May 31, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President of the United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

We are a coalition of Indigenous Peoples from throughout Moananuiākea, the vast Pacific, who are brought together by a love for the ocean that connects and sustains us. We write to ask that you protect our precious ocean and way of life by expanding and renaming the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument through the powers granted to your office under the Antiquities Act of 1906.

This expansion would be an important continuation of a bipartisan effort to protect our ocean. President George W. Bush established the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument through Presidential Proclamation on January 6, 2009, to protect and preserve the marine environment around Wake, Baker, Howland, and Jarvis Islands, Johnston and Palmyra Atolls, and Kingman Reef. The monument originally extended 50 nautical miles around each site for a total of 83,000 square miles. On September 25, 2014, President Barack Obama expanded the monument’s boundaries around Wake Island, Jarvis Island, and Johnston Atoll to 200 nautical miles, the edge of the United States’ Exclusive Economic Zone, creating a monument totaling 495,189 square miles. Many signatories to this letter advocated for expanded protection of the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument in 2014.

We respectfully urge you to continue this bipartisan tradition of conservation by expanding the monument boundaries around Howland and Baker Islands, Palmyra Atoll, and Kingman Reef to 200 nautical miles, from the current 50 nautical miles of protection. This will expand the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument to its fullest geographic potential, approximately 755,000 square miles, making the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument the largest highly-protected marine protected area in the world.

The proposed expansion area sustains a diversity of species found nowhere else in the world and is home to healthy and abundant populations of wildlife including coral, fish, sharks, turtles, rays, whales, dolphins, and invertebrates that are critically endangered, endangered, or threatened. Expansion will provide protection to 98 additional seamounts, which are ecological
hotspots for biodiversity. Expanding the monument will also ensure these vulnerable populations remain healthy and resilient to the impacts of climate change. Additionally, because of the strong connectivity between open ocean, nearshore, and terrestrial systems, expanding the monument will better preserve the overall health of the ecosystems and resources within the existing areas of the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument.

Along with expanding the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument, we ask that you honor its unique history and cultural significance with a new name. As Pacific Islanders, we believe that place names are an important way to preserve information about an area’s geology, its history, the natural and supernatural phenomenon specific to it, or its uses by gods and men. We are therefore excited about your administration’s commitment to create a working group or commission to evaluate naming practices for marine national monuments and national marine sanctuaries, with a particular emphasis on the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument. We urge you to ensure Pacific Islanders are engaged in the process to give this area a name that better reflects its identity, individuality, and importance.

In ancient times, the islands, atolls, and reefs within the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument were a part of the rich history of voyaging throughout Oceania. In the twentieth century, the islands of Jarvis, Howland, and Baker were the location of notable bravery and sacrifice by more than 130 mostly Native Hawaiian young men, known as the Hui Panalāʻau, who voluntarily occupied the islands from 1935 to 1942 to help secure America’s territorial claim over the islands. Today, the monument and its surrounding waters have the potential to become a premier education site for Pacific Islander voyaging and unite people throughout Oceania who have ties to this special place.

Mr. President, we applaud the leadership demonstrated by the United States at the seventh Our Ocean Conference and the commitments made thereafter to protect our ocean’s health and security. We thank you for your commitment to protect our oceans for future generations and consideration of our request to expand and rename the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument. We invite you and members of your administration to visit our Pacific Islands so that you may learn about our vision and this once in a generation opportunity to take bold action for the health, well-being, and prosperity of our people and planet. We look forward to discussing these matters with you and your staff in the coming months.

Sincerely,

Archie Kalepa (Maui)  Carlotta A. Leon Guerrero (Guam)  Dane Uluwehiokalani Maxwell (Maui)
Ekolu Lindsey (Maui)  Guy Hanohano Naehu (Moloka‘i)  Hannah Kihalani Springer (Hawai‘i)
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May 27, 2022

President Joe Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC. 20500

Dear President Biden,

Bishop Museum, located in Honolulu, is the premier natural and cultural history institution in the Pacific, recognized throughout the world for its research, collections and public programs. Perpetuating the natural and cultural heritage of Hawai‘i and the Pacific is central to our Museum’s mission, and its collections, together with their associated data serve as a deep-time resource of both biological and ancestral knowledge.

Sitting at the center of the Pacific and actively engaged in work across the ocean, we are acutely aware of the global crisis posed by climate change, massive biodiversity loss and ecosystems under stress. Expanding the boundaries of the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument/PRIMNM will help to protect the threatened, endangered and critically endangered species that inhabit unprotected areas of the ocean. Our lives depend on the health of our oceans, and our oceans’ health is dependent on the security and maintenance of biodiversity and functioning ecosystems. We need to act now to protect our future.

Bishop Museum is in support of expanding the boundaries of the PRIMNM to include Howland Island and Baker Island, Kingman Reef and Palmyra Atoll out to 200 nautical miles, the full extent of the United States Exclusive Economic Zone.

Thank you for your leadership and addressing the stressors we face as a global community.

Aloha,

Melanie Y. Ide
President & Chief Executive Officer
Bishop Museum
May 25, 2022

President Joe Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden,

I have been working for the protection and perpetuation of the Hawaiian Monk Seal species for nearly two decades. Our organization started out as a volunteer program in 2006 and grew over the years to nearly 200 volunteers. We did everything from teach in the school’s pre-K through high school to rescue, surgery, & rehab of sick or injured animals. Our organization was responsible for changing Hawaii State Laws from a misdemeanor to a Class C felony for anyone harming or killing a Hawaiian Monk Seal.

Habitats in the Main Hawaiian Islands have always been challenged and we have a very small population of monk seals in the human inhabited MHI. The perpetuation of the species and the survival of this critically endangered animal I fear will rely solely on any habitat that can be protected from overfishing and mankind. It has been said that the Hawaiian Monk Seal is the canary of the sea. I truly believe that. We saw and experienced some of the positive side effects of COVID here in Hawaii. The ocean was in a renewal stage and monk seals were hauling out in places never visited before. Fish and wildlife returned to the reefs in a very short period and the water cleared up like we were in a private aquarium. The monk seals tended to thrive in that environment without humans constantly interfering. Their existence is imperative to the balance (pono) of the ocean and the feats that these creatures accomplish by being on this planet and in our oceans need to be protected with extended habitats. Our eco system is fragile in these islands and each creature plays an intricate part in the health of the sea.

My organization would like to ask for your support in the expansion of the boundaries of the PRIMNM to include Howland Island and Baker Island, Kingman Reef and Palmyra Atoll out to 200 nautical miles, the full extent of the United States Exclusive Economic Zone. This expansion would help to ensure that this species survives with its Hawaiian brothers and sisters. The USA would be able to be in front of the World in creating a fresh perspective and respect for the people and animals of the Pacific and restore pono (balance) to the islands and atolls of PRIMNM.

