



(Na Makua Mahalo Ia Award Concert—1989—broken into 5 videos on Vimeo.com)

1989 “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>)

- 1989 Pt 1 of 5
- 1989 Pt 2 of 5
- 1989 Pt 3 of 5
- 1989 Pt 4 of 5
- 1989 Pt 5 of 5

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.

1989 Pt 1 of 5 Na Makua Award Concert

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

(2:46)

Opening prayer: Mr. James Christensen

(5:13)

Opening speech: Pres. Alton L. Wade, BYU-Hawai‘i

(7:40)

Introduction of VIPs & Dignitaries: Councilwoman Reen Mansho, Rep. Reb Bellinger, Sen. Eloise Tungpalan, Bill Paty, Dir. of Land & Natural Resources

(8:50)

Recognition of prior Honorees in audience: 1) Emma Kapiolani Farden Sharpe 2) Winona Beamer 3) Tau Moe family 4) Silver Piliwale 5) Wylie W. Swapp 6) Martha Poepoe Hohu 7) George Holokai 8) Kahuanu Lake 9) Albert Like & 10) Sarah Lum Nako.



(13:28)

Honorees: Rubellite Kawena Johnson, Edith Kawelohea McKinzie (1925-2014) & Gladys Kamakakuokalani Brandt (1906-2003)

Tribute performances by: Ka Pa Hula Hawaii, Kumu Hula Kahai Topolinski

These 3 recipients were honored for their work as educators, a new category introduced in this year's awards program. In this segment, Ka Pa Hula Hawaii perform the following hula as ho'okupu to the 3 honorees:

- (Hula ka'i) "Anoai Ke Aloha Ma Ka Hikina"
- "Na Mele Hula No Ka Welohea No Waipio"
- (Hula ho'i) "E Hoi Me Ke Ohohia La"
- (Hula pa'i umauma) "A Kona Hema O Ka Lani" (Implement: 'uli'uli)
- (Hula noho) "Akalai Au I Kuhiau" (Implement: 'uli'uli)
- "A Kai O Hale Kauwila" (Implement: kâla'au)
- (Hula ma'i) "He Mele Mai No Kalani Kalakaua," aka "Ko Mai Halala Ua Like Puhī La"
- (Hula ho'i) "E Hoi Me Ke Ohohia La"

(34:12)

Honoree: Kent Bowman Hamilton aka "K.K. Kaumanua" (1923-2007)

Uncle Kent was recognized for his incredible talent as a comedian & politician. In this segment, he titillates the audience with his incredible political comedy act.

1989 Pt 2 of 5 Na Makua Award Concert

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

(2:14)

Honoree: Rachel Nahaleelua Mahuiki (1913-1996)

Presenter: Kawai Cockett (1938-2006)

Auntie Rachel was a well-respected elder from the island of Kaua'i & a relative of Kumu Hula & court chanter Joseph Ilalaole (her maiden name was Ilalaole). She was a Native (Hawaiian) speaker & cultural leader. She was also a member of the Kaahumanu Society & the adoptive mother of entertainer Kawai Cockett. In this segment, Auntie & her son perform the following mele:

- "Ke Ini E Ka Ono," aka "Ka Ono Ia Na Kupuna"
- "Matsonia"

(10:41)

Honoree: Blossom Kailiponi Clark Kaipo (1913-2006)

Lei presenter: (Granddaughter) Chelsea Ai Apana

*Notes provided by Hula Preservation Society
Please contact HPS with any corrections/additions*

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Tribute performances by: Halau Hula Olana, Kumu Hula Olana Ai

Musicians: (Son-in-law) Howard & (Daughter) Olana Ai & (Granddaughter) Natalie Ai Kamaau

Auntie Blossom was recognized for her work in perpetuating hula. Her Wahiaiwā studio was a popular hula school. She was called the “Pineapple Lady” & “May Day Lady,” for her ties with the Wahiaiwā community & her work as a hula instructor for the public schools during May Day season. In this segment, daughter Olana Ai honors her mother w/ hula performances by her keiki troupe.

They present a medley of songs:

- “Green Rose Hula”
- “Na Ka Pueo” (Implement: ipu)
- “Nawiliwili” (Duet: Olana’s son, Tai Ai & young lady)
- “Hukilau”
- “Puamana”
- “E Huli”
- “May Day is Lei Day in Hawaii”

(20:40)

Honoree: Mae Ulalia Long Loebenstein (1911-1997)

Tribute performances by: The Long Family

Narrator: (Daughter) Alba Mae offers insight into the many talents & skills of Auntie Mae:

- 1) Pahu builder
- 2) Quilter
- 3) Painter
- 4) Costume designer
- 5) Lei maker

- Auntie Mae presents her own pahu: “Lei Loke O Maui,” a product of her craftsmanship. (Chanter: Granddaughter-Maelia, Pahu: Auntie Mae)

- “I’m Longing in My Heart for Dear Old Maui” (Lead Vocals: Iwalani Kahalewai)

They sing a medley of Maui songs while showcasing Auntie Mae’s various talents:

- “Noenoe Uakea O Hana,” dancers showcase one of Auntie Mae’s kapa kuiki named “Pua Melia” while dancing to waltz beat.

