



# Hula Preservation Society

VOLUME 3 • ISSUE 1 • FALL 2005

## Aloha from HPS

Aloha from beautiful Kāne`ohe! In the following pages, we hope to give you a glimpse of the many activities that Hula Preservation Society has been engaged in throughout the past year. In addition to the 150 hours of video shot thus far in 2005, we also presented numerous public panel discussions, and documented many events special to our kūpuna.

And the year is far from over! In November, Uncle Kent Ghirard and his Hula Nani Girls will be performing with Aunty Myrtle K. Hilo at the Lunalilo Home on O`ahu. In Kona, HPS will be presenting 2 films and a panel discussion in honor of the late Kumu Hula `Iolani Luahine as part of a day-long celebration. Panelists will include Uncle George Nā`ope, Aunties Queenie Dowsett and Hilda Keanaina, and filmmaker Tip Davis.

As leaders of HPS, we are humbled to honor our kūpuna - those who represent our link to the past and help ground the future of hula for us all. On page 2, you can see a current list of the elders we have been privileged to work with thus far, and we explain why this work is so important.

None of this would be possible without the continued generosity of our supporters. As you read our news, please consider making a contribution to our Annual Giving Campaign. For those of you who have already done so, mahalo nui loa!

Aloha and Enjoy,

Mamie Lawrence Gallagher & Maile Beamer Loo

## Hula People Celebrate Uncle George Holokai

2005 has been a great year for paying homage to one of hula's most humble masters, Uncle George Holokai, who turned 75 this summer. In recent years, he has opened a "Kumu Class" so teachers could learn from his hula collection and share with their hālau.

In June, Uncle's Kumu honored him at the King Kamehameha Hula Competition. The lucky audience was treated to Uncle's kolohe version of "Maunaloa." Then in July, his students, led by niece Aukele, organized a surprise birthday bash at the Ilikai where they shared a series of Uncle's previously unseen sacred hula kahiko. Thanks to the insight of Uncle's Kumu haumana, they made sure HPS documented these events to add to his growing hula archive as another way the Holokai Hula Legacy may live on.



Above: Uncle George at his birthday bash in July surrounded by haumana and family.

# HPS Mission

## **NĀ KUMU HULA:** (with HPS as of 10/05)

*Nona Desha Beamer*

*Dorothy Johnston Beyer*

*Kahili Long Cummings*

*Lorraine Joshua Daniel*

*George Kananiokeakua Holokai*

*Hilda Akahane Keanaina*

*Mae Kamamalu Klein*

*Blossom Joshua Kunewa*

*Gordean Leilehua Lee Bailey*

*Joan Sniffen Lindsey*

*Edith Kawelohea McKinzie*

*George Lanakilakeikiahiali`i Na`ope*

*Minerva Malakaua Higa Pang*

*The late Pulu`elo Naipo Park*

## **NĀ PUA O NĀ LOEA HULA:**

*Rhea Enos Akoi*

*Edna Farden Bekeart*

*Gladys Joshua Brash*

*Pauline Wessel Chillingworth*

*Lei Desha Becker Furtado*

*Kent Kekaniholea Ghirard & "Hula Nani Girls"*

*Myrtle Kahea Hilo*

*Betsy Jhun Hinau*

*Emma Stone Kauhi*

*Elizabeth Ho`opi`i Lee Loy*

*Irene Wakinekona Lum Ho*

*Martha Medeiros*

*Helie Koehnen Rohner*

*Kamakanoenoe Hapai Sagote*

*Kenneth Nohealani Sharpe*

*Marge Murray Sumner*

*Queenie Ventura Dowsett*

*Laua`e Maluo Yung*

## About HPS

The Hula Preservation Society is a Native Hawaiian educational not-for-profit organization dedicated to preserving and providing access to the oral histories of our senior-most hula elders. The kūpuna we work with fall within two general categories:

**Nā Kumu Hula** ~ Many of the kūpuna we work with are Kumu Hula who collectively embody commitment to perpetuating our Hawaiian culture. As they all are in their 70s, 80s, and 90s, they are men and women who devoted their lives to hula when it was difficult to do so. Trained traditionally but needing to make a living in a changing Hawai`i, they successfully carried on ancient traditions by weaving them into their daily work through their own Hula Studios and entertaining the increasing numbers of visitors and military to the islands. Most importantly though, they have given their lives to teaching hula to hundreds and thousands of us. For that gift, we are all forever indebted.

