

HULIAUAPA‘A 2023 WRAP - UP



End of the Year Newsletter



HO'I HO'I HO'I I KA I KA I KA WAI WAI WAI

As we celebrate this time of Ho'oilō, we are welcomed by the sounds of the wai rumbling in our kahawai, Poliahu gracing our mauna with her majestic haukea, and the 'āina soaked, moist, and replenishing our aquifers. Wai has been a critical element this year and we honor its life giving properties, not only during this season when it is evident and all around us, but all year long. And we pule for the wai to continue to flow so our 'āina and lāhui can sustain waiwai.

2023 was a year of tremendous hardship for our lāhui, and our thoughts and pule are with our 'ohana and hoaaloha on Maui. One ha'awina that the wildfires have reinforced in us at Huliauapa'a is that our 'ike kūpuna and wahi kūpuna are still important and relevant in today's world. Remembering the waiwai of Lahaina in kāhiko times helps us re-imagine what it can be once again if we uncover the rich layers of 'ike our kūpuna passed on and have pono leadership in place to do right by our 'āina and kaiāulu.

As Huliauapa'a expands our relationships across the pae'āina and Moananuiākea, we remain appreciative of our continued kāko'o from our long-term funders, such as Kamehameha Schools 'Āina Ulu, as well as new supporters both locally and nationally. Within this e-mag, we are humbled to share some highlights and accomplishments from this past year.

If you are moved to support Huliauapa'a's Wahi Kūpuna Stewardship internship programs, community workshops, or collective impact initiatives, we invite you to share what you can with an end-of-the-year **donation**. Mahalo piha for your continued kāko'o!

Ola i ka wai!

Kelley L. Uyeoka
Executive Director





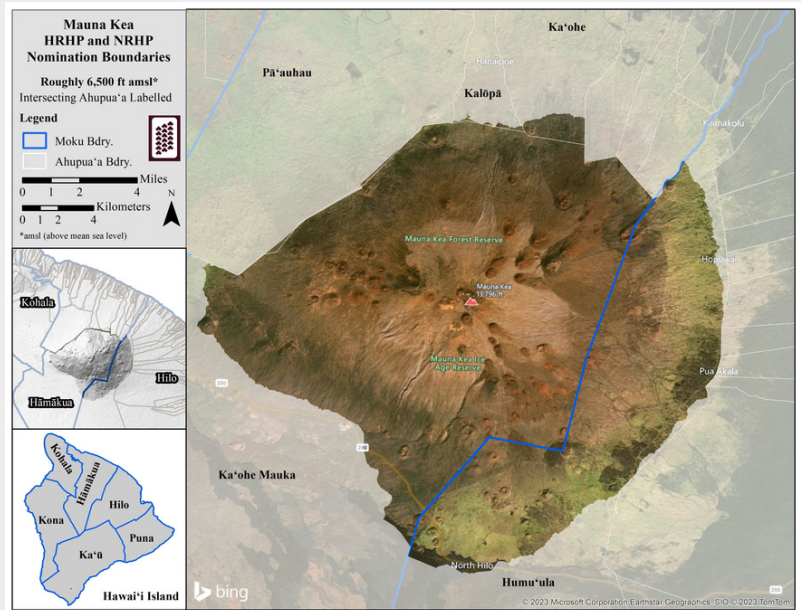
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MAUNA KEA TRADITIONAL CULTURAL PROPERTY NOMINATION

On behalf of **KAHEA** and Mauna Kea Anaina Hou, Huliauapa'a researched and authored the nomination for Mauna Kea from 6,500 ft amsl to the summit to be included in the the Hawai'i Register of Historic Places (HRHP) and National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as a Traditional Cultural Property (TCP) and District. Huliauapa'a presented the nomination to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board (HPRB) at the HPRB's November meeting where the HPRB accepted the nomination for inclusion on the HRHP! The nomination will be forwarded for consideration to be listed on the NRHP.

