

Ka‘Elele

THE JOURNAL OF
BERNICE PAUAAHI BISHOP MUSEUM
SUMMER 2023

The Messenger



Exhibitions

Through October 29, 2023

Ola Ka No'eau: Excellence in Hawaiian Artistry J. M. Long Gallery

Bishop Museum, in partnership with the PAI Foundation's Maoli Arts Movement (MAMo) initiative, presents the exhibition *Ola Ka No'eau: Excellence in Hawaiian Artistry*. This exhibition explores the genealogy of Hawaiian artistry, particularly through generational transmission of knowledge.

Through August 20, 2023

Backyard Adventures Castle Memorial Building

Our backyard is full of science. Seventeen interactive gallery experiences explore the biological interactions between plants and insects — from the zoology of nocturnal animals to the horticultural know-how that goes into growing vegetables, the exhibit inspires the next generation of scientists by encouraging youth to see their own backyard from new perspectives.

Events

MONTHLY

Second Friday | July 14, August 11, September 8,
October 13

Museum After Hours
5–9 p.m.
Campuswide

JULY

Saturday | July 8

Saturday of Play: Seas the Day | Wild Explorers
9 a.m.–3 p.m.
Campuswide

Friday | July 14

Museum After Hours: Moonlight Mele
5–9 p.m.
Campuswide

Sunday | July 23

Niho 'Ōki Workshop w/ 'Ōlohe 'Umi Kai
10 a.m.–1 p.m.
Atherton Hālau

Sunday | July 30

Ola Ka No'eau: Nā Lei Hala with Ipolani Vaughan
9:30 a.m.–noon
Hale Ikehu

KA 'ELELE | Summer 2023

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Events

AUGUST

Wednesday | August 2

Ola Ka No'eau: Ipu Planting with Ka'imiloa Chrisman
6–7:30 p.m.
Gulab & Indru Watumull Atrium

Thursday | August 3

Ola Ka No'eau: Ipu Pāwehe with Ka'imiloa Chrisman
6–7:30 p.m.
Gulab & Indru Watumull Atrium

Friday | August 4

Ola Ka No'eau: Ipu Heke with Ka'imiloa Chrisman
6–7:30 p.m.
Gulab & Indru Watumull Atrium

Saturday | August 5

**Ola Ka No'eau: Ipu Planting and Ipu Pāwehe
(Advanced) with Ka'imiloa Chrisman**
1–5 p.m.

Friday | August 11

Museum After Hours: Moonlight Mele
5–9 p.m.
Campuswide

Saturday | August 12

**Ola Ka No'eau: Lei Hulu Kāmoe Workshop with
Kawika Lum-Nelmida**
10 a.m.–noon
Gulab & Indru Watumull Atrium

Sunday | August 13

**Ola Ka No'eau: Kōkō Pū'alu Workshop w/ 'Ōlohe 'Umi
Kai**
10 a.m.–1 p.m.
Flanders Lawn

Sunday | August 20

Ola Ka No'eau: Nā Lei Hala with Ipolani Vaughan
9:30 a.m.–noon
Hale Ikehu

SEPTEMBER

Saturday and Sunday | September 2–3

**Ola Ka No'eau: Lei Hulu Humupapa Workshop with
Kawika Lum-Nelmida**
10 a.m.–noon
Gulab & Indru Watumull Atrium

Saturday and Sunday | September 9–10

Honolulu Intertribal Powwow 2023
9 a.m.–5 p.m.
Campuswide

SEPTEMBER (CONTINUED)

Thursday and Friday | September 14–15

**Ola Ka No'eau: Native Hawaiian Ipu Planting with
Momi Greene**
2–5 p.m.
Atherton Hālau

Saturday | September 16

**Ola Ka No'eau: Native Hawaiian Ipu Planting
(For Keiki) with Momi Greene**
9 a.m.–noon
Atherton Hālau

Saturday | September 16

**Ola Ka No'eau: Native Hawaiian Ipu Pāwehe
Demonstration with Momi Greene**
2–3 p.m.
Gulab & Indru Watumull Atrium

Saturday | September 23

Kāhuli Festival
9 a.m.–4 p.m.

