within our Hawaiian community.

Kahaunani Mahoe-Thoene In partnering with OHA, we leveraged your platform to get the word out. Word-of-mouth has always been our best defense when it comes to marketing. We always serve our island community with the most respect and aloha.

G. Hawaiian Islands Land Trust – Waiheʻe Iwi Kūpuna Protection – Scott Fisher

Scott Fisher Aloha, I wanted to go over the Hawaiʻi Island Land Trust (HILT) Iwi Kūpuna Protection grant that we received from the Office Hawaiian Affairs. The mission of the HILT is to protect and steward the lands that sustain Hawaiʻi, and to perpetuate Hawaiian values by connecting people with ‘āina. Our vision is I ola ka ‘āina, I ola kākou nei. Hawaiʻi lands thrive and nourish its people.

In 2004, the HILT, known as the Maui Coastal Land Trust, purchased the Waiheʻe Coastal Dunes and Wetlands Refuge. An important part of our kuleana at Waiheʻe is the protection and care of iwi kūpuna. The Waiheʻe Refuge you saw today contains both historic cemeteries and numerous, unmarked, precontact burials, both in the dunes and along the coast. The iwi exposed throughout the ten years on the land has been exclusively along the coast. Like many other coastal areas, we are subject to sea level rise and large waves. We are committed to avoid the desecration to iwi kūpuna. When these instances occur, we take measures to ensure that they are treated respectfully, and that we notify both lineal descendants of the iwi kūpuna.

With many concerns in mind, HILT submitted an iwi kūpuna protection grant to OHA to protect the iwi at Waiheʻe. The grant provided several measures relating to iwi kūpuna protection, this included a placement of a rope barrier to prevent people from parking too close to the edge of the bluff that would cause erosion, collapse, and exposure of our iwi kūpuna. The grant also included elements of repatriating iwi kūpuna that
had been held in possession with the State Historic Preservation Division. We would use our existing burial treatment plan to return those iwi küpuna to the Waiheʻe Refuge. We also applied for the grant in order to repair structure which would hold those iwi küpuna. The last major element of the grant was to hold a series of workshops on topics related to iwi küpuna, the protection and care of iwi küpuna. As you folks drove in today, I hope you saw the rope barrier, that's a major advancement in our protection because too many people have been driving down by the coast.

The first workshop was held on November 19, 2021 and that was by Professor Malia Akutagawa, UH Law School. This was a workshop on legal rights of kānaka maoli to iwi küpuna. We had 22 in attendance by Zoom.

A second workshop was to get lineal and cultural descendants signed up. We held that on the 26th of February at the Waiheʻe Refuge in person, and that was held by genealogist Pualani Kamaunu Basbas and recently recognized Waiheʻe cultural descendant, Noelani Ahia. We had 18 in attendance.

The third workshop was an iwi küpuna protocol for burial and repatriation that was on March 6, 2022, and that was hosted by Kumu Hulu, Kaponoʻai Molitau, and we had 13 people in attendance.

The fourth workshop was a bank stabilization workshop that was to ensure that people from all over the island know how they can be proactive in trying to protect iwi küpuna by slowing down the rate of erosion. I taught this workshop and we had 9 attendees.

The fifth event was hosted by Debbie Freeland who was our education coordinator, she taught making a pūʻolo, wrapping burials. What we found too often was in the past, we would have to retrieve and rebury iwi küpuna with foreign kapa, and we wanted to make it and grow it onsite.

We have a wauke patch at Waiheʻe Refuge specifically for iwi küpuna when they are exposed. The measures of success:

December of 2022: Repatriation of iwi küpuna led by lineal and cultural descendants with assistance from HILT staff. This included participation with SHPD and Ke Aha Moku Wailuku. Kaneloa Kamaunu was instrumental in this as well as a lineal and cultural descendant of Waiheʻe. The rope barrier was completed in March of 2022. Workshop attendance is as follows:

- Workshop 1 (Zoom): 52
- Workshop 2 (in person): 18
- Workshop 3 (in person): 13
- Workshop 4 (in person): 9
- Workshop 5 (in person): 9
The goal was to increase participation, disseminate information/importance of iwi kūpuna, provide strategies to reduce erosion and exposure of iwi kūpuna, and most importantly, to increase capacity to produce kapa made by lineal and cultural descendants themselves. I want to say mahalo to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for we have made great progress toward protecting iwi kūpuna. We cannot thank you enough, it was a wonderful experience to build community through the protection of iwi kūpuna.

Laura Kaʻakua, CEO HILT Mahalo Chair Lindsey, Trustees, the amazing staff, and Ka Pouhana for being with us today at Waiheʻe Refuge. We’ve learned from different kūpuna on how we treat kupuna affects us in many ways, our own health of our people. I want to commend the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for making a special program for the protection of our iwi kūpuna. It has been very healing in many ways and we feel like there is a momentum building to the other community groups. To know there are others doing this work on the other islands is a beautiful thing. Thank you for putting the iwi kūpuna and our wahi kūpuna first so that we can be healthy as a people. I just want to note that we will continue this work regardless but we did notice something. We were excited to go after the second round of iwi kūpuna grant funding and we noticed the qualifications have slightly changed, we no longer qualify. I just want to flag that. At Waiheʻe Refuge, our mission is ‘āina protection and once we protect it, we want to make sure that we fulfill that kuleana of stewardship. Our programming is really reconnection of our Native Hawaiian community to ‘āina. We do open our protected lands to the whole community, not just Native Hawaiians. Our beneficiaries are really the whole public so that has been a challenge for us. We focus on our Native Hawaiian community and we want to be inclusive. We just want to flag that and share with you, but we will also continue to find a way to do this work. Mahalo nui.