Including Mauna Kea as a historic property, TCP, and District on the HRHP and as a TCP and District on the NRHP is important because it establishes official recognition of Mauna Kea's cultural significance as a TCP and contiguous nature as a District. Heightened recognition will optimally mean heightened, more accurate consideration of impacts of proposed projects to Mauna Kea as a historic property, TCP, and District. Huliauapa'a is honored to be part of this great service to Mauna Kea and will be following the progress of the nomination at the federal level for inclusion in the NRHP.



2023 WAHI KŪPUNA INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Kahalu'u Ma Kai, Kona , Hawai'i



The 14th WKIP cohort, Pūnohumainākini, focused their Wahi Kupuna Stewardship research projects on Kahalu'u Ma Kai, Kona, Hawai'i Island, a place grounded in cultural and historical significance for Hawai'i's leadership. Each of the 6 haumāna in this cohort carried out an original group research project spanning various wahi kūpuna stewardship topics. Through a range of ethnohistorical research, ethnographic interviews, and 'āina field methods, the haumāna gained an intimate pilina to these wahi kūpuna.

PŪNOHUMAINĀKINI is based on the various ho'āilona that we were lucky enough to see in our three weeks at Kahalu'u, Kona. Pūnohu was chosen because of a special pūnohu, or red mist that we saw in our first week on the heiau of Ke'ekū. Kini was chosen because of a 'ūlaleo that voiced the word "kini" to one of our group members. The word kini means descendants or relatives, which is our connection to Kahalu'u because each of us were able to find some connection through our mo'okū'auhau to the beautiful 'āina in which we were able to give back to. It also relates to the chief, Kaluaikonahale Kuakini who was an important resident and later had his bones dried on a house in Kahalu'u. One of the other ways that kini relates to our group is in homage of the many luakini heiau that stand in Kahalu'u. Together, Pūnohumainākini means "May the descendants rise like the mist."



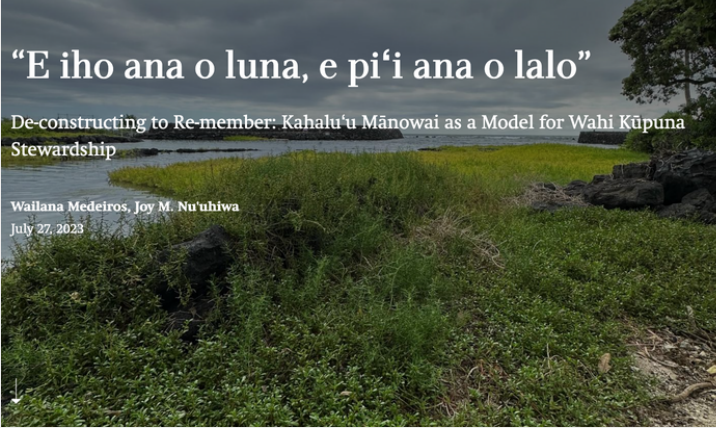
2023 WAHI KŪPUNA INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Kahalu'u Ma Kai, Kona, Hawai'i

“E IHO ANA O LUNA, E PI'I ANA O LALO”

De-constructing to Re-member: Kahalu'u Mānowai as a Model for Wahi Kūpuna Stewardship.

Na Wailana Medeiros and Joy Nu'uhiwa



"E iho ana o luna, e pi'i ana o lalo", a prophecy chant that states that the high will be brought low, and whatever is low will be uplifted. This prophecy was first uttered by the seer Kapihe in relation to the lands of Kona. We see this prophecy continuing to come true in many different ways, and it lives on and is especially clear through the 'āina that is Kahalu'u Mānowai. We aim to use this prophecy as a framework to examine the happenings at this site area, and how it might also transcend this 'āina as well.

NĀ ALI'I A ME NĀ HEIAU O KAHALU'U MĀNOWAI, KONA. Kahalu'u is a culturally rich, chiefly domain that must be preserved for future generations.

