1986 “NA MAKUA MAHALO IA (THE MOST HONORED)” AWARD CONCERT

Enclosed are notes that correspond to the following three videos in the Na Makua Mahalo Ia Collection on HPS’s Vimeo Channel. (http://vimeo.com/hulapreservationsociety)

- 1986 Pt 1 of 3
- 1986 Pt 2 of 3
- 1986 Pt 3 of 3

BACKGROUND: In the 1980s, a series of 5 concerts were held to honor elders of that time who persevered in the 20th century & planted seeds for the Hawaiian Renaissance that began in the 1970s. Over five concerts, 67 kūpuna were recognized, & their names are the ones we recall hearing stories about, for their contributions have deeply enriched the sentience of Hawaiians & the people of Hawai‘i. “Na Makua” was created & led by Dr. Ishmael Stagner, who was a professor at Brigham Young University-Hawai‘i at the time.

To download a scan of BYU’s actual program from this year, visit https://www.papakilodatabase.com & search the Hula Preservation Society Collection. You will also find short audio clips & comprehensive descriptions of select honorees there.

1986 Pt 1 of 3 Na Makua Award Concert

MC, Host & Event Coordinator: Ishmael Stagner (1939-2014)

(2:40)
Honorees: Sarah Lum Nakoa (1911-1990) & Albert Like (1900-unidentified)
Tribute performance by: Ka Pa Hula Hawaii, Kumu Hula Kahai Topolinski
(Kumu implements: pahu, pūniu, ipu)

Auntie Sarah & Uncle Albert were recognized for their work in the preservation & perpetuation of Hawaiian customs, folklore, genealogy & language. In this segment, Ka Pa Hula Hawaii present the following hula performances in their honor:

- (Oli) “Kunihi Ka Mauna I Ka Lai E” (& another oli-unidentified)
- (Hula kaʻi) unidentified
- “Kaulilua I Ke Anu O Waialeale”
- (Oli) “Kamaka O Kane He Inoa,” a chant from the Mersberg-Cummings Collection (Implement: ‘uli‘uli)
- “Pua Ai Lehua Kamakani,” written by Kapiolani for Kalakaua (This kahiko mele comes from the collection of Mary Kawena Pukui & was taught to the ladies by Pat Namaka Bacon.)
- (Oli) “Ka Hale Wili,” a chant they composed in honor of Kapiolani, done in the olioli style
- “Aia I Mololani Ko Nua Hului,” written by great-grandfather John Cummings in honor of Kapiolani
- (Hula maʻi) "He Mai No Iolani" (Lead chanter: Anthony Lenchanko)

(22:08)

Charles K.L. Davis was honored for his extraordinary musical talents. He had a thriving career as a Hawaiian operatic singer, traveling throughout the world performing at such prestigious venues as the White House. In this segment, Davis dazzles the crowd with the following performances:

- “Kona Kai Opua,” written by Henry Waiau & taught to him by Flora Hayes.
- “Lei O Haena,” written by Helen Desha Beamer (Duet w/ Nalani Olds Napoleon)

(36:44)
Honoree: George Holokai (1930-2006)
Tribute performance by: Halau Mohala Ilima, Kumu Hula Mapuana De Silva

Uncle George was recognized as a distinguished Kumu Hula. He was a student & later alakaʻi of Tom Hiona. He also studied informally under Mary Kawena Pukui, Pat Namaka Bacon, Pele Suganuma, & Daddy Bray. In this segment, Halau Mohala Ilima present the following hula as hoʻokupu to Uncle George:

- (Oli) “Ku Ka Punohu”
- (Hula kaʻi) “Ka Ua Maemae” (Implement: ‘iliʻili)
- (Hula noho) “Puino Kolu O Hina” (Implement: ‘iliʻili)
- (Hula) mele unidentified (Implement: ‘ulīʻulī)
- “Kiekie Luna Ke Kuahiwi”
- “Mekila E Na Iwa E Kakai Ana” (Implement: ‘ulīʻulī)

(49:05)
Honoree: Napua Stevens Poire (1918-1990)
Tribute performance by: The Lim Family

Auntie Napua was recognized for her talent as a vocal performer as well as her work in theatre & television. She is a cousin to the famous Kanakaole & Lim families of Hawaiʻi Island. In this segment, the Lim Family perform the following mele in Auntie’s honor:

- “Beyond the Reef”
- “Pretty Hibiscus”
- “Lovely is Kohala”
- “Kohala Roses”
- “Maikai Kamakani O Kohala”
1986 Pt 2 of 3 Na Makua Award Concert

MC, Host & Event Coordinator: Ishmael Stagner (1939-2014)

(1:47)
Honoree: Kaupena Wong
Tribute performance by: 1985 Master Keiki Hula Ty Ai, Halau Hula Olana
Musicians: Howard & Olana Ai (Ty’s parents), (Sister) Natalie Ai

Kaupena Wong was recognized as a master chanter & a keeper of Hawaiian traditional art forms, specializing in ancient Hawaiian implements. In this segment, Kaupena offers the following performances followed by a hula performance by Ty Ai.

