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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HULA PRESERVATION SOCIETY RECOGNIZED FOR OUTSTANDING CULTURAL PRESERVATION WORK

Kāne`ohe, Hawai`i – March 13, 2008 – Hula Preservation Society (HPS) has garnered local and national recognition for its outstanding cultural preservation work and crucial community contributions. Agencies supporting the work of HPS include the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Hawai`i Tourism Authority's Kūkulu Ola Living Hawaiian Culture Program, National Parks Service, Hawai`i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, Friends of Hawai`i Charities, McInerny Foundation, Entrepreneur's Foundation of Hawai`i, Hawai`i Community Foundation, and the Baldwin Memorial Fund. In addition, HPS was presented with the Kāhili Award in HTA's "Keep It Hawai`i" program in 2007.

HPS's work centers around preserving the life stories of today's hula elders who represent our last living link to the time of the Hawaiian Kingdom, helping ensure that their mana`o, `ike, Hawaiian ways of life, historical knowledge, and traditional values will be transmitted to generations yet unborn. The support of OHA, the Entrepreneur's Foundation of Hawai`i, and the Living Hawaiian Culture Program in particular are assisting HPS in developing and sharing new educational resources based on the oral histories of these hula elders of Hawai`i. These materials will be accessible via www.hulapreservation.org, hosted by Net Enterprise, Inc.

HPS was established in 2000 and is the only non-profit entirely dedicated to such work. To date, HPS has worked with over forty treasured elders throughout the islands, and through the generous support of the above-listed agencies and individual donors, HPS will be able to widen the circle of hula kūpuna it works with and expand its ability to share their important stories and wisdom with our global hula community and lovers of Hawai`i.

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For more information on HPS, please call, email, or visit us at www.hulapreservation.org.

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