Na Hau'olihiwahiwa Moniz and Kalena Okumura



This project focused on ethnohistorical research regarding the history of the heiau at Kahalu'u and the chiefs who utilized these spaces in order to better understand what makes Kahalu'u so unique. Guiding questions for this project included Who are the chiefs that were involved with the heiau at Kahalu'u? Who are the chiefs that lived there? What is the background on the heiau of Kahalu'u Mānowai? What is the connection between ali'i and heiau? What is the legacy of the heiau and ali'i at Kahalu'u Mānowai?

KI'I PŌHAKU O KAHALU'U MĀNOWAI

Documentation of Nā Ki'i Pōhaku

Na Wailana Aquino and Kapika Verdugo



This research endeavored to document ki'i pōhaku through fieldwork methods, computational photo documentation, ethnohistorical research, and community interviews for the purpose of preservation efforts amidst natural elemental conflicts, such as erosion. The goal of this research was to ensure accessibility to these ki'i pōhaku by kūpuna, haumāna, and for future research.

2023 WAHI KŪPUNA INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Kahalu'u Ma Kai, Kona , Hawai'i



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“We hope that our work inspires and supports the descendants of Kahalu'u in their work to restore the ahupua'a.”

- WKIP 2023 HAUMĀNA



WEINBERG FOUNDATION

Thanks to generous support from the Weinberg Foundation, Huliauapa'a worked with an evaluation specialist over the past year to better understand and measure the impact of our professional development internship programs. Our objectives were to identify areas of strength and future growth to evolve and grow our organization so we can continue to serve our learners and communities. The project has resulted in informative data and constructive feedback that will help us better tell our story, and improve our models, methodologies, and outcomes. Immediate impacts include more refined approaches to evaluating our internship and professional development opportunities over the short and long term.

KAHALU'U KŪĀHEWA

This is Huliauapa'a's third year serving as an organizational incubator and fiscal sponsor for **Kahalu'u Kūāhewa** to support developing the capacity and impacts of this growing organization.

Kahalu'u Kūāhewa is one of Kona's largest intact traditional agricultural field systems preserved within a 354-acre area owned by Bishop Estate-Kamehameha Schools. Within the past 20 years, archeological field work has documented at least 3,500 features, of which 98.7% are considered traditional agricultural features. In 2015, we began working to revitalize and restore this traditional system, which is now overtaken by invasive species, such as strawberry guava and Christmas berry. We have fenced in 16-acres of this vast system and have so far cleared five acres, restoring it to serve its initial intention and purpose. Through these restoration efforts we have been able to reintroduce our native crops such as kalo, 'uala, 'ulu, mai'a, kō, 'awa, ipu, uhi, 'ōhi'a 'ai and wauke, as well as other indigenous plants such as kukui, pūhala, māmaki, 'ōlena, 'a'alī'i, ahu'awa and loulou.

Along with cultivating and maintaining these crops and species, we also work to maintain our wahi kūpuna features such as the traditional kuaiwi stone walls, mākālua and other stone features.



Kahalu'u Kūāhewa's vision aims for the revitalization of the wahi kūpuna Kahalu'u Field Systems as a traditional Hawaiian agricultural landscape, and reconnecting kānaka to 'āina. Through indigenous grassroots initiatives and sustainable restorative agricultural practices, they work to perpetuate ancestral knowledge to reinforce these connections. By providing 'āina/placed based learning experiences, they offer a space and opportunity within the community to learn traditional Hawaiian knowledge and practices, and support the efforts to influence more local food productions, and maintain unique biodiversity within the island systems. Throughout the past five years they have been fortunate enough to have served approximately 1000 individuals within their community. They hope to continue to increase these numbers as they expand their presence and grow their resources as a community based nonprofit organization.