Chair Hulu Lindsey Laura, can you please tell me what the change is?

Laura Kaʻakua, CEO HILT I do not want to misspeak, but I think 60% must be Native Hawaiian for direct beneficiaries. There are different ways you can evidence that. If you look at the programming, educational and partnerships with hālau then we do qualify but because we are comprehensive and the benefits we are trying to have, we open our preserve to everyone then really don’t know because we do not ask everyone what their ethnic background is. We could be hitting the 60% but we do not know and we cannot demonstrate that.

Trustee Ahuna Thank you so much for that visit and someday I would like to see the wetlands wet.

Trustee Akaka Mahalo Laura for highlighting that. I think we can continue having this conversation to see how, maybe we can work through this. I am sure all the keiki we saw today, many of them are from our Native Hawaiian community, maybe there is a method we can figure out so that we can account for that. I also want to say mahalo nui for welcoming us today. It was a wonderful experience seeing the keiki and the ‘o‘opu in the various stages. Are you folks collaborating with Aunty ‘Ihilani and Kahu Loko’olu with the Hawaiian Church of Hawai‘i Nei?

Laura Kaʻakua, CEO HILT We’ve already decided that we will go and talk story right after this.

Trustee Trask I was very impressed going there. Thank you so much. The visit we had was so uplifting and it was good to see our youth there. I do not understand how it is possible that you initially qualify for a grant and then later, there is a change in criteria. I would like to join Trustee Akaka in this discussion to explore further. I am dealing with a similar problem with Kumukahi where majority is traditional, and we have the research done by Kepa Mali and Kumupono, who are the best. In the after, period now we have Oda
Cemetery and Yamashita Cemetery that we know are people from there but they are not Native but still there are fisherman from Pohoiki. I want to follow up on this. Thank you so much for your work there, I love it.

Chair Hulu Lindsey Thank you Scott and Laura.

H. Ke Kula ‘O Pi‘ilani – Kekai Robinson

Kekai Robinson Opens with Oli. Aloha Kākou, my name is Kekai Robinson and I am the head of Ke Kula ‘O Pi‘ilani. Thank you for this opportunity to share, and thank you to Aunty Thelma who has shown us her aloha over the many years. Ke Kula ‘O Pi‘ilani is an independant, non-profit Hawaiian language and culture immersion elementary school located in ʻĪao Valley; kindergarten to papa 5 with classes and workshops that are open to parents and the general community. Our vision is to influence fluency and traditional Hawaiian wisdom, and to cultivate tomorrows leaders rounded in the values of kūpuna with pilina, a deep rooted connection, to environment and elements that sustain us.

We strive to meet the growing desire and need for independent Hawaiian culture-based education. Short video shared. Our five year olds experience aloha with their environments; six years olds, kuleana guides the way they move through the world; at seven, they acknowledge and become inspired by the generations of kūpuna that came before; in grade 3 and 4, they deepened their sense of community, compassion, self confidence and identity as kanaka; and in grade 5, they leave us grounded in tradition and protocol. They honor us by being our students and their parents believe in us and trust in us. Our current presence is tenuous there, where we hold school because we can not afford a home for our school. Piʻilani is more then a school to us. It is a homegrown effort, reclaiiming and prioritizing the ways and means of our education as a collective. Our people have earned and deserve educational options that normalize Hawaiian language and culture. Education that recognizes and prioritizes the wisdom of our ancestors. Our challenges, of course, are land base, economic disparity, funding, resources. These are all the challenges of an educational institution. Inaudible.

Trustee Akaka Mahalo nui for your presentation. I want to ask what would be your specific ask on how we could assist you folks more?

Kekai Robinson mic was not working, inaudible.

Trustee Akaka So, you are looking for a new location for your school base? Or are you trying to keep the same place?

Kekai Robinson mic was not working, inaudible. We feel like we are the best stewards to be in that space.

Trustee Ahuna I think it’s very important that we talk about our grants. Grants will be an integral part of the future of these schools, many people talked about grants today. They’re talking about building homes for kūpuna, that’s great but what about malama ʻāina, the values. It doesn’t have to be 60%, everyone is bringing in the value. I think we are missing the mark on this. In the past, we wanted more Hawaiian organizations with more Hawaiian missions and values but now when the 60% is within the grants, it is taking away from what they do. I think we should be looking at the grants more.

Chair Hulu Lindsey Did I hear the ʻĪao land, where the school is, is being sold?
Kekai Robinson I thought I would defer that question to my Board and the Nature Center. There are talks about what’s happening. Speaking from Ke Kula ‘O Pi‘ilani, we only have a lease that takes us year to year. Could I run this school from a different space? Would it be as impactful? We try really hard to not draw any resources away from other Hawaiian organizations that are doing important work for our community. I hear people talk about cost per learner but it’s the impact that we can make with the families that are interested in the programs we have. That is where we are at. I appreciate any thoughts, support/kākoʻo that can come from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Chair Hulu Lindsey We did want to come and visit the school but it was unfortunate the students were not in this week. I want to share that the environment that you talk about up in ‘Īao is the natural streams. I was there when they diverted the water back, in the back of your school. It was amazing to be there, and see them turn the valve and watch the water return. Hopefully, that happens all over Maui. That is the kind of environment that you are exposing our keiki to.