- (Oli) “He Mele No Kane”
- “Alika Spoehr Hula,” accompanied by house band (This was Kaupena’s 1st composition, honoring Dr. Spoehr when he accepted the chancellorship of the East-West Center at UH Mānoa in 1961.)
- (Hula) “Hole Waimea”

(19:11)
Honoree: Bina Mossman (1893-1990)
Accepting award on Auntie Bina’s behalf: Auntie Bina’s great-great-grandson
Tribute performances by: Hui Hooulu Aloha, Kumu Hula Cy Bridges-“Ka Pua Ui” & Charles K.L. Davis-“He Ono,” original compositions by Auntie Bina

Auntie Bina was recognized for her musical talents. She was a skilled vocalist & composer who studied music under Queen Liliuokalani. Unfortunately, Auntie Bina was unable to attend the awards program, however, her great-great-grandson was present to accept the certificate on her behalf.

(27:00)
Honoree: Martha Poepoe Hohu (1907-2004)
Tribute performance by: Haunani Apoliona

Auntie Martha was recognized for her work as a composer & her role w/ the choir of Kaumakapili Church for over 50 yrs. In this segment, Haunani performs the following mele in her honor:

- “Hukilau” (Dancer: Ishmael Stagner)
- “E Kuu Tutu,” written by Mary Kawena Pukui & Maddy Lam


(37:48)
Honoree: Kent Ghirard (1918-2011)
Ho’opa’a: (L) Francis Keawe Tam (R) Isabel Sua Lee
Dancers: (L-R) Winnie Wong Naihe, Mae Lima Parish, Leimomi Chung, Margie Lima (Mae’s sister)

Uncle Kent was recognized as a visionary, founding & leading the prominent 1950s “Hula Nani” troupe. They were featured on: Hawaii Calls, (1950s) Hollywood movie “Pagan Love Song,” & Hawai’i’s first travelogue. His Hula Nanis were the poster girls for the Hawaii Visitors Bureau, greeting thousands of tourists & military personnel arriving by air & sea. In this segment, Uncle Kent & 6 of his original dancers entertain the audience with the following hula:

- “Aia La O Pele”
- Medley of songs:
  (Uncle Kent dances the 1st verse of the song twice before it switches to the next)
  - “Hula O Makee”
  - “Aloha Kuu Home Kaneohe”
  - “Papalina Lahilahi”
  - “Na Ka Pueo”
  - “Pua Iliahi”
  - “Halemaumau”
  (His dancers join him to perform final mele)
  - “Hanohano Hanalei” (Implement: ‘uli’uli)

1986 Pt 3 of 3 Na Makua Award Concert

MC, Host & Event Coordinator: Ishmael Stagner (1939-2014)

(1:47)
Honoree: Genoa Keawe (1918-2008)
Tribute performance by: Na Wai Eha O Puna, Kumu Hula O'Brian Eselu (1955-2012)

Auntie Genoa was honored for her work in the preservation & perpetuation of Hawaiian music. She was an iconic falsetto singer, mastering the Hawaiian vocal ability of “ko,” or to lengthen the voice as in chanting. In this segment, the following performances are presented in her honor:

- “Kuu Makamaka”
- “Minoaka,” lyrics by Joseph Kailiwihea, music by Genoa Keawe
- “You Are So Beautiful”
- “Alika” (Guest vocals: Auntie’s niece Cissy Fong)

(23:41)
Schoolteachers, Amoe Meyer (1908-1991) & Viola Kehau Kawahigashi (1910-1998) were recognized for their commitment in the education of Hawai'i’s youth. Auntie Amoe was one of
Auntie Genoa Keawe's 1st music teachers & Gov. George Ariyoshi's 1st grade teacher. Auntie Viola was the niece of famous steel guitar inventor Joseph Kekuku from Lāʻie. “Ia Oe E Ka La” was composed for King Kalakaua by Chiefess Nahinu, cousin of Queen Kapiolani.

Tribute performance by: Tiare Tahari-“Ia Oe E Ka La”
Musicians: Genoa Keawe Ohana Band

(30:41)
Tribute performances by: 1) Sally Moanikeala Wood Naluai, Lani Kalama, Hooulu Cambra & Mom Kepilino 2) Halau Hula O Maiki 3) Kahauanu Lake Trio protégés (group name: Kulia I Ka Nuu)
Narrator: Auntie Lani Kalama

The Lake family members were recognized for their musical & hula contributions to Hawai‘i. In this segment, the following performances are presented in honor of the Lake ‘Ohana:

1) - (Oli) Mele Inoa No Maiki-Auntie Sally
   - (Oli) Mele Inoa No Maiki-Auntie Lani
   - (Oli) “Kunihi Ka Mauna I Ka Lai E”- Hooulu
   - (Hula ipu) “No Luna I Ka Halekai No Kamaalewa” (Dancer: Momi Kepilino)
   - (Oli) Personal composition of hālau's lineage-Hooulu
2) - “Maile Lei”
3) - “Kulia I Ka Nuu”
   - “Aloha Kauai,” written by Maiki Aiu Lake (Dancer: Momi Kepilino)
   - “Pua Lililehua,” Uncle Kahauanu’s 1st acclaimed composition in Hawaiian, written in 1962 in honor of Auntie Maiki (Dancers: Auntie Maiki’s students; Kumu Mapuana De Silva dances in audience)

(59:01)
Finale w/ Honorees & Presenters
Closing mele: “Hawaii Aloha”

The information in this document was compiled from various sources, including Dr. Stagner himself. If you have any additional information or corrections, we welcome your input. Contact us at archive@hulapreservation.org. Phone: (808) 247-9440