Huliauapa'a was selected to be part of the first cohort of the Historic Hawai'i Foundation's NHO Stewardship Program for stewardship planning and training at Kahalu'u Kūāhewa. This 18-month program focuses on building capacity for Native Hawaiian organizations in historic preservation and stewardship and ensuring the preservation of wahi kūpuna and the appropriate documentation and sharing of the stories tied to those places. The main deliverables of this project are to develop a Stewardship Plan Template that can be utilized at both Kahalu'u Kūāhewa and at other wahi kūpuna across the pae 'āina, and to conduct stewardship trainings geared towards supporting increased visitation at Kahalu'u Kūāhewa and recognizing wahi kūpuna stewardship best management practices.

Throughout 2023, Huliauapa'a has worked closely with Kahalu'u Kūāhewa stewards, Jesse Kekoa and Kim Kaho'onei to identify priority action items for both the Stewardship Plan Template and for increased visitation to and stewardship of Kahalu'u Kūāhewa. Huliauapa'a and Kahalu'u Kūāhewa have engaged in stewardship trainings and talk story sessions both together and with other organizations and community members to identify and better understand pathways forward for increased stewardship capacity and what an organization needs to ensure sustained stewardship of a wahi. In doing so, Huliauapa'a and Kahalu'u Kūāhewa have identified important topics necessary for inclusion in the Stewardship Plan Template and continue to strategize wahi kūpuna stewardship best management practices to implement in 2024 community work days at Kahalu'u Kūāhewa.



PAPAHĀNAUMOKUĀKEA CULTURAL WORKING GROUP KĀKO‘O

In partnership with the [Office of Hawaiian Affairs \(OHA\)](#) and the [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration \(NOAA\)](#), for the last year, Huliauapa‘a has had the honor of providing kākō‘o to the Papahānaumokuākea Native Hawaiian Cultural Working Group (CWG) and their kākō‘o/sub-group, Hui Manamana, by maintaining administrative, leadership development, and operations support.

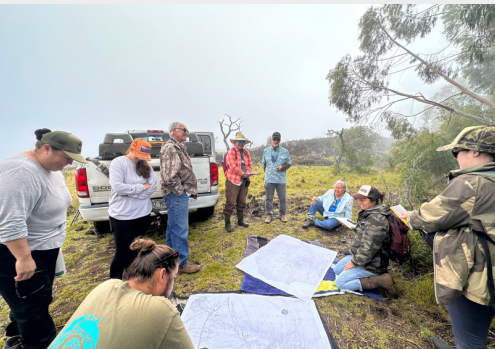


In September, Huliauapa‘a coordinated a 3-day in-person meeting for the CWG that was held at Mokupāpapa Discovery Center in Hilo. Over the course of the three days, Huliauapa‘a facilitated a special governance session for the Hui Manamana with Papahānaumokuākea co-managers, the CWG’s quarterly meeting, and sub-committee meeting, and presented a high-level overview of the ‘Aha Moku System as a potential governance structure that the CWG could adopt to optimize their internal organization and administrative operations. As part of the CWG’s leadership development and operations support, Huliauapa‘a researched, developed, and presented a number of resources to the CWG and Hui Manamana. Huliauapa‘a provided leadership trainings at Hui Manamana meetings that included presentations and opportunities for questions and answers sessions. As part of these leadership trainings, Huliauapa‘a made multiple presentations on different governance structures for the CWG’s consideration and explained how adopting a governance structure might benefit the CWG for organizational purposes and for amplifying the CWG’s voice and role. Huliauapa‘a additionally developed a process for designing and presenting projects for review and approval by the CWG, inclusive of a process for applying for funding.

It is Huliauapa‘a’s hope that our collaborations with the CWG will help grow their capacity so they can continue to work collectively with the many stakeholders involved to mālama Papahānaumokuākea through an ‘ōiwi perspective.

