

Hālau of 'Ōiwi Art

FAQ

May 2022

What is Hālau of 'Ōiwi Art (H.O.A.)?

The Hālau of 'Ōiwi Art will be dedicated to and inspired by the study, practice, celebration and perpetuation of Hula and the varied 'Ōiwi arts for which Hula serves as the nexus. Hālau of 'Ōiwi Art is a collaborative effort between diverse groups of Maui hālau hula representing the breadth of Hula Lineages with the support of the County of Maui. It will be a Hawaiian cultural center for our community and the world, advancing the culture of the Hawaiian people through education, classes, workshops, exhibits, activities and events, serving as the first of its kind and the largest investment by any county or the state to create a permanent place for Hula and the associated arts.

How will you address any potential finds on the parcel?

Prior to Christianization and modernization, the maka'āinana (common people) of heavily populated areas routinely buried their relatives on family parcels instead of transporting the deceased to centralized locations as is now done with modern-day cemeteries. Even though the project site is historically attested in Māhele documents as taro land, there is a possibility that unmarked burials could be discovered upon the subject parcel. Therefore, the Department and partnering Kumu Hula are anticipating an approach that is as proactive and as cautious as possible. This includes:

- 1. Utilizing ground penetrating radar (GPR) to non-intrusively investigate the entire area prior to finalizing building plans;*
- 2. Completing an Archaeological Inventory survey to investigate any anomalies identified through the GPR; and,*
- 3. Incorporating design adjustments and accommodations prior to construction*
- 4. Collaborating with the Kumu Hula Steering Committee members (several of whom have lineal connections to the ahupua'a of Wailuku and/or the 'ilikū of Pe'epe'e) who are developing a plan of action and protocols should iwi be discovered.*

How much funding is being requested? From what source?

The County of Maui has requested \$43 million in General Obligation Bond Funding in fiscal year 2023 and seek \$11 million in federal and other funding sources.

Why try to complete the project in one phase instead of multiple phases over time?

The project has been completed in phases when the project site was originally proposed to house the Wailuku Civic Complex and the parking garage.

The Wailuku Civic Complex included the incorporation of county office spaces, a public market and an event facility. While the planning, design, utility upgrades and property acquisitions for this phase was funded in FY16 -FY18, construction not funded in fiscal year FY19. Maui County Council instead selected to move forward funding the parking garage and infrastructure improvements, currently under construction. FY23 funds will be utilized to adjust the building design, redo the EA, develop construction plans and fund construction.

While contracts would be encumbered during the FY23 CIP cycle, it is expected that that project construction will be a multi-year effort. The full construction budget is needed up front to encumber a

complete contract because Hawaii procurement law prohibits the County from contracting for services that are not yet funded.

What have you done to encourage community awareness and input?

- Media (general listing – additional resources on website)
 - <https://mauinow.com/2022/02/08/center-for-hula-and-associated-arts-proposed-in-wailuku-arts-district-on-maui/>
 - <https://mauinow.com/2022/04/09/hula-advocates-urge-full-support-for-maui-proposed-halau-of-%CA%BBoiwi-art/>
 - <https://mauinow.com/2022/05/21/open-house-showcases-plans-for-proposed-halau-of-%CA%BBoiwi-art-in-wailuku-maui/>
 - <https://www.mauinews.com/news/local-news/2022/02/center-to-showcase-hula-and-related-arts-planned/>
 - <https://kawaiola.news/trustees/maui-proposed-halau-of-oiwi-art/>
 - <https://kawaiola.news/moomeheu/halau-of-%CA%BBoiwi-art-he-hoa-no-ke-kaiaulu/>
 - HOA was mentioned during the 3 nights of Merrie Monarch's K5 broadcast in the online chat hosted by Pueo & MAH 2010 Mahealani Mika Solem-Hirao;
 - Articles about HOA by OHA Chair Carmen Hulu Lindsey and Pueo appeared in this month's Ka Wai Ola publication (nearly 52,000 subscribers, 5,000+ in Maui County);
 - HOA was mentioned in the May international publication of "Dance Teacher Magazine" (676,000 web subscribers)
- Social Media
 - IG: HOA_Maui
 - FB: hoamaui
- Web: www.hoamaui.com
- Open House: Friday, May 20th (4:30PM – 6:30PM at Maui Promenade)

I am not a member of a Hālau, how would a facility like this benefit and serve our entire Maui Nui community?