Respectfully with Aloha,

Dana Jones
Executive Director
Hawaiian Monk Seal Preservation Ohana
808-393-5043
May 22, 2022
President Joseph R. Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC  20500

RE: STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE EXPANSION & RENAMING OF THE PACIFIC REMOTE ISLANDS MARINE NATIONAL MONUMENT

Aloha pumehana, e President Biden,

Huamakahikina is a coalition of Kumu Hula (traditionally trained Hula teachers), open to all Kumu Hula and representing the breadth of Hula Lineages, standing together for the purpose of organizing and advocating on behalf of Kumu Hula and the profession of Hula itself. Huamakahikina formed and ratified the “Huamakahikina Declaration on the Integrity, Stewardship, and Protection of Hula” on August 21-22, 2021, at the Kupukalālā Kumu Hula Convention, which brought together 201 lineally acknowledged Kumu Hula from across the the Hawaiian Archipelago, 10 states of the United States of America, and the countries of Japan, New Zealand, French Polynesia, France, and Spain. The Huamakahikina Declaration has since been adopted by the County of Maui (21-484), the County of Hawai‘i (362-22), and Hawai‘i Senate Concurrent Resolution 121 urges the State of Hawai‘i and its counties to work with Huamakahikina and Kumu Hula for the protection of Hula.

Article 1.1 of the Huamakahikina Declaration reads: “Hula is the multiplex of artistic, intellectual, and spiritual practices, perspectives, and products centered around the expression of Mele (lyric) through the bodies of formally trained dancers.” This “multiplex” of practices thoroughly covers “a wide breadth of knowledge of Hawaiian history, the Hawaiian language, traditional lore . . . the natural environment . . . as only acquired through detailed, formal education in Hula.” Through this multiplex, knowledge of the importance of the region to be covered in the PRI expansion to Kanaka Maoli (Hawaiian) culture and our voyaging ancestors continues to be actively transmitted intra- and inter-generationally amongst Hula practitioners.

Article 2.8 reads: “In 2003, the ‘Ilio‘ulaokalani Coalition organized Ka ‘Aha Pono Native Hawaiian Intellectual Property Rights Conference at which Kumu Hula and other cultural practitioners created the Paoakalani Declaration and set forth statements against ‘exploitative use and commercialization of our . . . natural and biological resources . . . ’” To this day, Kumu Hula continue to honor and benefit from the natural and biological resources from the region to be covered in the PRI expansion. As such, we support all measures that would protect against the exploitation and depletion of any of the natural and biological resources of the PRI expansion region.

Article 4.1 reads: “As it has been for countless generations, Hula continues to serve as a means by which a wealth of Kanaka Maoli knowledge, practices . . . exist into the present day, and through which this knowledge and these practices will be perpetuated into the future.” These knowledge bases and practices continue to inform our traditional practices of environmental stewardship, as well as our regard for the region to be included in the PRI expansion. Through our practices, Members of Huamakahikina and our students – along with masters and
practitioners of other traditional Kanaka Maoli professions – still research, internalize, and embody knowledge of the islands and waters to be covered in the PRI expansion.

Additionally, Kumu Hula have been critical in the formation, naming, maintenance of, and advocacy for the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument which was formally established by President George W. Bush in 2009, and which was expanded by President Barack Obama in 2014.

Therefore, we, the Membership of Huamakahikina, respectfully ask that you expand the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument. We also urge you to support a process respectful of the Indigenous Peoples of the Pacific to rename the monument, and which will restore the traditional and customary names of the islands, atolls, and waters therein.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Me ka ‘oia‘io,

The Membership of Huamakahikina
HUAMAKAHIKINA DECLARATION
on the Integrity, Stewardship, & Protection of Hula

with Ratifying Signatories
KE KAHUA\textsuperscript{1}: Background

Huamakahikina\textsuperscript{2} is a coalition\textsuperscript{3} of Kumu Hula, open to all Kumu Hula and representing the breadth of Hula Lineages\textsuperscript{4}, standing together for the purpose of organizing and advocating on behalf of Kumu Hula and the practice of Hula itself.

Huamakahikina was first convened on August 17, 2020, to develop a proactive cultural approach to the COVID-19 pandemic. Kumu Hula organized to bring the collective intellectual, spiritual, and physical practices of their Lineages together, in consultation with other cultural and medical practitioners\textsuperscript{5}, to establish the Lāhui Kānaka Declaration\textsuperscript{6} and related support systems. Through these efforts, Kumu Hula promoted, strengthened, and maintained mauli ola\textsuperscript{7} amongst themselves, their Haumāna\textsuperscript{8}, and their ‘ohana\textsuperscript{9} to minimize the spread of COVID-19. Kumu Hula further adapted Lāhui Kānaka support systems for use by the public, broadcasting\textsuperscript{10} across social media networks and reaching tens of thousands of viewers from around the world.

Huamakahikina persists and expands beyond its initial charge, in recognition of the unique kuleana\textsuperscript{11} that Kumu Hula have to the integrity, stewardship, and protection of Hula, Hula communities, and Kanaka Maoli\textsuperscript{12} culture, more broadly. Huamakahikina is now an inclusive forum for Kumu Hula to discuss and collaborate on issues relevant to Hula.

Huamakahikina exists and Hula thrives despite historical challenges. In the 1830s, under the advice of Christian missionaries who sought to abolish Kanaka Maoli spiritual and cultural practices, leaders outlawed the practice of Hula in the Hawaiian Kingdom. However, given its importance to identity and wellbeing, Hula was maintained in private, in families and traditional institutions, along with other Kanaka Maoli spiritual and cultural practices. Years later, King David Kalākaua reinstated the public practice of Hula. Hula groups from across the Hawaiian Kingdom were assembled to perform at Kalākaua's coronation in 1883, and again for his 50th birthday jubilee in 1886.

Huamakahikina is a contemporary manifestation of Hula community and advocacy. Kumu Hula regularly come together around Hula competitions, exhibitions, and other cultural activities. Kumu Hula have also established themselves within political movements and as some of the leading advocates for the wellbeing of ‘āina\textsuperscript{13} and Kanaka Maoli culture. Yet, through Huamakahikina, Kumu Hula aspire to come together, organize, and advocate in a manner and on a scale that is unprecedented.

Huamakahikina, assembled virtually on August 21-22, 2021, at the Kupukalalā Kumu Hula Convention, brought together 200 lineally acknowledged Kumu Hula from across the Paeʻāina o Hawai‘i\textsuperscript{14}, 10 states of the United States of America; and the countries of Japan, New Zealand, French Polynesia, France, and Spain in order to discuss and ratify this Declaration to be a living expression of the views of the body thereby convened.
Huamakahikina unifies and amplifies the voices of Kumu Hula. This is needed now to address challenges, both old and new, that impact Kumu Hula and that threaten the integrity of Hula. It is with a sense of urgency that Kumu Hula gather in concern for the following:

1. Abuse. There is misrepresentation, cultural misappropriation, exploitation, and abuse of Hula. This includes misrepresentation by individuals who purport to teach Hula, but who are not lineally acknowledged Kumu Hula; misrepresentation by organizations and institutions that purport to present Hula, though not provided by a lineally acknowledged Kumu Hula; substandard performances and other misrepresentations of Hula in public, professional, and commercial spheres which diminish regard and respect for Hula, Kumu Hula, Haumāna Hula, Kānaka Maoli, and Kanaka Maoli culture; and the misappropriation of aspects of Hula, including choreography, designs, proper names, lexicons, and across the various mediums by which Hula is captured, including but not limited to photo, video, sound recording, printed media, digital media, and the like.