Trustee Trask The county, you’re discussing for Right of Entry to Kepaniwai Park, the area in the video we saw is also in this park? You have a lease from the county year to year?

Kekai Robinson Yes and yes, we have a lease from the Hawai‘i Nature Center year to year.

Trustee Trask Who is the Hawai‘i Nature Center?

Kekai Robinson They are private landowners that own the space right above Kepaniwai Park. There are a couple of buildings that we utilize and it is the last space that houses kānaka. This is where we have rededicated boundaries and space for education.

Chair Hulu Lindsey Mahalo nui Kekai.

Community Concerns and Celebrations

Daniel Kanahele Aloha mai kākou, I really came here for one reason tonight and that was to connect to ‘ohana. I thought since you folks came all this way, I could say a few words under community concerns and celebrations. I would like to mahalo Aunty Thelma. She has been an outstanding ambassador to the Hawaiian community over the years. Congratulations and mahalo to Thelma. I would also like to mahalo Colette Machado, I am sure she had an amazing reunion with all her family on the other side that were there to greet her when she came home. I am honored to say I belong to the class of individuals that belong to the class that has taken a punch from Colette, this is a verbal punch. I am sure I am not alone, she was a tough tita. Finally, I would like to mahalo Haunani Trask. On January 17, 1993, I was on the grounds of ‘Iolani Palace sitting on the grassy lawn in front of the bandstand, directly in front of Trustee Trask’s sister, when she gave her famous speech, we are not Americans. As she was saying this, I was thinking to myself, what you talking about? That speech took me on a very long journey about self-discovery and learning more about political roots. I live in the moku of Honua‘ula, which is on the southwest side of Maui. In that moku, we have lots of proposed developments. The Achilles’ heel of many of these developments is the Historic Preservations and the reason why is because the kia‘i that live on Maui have made it so. We are sick and tired of seeing our history marginalized and erased. We refuse to see that happen without a fight. Thank you for being here. Mahalo.

Kaniloa Kamaunu Aloha kākou, I’ve been in front of you many times throughout the years and my results have not changed. Tonight, we heard many good things about the money that has been provided by the
Trustees. I do work with Scott Fisher, and I am a lineal descendant and a 7th generation of our Land Commission Award. There are very little of our people that have actually regained their lands. When I was about 45 years old, my eyes were opened with the case of Nā Wai ‘Ehā. I had no idea what I was involved in or any idea of where I was living, and I had no connection to the land. The only reason I was here was because my dad got into trouble with the service, and my mother traveled from the East coast with ten children and the only place she had for refuge was home, Waiheʻe. She had no education. She was a wife of a soldier who went to the Korean war and served the United States military. As I came to resolve and started to see exactly what I was left, it was overwhelming. I am advocate for my Kuleana as an heir for my kupuna that lie there, my keiki, and now my moʻopuna. Iʼve learned that terminology used in court can make a decision. If used incorrectly, you can disenfranchise yourself from rights that actually belong to you. The term Native Hawaiian is one of those terms. We use it loosely. Do you know what it says under US Federal code 20? They distinctly say that almost anybody in Hawaiʻi is a Native Hawaiian. This is a problematic area. They say kamaʻāina, long time residence. If thatʼs true, the complexity of this entire situation is that you have to include everyone. Why? The State cannot be autonomous of only protecting one race of people. They are obligated to take care of all people who they consider their citizens and live here. That means distinguishing us from everybody else, there is no distinction. What does that mean without that distinction? I have been an advocate for saving iwi kūpuna for almost 15 years. I have gone to court, been in front of many commissions, and I still see my kūpuna dissapear. The Burial Counsel, good people but they are regulated to recommendations. When it comes to water use, I am an heir, I have an interest to that water. Iʼve learned that the State and the County have no legal rights and have no water rights. They distinguished my rights are superior. I fought for the rights of water each and everyday. I heard you say you went to the wetlands by my place, was it wet? I heard no; because we have people such as A&B, Wailuku water company who feel they have rights and that they can service other people. It is because of the term Native Hawaiian, it is detrimental. It gives everyone a right to what is rightfully ours. 1959 Admission Act, subsection 19 states that they could not change who we were. We are kānaka maoli, then why do we not call ourselves kānaka maoli? Why donʼt you use that term? They donʼt want that because it takes them out of power. We lose everything. I see everything change: my mountains, the school made out of wood, places in the mountain to roam, they are gone. I see the sand dunes everyday, gone. My kūpuna, gone. I hold a hoʻolauleʻa every year, I spend my own money, this is up at Safeway. I do this because I told the kūpuna they would never be forgotten. We celebrate for three days. I feed the people that come there and I educate them. I go to every meeting that they have and I reach out to every entity to say stop. The USGA already said our lens is to the brink of being lost and if that lens breaks, we are done. There is nothing left for us. People try to model their ecosystem after the kānaka maoli but because of foreign influences, that has been taken away from us. We can see what happens to us. The right to mālama water? We cannot because they lock us out, because they did that in Waiheʻe. Wailuku Water Company dredged the water and in 2018, the destruction below was because of what they did. I leave you with these thoughts, does it make a difference of how we look at ourselves? If so, shouldnʻt we look at it correctly? Shouldnʻt we be proud to be kānaka maoli? Mahalo.