- “Na Wai Eha” (*Narration of portrait sequence does not match what is being shown.) The following sequence reflects the order in which dancer & portrait appear:

- 1) Maelia- Mt. Olomana
- 2) Niece Ulalia Woodside- Chinaman’s Hat
- 3) Sister Lani- Tutu’s house in Waiehu
- 4) Sister Leiana- Pounder’s Pt. in Lāie
- 5) Sister Amoe- Guava blossom
- 6) Sister Mililani- Misty mts. & the lehua

- “Ka Loke” (Dancers: Maelia, Ulalia & Auntie Mae; donning mu’umu’u designed & fashioned by Auntie Mae herself)

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- "Lei of Stars" (Dancers: Auntie Mae's younger sister, Leiana, exhibiting her pāpale w/ feather band crafted by Auntie Mae. Sisters join her again onstage.)
- "Kilakila O Maui No Ka Oi" (Guitar: Auntie Mae, 'Ukulele: Iwalani Kahalewai)

(34:30)

Honorees: Gov. George Ariyoshi & his wife Jean, Wayne Harada & Dr. Donald Kilolani Mitchell (1906-1989)

Tribute performance by: Haunani Apoliona

These 3 recipients were recognized for their contributions as non-Hawaiians in the perpetuation & enrichment of the Hawaiian community; a new category introduced to this year's awards program. In this segment, Haunani performs the following mele in their honor:

- "Kimo Hula," composed by Helen Desha Beamer; dedicated to Wayne Harada (Dancer: Leimomi Khan)
- "A He Lau Makani," by Queen Liliuokalani; dedicated to the Ariyoshi family
- "Na Kuahiwi Elima," composed by Helen Desha Beamer; dedicated to Dr. Mitchell (Dancer: Charles Manu Boyd)

1989 Pt 3 of 5 Na Makua Award Concert

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

(2:14)

Honoree: Eddie Kamae (1927-2017)

Uncle Eddie was honored as a talented musician, composer & filmmaker. He was mentored by Mary Kawena Pukui & Pilahi Paki. In this segment, Uncle Eddie performs the following mele:

- "Ke Ala O Ka Jeep" He shares the story of this mele; how he ventured w/ Kawena Pukui, his wife & friends to visit the different wahi pana of Ka'ū: Palahemo, Naalehu, & Waiohinu.
- A rendition of "Akahai E Na Hawaii," composed by Pilahi Paki. This mele is usually chanted in today's hula world.

(11:36)

Honoree: Elizabeth Lani Kalama (1928-1998)

Tribute performance by: Halau Mohala Ilima, Kumu Hula Mapuana De Silva

Auntie Lani was honored as a well-respected Kumu Hula. In this segment, she echoes the same sentiments as Eddie Kamae, acknowledging Pilahi Paki who nurtured & embraced the true essence of ALOHA encapsulated in 5 words: *Akahai* (kindness), *Lokahi* (unity, harmony), *Olu'olu* (pleasantness, agreeable), *Ha'aha'a* (humility), *Ahonui* (patience).

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Oli: "Akahai E Na Hawaii"-Auntie Lani

Kumu Hula Mapuana opens w/ the following oli:

- "Huina Na Kolo"
 - "Anoai Ko Kakou Mea Hookipa La Ea," a welcoming chant composed by Haunani Apoliona
- Halau Mohala Ilima perform the following hula:
- "Aia La O Pele"
 - "Kawika"
 - "Kalakaua He Inoa" (Soloist)
 - "Liliu E"
 - (Oli) "Aha Ku Ko I Ka Wai Na Pali"
 - (Oli) "Akahai E Na Hawaii"

(28:36)

Honoree: Robert "Lucky" Luck (1918-1977)

Presenter: Genoa Keawe (1918-2008)

Accepting award on Robert Luck's behalf: (Son) Robert Luck Jr.

Tribute performance by: Auntie Genoa-"Alika"

Robert "Lucky" Luck was born in Waco, Texas, & came to Hawai'i as a serviceman in the US Marines. He later settled in Honolulu to raise his family & established himself as an esteemed entertainer & a popular media star in the 1950s & 1960s. In this segment, his son & surname accepts the award on his behalf, & Auntie Genoa performs a crowd favorite in his honor.

