



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage PAID
Honolulu, Hawai'i
Permit No. 1467

MĀNOA HERITAGE CENTER

2856 O'ahu Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96822

Return Service Requested



‘Ōhi’a noho malu.
Mountain apple in the shade.

‘Ōlelo No’eau #2362

MĀNOA HERITAGE CENTER

2856 O'ahu Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96822 (808) 988-1287 contact@manoaheritagecenter.org

SPRING 2023 NEWSLETTER



Kūali'i circa 1915

Looking Forward

2023 has already been a year of great transition for Mānoa Heritage Center. At the end of 2022, Executive Director Jessica Welch departed after 7 amazing years of positive growth for MHC. We thank her for assembling a strong, cohesive team and guiding our organization to be where it is today. While we work to fill our Executive Director position with someone as special as Jessica, the role of Interim Executive Director is being shared by MHC Director of Education Jenny Engle, and Cultural Site Manager Jenny Leung.

The entire staff at MHC will continue to be navigators in accomplishing our core strategic goals:

- To be an active resource for educators - helping their students connect with Hawai'i's cultural and natural heritage and inspiring them to be better stewards of their communities.
- To be an educational hub for kūpuna, families, neighbors, cultural practitioners, and community organizations.
- To be a well-maintained facility with relevant historical and educational collections.
- To be an efficient, financially stable non-profit focused on enjoyable learning.

With the passing of founder Mary Cooke in 2022, MHC has been entrusted with the continued stewardship of Kūali'i, the historic Cooke family home on our campus, built in 1911. A lot of maintenance and repair work will be done over the next few years as we prepare Kūali'i for its next incarnation as a place for community to gather, learn and exchange ideas.

Aloha pumehana to all of you, who make the work we do so very worthwhile.

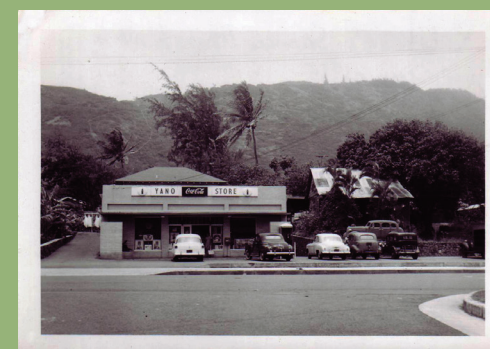
The Jennys



Just Add Water

Education tours now come with a splash! In November, MHC Garden Stewards/Educators Kanoa and Skye introduced a new interactive watershed activity. Kanoa cleverly engineered a 3D mountain model to help students visualize the movement of rainwater through the island. With the squeeze of a hose, students can observe the impacts of different types of rain on our watershed model—from a light drizzle to a roaring rain. The activity is versatile in its application, and it can be focused on native plants, 'ōlelo, or ecology, depending on the interest of the target audience. On your next visit to MHC make sure to inquire about this dynamic watershed display!

Visit us at www.manoaheritagecenter.org



Do you have memories of Mānoa when instead of Starbucks it was Mānoa Chop Suey and before that Mānoa Market? Did you ever eat at Mānoa Grill? Or swim and play in one of the many ponds between East Mānoa Road and Woodlawn? If you answered yes to any of these questions, we would love to interview you and capture your memories of Mānoa!

Please email contact@manoaheritagecenter.org.

Kupulau Sprouting Leaves

The end of Ho'oilu (*rainy season*) brings change in daylight, rainfall and temperature to our garden. When you come to visit us, keep an eye open for these thriving native plants.



'Ewa Hinahina

Endemic
Notable features of this native shrub are its seed spikes that can grow up to 10 inches tall and green/silverish leaves (more sun = more silver). Forming a naturally round shape as it grows, 'Ewa hinahina has no known early Hawaiian uses but wouldn't have gone unnoticed by our islands' early settlers.