2. Ignorance. There is widespread ignorance and misunderstanding about the practice and performance of Hula, its functions within society, education and the transmission of knowledge through Hula, and Hula as a Kanaka Maoli traditional and customary practice. This includes ignorance in the marketplace for cultural performances resulting in economic harm for Kumu Hula that weakens the standards and expectations of Hula, deceives consumers of cultural performances, and perpetuates ignorance and misunderstanding around Hula; and a lack of respect for the practice of Hula, Hula Lineages, and the authority of Kumu Hula.

3. Protection. There is insufficient protection for the Kanaka Maoli culture and knowledge maintained within, and embodied by, Hula. This includes infringement of the intellectual property rights to which Kumu Hula are entitled with respect to the Hula resources they steward and create.

4. Recognition. There are disparities in how the rigors and highly specialized processes through which Kumu Hula are trained and acknowledged, along with their years of experience, are recognized and valued by institutions and within labor markets in relation to comparable conventional education and training pathways. This includes a lack of recognition of the traditional and cultural expertise of Kumu Hula within conventional education institutions and professional spheres; and inequity in pay for, and reduced consideration of, Kumu Hula in professional opportunities.

5. Access & Resourcing. There are challenges to engaging in the study and practice of Hula for a significant portion of the people of Hawai‘i, most importantly Kānaka Maoli, due to a scarcity of resources and significant gaps and disparities in how Hula is recognized, treated, provisioned, housed, funded, and otherwise supported by local County and State governments. The result is that Hula is too often financially and/or geographically inaccessible.
KE KŪKALA\textsuperscript{15}: Declaration

It is through pono\textsuperscript{16} and the kuleana of Kumu Hula that Huamakahikina proclaims this Declaration on the integrity, stewardship, and protection of Hula.

\textit{Ha‘awina 1: Definitions of Hula}

1.1. Hula\textsuperscript{18} is the multiplex of artistic, intellectual, and spiritual practices, perspectives, and products\textsuperscript{19} centered around the expression of Mele\textsuperscript{20} through the bodies of formally trained dancers. The Mele, the dancers, and their dance may each be referred to as Hula.

1.2. Hula practices, perspectives, and products are unique and diverse. They include ceremonies, philosophies, scholarship, symbolism, hierarchies, protocols, procedures, lexicons\textsuperscript{21} of vocabulary and terms, methods of training, steps, motions, motifs, attire, adornments, styles of grooming, music, instrumentation, and beats.

1.3. Hula practices, perspectives, and products are among the great artistic, intellectual, and spiritual achievements of humanity.\textsuperscript{22}

1.4. Hula is a unique and distinctive cultural expression of Hawai‘i and is important to Kānaka Maoli expression of worldview, mauli ola, ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i, relationship to ‘āina, and practices which include Mele, mo‘olelo, and ho‘omanā.

1.5. Hula, as tangible and intangible cultural heritage of Kānaka Maoli, is under the exclusive stewardship of Kumu Hula.

1.6. Kumu Hula\textsuperscript{23} are individuals who belong to Hula Lineages through which they were trained, who have been granted kuleana to steward Hula by a Kumu Hula, who are generally acknowledged and accepted by the broader Kumu Hula community, and who maintain enduring ties to Hawai‘i.

\textit{Ha‘awina 2: Origins & Historical Context of Hula}

2.1. Hula originated in Hawai‘i amongst the akua\textsuperscript{24} and ali‘i\textsuperscript{25} of deep antiquity\textsuperscript{26}.

2.2. Hula thrives in the present day despite colonization, epidemics, pandemics, religious and political persecution, criminalization, the decline of the ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i\textsuperscript{27}, and various acts of abuse, misappropriation, and commercialization.

2.3. Prior to the influence of Christian missionaries, Hula flourished through ali‘i patronage and community support.

2.4. Princess/Governor Ruth Ke‘elikōlani (1826-1881), King Kamehameha V (1830-1872), Queen Emma (1836-1885), Queen Kapo‘olani (1834-1899), and King Kalākaua (1836-1891) were some of the more well-known royal proponents of Hula, and their efforts, support, and patronages were crucial to the survival of Hula throughout their eras of governance.
2.5. In 1959, forty Kumu Hula established the Hui Kumu Hula o Hawai‘i with “[t]he desire to organize and stimulate all Instructors of the Hula throughout Hawai‘i Nei to preserve and retain ancient and new customs to the art and beauty of its Dances and Music of Hawai‘i, and to develop a finer appreciation of the culture of Hawaiiana for the good of our posterity.”

2.6. In 1997, Kumu Hula established the ‘Īlio‘ulaokalani Coalition to organize and advocate for the pono of Kānaka Maoli, Kanaka Maoli culture, and ‘āina.

2.7. In 1999, Hula was officially “adopted, established, and designated as the official dance of the State [of Hawai‘i]” and codified under HRS § 5-21.

2.8. In 2003, the ‘Īlio‘ulaokalani Coalition organized Ka ‘Aha Pono Native Hawaiian Intellectual Property Rights Conference at which Kumu Hula and other cultural practitioners created the Paoakalani Declaration and set forth statements against “exploitative use and commercialization of our traditional knowledge, cultural expressions and artforms [such as Hula], natural and biological resources, and intellectual properties.” The Paoakalani Declaration was acknowledged in House Concurrent Resolution 227 by the State of Hawai‘i.

Ha‘awina 3: Transmission of Hula

3.1. Kumu Hula have maintained, cared for, created, and advanced the practices, perspectives, and products of Hula through space and time, transmitting Hula from one generation to the next, giving rise to what have become distinct Hula Lineages.

3.2. Kumu Hula are the exclusive sources of Hula, as well as the incarnations of the Hula Lineages through which they were trained and lineally acknowledged as Kumu Hula to perpetuate the specific practices, perspectives, and products of their Hula Lineage(s).

3.3. Kumu Hula are masters of the art, practice, and profession of Hula, having attained expertise in their discipline that is commensurate with other forms of academic and professional credentialing.

3.4. Kumu Hula have the kuleana to maintain the integrity and sanctity of Hula.

3.5. Hula is defined and transmitted by Kumu Hula, as delineated in this Declaration.

3.6. Any individual who has not been lineally acknowledged as a Kumu Hula, consistent with this Declaration, is not a Kumu Hula.