OCTOBER

Friday | October 6

Playing With Light - Member Preview
5:30–8 p.m.
Castle Memorial Building

Saturday and Sunday | October 7–8

**Ola Ka No'eau: Kāhili Pa'a Lima Workshop with
Kawika Lum-Nelmida**
10 a.m.–noon
Gulab & Indru Watumull Atrium

Saturday | October 12

Ola Ka No'eau: Makau Workshop with 'Ōlohe 'Umi Kai
10 a.m.–3 p.m.
Hale Ikehu

Sunday | October 22

Ola Ka No'eau: Lauhala with Ipolani Vaughan
9:30 a.m.–noon
Hale Ikehu

NOVEMBER

Friday | November 10

5–9 p.m.
Museum After Hours
Campuswide

For details and program registration visit
bishopmuseum.org/events

COVER | Ipu pāwehe are created using a technique of carving and dyeing gourds; this important cultural art form endures in Hawai'i today.
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Aloha & Mahalo



Aloha Friends and Family of our Bishop Museum,

As I'm writing this message I again find myself serving Ke Ali'i Bernice Pauahi Bishop and her beloved husband, Mr. Charles Reed Bishop, this time on the lower campus of their ahupua'a!

From Day 1, I was in awe of the remarkable work being done by educators, curators, scientists, cultural stewards, design artists, technology wizards, proud grounds and maintenance staff, and administrative specialists. Add to that talent, the incredible expertise and dedication of community leaders and volunteer groups, who serve the Museum every day through their advice, storytelling, gardening, and membership drives, with one unifying thread being the cultivation of our Bishop Museum.

It is humbling to see all the support we treasure. Our funders, donors, members, and partners have stood strongly with us, allowing us to continue the Bishops' legacy, extending it each day to the Pacific and the World, building and sharing knowledge through each generation.

The generous grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for *Building a Pacific Pipeline: Bishop Museum & The Te Rangi Hiroa Pacific Curators and Caretakers Program* has allowed our curators to lead this critical initiative and convene an International Advisory Group, and community of knowledge bearers who are actively planning and implementing a training program in Indigenous Curatorial Practice, supporting the State's focus on regenerative tourism through learning about our culture and environment through the knowledge we hold and share. Our visitor numbers exceeded pre-pandemic levels in 2022 — travelers, students, donors, Museum members, community groups, national and international museum organizations, and dignitaries keep us busy!

Our Museum is a place that shares wisdom from the past to cultivate and shape the future. Our Living Culture Program is a way to connect local cultural practitioners with Museum visitors through demonstrations, presentations, and time to talk story. These lessons include short presentations and demonstrations, giving visitors a unique opportunity to learn about items in the Museum's cultural collections, to see the connections between the 'āina and these objects, and to experience traditional practices that are alive and well today.

It is with great pride that I walk each day seeing the wonders of our Museum. At the same time, I know critical work is ahead for our Board and my leadership team to ensure that our work environment is inspiring, safe, and productive for all who serve here.

With so much at stake, it is no wonder that my husband and I have returned home.

Dee Jay Mailer
President & CEO

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maoli arts movement
MAMŌ

Ola Ka No'eau

Excellence in Hawaiian Artistry

By Marques Marzan



Bishop Museum, through a partnership with the PA'I Foundation's Maoli Arts Movement (MAMo) initiative, has curated an exhibit, *Ola Ka No'eau: Excellence in Hawaiian Artistry*, showcasing the legacy of Hawaiian visual arts and practices in the J. M. Long Gallery. Thirteen notable artists and their work are featured alongside Bishop Museum collections in the exhibit, representing six artistic disciplines: decorated gourds, featherwork, kapa-making, plaiting, tool-making, and visual design. Each discipline is represented by a mentor and student pairing, emphasizing the importance of generational transmission of knowledge. The depth of Hawaiian visual language and knowing is found in the skill of artisans alongside their relationships with mentors, the natural world, and the community. *Ola Ka No'eau* celebrates knowledge bearers who have intentionally passed on their insights, values, and processes, providing future and present generations a chance to learn these skills preserved through legacies of excellence.