(33:34)

Honoree: Joe Keawe (1918-1992)

Uncle Joe was recognized as a talented ki'eki'e (falsetto) singer, acclaimed as one of the earliest falsetto singers in Hawai'i. He was born on O'ahu to the Keawemauhili family & raised in Kona, Hawai'i. He traveled from his home in Long Beach, California, to attend the awards program. In this segment, Uncle rouses the audience with his humor & shares the following mele:

- "Noho Paipai: Rocking Chair song" (He interjects & corrects the house band to sing Auntie Lena Machado's "Kauoha Mai" aka "Keyhole Hula.")
- "Noho Paipai," showing off his virtuoso in Hawaiian singing: ha'iha'i & ki'eki'e
- "Pua Lilia"
- "God Bless My Daddy"



1989 Pt 4 of 5 Na Makua Award Concert

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

(2:13)

Honoree: Mary Kahihilani Kovich (1915-unidentified)

Tribute performances by: O'Brian Eselu - "Na Pua Lei Ilima" (Dancer: Miss South Pacific 1989 Theresa Purcell) & Genoa Keawe-"Kahihilani," a mele inoa written by Bob Nelson for Auntie Mary
Piano: Bob Nelson

Auntie Mary was honored as a skilled Hawaiian crafter, particularly in lei hulu (feather work). Auntie traveled from her home in California to attend the awards program.

(18:00)

Honorees: Herman (1923-2013) & Freda Gomes (1921-2008)

Lei presenter & Chanter: Keone Nunes

Presenter: O'Brian Eselu (1955-2012)

Tribute performance by: (Hānai daughter) Leimomi Khan, accompanied by Manu Boyd (Chant & Ipu)

Biographical sketch of honorees offered by: Jan Kahoku

Uncle Herman & Auntie Freda Gomes were recognized as master hula implement crafters. In this segment, the following performances are presented:

- (Hula 'āla'apapa) "He Manao, He Aloha I Ka Puuwai," a hula written for the 2 honorees, recognizing their hometown, loving relationship, children, plants & artwork.
- (Hula ma'i) "He Mai No Iolani" (Dancers: Auntie Freda, Leimomi, O'Brian Eselu & Keone Nunes)

(35:06)

Honoree: Anna Lindsey Perry-Fiske (1900-1995)

Tribute performance by: Natalie Ai-"Kaula Ili"

Musician: Howard Ai

Auntie Anna was a pa'u rider, horsewoman & community leader. In the 1920s, she initiated the planting of Banyan trees on Banyan Drive in Hilo. Auntie Anna was known for her cowgirl skills & held a pageant called "Old Hawaii On Horseback." She also represented the State of Hawai'i in the Rose Parade. Unfortunately, Auntie Anna was not present for the awards program, however, a paniolo hula was performed in her honor.

(39:31)

Honoree: Christina Kama Waialeale Nauahi Kekauoha (1913-1999)

Tribute performances by: Halau O Ka Ua Kilihune, Kumu Hula Al Barcarse



Auntie Christina was recognized as a prominent Kumu Hula, as well as her involvement in significant events which have greatly contributed to the enrichment of the Hawaiian community & the production of the Na Makua Ia Awards program itself.

In this segment, Auntie's haumana (student) honors her with the following hula:

- "O Panaewa Ohia Loloa" (Implement: kāla'au)
- "Mai Lohilohi Mai Oe"

(48:21)

Honoree: Maraea Lua Kamae (1919-2001)

Musicians: Thomas Haaheo Au (Steel guitar) & Nora Keahi Santos ('Ukulele)

Auntie Maraea was recognized for her musical talents. At 16 yrs. old, she was one of the youngest members of the all-female group, the Laie Hoaloha Serenaders in the 1930s. Her specialty was the standing bass, & she became known as "Queen of the Slap Bass Fiddle." In the 1950s & 1960s, she performed as a singer, comical dancer & bass player at Queen's Surf in Waikīkī. Auntie traveled from her home in Los Angeles, California, to attend the event. In this segment, Auntie Maraea charms the audience with her playful humor & performs the following mele accompanied by fellow musicians:

(Medley of songs)

- "Halona"
- "Waialae"
- "Wailana"
- "Na Ka Pueo" (Auntie Maraea shows audience different ways of playing slap bass fiddle.)

(1:01:19)

Honoree: Thomas "5 Cents" Haaheo Au (1913-1991)

Uncle Thomas acquired the nickname "5 Cents" when he was a youngster, as he was skilled at fetching the sinking coins tourists would toss off the mauka end of Lā'ie Point. He later became an expert Hawaiian steel guitar player, self-taught, sharing his talents with tourists & locals alike as a musician at the Polynesian Cultural Center. In this segment, Uncle Thomas plays a medley of Hawaiian melodies accompanied by Auntie Maraea Kamae on guitar.

1989 Pt 5 of 5 Na Makua Award Concert

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

(2:15)

Recognition of the Hawaiian-Christian Music Heritage



(3:20)

Music conductor: 1986 Na Makua recipient, Auntie Martha Poepoe Hohu (Musicians: House band, Organ player: Emma Ernestberg)

Audience sings together: "E Mele Au I Ka Hoola E" & "Iesu No Ke Kahuhipa"

(7:25)

Finale w/ Honorees & Presenters

(8:15)

Closing song: "Laie Kuu Aina Aloha"

(12:45)

Closing prayer: D. Arthur Haycock

(14:02)

End of program. Credits.

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