3.7. Kumu Hula manifest Hula through choreography composed of formalized lower-body movements and expressive upper-body movements, all of which are inspired by and embody Mele while reflecting the Hula Lineage(s) of the Kumu Hula and their individual abilities, creativity, and proclivities.

3.8. Kumu Hula retain the exclusive authority to maintain, augment, enhance, and adapt their Hula practices, perspectives, and products.
3.9. Kumu Hula retain the exclusive authority to define and transmit Hula, determine permissions regarding their Hula, and adapt and/or create Hula in response to the circumstances of their times.

3.10. Kumu Hula retain the exclusive authority to choreograph and direct the presentation of Hula in public, professional, and commercial spaces.

3.11. Unless specifically waived or conveyed to others, Kumu Hula retain and reserve all rights and protections, including but not limited to intellectual property, cultural, and commercial rights to which they are entitled over the aspects of Hula created through their own efforts or that have been passed down to them within their Hula Lineages. These rights relate to, as examples, rights in Hula choreography, designs, proper names, and lexicons, across all mediums in which Hula is captured.

3.12. Kumu Hula may teach Hula through institutions of their own creation, other organizations, informal occasions, and/or other venues of their choosing.

3.13. Kumu Hula reserve the right to retain the title of “Kumu Hula,” whether or not they maintain their own Hula institution or are otherwise teaching Hula.

3.14. Kumu Hula retain the exclusive authority to substantiate new Kumu Hula through the rites of their Hula Lineage(s) in order to perpetuate the specific practices, perspectives, and products of their Hula Lineage(s) and those of their individual creation.

3.15. Haumāna Hula are not themselves Kumu Hula unless lineally acknowledged according to the authority of their Kumu Hula and the rites of their Hula Lineage.

Haʻawina 4: Cultural, Social, & Economic Importance, Function, & Reach of Hula

4.1. As it has been for countless generations, Hula continues to serve as a means by which a wealth of Kanaka Maoli knowledge, practices, and the ʻōlelo Hawai‘i exist into the present day, and through which this knowledge and these practices will be perpetuated into the future.

4.2. As recognized stewards of a wealth of knowledge and practice, Kumu Hula have long served as leaders, advisors, researchers, philosophers, and influencers for the people of Hawai‘i, as well as for the communities abroad wherein Hula is practiced.

4.3. Hula is essential to the overall health, wellbeing, and subsistence of Kumu Hula and is important to the health and wellbeing of Haumāna Hula and the broader community.

4.4. Hula is innately and inextricably connected to ʻāina and reinforces humanity’s shared kuleana to aloha and mālama ʻāina.

4.5. Hula activities, presentations, and events nurture a deepened sense of Kanaka Maoli cultural and spiritual identity, as well as a deepened sense of community, amongst participants and audiences.
4.6. Hula is practiced by people of all ages and backgrounds, particularly widespread and popular in Hawai‘i, the West Coast of the United States, and Japan 41.

4.7. Hula is widely recognized, regarded, respected, enjoyed, and appreciated by audiences of Hawai‘i and worldwide.

4.8. Hula contributes to the collective good of society in Hawai‘i and in the communities abroad in which it is practiced.

4.9. Hula is an important source of le'aleʻa42 for both Hula practitioners and audiences.

4.10. Hula serves as a nexus for a variety of traditional customs and practices43, knowledge sets, disciplines, professions, and industries44 external to Hula, and Hula provides crucial support and continuity for practitioners and professionals, their lineages, their expertise, and their businesses and/or livelihoods.

4.11. Hula events, such as public exhibitions, competitions, and festivals, provide important economic benefits for the venues and communities in which events are hosted, the tourism and media industries, as well as for a variety of other businesses45.

4.12. Hula needs to be accessible to Kānaka Maoli as a critical component of Kanaka Maoli culture.

4.13. Hula is a traditional and customary practice protected under Article XII, section 7 of the Hawai‘i State Constitution46.

4.14. The State of Hawai‘i, through House Resolution 2447, declared the period from April 1, 2003 to March 31, 2004, the “Year of the Hula”.

4.15. The County of Maui, through Maui County Resolution 08-5248, declared 2008 the “Year of the Hula”.

**Haʻawina 5: Misuse of Hula**

5.1. Kumu Hula object to and oppose the intentional and unintentional misuse, misrepresentation, exploitation, and/or abuse of Hula in any form or fashion.

5.2. Kumu Hula object to and oppose the intentional and unintentional appropriation and misappropriation of any aspect of Hula, including choreography, designs, proper names, lexicons, and across the various mediums by which their Hula is captured, including but not limited to photo, video, sound recording, printed media, digital media, and the like.

5.3. Any dance performance that is not transmitted by Kumu Hula and presented by permission of Kumu Hula, or does not otherwise conform with the letter and intent of this Declaration, is not and should not be labeled as Hula or otherwise presented as the Indigenous dance of Hawai‘i.
**HOʻĀLA⁴⁹: Call to Action**

In accordance with pono and the kuleana of Kumu Hula, and as is consistent with this Declaration, Huamakahikina is determined to take action to uphold the integrity of Hula; to build strategic relationships and networks for the advancement of Hula, Kumu Hula, and Huamakahikina; to organize and advocate for the pono stewardship and protection of Hula within public, professional, and commercial spheres; to organize and advocate for access, recognition, public funding, facilities, and other resources in support of Hula; to cultivate Hula as a source of wellbeing; and to ensure that Hula flourishes for countless generations to come.

Recognizing that existing laws and policies are inadequate for the protection and support of Hula, Huamakahikina calls upon policymakers to develop and implement policies and practices consistent with this Declaration, in full consultation with Kumu Hula. We also call upon government and the private sector to resource Hula to the fullest extent possible.

Recognizing that actualization of this Declaration occurs through the persistent and pono actions of individuals, Huamakahikina calls upon Hula practitioners, Hula communities worldwide, Kānaka Maoli, and all of Hawaiʻi to embrace the letter and intent of this Declaration and to support actions by Huamakahikina to protect and advance Hula, as is consistent with this Declaration.
KA ‘ĀPONO HOʻOKUMU: Ratification

The undersigned Kumu Hula, in expression of their kuleana to Hula, do hereby ratify this, the Huamakahikina Declaration on the Integrity, Stewardship, and Protection of Hula, for it to be known by all.

