

Project Ho'oku'i V Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

Principal Investigator and Project Liaison Meet with Kaua'i Mayor Derek Kawakami

On February 9, 2023, Principal Investigator, Lisa Uyehara, and Project Liaison, Misty Kela'i, visited with Mayor Derek Kawakami to inform him of the work we are doing on his moku. We visited for about an hour as he intensely listened while we explained the project to him and what we are doing for the na haumana in his na kula. Extremely supportive, the Mayor asked us to reach out to his office at anytime if we need his assistance.



Mayor Kawakami with Lisa and
Misty

Did you know?

...that Project Ho'oku'i V is now at Kanuikapono Charter School and Waimea High School on the Moku of Kaua'i....

Moloka'i & Lana'i Ho'oku'i Seniors on the Move!

Ho'oku'i Expands Support to First Year University Students at UHM...

By: Caryl Hitchcock

When Ho'oku'i Projects (I, II, III, IV) began, financial and mentoring support ended when students graduated from High School. A *NEW* opportunity exists through Ho'oku'i V for students who are entering their first year at UHM and who are selected by a committee to receive one of the ten available competitive Ho'oku'i V scholarships. First preference will go to students who are Native Hawaiian, and have been active in Ho'oku'i III, IV, or V, and participated in Mānoa Academy or completed their Associates degree prior to finishing high school. All details to successfully apply for this competitive scholarship, which covers first-year tuition, required student fees, and books (about \$12,000) are on our Ho'oku'i V: Kūlia i ka Nu'u website. Most importantly, the scholarship includes a dedicated mentor, Native Hawaiian Project Liaison, Aunty Misty Kela'i, who will provide support to the students throughout the year with Native Hawaiian Student Services, our project partner, located at the Queen Lili'uokalani Student Services Building on the upper campus of UHM.



Clockwise from top: Queen Lili'uokalani Student Services building, Project Ho'oku'i Native Hawaiian Liaison, Misty Kela'i, and Native Hawaiian Student Services office located inside the QLC building..



Ho'omaika'i 'ana!

2023 Awardees of the Project Ho'oku'i V Competitive Scholarship to Mānoa



Moku o O'ahu

Kamaile Aiu-Lee Loy is a Farrington Governor. She plans on majoring in psychology at UHM. During her spare time she enjoys spending time with her 'ohana, playing competitive volleyball, and dancing with her hālau, Hālau Mōhala 'Ilima, under the direction of Kumu Hula Māpuana de Silva.

Moku o Lana'i

Evelyn K. Hera is a Lana'i High School graduate. She is on track to complete 31 college credit hours during high school, and is in the 2023 entering class at UHM. She will begin her bachelor's degree program in Kinesiology Rehabilitation Science. She plans to go on to obtain a master's degree in occupational therapy and then return to her moku o Lana'i to share her knowledge, skills, and provide much needed physical therapy services to her community. Evelyn is a "can do" person; in her spare time she enjoys sports, mentoring and tutoring younger students and athletes. She has a strong work ethic, is dedicated to her studies and volunteerism, and has been a force in both the community and high school.



Moku o Lana'i



Talia Agliam plans on majoring in sociology at the University of Hawaii. She is a model student and has already earned her associate's degree. She was her class president at Lana'i high school and competed in the Miss Hawaii Teen USA pageant. Her ultimate career goal is to pursue a degree in law and become a family court judge.

Moku o Moloka'i

Tenley Akutagawa volunteers her time as an AYSO referee, beach clean ups for the LEO club, and helps at the food bank. She is a dedicated cross country track runner. She accumulated 19 college credits during high school and intends on majoring in psychology with the ultimate career goal of being a therapist.

Moku o Moloka'i



Kahenawai H. Hirata is on track to earn 34 transfer credits while a Mighty Farmer at Moloka'i High School. She will begin her bachelor's degree studies at UHM this fall in psychology. Her teachers describe her as hard working and determined. She is also willing to step out of her comfort zone to learn new things. While in high school she successfully completed a STEM internship at Sustainable Moloka'i through STEMworks.



Project Ho'oku'i V Presents at the 2023 Pac Rim Conference

By: Staff Writer



From left to right, Dr. Keali'i Kukahiko, Principal Investigator Lisa Uyehara, and Dr. Willy Kauai.

On March 6, 2023, Principal Investigator Lisa Uyehara, Dr. Keali'i Kukahiko, and Dr. Willy Kauai, presented at the Hawai'i Convention Center. The title of their presentation was, "The Power of Collaboration: How Three Education Researchers from Different Organizations are Supporting Native Hawaiian Students Beyond High School."

Each presenter provided their own mana'ō and specific details of the wraparound supports provided by their individual entities as na haumana transition to college. By working together we maximize resources and opportunities for students.

Left photo: Dr. Jon Osorio, Dean of Hawai'inuiākea, served as one of the keynote speakers at the conference.



FARRINGTON HIGH SCHOOL FACULTY, ADMINISTRATION, AND STUDENTS, ENGAGE IN SERVICE LEARNING AT WAIKALUA LOKO I'A

CEO of Pacific American Foundation and Kumu, Herb Lee hosted Project Ho'oku'i IV and V na haumana at Waikalua Loko i'a, on March 11, 2023. Kahuna and Kumu, Frank Kawaikapuokalani Hewitt treated us to mo'olelo and his mana'o of this special place. He shared the history, significance, and importance of the i'a and the ahupua'a with the students. We all came away from the experience learning something new.

The students also engaged in learning by building their own "ahupua'a" as teams, and learning more about the hazards of pollution and invasive species. Simultaneously, everything was captured on film as the principal investigator continues to work on a documentary to be aired sometime in the future.

Principal investigator Lisa Uyehara observed and stated why she loves Farrington High School, "I love Farrington High School! There is Vice Principal Hartwell Lee Loy engaging with the students by actively participating. And there's career counselor Regan Honda giving up a Saturday to make sure that he gives his students this opportunity." It was a new experience for the Farrington na haumana, and they said it was a Saturday well spent.



Left photo: Kumu Herb Lee explaining the significance and restoration conducted in the area.

Right photo: Farrington students, Kamaile Aiu-Lee Loy and Greg Harrell listening and observing as Kumu Herb Lee explained the history and next activity. Cinematographer Ruben Carrillo capturing the moment.



...More from the Waikalua Loko I'a Huaka'i...



Top Photo: Farrington students having loads of fun building their "Ahupua'a" while the film crew captures the event.

Below photo: Vice-Principal, Hartwell Lee Loy intensely listening to Kahuna and Kumu Kawaikapuokalani Hewitt...



Top Photo: Manu Island within the restored Waikalua Loko I'a; a resting place for birds.



Above photo: Kumu Kawaikapuokalani Hewitt sharing his ike with students.

...hana hou!...



Farrington Governor Kamaile Aiu-Lee Loy placing lei around the Ku stone.



Left photo:
Principal Investigator,
Lisa Uyehara,
discussing
kuleana and
protocol for
the day.



Right photo:
Farrington Govs
doing service
learning by
helping
clean up.