Noted artists include:

- Dr. Bruce Ka'imiloa Chrisman (Decorated gourds)
- Momi Greene (Decorated gourds)
- Roen Hufford (Kapa-making)
- Paulette Nohealani Kahalepuna (Featherwork)
- Gordon Umialiloalahanaoukalakaua Kai (Tool-making)
- Imaikalani Kalahela (Visual design)
- Mary Louise Kaleonahenahe Kekuewa (Featherwork)
- Michael Kawika Lum-Nelmida (Featherwork)
- Marie Leilehua McDonald (Kapa-making)
- Bill Keoua Nelsen (Plaiting)
- Cory Kamehanaokalā Taum (Visual design)
- Ipolani Vaughan (Plaiting)
- Kunāne Wooton (Tool-making)

This exhibit brings together contemporary works of leaders and esteemed visionaries in the Hawaiian arts community. As the older generation passes, students become the mentors who continue the cycle of training and build on the foundations previously set. Each generation brings new goals and direction to cultural practice which adds to the vibrancy and resilience of culture. PA'I Foundation Executive Director Vicky Holt Takamine said, "PA'I is honored to work with Bishop Museum to showcase and feature Native Hawaiian artists and cultural practitioners who have dedicated their lives to perpetuate their arts and traditional cultural practices for future generations."

Ola Ka No'eau strives to support Native Hawaiian visual artists through the promotion of their practices based in Hawaiian cultural perspectives and understandings. Connections that exist between a teacher and student are a means to passing on important values, teachings, and insights. These connections bind a student to a teacher's practice and artistic genealogy. Through this exhibit, we hope to provide educational awareness to audiences of all ages that inspires creative exploration and respectful engagement with Hawaiian customary practices.

The exhibit runs from March 11 through October 29, 2023. Please visit bishopmuseum.org/events for more details regarding associated public programming planned during the run of the exhibition.



TOP
Three lei hulu, feather lei, alongside one pendant design made by featherwork master, Paulette Kahalepuna.

MIDDLE
Two meticulously designed and constructed papa he'enalua, surfboards, by Kunane Wooton.

BOTTOM
Bottom: Three plaited works by lau hala master, Ipolani Vaughan.

Bishop Museum 2023

Science & Sustainability Festival

He ali'i ka 'āina; he kauā ke kanaka.

The land is a chief; man is her servant.

— 'Ōlelo No'eau #531.

OPPOSITE PAGE

Bishop Museum extends its mahalo to the many community partners who joined us at the Festival. One of the most popular features of the Festival was NOAA's giant whale, which is explorable from both the outside and inside!



“We are the first generation to feel the impact of climate change, and the last generation that can do something about it.”

— President Barack Obama.

Earth Day, celebrated worldwide on April 22, is an annual environmental awareness and protection event. With Hawai‘i having the unfortunate distinction of being known as the “endangered species capital of the world,” we are especially attuned to the issues and circumstances affecting our ‘āina.

This year, Bishop Museum’s annual Science & Sustainability Festival was held on Earth Day 2023 in partnership with over 30 community organizations dedicated to highlighting the crucial ongoing work needed to protect our biodiversity and build a sustainable future for Hawai‘i.

Bishop Museum’s Natural Sciences Department has been tackling the biodiversity crisis impacting our island homes for decades, protecting and perpetuating the flora and fauna that support our fragile island ecosystems through their research, expeditions, and care for the Museum’s more than 22 million biological specimens. In recent years, the Museum has also supported sustainability efforts through environmentally friendly campus improvements, educational initiatives, and a focus on uplifting ‘ike kupuna, or ancestral knowledge and wisdom, of Native Hawaiian understandings and practices regarding the natural environment around them.

The 2023 Science & Sustainability Festival brought together Museum scientists, educators, and cultural practitioners, with government, education, and community partners in a fun, family-friendly event of science and cultural education. The Festival featured keiki activities, workshops, special presentations, and exhibition highlights throughout the Museum’s 15-acre campus, including live music, interactive performances, and food and drink vendors on its Great Lawn.

Highlights of the Festival included specimens from Bishop Museum’s animal and plant collections; a 45-foot inflatable whale that could be explored from both the inside and outside, hosted by NOAA (the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration); and a keynote conversation led by the Honolulu Board of Water Supply’s Chief Engineer, Ernie Lau, titled “Ola I Ka Wai” (“Water for Life”).



“This year’s Science & Sustainability Festival presented an exciting opportunity to showcase not only the Museum’s efforts to preserve Hawai‘i’s precious biodiversity and highlight the importance of sustainable practices, but also those of our partners actively working to do the same in our communities. The Earth Day event featured something for everyone, from families of young keiki just starting to explore the natural sciences to those concerned about protecting our island aquifers and other natural resources.”