**Nā Pua O Nā Loea Hula** ~ Another group of kūpuna that HPS has been privileged to come to know, are elders whose lives have involved hula in significant ways. Some were born of hula and music families, shaping their upbringing, and grounding their cultural knowledge. Others studied with hula masters no longer with us and have vivid memories of those experiences. Some became accomplished solo dancers and Hollywood film stars, while still others became skilled in unique hula forms, such as comic hula. This group of capable and varied practitioners gives us a broader perspective of the many ways that hula was taught and shared within families, in small remote communities, between islands, and beyond the island chain. Most notably, all were trained and mentored by our hula greats, such as `Iolani Luahine, Emma Sharpe, Rose Kuamo`o, Helen Desha Beamer, and Mary Kawena Puku`i, just to name a few.

HPS meets with kūpuna one-on-one to digitally document their respective life stories. The footage gathered is then processed and analyzed so that it may be shared via learning resources such as an online Hula Kahiko Research Library. In 2002, HPS developed a prototype to demonstrate the potential of this technology to share the precious voices of our giving elders (still accessible at [www.hulapreservation.org](http://www.hulapreservation.org) - click on "Hula Library"). Due to our need to focus on spending time with our elders while they are still with us, the prototype is relatively unchanged since 2002, but the promise is there for the future. Imagine the possibilities!

*"HONORING THE PAST, GROUNDING THE FUTURE"*

# Core Programs



*Above: Uncle George & Auntie Queenie remember Auntie 'Io with love and humorous affection.*

## Voices of Our Kupuna: Now

HPS aims to share the voices of our kūpuna with the Hawai'i public through 2 public panel discussions each year. By year's end we will have exceeded our goal, presenting 6 different panels in 2005. In April, Aunties Nona Beamer and Queenie Dowsett and Uncle George Na'ope shared an evening talk-story with the gracious folks of Hawai'i Island at Maunalani Resort's monthly "Twilight at Kalāhuipua'a" program.

In July, HPS produced 4 programs and documented an additional 4 featuring our kūpuna at Ka`Aha Hula O Hālaauola, the 2nd World Hula Conference on Maui. These included: **Voices of Our Kūpuna:** Aunties Nona Beamer and Kahili Cummings & Uncle George Na'ope; **Nuances of Storytelling:** Auntie Nona Beamer; **A Tribute to 'Iolani Luahine:** Uncle George Na'ope & Auntie Queenie Dowsett with filmmaker Tip Davis; and **The Legacy of George Holokai:** Uncle George Holokai with students Puakea Nogelmeier and Rich Pedrina.

In late November, we head to Kona to honor Auntie 'Io on her home island at the He Lei Hiwa No 'Iolani Luahine Festival. We are excited that Auntie 'Io's alaka'i, Kumu Hula Auntie Hilda Keanaina, will join the panelists for this tribute.

## Voices of Our Kupuna: Forever

HPS's core work revolves around honoring the lives and work of our elders by gathering their stories using digital technology. We work with each elder one-on-one, to document their unique lives in hula. As our relationship grows, we begin documenting their special events and sometimes they invite us to their wahi pana, or sacred places.

*Right: Auntie Kahili Long Cummings demonstrates lei-making with palapalai as her mother, Ida Long, taught her. HPS Videographer Gene Kois looks on.*

*Below: Auntie Gordean Lee Bailey speaks of her special times with Auntie Maiki Aiu Lake in her hālau in Kula, Maui.*



*Right: Auntie Nona Beamer takes HPS's Gene Kois and Maile Loo to her family home in Nāpo'opo'o.*



*Above: Auntie Minerva Pang takes HPS to Ka'ū and tells stories of her childhood growing up in Honu'apo.*



# HPS Annual Giving

## HPS Annual Giving

We are pleased to report gifts given through October 31, 2005. Mahalo to all of you supporters who believe that preserving the voices of our kūpuna is indeed important for the future of Hawai'i!

### **‘Ili‘Ili - water-worn pebbles (\$5,000 or more)**

Cooke Foundation, Ltd.  
Harold K. L. Castle Foundation  
James & Abigail K. Campbell Foundation  
National Endowment for the Arts  
National Park Service, Historic Preservation Fund  
Office of Hawaiian Affairs  
Wallace Alexander Gerbode Foundation

### **Ipu - hollowed gourd (\$2,500 - \$4,999)**

Kamehameha Schools

### **‘Ulī‘Ulī - feathered rattle (\$1,000 - \$2,499)**

Atherton Family Foundation  
Doug & Sue Gallagher  
Robert & Cherry Anne Sutherland

### **Pū‘ili - split bamboo (\$500 - \$999)**

*In Memory of Mrs. Ellen S. Yamamoto*  
Jon & Sharon Kobayashi  
Frank & Alicia Yamamoto  
Mr. & Mrs. David Twigg-Smith  
Hālau Hula Wehiwehi O Leilehua

