2013 at a glance!

Our work honors the treasured hula elders of Hawai‘i.

Mahalo to the State Foundation on Culture & the Arts, Hawaii Tourism Authority, National Parks Service, Friends of Hawaii Charities, Institute for Museum & Library Services, & the Office of Hawaiian Affairs

A Memorable 2013...

HPS was involved with a record 8 public programs this year! Three programs were in Hilo related to the 50th anniversary of the Merrie Monarch Festival. In May, we presented a 4-part series under the umbrella of the Int’l Waikīkī Hula Conference. In July, we presented at the Polynesian Cultural Center, sharing rare historical footage under BYU-HI’s care that we have been digitally preserving.

We celebrated the 1st Merrie Monarch Winners (1971) - Hau‘oli Hula Studio, led by Pauline Kekahuna & Vicky ‘Ili Rodrigues!

In May, HPS surprised Auntie Leilani Alama at the Hawai‘i Convention Center in honor of her 70th teaching anniversary. An amazing milestone achieved by this incredible woman and beloved Kumu! Auntie and baby sister Puanani (L) blessed the audience that day with a hula duet to “Kealoha”. So special!

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HPS recommended Auntie Joan Lindsey for the Mala Grill’s annual “I Ola Mau Ke Hula” award. A private reception at the restaurant in November with her family & haumana was filled with hula & music, all in honor of Auntie’s lifelong dedication to the perpetuation of hula.

HPS helped feature the Hau‘oli Aunties & Pauline Kekahuna during Merrie Monarch. L->R: P.Kekahuna’s sis Leilohoa Kaleikini, dir pauline jr., Leimomi Ho, Joe Camacho, Flo Koonai, & Mama Lono

Tutu Wilson was the beloved matriarch of the “Ex-Leses” of NYC’s Hawaiian Room. She passed in 2013 at the age of 99. You can learn more about this remarkable woman, her career, and her big heart in the film “The Hawaiian Room”.

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The Hau‘oli Aunties honored by HPS: L->R: Aunties Flo Koonai, Leilohoa Kaleikini, Jade Hual, Leimomi Ho, & Mapuna Yousse

Meet the HPS ‘Ohana

Project & Admin Group: Kealani Makalawena, Malle Loo, Keau George, Kahikina Whittle, Gene Kois

Volunteers: Norman Miyasato & Auntie Winnie Nahe

Archive Team: Jonamaria Towea, Janet Ziek, Keau George

Introducing the HPS Office & Archives

Thanks to your 2012 donations, we were able to renovate our new downstairs space and move in as of February. The upstairs is now dedicated to our burgeoning Archives. To that end, we have established ongoing relationships with Windward Community College, Nā Hawai‘i ‘Imi Loa (grad student hau) of UH-Mānoa’s Library-Information Science Dept, & Hikigu’a Learning Center Public Charter School. We enjoy regularly working with students in all stages of their academic & cultural pursuits.

In 2014, we will be completing the full-length documentary “The Hawaiian Room” with Filmmaker Ann Marie Kirk, and then presenting it to the public. We also hope to make a splash in NYC with the Ex-Leses - some haven’t been back since they worked at the Hotel Lexington 50 years ago!

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When you visit the Archives upstairs, you’ll be greeted by HPS’s Keau George and images of our kūpuna that fill the walls

The Hawaiian Room: Film, DVD, & the Big Apple!

“Ex-Leses” sharing their hula at the Convention Center. Lovely as ever!

Late ad featuring Ray Kinney, with “Aloha Mala” (L->R: Jennie Wosuld, Pualani Mossman, Mapuna Bishaw

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Finally ready for us to “make house”!

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