Pu'uka'a

Endemic, Federally Listed Endangered
This beautiful perennial sedge has uniquely shaped flowers called spikelets, thin leathery leaf blades, and loves wet areas with lots of sun. Of the 14 species of native sedges in the genus *Cyperus* in Hawai'i, Pu'uka'a is one of the rarest found only on Kaua'i and O'ahu.



Lama

Endemic
With liko (leaf buds) that range in color from red to pink to orange, lama trees have tiny pink/white flowers that become small red orange edible fruits called pi'oi. Notable relatives of lama include several species of ebony, prized for their beautiful black wood and the deliciously sweet Japanese persimmon.



'Uhi'uhi

Endemic, Federally Listed Endangered
'Uhi'uhi has a dense, durable wood that had many uses in early Hawai'i. It was used in hale (house) construction, for tools (e.g. 'ō'ō digging sticks or kapa beaters), weapons (e.g. clubs or daggers), fishing supplies such as makau manō (shark hooks with bone points), and as runners for papa hōlua (narrow sleds 12-18 ft. long) used by ali'i for he'e hōlua (mountain/lava sledding).



MHC's New Talent

Have you noticed the pristine landscaping around Hale Kūali'i or our new-and-improved plant info cards used in student activities? Maybe you noticed our brand new MHC sticker! The wahine behind these polished tasks is our newest team member, Lilia Lorenzo. Hired initially to maintain the grounds around Kūali'i, Lilia's artistic background and passion for Hawaiian culture was a bonus, and she has expanded her role to assist the Education Team in creating learning materials and working with school groups and community visitors. Lilia holds dual degrees in Hawaiian Language and Hawaiian Studies with a focus on Native Hawaiian Creative Expression, and has her own business creating print and wearable art inspired by Hawai'i. Check-out her creations @liliapoliahustudio.

Lilia agrees with her māmā, that if she was a plant, she would be *hau*. *Hau* was introduced by Polynesian Voyagers and most can assume it is due to its versatility. *Hau* was sourced to make kaula (cordage), kapa (bark cloth), kapa dyes, lā'au lapa'au (medicine), and lei. The fair tinted, light-weight wood is still used today as a floating device for canoes and nets. From her dedication and humble passion for the 'āina and promoting Hawai'i through artistic expression, Lilia's many talents have already impacted our space greatly.

Welcome to the 'ohana, Lilia!



Save the date!

We are thrilled to welcome Kumu Kilohana back for another 8-day Hula Camp, from Tuesday, May 30 - Friday, June 9 (skipping June 5). Hula camp is open to all ages with 'ohana members encouraged to participate. No previous hula experience is necessary. Registration will be announced on our website, www.manoaheritagecenter.org and via social media (@manoaheritagecenter on FB and IG).

Ua & Makani

If you have ever visited Mānoa Heritage Center when a school group arrives, you have probably heard us share our oli komo, or welcome chant, composed by Puakea Nogelmeier. Our mele welcomes guests to this place, where the misty Tuahine or Kuahine rain greets the valley almost every morning, pushed along by the Kahaukāne wind, thought to be her brother¹.

He 'ala anuheā ke māpumāpu mai nei

A delicious perfume comes sweeping in

E hahani mai ana i ka welelau a'o ka makani

Like a gentle caress on the fringes of the wind

Ho'opē 'ia maila i ka nehenehe a ka Tuahine

Sweetened by the rustling patter of the Tuahine rain

I 'ane'i pumehana o ka poli kama'āina aloha

Here is warmth, in the loving embrace of hospitality

Aloha mai - e komo mai ē

Greetings, and welcome



Kumu Hula Collette Leimomi Akana teaches a Papa Hula a 'Ōlelo class in the Visitor Education Hale at Mānoa Heritage Center. Kumu Akana is the author of *Hānau Ka Ua (Hawaiian Rain Names)*, which is the fullest record of Hawaiian rain names and their lore to date. *Hānau ka Makani (Hawaiian Wind Names)* is forthcoming.

¹ Collette Leimomi Akana, *Hānau ka Ua*, (Honolulu: Kamehameha Publishing, 2015), 253.