Tiare Lawrence I come from the beautiful town Lahaina. We are inundated with tourism, traffic is horrific, cost of living is high, and a lot of our people are moving away. Beside all these points, I am here to talk about Māla. Māla is a small boat harbor. Recently, our non-profit Kamalu o Kahalawai filed a lawsuit against the State over the permits. Currently, there are 16 permits out at Māla, and another 16 they granted to operators at Kāʻanapali where they park their catamarans outside. They allow these people to take their zodiac from Māla Boat Harbor out to Kāʻanapali. Our non-profit built Manaiaikalani, it is a small voyaging canoe. We started going to Māla, there is no parking. We have to wait 45 minutes to get into the harbor, we unload Manaiaikalani and then we have someone drive our trailer back to Hawaiian Homes because there is no trailer parking. We have been inundated with commercialization at the harbor so we have organized our
community to fight for better stewardship and better management of Māla Boat Ramp. Māla is very important to our community. It was a fishing village in ancient Hawai‘i. There was a fishpond next to Māla Boat Ramp and a popular surfing spot. I am a child of Māla and I grew up there so I have a special pilina to that place. I picked limu with my mom and this was my grandmother’s area. Unfortunately, the abundance is no longer available, and a lot has to do with the inundation of tourism. DOBOR issued shoreline use permits which allowed scuba companies to take their guest next to Māla Boat Ramp, and allowed scuba divers to operate there, and catamarans to park outside of Māla Boat Ramp to do snorkeling. We are one fatal accident away from a major disaster in that harbor. DOBOR has been horrible when it comes to responding to the concern of our Native Hawaiian community. We did file a lawsuit that is on appeal. The Board has put a lot of pressure on DOBOR to mitigate, come up with a plan, and to this date, DOBOR has not reached out to us for a meeting. At DLNR, they said they wanted us to have a seat at the table and to this day, no response. We could use OHA’s support. Manaiakalani is important to us and the work that we do at Kamalu o Kahalawai will have a positive impact on community. We are having our first voyaging summer program after Uncle Archie finishes his voyage from Tahiti.

Also, you did ask how OHA can help with Ke Kula ‘O Pi‘ilani. Maybe you folks could help by buying the building. Come to our Ho‘ike and you will fall in love with all the work that Kumu has done there. No school should be on a one year lease. We need stability and our kids deserve that. Mahalo.

**Announcements**

**Chair Hulu Lindsey** Tomorrow morning we have of Board of Trustees Maui Island Meeting at 9:30 am right back in this room. We invite you to come.

**Adjournment**

**Trustee Akaka** Moves to adjourn the meeting.

**Trustee Akina** Seconds the motion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRUSTEE</th>
<th>AHU ISA</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>X</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LEINA‘ALA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ĐAN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KALEHIKINA</td>
<td>AKAKA</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KELI‘I</td>
<td>AKINA</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LUANA</td>
<td>ALAPA</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRENDON KALEI‘AINA</td>
<td>LEE</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MILILANI</td>
<td>TRASK</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOHN</td>
<td>WAIHE‘E</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHAIR CARMEN HULU</td>
<td>LINDSEY</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL VOTE COUNT**

**Chairperson Carmen Hulu Lindsey** Adjourns the Board of Trustees meeting at 8:51 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,

Lehua Itokazu
Board Secretary

As approved by the Board of Trustees on August 18, 2022.

Carmen Hulu Lindsey
Chairperson, Board of Trustees

Attachments:

1. Action Item BOT#22-07: Recognizing Thelma Shimaoka as a Mamo Makamae O Ka Po‘e Hawai‘i: Precious Treasure of the Hawaiian People
2. PowerPoint Presentation - Hawaiian Church of Hawai‘i Nei – E Ho‘omau O Na Malama I Na Iwi Kupuna
4. PowerPoint Presentation – Hawaii Land Trust: Iwi Kupuna Grant
5. PowerPoint Presentation – Ke Kula ‘O Pi’ilani
Action Item Issue: Approval of an OHA Board of Trustees’ Honorary Resolution
Recognizing Thelma Shimaoka as a Mamo Makamae o Ka Po‘e Hawaii:
Precious Treasure of the Hawaiian People

Prepared by:

Roy Newton
Roy Newton
Beneficiary Services Agent - Maui

Reviewed by:

Lei-Ming Ayat-Verdadero
Lei-Ming Ayat-Verdadero
Beneficiary Services Manager

Reviewed by:

Alice Silbanuz
Alice Silbanuz
Communications Director
ACTION ITEM
Board of Trustees
May 25, 2022

BOT #22-07

Action Item Issue: Approval of an OHA Board of Trustees’ Honorary Resolution
Recognizing Thelma Shimaoka as a Mamo Makamae o Ka Po‘e Hawaii:
Precious Treasure of the Hawaiian People

Reviewed by:

Sylvia M. Hussey, Ed.D.  May 21, 2022
Ka Pouhana, Chief Executive Officer

Reviewed by:

Trustee Carmen Hulu Lindsey  May 21, 2022
Chairperson, Board of Trustees
I. Action

The OHA Board of Trustees approves an OHA Board of Trustees’ Honorary Resolution Recognizing Thelma Shimaoka as a Mamo Makamae o Ka Po’e Hawaii: Precious Treasure of the Hawaiian People at Attachment A.