Ainsley K. Halemanu, Ka Liko O Ka Palai
Akiko Colton, Hālau Hula o Nā Pua o Hawaiʻi Nei
ʻĀlika Guerrero, Kaniʻoikaʻohuleihiwā
Alva Kaipoleimanu Kamalani, Hālau Manu Leʻa Hawaiʻi
Analu Akao, Hālau Hula O Kupukalaʻuʻieie
Ann Lokeokaluapeleonālani Parker, Hālau Hula o Malulani
Ann-Gaylin KaleiwohioKalani Kamalani, Hālau Manu Lea Hawaiʻi
Annette Nettie Kekaikuihala Armitage-Lapilio, Hula O Kekaikuihala
‘Auli‘i L. Heine Hirahara, Nā Pua ‘Āhīhi Lehua mai Pihanakalani
Auliʻi Mitchell, Halau o Kahiwahiwa & Halau o Moana-nui-a-Kiwa
Aureana Kamaliʻioiwalani Tseu, Hui ‘Iwa Academy
Brad Lum, Hula Halau O Ikem manu
C. Henohea Kāne, Hālau Keʻalaokamaile
C. Malina Kaulukukui, Halau Hula Kamaluokukui
C. Pomaikaʻi Gau, Kehaulani Hula Studio & Halau Keahiokamalulani
Carole Lanialoha Lee
Carolee Kapua‘amoʻole Nishi, Hui Hula o Kapunahala
Charlani Kalama, Hālau Ha'a Hula O Kekauʻilani Nā Pua Hala O Kailua
Chinky Māhoe, Kawaiʻulā
Christina Nani Aiʻu-Quezada, Hālau Hula Moaniʻaʻala Anuhea
Cody Kapueolaʻakeanui Pata, Hālau Hula ‘o Ka Malama Mahilani
Daniel "Bulla" Kailiwai, III, Ku Ka Wai Kane O Kona
Daniel Kaleo Kahoonei, Hālau Kiawekūpono O Ka Ua
Darcey Moniz, Hālau Hula ʻO Pukaʻikapuaokalani
Deanie Wailani Lum-Villiados, Kaulana Na Pua ʻO Hawaiʻi
Dennis Kelii Puʻukū O Ke Ao Imamura, Hālau Hula Kelii Puʻukū O Ke Ao
Devin Kamealoha Forrest, Hālau Hula ʻo Keʻalalaʻauaʻecomakana
Dietrix Jon Ulukoa Duhylonsod, Hālau Kiawekūpono O Ka Ua
Ehulani Stephany, Hālau Hula Ka Makani Hali ʻAla O Puna
Elsie Ryder, Hālau Hula o Kukunaokalā
Esther Kuʻuleinani Kekapaʻi Tripp Correa
Erua Lopes, Hālau Hula Nā Pua Uʻi O Hawaiʻi
F. E. Kaʻiuokalani Damas
Francine "Mopsy" Mapuana Kekahuna Aarona
Francis Kapuaiokepamemealā Francisco, Hālau Nā Mamo O Ka Liko Maile O Kohala
G Lehua Gaison-Tyler, Ka Pā Kuʻi Lei Lehua
Greg Lontayao, Hālau Kawaihoaa
Hauʻoli Akaka, Hālau Hīʻilaniwaiwaloha
Hīʻilei Maxwell-Juan, Pukalani Hula Hale
Hinaleimoana Wong-Kalu/Kumu Hina
Hōkūlani Holt, Pāʻū O Hīʻiaka
KA ‘ĀPONO HOʻOKUMU: Ratification (continued)

Honey Takaki
Hope Keawe, Hula Halau o Manaʻolana o Kohala
Howard Ai, Hālau Hula Olana
Inger Kanoelani Hojfeldt
Iolani Kamauu, Hula ʻIlaniwai
Ivalee Lilinoe Puaaliʻi Kamalu
Iwalani Kalima, Hula Hālau o Kou Lima Nani e
Iwalani Wahinekapu Walsh Tseu, Iwalani’i’s School of Dance & Hui ʻIwa Academy
J. Hauʻolimaikalani Keliʻi, Hālau Kūliaikapono
J. Leimomi Ho, Kealiʻi’ikaʻapunihonua Keʻena Aʻo Hula
J. Moanikeala Whittle-Wagner, Hālau Nā Maile Kū Honua
James Dela Cruz, Na Opio O Koʻolau
James Luluhivalani Awai III
John Kuʻuʻuhoamele Cuban, Nā Mōhai Aloha o Ka Laua‘e Pā Ola Kapu
John Waʻiʻaleʻale ‘Aiwohi, Hālau Hula O Waʻiʻaleʻale
Joy Keōpūolani Salvador, Hālau Keʻala Kahinano O Puna
Julie Tehani Bugarin, Hula Halau O Kahealani
K. Holoaumoku Ralar, Nā Pua O Kapiʻolani Hula Studio & Napili Kai Foundation
Kaʻanohiokalā Kalama-Macomber, Hālau Haʻa Hula O Kekauʻilani Nā Pua Hula O Kailua
Kaeo Bradford, Halau Ka Pa Kanaenae O Kauaʻiiki
Kahealani Faatuarai, Hala O Kahealani O Kahiki
Kāhealani K. Wilcox, Kāʻaunu
Kahealani Ohumukini Blackmon, Halau Ku Pono I Kamalani
Kahikina Ah Sing, Ke Ala O Ke Ao Cultural Arts Studio
Kahulu Maluo-Pearson, Hālau Kamaluokaleihulu
Kaʻiulani Blankenfeld, Hālau Hula Kaleihuluokalohalani
Kaʻoʻohu Cazinha, Hālau Ke Ao o ʻAnolani
Kainoa Kaili-Kramer, Hālau Nā Lei Kaumaka o Uka
Kaiulani Odom
Kalama Pastor, Hālau Hula Nā Lama I Ka Uluwehi O Laka
Kalani Ah Sing, Ke Ala O Ke Ao Cultural Arts Studio
Kalani Akana, Ka Pā Hula ‘o Kāheakūaliʻi
Kalei Aaron-Lorenzo
Kaleinanikauikawēkiu Seiko Okamoto, Nā Mamo O Kaleinani
Kaleo Trinidad, Kaleoolakaikahikinaokalā
Kalimakuhihali Southard, Hālau I Ka Lima Kuhi Lani
Kamaka Kukona, Hālau o ka Hanu Lehua
Kanani Cadaoas - Ka Pā Hula O Ke Ola Nani
Kanoenani Cargo-Kamaunu, Hālau Mānaiakalani
Kapena Malulani Perez, Halau Hula O Malulani
Kapono Kamaunu, Hālau Mānaiakalani
Kaponoʻaiakulikeikeao Molitau, Hālau Nā Hanona Kūlike ʻO Piʻilani
Kapua Dalire-Moe, Hālau Ka Liko Pua O Kalaniʻākea
Kapuaokalani Kaʻau’a
Kauʻi Wright, Hālau o Kawaihuhi
Kauʻi Dalire, Hālau Ka Lihilihilehua ʻO Hōpoe Kūikanani & Kūikanani Association
KA ‘ĀPONO HO‘OKUMU: Ratification (continued)