RE-VISITING KA'ŪPŪLEHU WITH THE AHUPUA'A ACCELERATOR INITIATIVE

In support of the **Ka'ūpūlehu 'Ohana** and at the request of the **Ahupua'a Accelerator Initiative** (AAI), Huliauapa'a is fortunate to be teaming up with Uncle Kepa and Aunty Onaona Maly to document a series of 5 huaka'i. The team have been joining a multi-generational hui of Ka'ūpūlehu 'ohana as they huaka'i from mauka to makai, from the pu'u at the Hainoa Summit to the coastal lands of Kalaemanō to re-engage with the Ka'ūpūlehu today. The Maly's have been digging deep into their archives of interviews, research, and reports on Ka'ūpūlehu; recompiling and re-exploring past works to help the 'ohana carry their kupuna's mana'o to help explore novel kaiāulu based management strategies. As Pua'ala of AAI said, you know "common sense stuff to help better care for the places we care about."



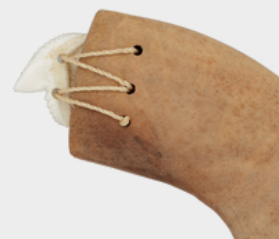
CULTURAL HERITAGE IMAGING



In an effort to help preserve Hawai'i's cultural heritage, and with grant support from National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), Huliauapa'a collaborated with Cultural Heritage Imaging (CHI) providing two 5-day training sessions in **Advanced Imaging and Archiving Skills** in Hilo, Hawai'i. The overarching goal of the program was to create a sustainable community of practice among indigenous people in Hawai'i for photography based documentation of cultural material and sites. The primary techniques to were learned are Documentary Photography, Reflectance Transformation Imaging (RTI) Photogrammetry for producing 3D Models, Workflow that includes producing archival data to allow reuse and longevity of the produced digital representations.



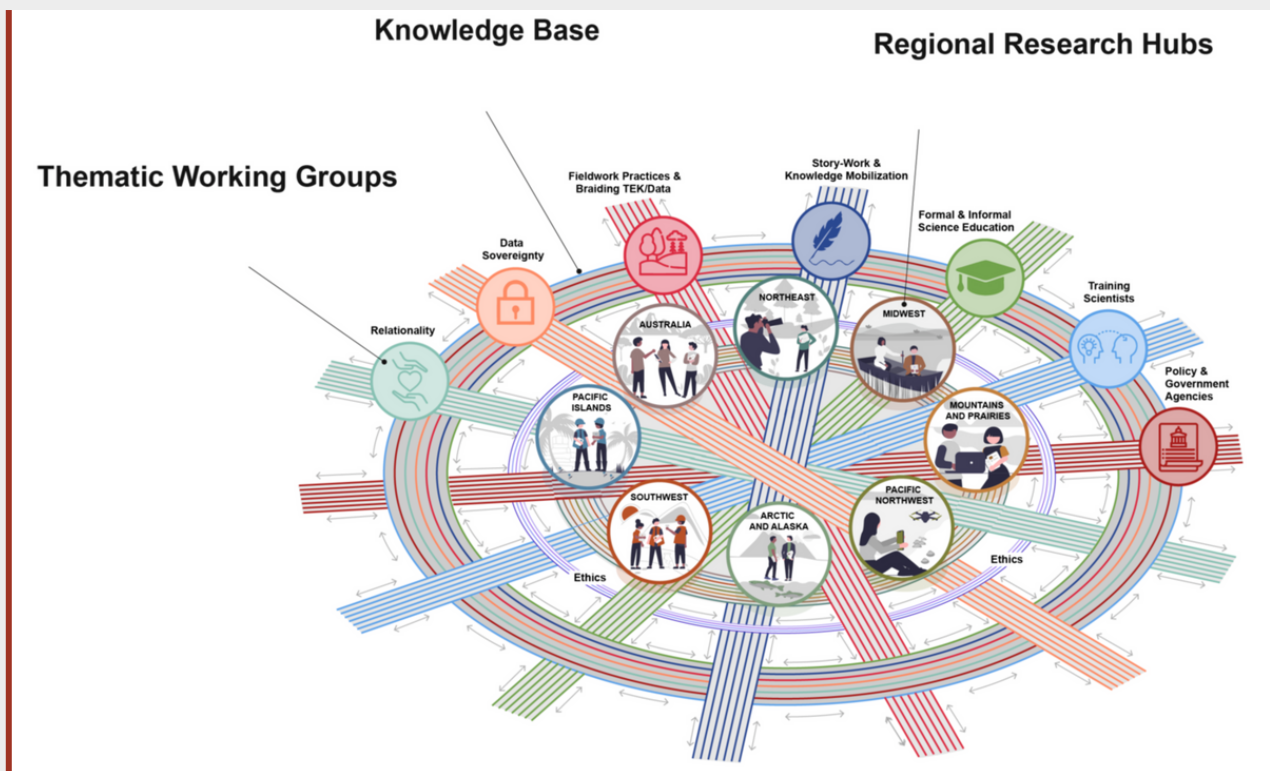
In the first training session, we had 10 participants learn Documentary Photography and Reflectance Transformation Imaging (RTI). Huliauapa'a and some of the participants from this first training session were then able to utilize these new skills and teach Computational Photo Documentation to haumāna in WKIP. The second session also had 10 participants, most of which were returnees from the first training, and focused on Photogrammetry for producing 3D Models also touching on Documentary Photography and Reflectance Transformation Imaging (RTI).