II. Issue

Should the OHA Board of Trustees approve (or not) the attached resolution at Attachment A.

III. Discussion

In January of 1982, Thelma Shimaoka began her employment at the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) through a partnership with Alu Like, Inc. She was hired as a clerk/typist and assigned to Office of Hawaiian Affairs’ Hilo office; and six months later, in July of 1982, Thelma Shimaoka began working directly for the OHA in Hilo. For the next decade, Thelma Shimaoka proudly served the Hilo community on behalf of OHA, earning titles such as Interim Community Resource Specialist Hilo and Interim OHA Liaison Hilo.

In 1992, Thelma Shimaoka was promoted to the position of OHA Liaison Maui and began work in OHA’s Maui office; and for the next 20 years, she served the Native Hawaiian community on Maui as an OHA Community Affairs Coordinator Maui, Community Resources Coordinator Maui, and Community Outreach Coordinator Maui.

On December 30, 2021, Thelma Shimaoka officially retired from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs after 40 years of faithful service to the agency and to the island communities in her care.

IV. Recommendation

To approve an Honorary Resolution Recognizing Thelma Shimaoka as a Mamo Makamae o Ka Po’e Hawaii: Precious Treasure of the Hawaiian People at Attachment A.

V. Alternative Actions

A. To not approve the recommended resolution.

B. To approve an amended version of the recommended resolution.

VI. Funding

No funding is required.
VII. Timeframe

Immediate action is recommended.

VIII. Attachment

A. Resolution

INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK
A RESOLUTION OF THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
RECOGNIZING THELMA SHIMAOKA AS A MAMO MAKAMAE O KA PO‘E HAWAII:
PRECIOUS TREASURE OF THE HAWAIIAN PEOPLE

WHEREAS, Thelma Shimaoka was born on January 25, 1942, to Joseph Kia Naeole and Mary Young Peck; and,

WHEREAS, Thelma Shimaoka is a proud makua wahine to children John Duvauchelle Jr., Eloise Lehuanani Duvauchelle, June Ku’ulei Arce and Gerard Noburo Shimaoka; and,

WHEREAS, Thelma Shimaoka is the family matriarch and beloved kupuna to 18 grandchildren and 29 great-grandchildren; and,

WHEREAS, Thelma Shimaoka is a member of Maluhia Church of the denomination of Ke Ali‘i O Nā Ali‘i A Me Ka Haku O Nā Haku and holds the position of Ha‘i ‘Eualnelio or Evangelist, and leads the church missionary group as Ke Alaka‘i O Ka ‘Ohana Ka‘ahele or Leader of the Traveling Family; and,

WHEREAS, in January of 1982, Thelma Shimaoka began her employment at the Office of Hawaiian Affairs through a partnership with Alu Like, Inc. She was hired as a clerk/typist and assigned to Office of Hawaiian Affairs‘ Hilo office; and,

WHEREAS, six months later, in July of 1982, Thelma Shimaoka began working directly for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs in Hilo; and,

WHEREAS, for the next decade, Thelma Shimaoka would proudly serve the Hilo community on behalf of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, earning titles such as Interim Community Resource Specialist Hilo and Interim OHA Liaison Hilo; and,

WHEREAS, in 1992, Thelma Shimaoka was promoted to the position of OHA Liaison Maui and began work in the Office of Hawaiian Affairs‘ Maui office; and,

WHEREAS, for the next 20 years, Thelma Shimaoka would serve the Native Hawaiian community on Maui as an OHA Community Affairs Coordinator Maui, Community Resources Coordinator Maui, and Community Outreach Coordinator Maui; and,

WHEREAS, on December 30, 2021, Thelma Shimaoka officially retired from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs after 40 years of faithful service to the agency and to the communities in her care; and,

WHEREAS, for the last 40 years, Thelma Shimaoka has demonstrated her love for Hawai‘i and its people as she has honorably served the Lāhui as an employee of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs with passion, dedication, commitment and aloha; and,
WHEREAS, Thelma Shimaoka has served countless Native Hawaiian beneficiaries on the islands of Hawai‘i and Maui representing the Office of Hawaiian Affairs with dignity, class and a pono attitude of putting beneficiaries’ concerns first; and,

WHEREAS, Thelma Shimaoka will forever be held as a much beloved member of the OHAnap, a role model employee for all who would follow and a person to whom the Office of Hawaiian Affairs will always be in her debt; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the undersigned duly recognized as the board chair and trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, on the 25th day of May 2022, do set forth their hand to recognize, honor and hold in high regard the 40-year Office of Hawaiian Affairs career of Thelma Shimaoka; and

ADOPTED, this 25th day of May, island of Maui, State of Hawai‘i, by the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs in its regular meeting assembled.

##pau##
E HO‘OMAU O NA MALAMA I NA IWI KUPUNA PROJECT
By the Hawaiian Church of Hawai‘i Nei

‘IHI
~ FIRST SLIDE
Aloha mai kakou, mahalo to Chair Hulu Lindsey and the Board of Trustees for having us here today to do a presentation on our Iwi Kupuna Repatriation & Reinternment grant project.

~ NEXT SLIDE
I am ‘Ihilani Chu the project manager and this is Kahu Loko‘olu Quintero who is the lead cultural and spiritual expert.