— Taylour Chang, Bishop Museum director of public programs and community engagement



LALO

Science and Conservation in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands

ABOVE

Lalo: Science and Conservation in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands is located on the lower level of the Science Adventure Center.

We're pleased to announce a new exhibit in our Richard T. Mamiya Science Adventure Center, *Lalo: Science and Conservation in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands*, funded by and in partnership with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. *Lalo* (another name for French Frigate Shoals) showcases the natural and cultural history, and importance, of Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument.

Located underneath the volcano in the Science Adventure Center, *Lalo* features rich 2D and 3D digital media that provides guests with the opportunity to not only view terrestrial and underwater scenes, but also experience them as a series of immersive storylines about PMNM. Highlights include 17 hours of "crittercam" shark footage condensed into a four-minute "day in the life" video; a video game where players can tag fish with a laser to determine ocean biodiversity health; a reef zoom experience that allows visitors to explore the rich and diverse world of the reef; and several underwater videos of Museum researchers conducting ocean exploration, projected onto a dome.

"Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (PMNM) is one of the largest fully protected marine conservation areas in the world, covering more than 580,000 square miles in the Pacific Ocean. For nearly a century, Bishop Museum researchers have explored this UNESCO World Heritage Site and conducted studies on biodiversity, conservation, and sustainability. Our *Lalo* exhibit highlights the stories, findings, people, and equipment involved in this important work."

— Richard Pyle, Ph.D., Bishop Museum senior curator of Ichthyology and director of XCoRE, and co-curator of the exhibit.

ELSIE KRASSAS'S VERNACULAR STYLE



The newest Treasure Case rotation in Hawaiian Hall spotlights a notable collection from the Ethnology department.

Elsie Krassas's Vernacular Style introduces seven hats created by Elsie Krassas from the Donald and Dorothea W. Woodrum Collection. The seven hats on view showcase a diversity of materials that Krassas used in her designs, including feathers, natural fibers, shells, and even beach plastic!

Fashion designer Elsie Krassas (1899–1986) arrived in Hawai'i in 1929, at the peak of the Art Deco movement. The Islands' environment influenced Krassas's millinery creations: its textures, colors, and culture. She actively collaborated with local practitioners to support the proliferation and visibility of Native Hawaiian crafts while also expanding Hawai'i's already existing hat fashion. While Krassas's clientele was mostly kama'āina (locals), Krassas's creations also attracted celebrities such as Bette Davis, Bing Crosby, and Dorothy Lamour.

See Elsie Krassas's hats on view until September 2023.

LEFT

Nicole dela Fuente, Conservation Technician, prepares the Elsie Krassas hats before installation of the case.

BELOW

Exhibit designer DeAnne Kennedy and graphic designer Susan Yamamoto teamed up to make the latest treasure case look convincingly like a hat storefront.





Native Ecosystem Restoration Hui

at
Bishop
Museum

By Timothy Gallaher

‘Ōhi’a (Metrosideros polymorpha)
seedlings ready for planting into
restoration areas. (Image Courtesy
of Terraformation).



In March, Bishop Museum partnered with several local conservation organizations to launch a native ecosystem restoration hui to support native ecosystem conservation and restoration efforts on O'ahu. The program will provide several critical services for partner organizations. These include biodiversity surveying and mapping; data storage; and native seed gathering, storage, and germination. These tasks are essential to native ecosystem restoration; however, they are incredibly time-consuming, and many organizations lack the resources to do them well. Our hui aims to centralize these tasks, reduce the time and cost of restoration, and free up our conservation partners so that they can focus on taking care of the land and engaging with the community.

The work of the hui will be directed by representatives from each member organization, and a coordinator will oversee the work. That person will be supported by Bishop Museum staff with the skills and capacity to provide a range of biodiversity discovery and management services. A centerpiece of this program is a restoration seed bank donated to the Museum by Terraformation, a global forest restoration company based in Hawai'i. Our seed bank is housed within a modified 40-foot shipping container. It includes lab space, refrigerators, freezers, desiccators, and all the supplies needed to gather, process, and store up to 8 million seeds (enough to restore over 15,000 acres of land over 10 years). Unlike other seed banks, such as the Svalbard Global Seed Vault in Norway, ours is not intended for long-term seed storage.

The seeds we gather will be stored only until our conservation partners are ready to plant them. Some seeds may be kept for more extended periods for use after forest fires or landslides.