NSF CENTER FOR BRAIDING INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGES AND SCIENCE

In late 2023, Huliauapa'a and the Kali'uokapa'akai Collective embarked on a new long-term partnership with the **National Science Foundation Center for Braiding Indigenous Knowledges and Science (CBIKS)**. Over the next 5 years the Center will focus on complex, evolving challenges brought on by climate change, including dire impacts affecting land, water, plant, and animal life; the danger posed to irreplaceable archaeological sites, sacred places, and cultural heritage; and the challenges of changing food systems, all of which disproportionately affect Indigenous communities. Huliauapa'a is the co-lead of the Pacific Islands Hub along with our partners in Aotearoa, the Matangireia Waka Trust. Other Hub locations include the Northeast, Midwest, Mountains and Prairies, Pacific Northwest, Southwest, Alaska/Arctic, and Australia. The eight regional hubs will use community-based approaches to develop and carry out place-based transdisciplinary projects, braiding Indigenous and Western science methodology in our partnerships with over 57 Indigenous communities.



E PŪ PA‘AKAI KĀKOU

Collective Gatherings

This year, Huliauapa‘a facilitated two gatherings for the Kali‘uokapa‘akai Collective. Our gatherings this year were geared firstly towards building pilina and meaningful engagement with Collective members and secondly to get their valuable mana‘o to ensure that our tactical planning for the Kali‘uokapa‘akai Collective is in alignment with their needs and interests.



Our first gathering was held in February with both in-person and virtual attendance. Due to gathering restrictions, it has been a few years since most of us have had the opportunity to come together to connect and share space. Accordingly, the overall purpose of this first hālāwai was to reconnect and build pilina. To get a better understanding of what Kali‘uokapa‘akai Collective members would like to see for the Collective, group discussions at this meeting focused on topics such as identifying skills trainings and workshops that the Collective could provide to its members to support their individual kuleana in wahi kūpuna stewardship, what topics are important to discuss as a Collective, and long and short term goals for the Collective. Those of us who attended in-person ended our time together at Ka Papa Lo‘i o Kānewai around the kānoa where we enjoyed ‘awa, fellowship, and laughs.

The second gathering was held in May via zoom. The purpose of this hālāwai was to continue to build pilina between Collective members and to workshop focus areas on Kali‘uokapa‘akai Collective initiatives: the Kali‘uokapa‘akai Collective Members’ Handbook, an external guidance document, and the Wahi Kūpuna Stewardship Summit. Attendees discussed the Collective’s living values and how they uphold those values in their individual work; what information would be helpful to include in the Kali‘uokapa‘akai Collective Members’ Handbook and external guidance document; and what potential topics they’d like to see discussed at the Summit.