LOKO
We are here on behalf of the Hawaiian Church of Hawai‘i Nei.

~ NEXT SLIDE
The mission of our Hale Pule is to strengthen and empower Hawaiian spirituality….

~ NEXT SLIDE
through traditional Hawaiian ceremonies, rituals and protocols.

~ NEXT SLIDE
E Ho‘omau O Na Malama I Na Iwi Kupuna is just one of our many projects that we are committed to.

‘IHI
~ NEXT SLIDE

Introduction
At first, the need was to bring kupuna home from around the world, so many were treated with disrespect and bundled together in bags put on shelves or glass containers. 20 years later, with the rise in development so came a rise from our own kupuna. Now there is a need to Mālama, to take care of. In Hawaiian it is a sign, walk lightly, take baby steps, appreciate what we do have for we are only on an island with limited resources. It is with these limited resources that we return to because they were the resources of our kupuna. We relearn in the process the value of our resources the way our kupuna ….

~ NEXT SLIDE
valued the ʻāina, with great aloha, hōʻihi and a kuleana to mālama.

E holomua kakou e Ho‘omau o Na Mālama I Nā Iwi Kūpuna
Project Purpose
This project is to empower our Native Hawaiian community to prepare and provide sacred items using our ʻāina resources by organizing and conducting workshops to make sacred cultural items needed and provide them to lineal descendants, Native Hawaiian groups and State of Hawai‘i organizations such as the State Historic Preservation Division, the Island Burial Councils and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs throughout the pae ʻāina to mālama nā iwi kūpuna in preparation for repatriation and reinterment.

Our project made a significant impact on the Native Hawaiian community and is needed in order to rebury na iwi kupuna culturally and properly ….

All participants in the workshops are properly prepared and culturally educated gaining knowledge as well as the skill to make these items traditionally.

They learn from these workshops in order to authentically pass down all the cultural knowledge and skills to the next generation to carry on the hana in their moku or ahupua‘a.

This strengthens the mana and fosters a healthy sense of Hawaiian cultural identity of the Hawaiian people. These workshops are pono and necessary to maintain spiritual balance and harmony for Native Hawaiians and their communities.

The sacred items and resources are:
The Hinaʻi Lauhala (lauhala basket) and Lauhala Kukaʻa (lauhala rolls)
The Kaula hau (Hau cordage), Hau fibers, and The Kapa and the Wauke fibers

The Kapa is used to wrap na iwi kupuna,

the kaula is used to bind the kapa and sometimes the hinaʻi lauhala and

the hinaʻi lauhala is where our kupuna rests in for eternity.
LOKO

Achievements & Successes

~ NEXT SLIDE
Our project was statewide covering 4 major islands completing 25 of our 28 proposed workshops…

~ NEXT SLIDE
Numerous Native Hawaiian communities throughout the State of Hawai‘i benefited and were impacted as Sacred items were donated from each workshop….

~ NEXT SLIDE
More than 100 completed sacred items were made and donated to lineal descendants for active and future reburials.

~ NEXT SLIDE
Our workshops provided the cultural training needed for our Native Hawaiian community members to be empowered on how to make cultural materials for the care of iwi kūpuna.

~ NEXT SLIDE
One of our greatest success’s is right here on Maui where Native Hawaiian families and community members attended our workshops in August and September 2021 and….

~ NEXT SLIDE
reburied their iwi kūpuna in October 2021 using the knowledge gained….

~ NEXT SLIDE
from our workshops and materials made in the workshop.

~ NEXT SLIDE
In fact, most of the sacred items produced from the workshops on the island of Maui are already buried with iwi kūpuna.

~ NEXT SLIDE
Participants from the Maui, Hawai‘i and Kaua‘i island workshops….

~ NEXT SLIDE
formed working groups at our workshops for future burials…

~ NEXT SLIDE
These working groups have allowed our communities to communicate again with each other….

~ NEXT SLIDE
Aloha kekahi i kekahi.
All working groups have continued to follow the process on their own and…

provide their community with sacred items to care for iwi kupuna as more recent burials are discovered.

Our Lāhui has strongly requested us to continue these workshops, to kokua them some more, to Ho’omau o na malama i na iwi kūpuna.

We offer lineal descendant hui and Native Hawaiian groups the opportunity to use the tools & equipment to continue the hana nui to mālama nā iwi kupuna.

Finally, I want to thank our partners and supporters that assisted in our project, the various communities, our venues, our beloved Palaces, but most of all…

Mahalo piha to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for this grant. We were able to purchase all the traditional tools and workshop items that we needed in order to carry on this important kuleana.
Ho`owaiwai Kaiāulu

To enrich and bring prosperity to our community
Maui Family Support Services, Inc.

Strengthening Children and Families in Maui County Since 1980

Mission
Promote healthy family functioning by providing supportive services which build on family strengths.