Our seed bank joins a few others on O'ahu, including Lyon Arboretum's Seed Conservation Lab and the O'ahu Army Natural Resource Program's seed bank at Schofield Barracks. Each seed bank has a specific mission. Bishop Museum's seed bank will primarily serve community conservation organizations. We will focus on common native species that can be planted to cover large areas of land to create habitat for the eventual reintroduction of rare, threatened, or endangered species.

The hui's first conservation partners include Gill 'Ewa Lands, which is working to restore the health of the Wai'anae Mountains ecosystem at Pālehua; Protect & Preserve Hawai'i, which is restoring a section of the forest of lower Pia Gulch in East O'ahu; and the Mānoa Cliff Trail restoration project. These organizations are doing good conservation work while raising awareness in the community about the importance of conserving native ecosystems. As the program grows, we hope to invite new partners to join us. In 2024, we plan to add a greenhouse to support the program, allowing us to increase our capacity and help more partner organizations. There are, in fact, over 35 independent organizations and landowners on O'ahu conserving and restoring native ecosystems. Many have experienced the bottleneck of not having enough of the right native plants at the right time to plant.

The program has received generous support from several local companies. Young Brothers shipped our seed bank from Hawai'i Island to O'ahu at no charge through their Community Shipping Program and Hawaiian Electric supported the installation costs. In addition to providing the seed bank, Terraformation will join our hui as a founding member.

Our program staff will work closely with the Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources to ensure we comply with seed collection permitting rules and phytosanitary requirements. Staff from Lyon Arboretum's Seed Conservation Laboratory have also generously offered to guide and support our program.

The program will have its base of operations on the Bishop Museum campus, makai of the Great Lawn, and next to the Science Adventure Center. As the program grows, we will add educational material, tours, and training opportunities at the site. We hope to recruit volunteers who want to become involved in all stages of native ecosystem restoration. If you are interested in learning more, getting involved, or helping this program grow, visit: bishopmuseum.org/ecosystemrestoration. We have links to our partner organizations on the site and more information about conserving our ecosystems, the importance of native plants, and seed stewardship.

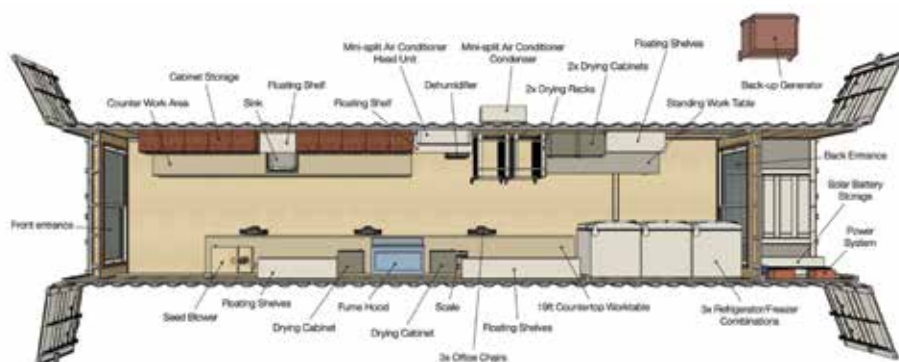


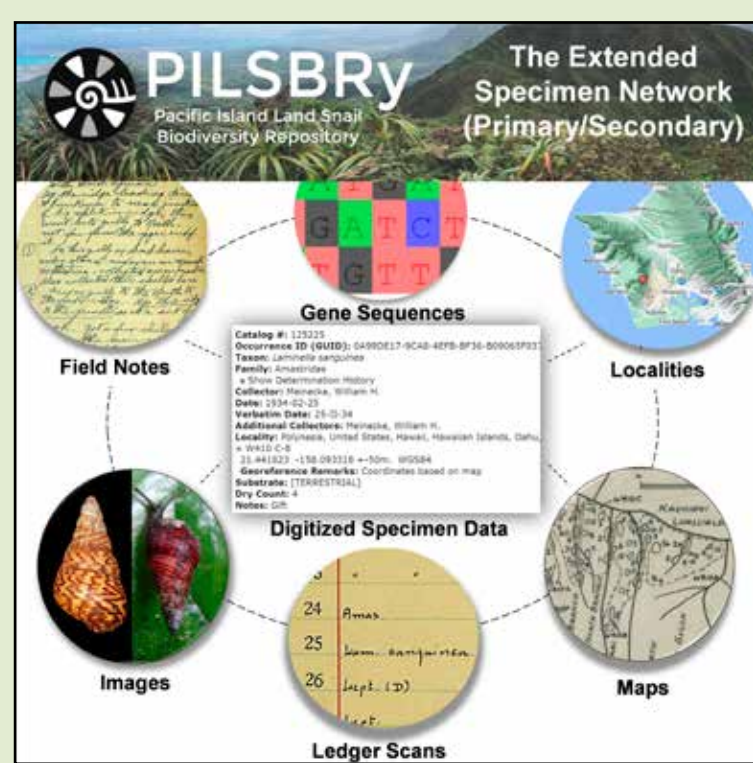
ABOVE (clockwise from upper left) Seeds of Koa (*Acacia koa*), Māmane (*Sophora chrysophylla*), Hō'awa (*Pittosporum confertiflorum*), and 'Ahu'awa (*Cyperus javanicus*) ready for storage in the seedbank or germination and outplanting. (Image courtesy of Terraformation).



