2009 at a glance!

October marked the passing of our leader and mentor, Uncle George Lanakilakeikihaiaiali`i Naope. The years of documentation with Uncle are a gift for generations yet unborn. We feel privileged to be a part of these future haumana coming to know Uncle and his legacy through the work we did together from 2001-2009. We love you `Anakala Keoki...

Our work honors the treasured hula elders of Hawai`i nei.

Mahalo to the Hawai`i Tourism Authority, Castle Foundation, Friends of Hawai`i Charities, Atherton Foundation, and Hawai`i State Foundation on Culture & the Arts for supporting this important work.

Impacting Community

The kūpuna hula we work with have led lives of service to their communities. Our outreach work is in tribute to them. 2009 was highlighted by an effort to extend our impact through partnerships with Hakipu`u Learning Center & the Salvation Army Family Treatment Services, and rollout of our own cultural center “Hale Pulelehua” in Kāne`ohe.

The Hawai`i State Art Museum has an exhibit called “Ho`oulu: The Inspiration of Hula.” HPS served on the advisory committee for the State Foundation on Culture & the Arts and created a looping DVD of over 20 oral history segments of kūpuna Kumu Hula featured in the gallery. Exhibit is free & open to the public through July 17, 2010.

Sharing the Wisdom of our Kūpuna Kumu Hula

In November 2009, the esteemed Alama Sisters - Aunties Leilani & Puanani - shared of their lives in hula at the 3rd Annual Waikiki Hula Conference. (Note: HPS also has an exhibit on Hawai`i Island at the Pāhoa Village Museum. It features images from the amazing Kent Ghirard Collection.)

HPS embarked on a new program to enrich the lives of young people on the Windward side. The program started with Hakipu`u Learning Center public charter school and involved training students grades 6-11 in rare ancient hula implement dances from the Naope and Beamer traditions. Instruction was provided by nä Kumu Hula Iwalani Kalima of Hilo, Hawai`i, and Maile Loo. Mauliola Cook, Auntie Nona Beamer’s protege in Hula Ki`i (puppet hula), also worked with the students. They made three major presentations in 2009 on two islands. Plans for 2010 include outreach to additional schools on the Windward side.

In August 2009, the Hawai`i Tourism Authority awarded HPS a $50,000 Signature Project Grant to conduct an extensive feasibility study as part of a community-based program to address the unmet needs of mothers and children in need of new, improved, and expanded drug and alcohol treatment services. As part of the project, HPS will collaborate with Hakipu`u Learning Center and the Salvation Army Family Treatment Services to work in tandem directly with women and families. The study will evaluate if a culturally appropriate, innovative, and evidence-based program model can be developed and implemented in the community.

Impacting Community

- Launched new classes, and a unique lecture & video series at Hale Pulelehua - stay tuned for details!
- Continued cultural work with “Women’s Way” drug treatment program for pregnant women & mothers
- Continued oral history work with hula elders

What’s up in 2010?

- Launch of new classes, and a unique lecture & video series at Hale Pulelehua - stay tuned for details!
- Continued cultural work with “Women’s Way” drug treatment program for pregnant women & mothers
- Continued oral history work with hula elders