Prime Directive
Utilize our collective resources toward the prevention of child abuse and neglect.
MFSS Programs

Early Head Start - Center and Home Based Options
Healthy Families America Home Visiting on Lana'i
Ka Pu`uwai O Na Keiki
Quality Care for Hawaiian Keiki
Maui County Early Childhood Resource Center
Ho`owaiwai Kaiāulu
Funded by Office of Hawaiian Affairs and/or Native Hawaiian Education Program

Outreach and Resource Specialists
Ho`owaiwai Kaiāulu Home Visiting
Kāne Connections- Hui Kāne & Kalama Parenting Group
Hale Hi`ipoi - Infant/Toddler Center
Youth Services (Not funded by OHA)
Outreach and Resource Specialists

Visits with new mothers at Maui Memorial Medical Center

Community Outreach Events

Hospital Visits are done 7 days a week
Over 1000 families per year
Community Resource Packet

As of last OHA PMT Report
298 Families were seen/screened and provided resource information.
132 Native Hawaiian families.
Ho`owaiwai Kaiāulu
Home Visiting

Prenatal & parenting families
Children up to 5 years old
In-person and virtual visits
Parents as Teachers
Hawaiian Cultural Specialist

As of last OHA PMT Report

38 parents and children served
22 parents and children were Native Hawaiian
Kāne Connections
Hui Kāne

Virtual & In-Person Men's Groups
Aloha House
Drug Court
Probation/Parole
Home Visiting

As of last OHA PMT Report
22 Men Served
10 Native Hawaiian Men
Kāne Connections
Kamalama Parenting Groups

Parenting through Hawaiian Values
12 week cohort
Virtual groups
1:1 Support when needed

As of last OHA PMT Report
11 Parents Served
8 Native Hawaiian Parents

KULEANA
1. nvt., Right, privilege, concern, responsibility, title, business, property, estate, portion, jurisdiction, authority, liability, interest, claim, ownership, tenure, affair, province; reason, cause, function, justification; small piece of property, as within an ahupua‘a; blood relative through whom a relationship to less close relatives is traced, as to in-laws.
Hale Hi`ipoi
Hana Infant/Toddler Center

Only Licensed I/T Center in Hana
Located at Hana High
& Elementary School

As of last OHA PMT Report
7 Children Served
6 Native Hawaiian Children
Mahalo!
Hawai‘i Land Trust: Iwi kūpuna protection grant at the Waiheʻe Coastal Dunes and Wetlands Refuge

MISSION: To protect and steward the lands that sustain Hawai‘i, and to perpetuate Hawaiian values by connecting people with ‘āina.
VISION: I ola ka ‘āina, i ola kākou nei. Hawai‘i’s lands thrive and nourish its people.
In 2004, the Hawai‘i Land Trust (then known as the Maui Coastal Land Trust), purchased the Waihe‘e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands Refuge.

An important part of our kuleana at Waihe‘e is the protection and care of iwi kūpuna;
The Waiheʻe Refuge contains both historic cemeteries (5 total) and numerous unmarked pre-contact burials, both along the coast, and in the dunes.

Like many coastal areas, storms and tsunamis have eroded the shoreline, causing the ‘iwi kūpuna to become exposed; we anticipate that the frequency of such incidents will increase as sea levels rise.

HILT is committed to avoiding the desecration of these iwi kūpuna by avoiding kaulaʻi nā iwi i ka lā, allowing the bones to dry in the sun, a sign of disrespect and irreverence.

When such incidents occur we take every measure to ensure they are treated respectfully and that lineal and cultural descendants are notified and involved in the process of repatriating the iwi kūpuna.
With these concerns in mind HILT submitted an Iwi Kūpuna Protection grant to OHA in order to better protect the iwi kūpuna at Waiheʻe.

- The grant provided for several measures relating to iwi kūpuna protection:
  - Placement of rope barriers to prevent visitors to the Waiheʻe Refuge driving too close to the coast, which accelerates coastal erosion;
  - Return iwi kūpuna that had been recently exposed to our designated repatriation area on the Waiheʻe area, as specified in HILT’s burial treatment plan approved by the Maui/Lānaʻi Island Burial Council, October 29th and 30th, 2021; assisted by ‘Aha Moku o Wailuku;
  - Hold a series of workshops on a series of topics related to the protection and care of iwi kūpuna.
Iwi kūpuna workshops

Workshop 1: Legal rights of Kānaka Maoli to Iwi kūpuna; Led by UH Law School Professor Malia Akutagawa, November 19th, 2021 (Zoom).

Workshop 2: Lineal and Cultural Descendant sign-up; February 26, 2022, held at the Waihe’e Refuge; Hosted by genealogist Pualani Kamaunu Basbas, and recently recognized Waihe’e cultural descendant (in person);

Workshop 3: Iwi Kūpuna protocol for reburial and repatriation; March 6th, 2022, hosted by Kumu Hula Kaponoʻai Molitau (in person);

Workshop 4: Bank Stabilization and native planting to protect coastal areas susceptible to erosion and iwi kūpuna exposure; March 26th, 2022, hosted by HILT staff (in person).

Workshop 5: Kapa making for pū‘olo and wrapping iwi kūpuna; hosted by HILT education coordinator Denby Freeland.
Wauke Patch at the Waiheʻe Refuge
Kapa Workshop Participants
Kapa Making
Measures of Success

- December, 2022: Repatriation of Iwi kūpuna, led by lineal and cultural descendants, with assistance from HILT staff;
- Rope barrier completed in March, 2022;
- Workshop Attendance:
  - Workshop 1 (Zoom): 52
  - Workshop 2 (in person): 18
  - Workshop 3 (in person): 13
  - Workshop 4 (in person): 9
  - Workshop 5 (in person): 9
Mahalo to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

- Through your support we have:
- made great progress towards protecting Iwi kūpuna,
- reaching out to ‘ohana with lineal and cultural ties to Waihe‘e;
- Taught the principles of bank stabilization using indigenous and endemic plants;
- Taught the art of kapa making, so iwi kūpuna can be wrapped in kapa grown and produced here;
KE KULA ‘O PI‘ILANI
He waiwai nui ka lōkahi, he waiwai nui ke aloha

*Unity and love are of greatest value*
What is ‘āina-based education?