BELOW LEFT Bishop Museum's new native ecosystem restoration seed bank will provide storage for millions of seeds. (Image courtesy of Terraformation).

TOP Seed images courtesy of the Lyon Arboretum's Seed Conservation Lab





The Pacific Island Land Snail Biodiversity Repository (PILSBRY)

A Bishop Museum-led initiative to save one of the world's most threatened groups of animals

Habitat destruction, climate change and invasive species are wiping out Earth's biodiversity at an alarming rate, with extinction rate estimates for some groups placed at 15% per decade. Shockingly, of all the major animal groups (i.e. fish, birds, mammals, insects, reptiles and snails), snails have been hit the hardest, with the highest number of recorded extinctions in the past 500 years, especially on Pacific islands like Hawai'i. The Pacific islands are home to an impressive collection of over 6,000 species of land snails. Most of these snails live entirely on just one island or mountain ridge, resulting in an incredible diversity of shell shapes, sizes, and colors. Like many invertebrates, land snails play a vital role in maintaining healthy ecosystems by serving as a food source, aiding in waste and litter decomposition, and facilitating nutrient cycling. Snails are also significant culturally, particularly on Pacific Islands. In Hawaiian mo'olelo, snails are symbols of good fortune and are even attributed with the ability to sing. In other regions of the Pacific, snail shells are fashioned into jewelry, used as currency, and even employed as horns for ceremonies and communication.

Protecting these amazing creatures requires current and accurate knowledge of what they look like, where they are found, and what they need to survive. Regrettably, much of this information is unknown, and with the current rates of extinction, time is quickly running out. Critical to developing this knowledge and making decisions about how best to conserve species are museum natural history collections. They provide a record of species over time and are the foundation for assessing past biodiversity and its changes.

ABOVE LEFT

Postdoctoral Researcher Chandra Earl teaching the public how to search for locations where native land snails were found

ABOVE RIGHT

Diagram (made by Chandra Earl) of specimen data made available through the PILSBRY portal. This work is supported through multiple National Science Foundation awards to Malacology curators Norine Yeung and Kenneth Hayes (DBI-1902328, 1561774).

BELOW

Malacology Research Specialist Taylor Maruno imaging live snails (*Kaala subrutila*) for identification and databasing.

These permanent records provide us insights into species distribution, abundance, and variation (e.g. genetic, morphological, disease, ecological).

Historically, access to museum specimens and their data has been restricted to a select few, usually researchers and scientists who could afford to travel and visit the collections in person. This barrier has made it challenging for the broader scientific community to actively study these snails and their decline. Making the collection digitally available online to both scientists and the public is crucial to help everyone learn about and contribute to protecting native biodiversity for future generations.

In August 2019, Bishop Museum was awarded \$1.3 million by the U.S. National Science Foundation to lead the establishment of a network of national natural history museums with significant Pacific Island land snail holdings. The main goal of the project was to digitize, organize, and make available 3.6 million specimens (representing at least 3,000 species) for online use within four years. Additional information, such as collection maps, collector notebooks, and research notes were also included to provide context and enhance the usefulness of specimen data.