Kau‘i Isa-Kahaku, Hālau Nā Wai Ola
Kau‘i Lopes
Kauilanuimakehaikalani Keali‘ikanaka‘olehoaililani, Tiny Kuahu
Kawika Alfiche, Hālau o Keikialii’i
Dr. Kēhaulani Enos, Hālau ʻIlima Kū Kahakai
Ke‘ala Ching, Ka Pā Hula Nā Wai Iwi Ola
Keali‘i Reichel, Halau Ke‘alaokamaile
Kehani Guerrero, Kani‘oika‘ohuleihiwa
Kēhaulani Kanekolani-Santiago, Hālau Hula I Kona Mau Lima
Kēhaulani Kekua, Hālau Palaihihi O Kaipuwai
Kekaoikalani Naone, Unuhi’a
kekahi kealiikanakaole, Ulu Ka ‘Ohi‘a-Hula Consciousness
Keli‘iho‘omalu Puchalski, Hālau Kawai‘ulaokalā
Keolalaulani Dalire, Keolalaulani Halau Olapa O Laka
Keone Nunes, Kapuwailani‘onohinohi‘ula
Keoni Napueokia‘okalehuakuikalani Chang, Halau Na Pua Lehua I Ka Ua Noe
Kū Koanui-Souza, Hālau Hula ʻO Kawaiho‘omalu
Kuni Ishibashi, Hālau Hula O Ishibashi
Ku‘uleilanimakealohamau “Leilani” Kupahu-Marino Kahoano, Halau Hula o Namamoakeakua
Ku‘umomialoha Kuahiwini, Nā Pua o Keko‘olani
Kūwalu Anakalea, WaikāʻUnu
La‘akea Perry, Ke Kai O Kahiki
Lāhapa Doroen, Ka Waikahe Lani Mālie a me Kahulaliwai
Lahela Igarta, Hālau Nā Mamo o ka ‘Upa‘iaka‘uaaua
Lahela Spencer, Kaleiokaulupalai
Lanakila Mangauil, KuaUNU
Lau‘e Yamasaki, Hālau Nā Maka o ka Laua‘e
Lehua Kaulukukui, Unuehu & Kuamoo Foundation
Lei-Ann Stender Durant
Leihilani Kirkpatrick, Hālau Ka Lei Kukui Hi‘ilani
Leimomi Khan, Pohai Na Pua O Laka
Leinā‘ala Pavao Jardin, Hālau Ka Lei Mokihana o Leinā‘ala
Lilinoe Kaio, Halau o Lilinoe
Lilinoe Lindsey, Ka Pa Nani ʻO Lilinoe
Lisa Pua Saunders, Hālau Hula O Manu Ō‘o
Lono ʻIkuwā, Hālau Nāmanuho‘ola‘iolononuiākea
Lono Padilla, Hālau Hi‘iakaināmakalehua
Lorna Kapualiko Lim, Hālau KawehileimamoikawēkiuʻoKohala
Luana Kawa‘a, Hālau Hula Ka Makani Kiliʻoʻopu
Luana Rivera Palacio, Hālau Nāpuaokamokihanaoha
Maelia Loebenstein Carter, Ka Pā Hula O Kauanoe O Wa‘ahila
Māhealani Uchiyama, Hālau Ka Ua Tuahine
Maile Loo-Ching, Hālau Hula ʻO Kaho‘oilina Aloha
Makakii Chaves, Hoi Hoi Pa Hula
Makana Kuahiwiniu, Nā Pua O Keko‘olani
Malia Haumschild, Hālau Hula o Malia & Nā Pua o Malia
KA ‘ĀPONO HO‘OKUMU: Ratification (continued)

Mālia Ko‘i‘ulaokawaolehua Helelā, Nā Hula Ola Aloha
Mālia Nobrega-Olivera
Malu Dudoit
Manu Boyd, Hālau o ke ‘A‘ali‘i Kū Makani
Manulani Birkmire, Ka Pā Hula O Manulani
Maunalei Love, Hālau O Ku‘ulei Aloha
Mehanaokala Hind
Melanie Heakeakamai Pānui, Hālau Hula Pūlamahiaikalikolehua
Meleana Manuel, Ke ‘Olu Makani O Mauna Loa
Michael Dela Cruz, Na Opio O Ko‘olau
Michelle Kaulumahiehe Amaral, Kaulualoha
Miki‘ala M. Lidstone, Hālau ‘O Kaulualua‘e
Mokihana Melendez, Hālau Hula Ka Lei Mokihana I Ka Ua Noe
Momī Akana, Hālau Hula O Nā Momī Makamae
Nahokuokalani Gaspang, Hālau Hula ‘O Kahikilaulani
Na‘aupono Galisa, Hālau Hula Keauhou O Ka Ua
Nani Dudoit, Kaleilehuaikalooolanāli
Nani Lim Yap, Hālau Manaola
Naomi "Sissy" Lake-Farrn, Hālau Makana Aloha O Ka Laua‘e
Naomi L. Kalama, Ka Pa Hula Kanoelchuaokahalema‘uma‘u ‘o Kalama
Natalie A'i Kamauu, Hālau Hula Olana & Hula ʻIlaniwai
Nawahine Kuraoka, Hālau Hula ‘O Nawahine
Niulii Heine, Na Pualei o Līkolehua
No‘eau Kahakalau-Kalima
Olana M. Ai, Hālau Hula Olana
ʻOlapaonālani Atsuko Ishibashi, Hālau Hula O Ishibashi
Patrick Kapuawehi Choy, Hālau Hula Kalehuaʻapapaneoka‘au
Patty Kealohalani Kapualokeokalaniākea Wright, Hālau Nā Puakea o Ko‘olaupoko
Pele Kaio, Unulau
Pelena Keeling, Kaulana Nā Pua
Phyllis Ulwehi Ross, Kapīʻolani Hula Studio
Pi‘ilani Lua
Piilani Kaawaloa, Hālau Ka Hīnano o Pu‘u
Pōhai Souza, Hālau Hula Kamamoliokolehua
Polanimaakamae K. Kahakalau-Kalima
Pualalea Cabacungan, Nā Pua O Kapīʻolani Hula Studio
Dr. Pualani Kanakaʻole Kanahele
Pualani Muraki, Unuchu
Puamohala Moniz, Halau Lei Hulu O Kealohalani & Halau Lei Hulu O Ke Aloha Lani
Puanani Jung, Hālau Hula Lani Ola
Pumehana Silva, Nā Pua O Kekōʻolani
Punahaele Andrade, Hālau Nā Leʻi Punahaele
Renee Ku‘uleinani Kekapa‘i Paio Price, Hālau Hula ‘O Ku‘uleinani
Rick No‘eau Smith, Hālau Hula Nā Mamo No‘eau
Robert Keano Kaupu IV, Hālau Hi‘iakaināmakalehua
KA ‘ĀPONO HO‘OKUMU: Ratification (continued)