### **Kāla‘au - hand sticks (\$100 - \$499)**

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Patty Kealohalani Wright  
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World Invitational Hula Festival

### **Kā‘eke‘eke - bamboo pipes (up to \$99)**

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Eric & Deborah Calyo  
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Sharon Kaiser & Elmer Botsai  
Hula Nani Alberta Kaloi-Reyes  
Mr. & Mrs. John Katahira  
Joseph Kingston  
Kupuna Kumu Hula Blossom Joshua Kunewa

# Report 2004-2005

## HPS Annual Giving Continued ...

Laurie LaFleur  
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 Lee Kahale Yamashita  
 B.B. Van Zwalenburg  
 HEI Charitable Foundation  
 Western Union Foundation

### In-Kind Support

#### *Time, Professional Services, Furniture, Facilities, Equipment*

Anonymous  
 Sugandha Black  
 DeSoto Brown, Bishop Museum  
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 Uncle Jamie Dowsett  
 Malia Gibson  
 Lucy `Alana Gospodnetich  
 Sally Hill  
 Jocelyn Mikioi Inouye  
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 Iwalani Kalima  
 Joshua Kanaka`ole  
 Sarah Keahi  
 Gene Kois, Specific Video  
 David & Cindy Lawrence  
 Maile Loo, TEKnowledgeY Design

Kilikina Mahi  
 Aunty Winnie Wong Naihe  
 Hoapili Na`ope  
 Konrad Ng, Honolulu Academy of Arts  
 Pa`ahana  
 Rich Pedrina  
 Rich Shipley  
 Jason Toth, NetEnterprise  
 The David & Benedict Twigg-Smith Family  
 Jesse Ikaikamanuokalani Young  
 Janet Zisk, Kamehameha Schools

*Right:  
 Auntie Joanie  
 Lindsey in a  
 one-on-one  
 interview at  
 her home in  
 Pearl City.*



## Make a gift to HPS Today

This year, we hope to raise \$15,000 to support our ongoing operations. This will enable us to continue documenting the culturally rich histories of our elders for future generations. Please consider making your gift today.

*Simply detach and mail ...*

**Mahalo**

### Hula Preservation Society Annual Giving Campaign 2005-2006

- My/Our gift to the HPS Annual Giving Campaign is \$\_\_\_\_\_. Full payment is enclosed.  
 I/We pledge \$\_\_\_\_\_. Enclosed is partial payment of \$\_\_\_\_\_. Balance due 6/1/06.  
 My/Our company has a Matching Gifts Program. The Matching Gifts form is enclosed.  
 I/We wish to include HPS in my/our estate plans.



#### HPS Giving Levels

- 'Ili 'Ili (\$5,000 +)  
 Ipu (\$2,500 - \$4,999)  
 'Uli 'Uli (\$1,000 - \$2,499)  
 Pū'ili (\$500 - \$999)  
 Kāla'au (\$100 - \$499)  
 Kā'eke'eke (up to \$99)

NAME (as you wish it to appear in our Giving Report.) Please print.

ADDRESS

EMAIL

# Hō'ōmau

HPS's 2005 Board  
Mamie Lawrence Gallagher, President  
Malia Gibson, Vice-President  
Kahale Yamashita, Treasurer

## How You Can Help

### HPS Contact Information:

Hula Preservation Society  
P.O. Box 6274  
Kāne`ohe, HI 96744  
(808) 247-9440 / hulapres@hula.net

\* **As an Individual** ~ Please refer to our Giving Report. All contributions are 100% tax deductible and can be made online via paypal (at [www.hulapreservation.org](http://www.hulapreservation.org)) or by mail.

\* **As a Hālau** ~ Regular donations from hālau do much to help preserve and perpetuate the voices of our kūpuna.

\* **As a Volunteer** ~ If you are on the island of O`ahu with some time to spare, please call/email to see how you may assist in our Office & Archive Center.

\* **In-Kind Support** ~ Furniture, equipment, professional services, etc. all help! Please call/email if you have something to share.



*This year has been a terrific one for Uncle Kent Ghirard. His good health has allowed him to get a few of his 1950s Hula Nani "girls" back in training to perform once again. This photo was taken when they went to Lunalilo Home with special guest Aunty Myrtle K. Hilo in July. Hula Nani's left to right: Winnie Wong Naihe, Bernie Jay, Pat Hew Ching, Frances Panana Tam, Mae Lima Parish, and Beckley Pang Stanford.*



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