**ALOHA** | Appreciating the life-giving aspects of the natural environment and accepting these blessings

**ʻIMI ʻIKE** | Respecting the life-taking aspects of the natural environment and learning from it

**NAʻAUAO** | Acknowledging a deep connection to the natural environment through enlightenment

**AKAHAI** | Accepting the privilege and burden of stewardship and by mitigating human impact
Aloha is the acknowledgement of a reciprocal relationship experienced in nature. As our environment accepts us, we, too, should accept the gifts that sustain life with accountability and respect.

Our students are encouraged to recognize the divinity in the multitude of the natural resources that surround them and that proper care, contact, and conduct amongst the kini akua, “multitude of gods”, is the key to survival.
ʻImi ʻIke implies that knowledge is not owed but gained and that entitlement is not as powerful as observation, experimentation and reflection.

Our learners come to understand that knowledge comes from the lessons taught by the commitment to the work itself or the experience itself. Experiential, high-touch, hands-on learning is the core of immersion education and has been our most effective teaching tool.
Naʻauao

Enlightenment

Naʻauao is introspective - an enlightenment that allows for deep and meaningful connection to nature.

Our learners acknowledge and respect their ancestral connections to the environment, the systems in which they both steward and thrive in, and the interconnectedness of all things.
Akahai

*Gentle and Unobtrusive*

Akahai is acknowledging and mitigating negative human impact on natural environments.

Our students are reminded that just because you *can*, does not mean you *should*. They explore their natural environment and are asked to consider their negative impact, inadvertent or conscious. Through their exploration, they practice presence and connection while acknowledging that good stewardship may sometimes only be achieved through minimal human contact.
ʻĀina Education, Ancestral Wisdom

- **Leo Oli** - Giving voice to announce who we are, acknowledge our intentions, list our objectives, give respect and recognition to the elements that surround us and enlist their guidance and support; Voices of our children and our kini akua

- **Minamina** - Acknowledging the multifaceted value of the resources around us and making sure they are not going to waste. Kukui nut (seed) is gathered for a multitude of life-giving uses from fire to medicine.

- **Alahele** - Planning and engineering. The pathway is cleared and the resources gathered to build the walls and foundations needed to re-route fresh water to the stream. According to tradition, natural resource management, especially water stewardship, was one of the most esteemed positions in Hawaiian society.

- **Pōhaku** - The stones represent the interconnection of our people throughout all times in this physical realm. Pōhaku are the physical remnants of our ancestors as they are comprised of their earthly minerals. When we utilize stone, it is the epitome of family in Hawaiʻi in the literal physical sense as well as in its duty to continue to provide for native Hawaiians (e.g., houses, prayer sites, cooking, fishing, farming, seafaring, medicine, gaming, foundations, etc.)

- **Wai** - Finally, you see the water re-routed away from where it is destructive and useless without purpose and returned to the space where the stream ecosystem thrives. This is beneficial for humans and the natural environment, both of which thrive by the proper flow of fresh water.
Teaching Methods

- **Nānā I Ke Kumu, Look To The Source** - Be guided by the wisdom of our native ancestors
- **Ma Ka Hana Ka ‘Ike, Wisdom Is Gained Through Work** - Hana No‘eau, Oli, Mele, Mo‘olelo
- ‘A‘ohe Hana Nui Ke Alo A‘e, No Task Is Impossible - Sense of Hopefulness
- **He Waiwai Nui Ka Lōkahi, Unity Is Of Great Value** - Support is integral
ENGAGING COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

- Participating in engaging conversations with the community
- Asking and answering hard questions
- Young students to senior learners, volunteers to board members, parents to politicians, network partners to benefactors...everyone aware and involved in your program is a passionate champion
- Grounding students with strong cultural foundation so they are able to be articulate in all facets of their life
Increasing Language Fluency

Increasing Community Engagement

- Social Media
- Video Resources
  - Increasing language fluency
  - Enhancing cultural fluency
- Conversations Conscious of Perspective
- Workshops That Parallel Our Program
Presence

- Creating presence on lands and in spaces from which we were previously banned.
- Reintroducing culture to the generations that did not have access to these opportunities.
- High-touch, culture and language immersive activities.
- Learning from the work, appreciating the work of our ancestors.
- Building self-identity
Normalize Cultural Protocol and Ceremony

- Hands-on preservation and conservation of cultural arts not as a “practice” or as casual “enrichment” but normalizing this lifestyle.
- Revitalizing and reclaiming our kānaka maoli identity through protocol and ceremony.
- Meaningful, intentional education and learning.
Practitioner-Led Courses

- Incorporating community members with ʻike kūpuna, ancestral knowledge, to work with all learners.
- Students are provided opportunities to engage with traditionally-trained experts in their traditional cultural areas of expertise.
- Again, not as an enrichment but as a lifestyle and a way to thrive.
Challenges

Land Base
Human Resources
Educational Resources
Funding
Economic Disparity For Kānaka Maoli
Sense of Urgency - So much work, so little time