Rona Pualaninaʻauliʻioha Koe, Hālau Hula O Pualaninaʻauliʻioha
Sallie Yoza, Hālau O Nāpualaʻikauikaʻiu
Sammye Kuualoha Young, Hālau Nā Lei Hiwahiwa ‘O Kuʻualoha
Sandii Manumele Suzuki, Hālau Hula Halihali ke ao
Shane Kamakaokalani Herrod, Na Hui o Kamakaokalani
Shelma Lilia Ai, Hālau Lilia Makanoe
Sherri Kawaihoʻonani "Puni" Patrick, The Kupuna Klub
Sky Gora, Halau Na Kilipohe Na Lei Lehua
Snowbird Puananiopaoakalani Bento, Ka Pā Hula O Ka Lei Lehua
Sonny Preston, Halau Kiuwailehua
Stephanie Naomi Apolo, Halau Hula O Kalaulani O Puʻuanahulu
Takako Pilialoha Ishibashi, Hālau Hula O Ishibashi
Tatiana Kawehiokalani Tseu Fox, Hui ‘Iwa Academy & Nā Lei O Ka ‘Iwa Haʻa I Ka Lani
Dr. Taupōuri Tangarō, Unukupukupu
Tina Marie Momilani Eggert, Hālau Hoʻohiwahiwa I Ka Puʻuwai
Trina Purdy, Hālau Nā Lei Kaumaka o Uka
Troy Allen Hinano Lazaro, Hālau Ka Pā Hula o Hinano
Twyla Ululani Mendez, Halau Na Pua A Lei
Ulalia Kaai Berman
Ulalia Woodside, Kapākūlani
Ulwehi Guerrero, Hālau Hula Kauluokalā
Wendi Paʻahana Roehrig, Hālau Ka ‘Ōpuʻu
NOTES

1 “Kahua n. 1. ... background ... fig., declaration of principles or policy, doctrine, platform” Pukui & Elbert, Hawaiian Dictionary, 1986.

2 The name “Huamakahikina” comes from a line of a common Hula prayer: “Kupu ka lālā, hua ma ka hikina. The branch sprouts, and fruits in the east.” We, the Kumu Hula, are the fruits from branches of the same tree. “Hua” means “message/word,” “product,” and “fruitful.”

3 Huamakahikina is open to all Kumu Hula, and participation is voluntary. Dozens of Kumu Hula originally convened in August 2020, and Huamakahikina has continued to grow. Participants are vetted through the criteria for Kumu Hula found within the Declaration.

4 Hula Lineage is synonymous with Lineage. A Hula Lineage is a historically established line of descent through which Hula has been formally passed from one generation to the next, Kumu Hula to formal haumāna, from extreme antiquity until the present. Key to the formal Kumu Hula-Haumāna relationship is the clarity and strength not only with which the Haumāna acknowledges the Kumu Hula as their master, but also the clarity and strength with which the Kumu Hula acknowledges and claims the Haumāna as their own.

5 Including one makāula, one authority in lāʻau lapaʻau, one authority on akua, as well as three Native Hawaiian medical doctors.


7 Collective physical, spiritual, and mental wellbeing.

8 Pupils. Synonymous with Haumāna Hula, lit., pupils of Hula.

9 Family, and extended family.

10 Also found at https://www.oha.org/lahuikanaka; broadcasted between September 11 - November 8, 2020.


12 Kanaka Maoli - synonymous with Native Hawaiian (singular and adjective form), the plural form of which is Kānaka Maoli.

13 “Aina (ʻāina). 1. Land (JC) (PE). 2. The exposed surface of the earth as opposed to the oceans and seas, i.e. land; a county or district, large or small, i.e. a pasture, farm or field; land surrounded by water, i.e. an island; a continent or mainland, as distinguished from an island (AP). 3. A farm or field (T). 4. Tract (HRH)” Lucas, A Dictionary of Hawaiian Legal Land-Terms, 1995.

14 Lit., Archipelago of Hawaiʻi.

“Pono nvs. 1. … moral, fitting, proper, righteous, right, upright, just, virtuous, fair, beneficial, successful, in perfect order …” Pukui & Elbert, Hawaiian Dictionary, 1986


A rudimentary definition of Hula is also: “1. nvt. The hula, a hula dancer; to dance the hula . . . . 2. nvt. Song or chant used for the hula; to sing or chant for a hula” Pukui & Elbert, Hawaiian Dictionary, 1986.

The multiplex of artistic, intellectual, and spiritual practices, perspectives, and products includes a wide breadth of knowledge of Hawaiian history, the Hawaiian language, traditional lore, aspects of poetry, idioms, etiquette, values, discipline, the natural environment, hana noʻeau (traditional crafts and skills), and spirituality as only acquired through detailed, formal education in Hula.

“Mele 1. nvt. Song, anthem, or chant of any kind; poem, poetry; to sing, chant …” Pukui & Elbert, Hawaiian Dictionary, 1986. Mele are poetic compositions which consist of stylized lyrics that are most commonly vocalized as chants, songs, and prayers, and through which are conveyed information including but not limited to: ʻike kuʻuna (traditional knowledge), wahi pana (legendary/famed places) & place names, sea & ocean current names, wind & rain names, personal names, history, experiences, moʻokūʻauhau, worldviews, and values of Kānaka Maoli. Mele are traditionally and customarily composed by, or channeled through, Haku Mele (composers of Mele) in the ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i (Hawaiian language). However, in contemporary times, Mele hapa haole (Mele composed in part or wholly with/in languages foreign to Hawai‘i) have gained in popularity. Because Hula cannot be performed absent of Mele, Mele are therefore central to Hula.

There exists in the Hula community a broad lexicon of generally accepted vocabulary words and terms, as well as lexicons specific to individual Lineages.


Other terms by which Kumu Hula are known and addressed include, but are not limited to, Kumu, Aunty, Uncle, Loea, ʻŌlohe, Lehua, Kahu, and Kahuna.


Examples of the origins of Hula include accounts passed down through formal Hula Lineages, those chronicled in various narratives such as those of Pele, Hiʻiakaikapoiopoele, Pelekeahiʻaloa, Kapoʻulakinaʻu, Laʻamaikahiki, & etc., in the writings of 19th and 20th century newspaper Kanaka Maoli contributors, as well as in the writings of historic scholars such as Pukui, Barrere, Kelly, Stillman, Kaeppler, Emerson, Fornander, Thrum, & etc.
27 Lit., Hawaiian language.

28 Archival documentation and information provided by Kumu Hula Leimomi Khan.

29 Hawai‘i Revised Statutes, Volume 1, Chapter 5, Section 5-21.

30 Article 22, Paoakalani Declaration.


32 Kumu Hula utilize resources including but not limited to ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i, Mele, mo‘okū‘auhau, ʻāina, the natural realm, a variety of other sources of inspiration, etc.

33 Accomplished through the consensus of the members of each Hula Lineage.

34 These formal institutions are unique to the Hawaiian culture. They are autonomous pedagogical systems under the authority of a Kumu Hula, and founded in culture-based forms of traditional and contemporary scholarship and spirituality, and include hālau hula, pā hula, hui, studios, academies, schools, foundations, centers, etc. These institutions may also be charity-based, nonprofit, or for-profit.

35 Inclusive of various other mediums, as well as digital and virtual platforms.

36 Such as the traditional and customary practices of Haku Mele (lyrical composition), Mele, Hawaiian language, chant, interpretation of narratives and poetical lyrics, forms of environmental stewardship, etc.