The Maui Kumu Hula selected to be represented by a non-profit partner, Kauahea Inc. to assist with developing a programming plan. Initial analysis has indicated that the facility space will be available for other uses during the following times:

Studio Spaces
Monday – Friday
6:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Learning Spaces
Daily
8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Workshop Space
Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Event Space
Daily

8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

If this project is funded, Kauahea will continue to program the facility in coordination with the Maui Nui community.

How does this facility reflect the history of this place?

This parcel has been continuously used since at least the late 1840s when the man Kawahinekuapu'u cultivated it for kalo. By the early 1900s, the site where Hālau of 'Ōiwi Art will stand was the home to the Japanese Church that would eventually relocate in the 1930s and become the 'Īao United Church of Christ. Also on the same lot were several other buildings including 2 tenements.

The historic King Theater was soon constructed on the same site, and opened in 1936 (it had a 6ft-deep basement). By 1964, most of the structures were condemned and leveled, and became a parking lot. In 1980, the King Theater was also demolished, its basement backfilled.. When the County purchased the property in August of 2018 it was vacant.

Going back to Wailuku prior to the arrival of foreigners, the mō'ī (soverign, seat of the ali'i) was here in Wailuku. The finest in all types of art, from chanters, hula, orators, kapa, weaving, etc would be accumulated in this Wailuku area. The pinnacle of art at the time would be there in Wailuku. When the missionaries and sugar plantations came in Wailuku was the place where Edward Bailey painted his famous landscapes and where the stores of old Wailuku Town sold best fashion, art and furniture offered on Maui at the time. It was a theater district then and continues to be to this day. This moment and this project is about local people with pilina (connection) to the community being able to create art that melds contemporary times with local values and traditional arts.

We hope this facility will continue to serve as a place for community gathering, art showcases, education, preservation of culture and history, and performance.

Who was invited to the Open House on May, 20th?

If you are a Wailuku merchant (52), or if you follow the Office of Economic Development (1,200) you were invited. If you are subscribed to the Small Town Big Art, WailukuLive, WailukuTown or HOA websites/social media feeds, you were invited (6,355 followers). If you read County of Maui press releases, you were invited (34,343 followers). If you get your news from The Maui News or Maui Now, you were invited (302,990 followers).


55 attendees signed-in not including County staff or consultants.




HULA IS THE INSPIRATION AND MOTIVATION FOR THIS HAWAIIAN CULTURAL CENTER


Hālau of 'Ōiwi Art located at Pe'epe'e in Wailuku, Maui, on the corner of Vineyard Street and Church Street.

1843 MĀHELE RECORDS SHOW KŪIHELANI AS KOHOHIKI OF AREA AND AWARDS "KALO LANDS IN THE ILI OF PE'EP'E" TO KAWAHINEKUAPUU

1882  M.D. MONSARRAT MAP (AWARDEE LISTED AS WAHINEKUAPUU AND PO'ALIMA LO'I KALO MARKED "LUNALILO")

1909 JAPANESE CHRISTIAN CHURCH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL CONSTRUCTED


1914  SANBORN MAP (JAPANESE CHURCH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL)

1927  SANBORN MAP (JAPANESE CHURCH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL)


1936 KING THEATER BEGINS OPERATION

1937 WAILUKU SUGAR MAP NOTES PE'EP'E ON AREA MAP AND LISTS WAHINEKUAPUU AS AWARDEE IN LCA 2459:2

..... KALUA AVENUE RENAMED TO PILI STREET


1950  SANBORN MAP (MOVING PICTURES AND SURROUNDING BUSINESSES/STURCTURES)

1964 PREVIOUS STRUCTURES CONDEMNED AND CLEARED & MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT CONSTRUCTED

1975  SANBORN MAP (KING THEATER MOVING PICTURES AND MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT)

1980 SANBORN MAP (LARGELY THE SAME AS 1975 MAP)

..... KING THEATRE DEMOLISHED AND ASSOCIATED BASEMENT INFILLED LEAVING A VACANT SITE

1990  SANBORN MAP (VACANT SITE AND MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT)

2022 HĀLAU OF 'ŌIWI ART PROPOSED AT PE'EP'E