Me ke aloha...

April marked the passing of our inspirational founder and beloved Kumu Hula Auntie Nona Beamer. We continue our cultural preservation work each day in her honor and just as she would - with the best of intentions and with as much aloha as we can share...

“The bottom line is...aloha.”

New Community Partnerships

HPS Team Members Maile Loo & Gene Kois (R) meet with Kaua‘i Historical Society Board Chair Randy Wichman

November 2008, Lihu‘e

Uncle Calvin Hoe of new HPS partner Hakipu‘u Learning Center conducts an ‘Ohe Hano Ihu (rose flute) workshop
July 2008, Kāne‘ohe

Sharing hula and lei-making with language exchange students and appearing on the Aloha Challenge reality tv program (check out their www.AlohaChallenge.Tv website)
August 2008, Hakipu‘u, O‘ahu

The focus of our work is with the precious hula elders of Hawai‘i nei.

Mahalo to OHA, HTA, State Foundation on Culture & the Arts, Friends of Hawai‘i Charities, and National Parks Service for supporting this important work.

1:1 Oral Histories

This year, we gathered 100 new hours of footage during talk-story sessions with our elders, on the islands of Hawai‘i, Maui, Lāna‘i, Moloka‘i, O‘ahu, and Kaua‘i. It is always a most enriching time when we can be together “talking” hula.

Public Programs

The Kent Girard Collection Exhibit & Celebrations

Using digital technology, since 2002 HPS has been preserving the precious historic materials that make up The Kent Girard Collection. The showing at Honolulu Hale (Sept - Nov) marked the first time items had been shown in public and was planned in conjunction with Uncle’s 90th Birthday. Originally scheduled for 1-month, the Exhibit was held over an additional 4 weeks due to its popularity.

(See enclosed Ben Wood columns for more exciting details on two Celebrations for Uncle Kent!)

Int’l Waikiki Hula Conference November, 2008

Auntie Queenie & Uncle George at the HPS Booth, Hawai‘i Convention Center

Auntie Kaula Poaha Reyes (82 years) sharing of her upbringing and hula training on Moloka‘i January 2008, Kalama‘ula


Coming in 2009!

• Opening of Hale Pulelehua - a new practice space available for hālau

• Release of HPS’ first DVD featuring our kūpuna hula

• Revamped website at www.hulapreservation.org