37 See also Footnotes 17-19.

38 “Aloha nvt. … to show kindness, mercy, pity, charity, affection; to venerate …” Pukui & Elbert, Hawaiian Dictionary, 1986.


40 “Audiences” may include intended and unintended, as well as in-person and virtual viewers of Hula activities and presentations.


42 “Le‘a.le‘a 1. … to have a good time; fun, gaiety … amusement” Pukui & Elbert, Hawaiian Dictionary, 1986.

43 Such as traditional and customary practices of kapa making, lei making, hunting, fishing, gathering, pule, etc.

44 Such as the Hawai‘i music industry, the entertainment industry, fashion and design, woodworking, farming, “hula supply” outlets, adornment makers, etc.

45 Such as florists, clothing retailers, fabric outlets, apparel printers, etc.

47 https://capitol.hawaii.gov/session2003/commreports/HR24_HSCR887_.htm &
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2003/referralsheets/HREF_02-03-03_1_.htm

48 https://www.mauicounty.gov/DocumentCenter/View/8377/Reso-08-052?bidId

49 “Hō’ala. to arouse, stir up, incite; renew, restore, revive, to restore, as a building; raise; summons … ho‘āla i ke kumu hana - to bring up a subject” Pukui & Elbert, Hawaiian Dictionary, 1986. However, ho‘āla also pertains to: ho‘āla kuahu - to raise and awaken a kuahu, and the chants done in that process.
Aloha Pumehana President Biden,

My name is Kealoha Pisciotta. I am the founder of the Native Hawaiian marine protection organization, Kai Palaoa. We are comprised of Hawaiian Ocean Cultural Practitioners, scientists, artists, grass roots activists, inventors, advocates, surfers, divers, fishers, educators and entrepreneurs who believe change in the world is possible and are dedicated to creating a clean, healthful, sustainable, beautiful and just world for our future generations.

The United Nations recently declared this the decade of the Ocean. The Ocean makes up more than 70 percent of our planet, regulates our weather and produces 70 percent of the oxygen contained in our atmosphere. The deep sea is home to nearly 85 percent of the world biodiversity. The Moananuiakea (great Pacific) as largest Ocean on our planet and is doing some of the heavy lifting against Climate Change.

Kai Palaoa is apart of numerous conservation and Indigenous Peoples networks, working in Hawai‘i and across Moananuiakea. We the peoples of Moananuiakea are often referred to as the tiny island nations of the Pacific but we are better defined as the large ocean nations of the Pacific. The Indigenous People of Moananuiakea are connected genealogically, through our common voyaging heritage and a common cosmology via our oral histories and stories of creation.

The Indigenous Peoples of the Moananuiakea also continue to suffer ongoing threats of sea level rise and the potential loss of their land territories. They also face extreme exploitive industrial extraction activities in their ocean territories ranging from large scale fishing industries (longliners) to the threat of deep sea mining.

To help protect the Moananuiakea and our Planet our membership participated in the efforts to expand the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. Today, we are asking you to support expanding the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument (PRIMNM) and specifically to expand the boundaries of the PRIMNM to include Howland Island and Baker Island, Kingman Reef and Palmyra Atoll out to 200 nautical miles, the full extent of the United States Exclusive Economic Zone.
We are calling upon you President Biden to join former President Bush and President Obama to continue the US ocean protection legacy by expanding the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument.

The Ocean connects the Indigenous Peoples of the Moananuiakea to all of humanity and the more we protect the Ocean the more we are connected and can together begin to heal ourselves and our planet!

In Aloha We Remain,

/s/ Kealoha Pisciotta
25 May 2022

President Joseph Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Aloha and Prayerful Greetings President Biden,

We write to you in support of expanding the boundaries of the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monuments (PRIMNM) to include Howland Island and Baker Island, Kingman Reef and Palmyra Atoll out to 200 nautical miles, the full extent of the United States Exclusive Economic Zone.

Mauna Kea Anaina Hou, is a Kanaka Maoli (Native Hawaiian) organization, made up of cultural and lineal descendants of the burials of Mauna Kea. We are also traditional and customary cultural and religious practitioners of Mauna Kea.

Mauna Kea is one of Hawai‘i’s most sacred Wahi Pana (sacred and revered) places. Mauna Kea is located on the island of Hawai‘i and is the tallest mountain on earth when measured from the bottom of the sea.

According to our traditions and the Hawaiian chant of creation there are special and sacred places where creation is said to still continue. Like Papahanaumokuakea (PMNM) Mauna Kea is one of these places, as it is an entranceway to the Po (or the great realm of creation); where all living things great and small are made manifest (or birthed) into existence and into the time of Ao (when light and humans enter the world as we know it).

These sacred and special places are culturally significant but are also globally significant because they often contain much of the necessary biodiversity that can empower our planet to be more resilient so that may survive the ravages of Climate Change.

Further, the PRIMNM, is apart of the Kanaka Maoli’s traditional ocean scape and is connected to our voyaging traditions and connects us to our larger Pacific Family.

We are in support of providing maximum protection for the PRIMNM and for opening the way for our people and our Pacific Family to contribute to restoring the traditional names of the Pacific Remote Islands.
In conclusion, President Biden, we are so grateful for your leadership in facing climate change head on and for seeking pathways forward for Indigenous Peoples such as the Kanaka Maoli to help to do so also.

Aloha and much gratitude,

Keomailani Von Gogh

Vice President of Mauna Kea Anaina Hou
The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President of the United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

The Papa Ola Lokahi (POL), the Native Hawaiian Health Board identified in federal legislation (P.L. 111-148) strongly encourages the protection of our ocean and way of life by expanding and renaming the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument through the powers granted to your office under the Antiquities Act of 1906.

Our mission is to improve the health status and well-being of Native Hawaiians and empower them to determine their destinies. Papa Ola Lōkahi supports the protection and perpetuation of practices that have an impact on the health and well-being of Native Hawaiians. Expanding the monument will also ensure these ocean populations remain healthy and resilient to the impacts of climate change which will have an affect on our resources and eventually the ability to sustain healthy communities. Additionally, because of the strong connectivity between open ocean, nearshore, and terrestrial systems, expanding the monument will better preserve the overall health of the ecosystems and resources within the existing areas of the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument.

Along with expanding the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument, we also ask that you honor its unique history and cultural significance with a new name. As Native Hawaiians (Pacific Islanders), we believe that place names are an important way to preserve information about an area’s geology, its history, the natural and supernatural phenomenon specific to it, or its uses by gods and men. We urge you to ensure Pacific Islanders are engaged in the process to give this area a name that better reflects its identity, individuality, and importance.

Again, thank you to your commitment to protect our oceans for the health of future generations of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Peoples.

Sincerely,

*Sheri Daniels*

Sheri-Ann Daniels, EdD
Chief Executive Officer