KALI'UOKAPA'AKAI COLLECTIVE LĀ KAIĀULU



Mauliola Ke'ehi

This year, the Kali'uokapa'akai Collective partnered with communities and organizations on Hawai'i Island, O'ahu, and Kaua'i to host lā kaiāulu (community work days). We invited the Collective, community members, and wahi kūpuna stewards to join us for a day of learning about the Collective and mālama 'āina. Mahalo nui to the organizations and wahi kūpuna stewards who hosted us this year; Mauliola Ke'ehi, Hui Maka'āinana o Makana, and Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail at Kīholo - Puako!



Hui Maka'āinana o Makana



Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail at Kīholo - Puako

‘AHA KUAPAPA & PAPA KĀHEKA

Huliauapa‘a and the Kali‘uokapa‘akai Collective would like to mahalo our Collective ‘Aha Kuapapa (ad hoc steering committee) and Papa Kāheka (kūpuna council) for their valuable time, support, and ‘ike shared this year! ‘Aha Kuapapa and Papa Kāheka members met bi-monthly this year and we are honored to have had their time, support, and guidance for our Collective initiatives.

Piha me ka mahalo

‘Aha Kuapapa:

Kekuewa Kikiloi, Kelley Uyeoka,
Dominique Cordy, Rachel Hoerman, Kaleo
Manuel, Jason Jeremiah, Kepo‘o
Keli‘ipa‘akaua, Kēhaulani Kupihea, Malia
Akutagawa, Halealoha Ayau.

Papa Kāheka:

Kepā and Onaona Maly, Kaleo Paik,
Hannah Springer, Shad Kane, Davianna
Mcgregor and Luciano Minerbi

Amongst his many roles, ‘Anakala Fred Cachola served on our Kali‘uokapa‘akai Collective Papa Kāheka. We would like to honor his profound dedication to protecting wahi kūpuna throughout the pae ‘āina and willingness to share his valuable time and ‘ike with the next generation of wahi kūpuna stewards.

“Wahi kupuna stewardship means protecting and preserving exactly who we are as people - as Hawaiians, as Kānaka Maoli.”

- Fred Keakaokalani Cachola



WAHI KŪPUNA STEWARDSHIP SUMMIT 2024

The **2024 Wahi Kūpuna Stewardship Summit** will be held **February 15-17, 2024**, at the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, O'ahu. As a community of practice, we are dedicated to preserving and perpetuating Hawai'i's rich cultural history, practices, and resources in our work at our respective organizations, institutions, and 'āina. Thus, it is important that we continue to pull our minds, resources, and actions together to make a greater collective impact in stewarding our wahi kūpuna.

This Summit will provide an encouraging space for an interchange of collaborative discussion and an opportunity to share resources and knowledge necessary to safeguard our wahi kūpuna. The event will include thought leader panels, facilitated discussions, and design thinking strategies for direct action.



BERNICE PAUHI BISHOP MUSEUM NAGPRA WORKSHOP

As part of our partnership with Bishop Museum to host the Wahi Kūpuna Stewardship Summit, Huliauapa'a organized a NAGPRA workshop. This workshop was held in November as a precursor to the Summit where many of the topics and issues discussed at the workshop will be further expanded on in panel presentations and discussions. The workshop centered on the Museum's obligations under NAGPRA and how the Museum can better their NAGPRA-related operations, including ethical returns and repatriation, to move past longstanding

NAGPRA issues. The goal of this workshop was to increase Bishop Museum's transparent sharing about NAGPRA and gain critical feedback and recommendations to incorporate into the Museum's developing best practices and procedures. Huliauapa'a organized the workshop to be an intimate, open discussion between Bishop Museum and their identified stakeholders and thought leaders in NAGPRA to facilitate open and honest dialogue where attendees could share their candid feedback and recommendations.

he wahi leo MAHALO

From our 'ohana to yours, we would like to extend our aloha and mahalo to you all. To our board members; **Kekuewa Kikiloi**, **Kathy Kawelu**, and **Tiffnie Kakalia**, funders, supporters, community partners, 'ohana, and friends, we mahalo each of you for your continued support and commitment to the protection and care of our wahi kūpuna.

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End of the Year
Donation

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