To date, there are six participating museums:

- Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum (Honolulu, Hawai'i)
- Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)
- Museum of Zoology at the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, Michigan)
- Harvard Museum of Natural History (Cambridge, Massachusetts)
- Florida Museum of Natural History (Gainesville, Florida)
- Field Museum (Chicago, Illinois)

The project has currently made available collection information for 3.68 million specimens from nearly 4,100 species. Collectively, the museums have scanned, transcribed and linked more than 650

field notebooks, 10,000 shell images, and 250 hand drawn maps to specimen records. Information is housed in an online database, providing access to useful information such as historical collectors, species lists, habitat details, images, and specimen locations. This website (www.pilsbry.org) is available to anyone who wants to learn more about Pacific Island snails.

The Museum continues to expand and digitize its collection and to recruit new museums to join the network. This ambitious effort to amass over a century's worth of biocultural research data from the Pacific region is only achievable thanks to the collaborative contributions of researchers, students, and volunteers involved in this project and its associated activities. Such work is the hallmark of what Bishop Museum should be in the modern era of biodiversity loss—a leader in making data available for finding solutions.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or intern, please email Malacology Curator Norine Yeung (norine@bishopmuseum.org). All team members receive training in topics ranging from systematics to curation and museum conservation, and participate in outreach activities to increase public understanding of the overall importance of invertebrates in ecosystems and the value of natural history collections to conserving and securing biodiversity. To donate to the Malacology Department in their endeavor to save Hawai'i's remaining snails, please visit:



QR code to donate to Bishop Museum's Malacology Department



QR code to pilsbry.org



Haruo Uchiyama's Hawaiian Honeycreepers

ABOVE

Mr. Uchiyama visited the Museum recently for a special presentation about his handcrafted birds. Attendees viewed his creations and got to see the artist at work.

In January, we had the pleasure of welcoming Haruo Uchiyama, ornithologist and master woodcarver, back to Bishop Museum as he personally delivered his final carvings of the historically known Hawaiian honeycreepers.

Mr. Uchiyama is the artist-in-residence at the Yamashina Institute of Ornithology in Japan. He has carved birds from around the world but became interested in Hawai'i's native species in 2016, when he visited O'ahu. Since then, he has been creating a set of exquisitely lifelike Hawaiian honeycreeper carvings for the purpose of educating the public about these amazing birds.

Since the project began in 2016, Mr. Uchiyama's sculptures of Hawaiian honeycreepers have helped to raise awareness

of Hawai'i's native forest birds. His January visit was filled with events to celebrate the completion of the first stage of this ongoing initiative.

During Bishop Museum's After Hours event in January, a special Pau Hana presentation with Mr. Uchiyama offered attendees the opportunity to see and touch the bird sculptures. The next day, a special *kamishibai* presentation was held in the Gulab & Indru Watumull Atrium in Hawaiian Hall.

Kamishibai, meaning "theater on paper," is a form of street-style storytelling that originated in Japan. Performed by a narrator who uses illustrated paper story boards to tell a story, Mr. Uchiyama's *kamishibai* brought to life the story of Hawaiian honeycreeper evolution.

"Bishop Museum has a significant role to play in protecting the biodiversity of Hawai'i. One of the ways we do that is by educating the public about the importance and fragility of Hawai'i's ecosystems. The Uchiyama birds allow visitors to see lifelike representations of extant birds they might never see in the wild, as well as extinct birds that have already vanished from the forest."

— Molly Hagemann, Bishop Museum Vertebrate Zoology collections manager, Natural Sciences Department



ABOVE
DeSoto Brown presents images from the Archives of buildings in Hawai'i that have since been destroyed or demolished.

Join the Stewardship Circle of Bishop Museum Members

Our Stewardship Circle Members deeply love and appreciate the work and history of Bishop Museum. Throughout the year, we mahalo our members with exclusive access and behind-the-scenes immersion with our collections and curators.

Bishop Museum's Library & Archives photograph collection is the largest collection of images of Hawai'i and the Pacific in the world. We have over one million images, ranging from

personal snapshots to scientific specimens, and the collection includes some of the oldest surviving photographs taken in Hawai'i, some dating as far back as the 1840s. Every year, Bishop Museum Historian and Curator for the Archives DeSoto Brown hand-picks a collection to share with this group, and during January's evening event he focused specifically on buildings that are no longer with us.

Member Spotlight: Moana Heu

At various levels, Stewardship Circle Members get invitations to opening receptions for exhibitions and opportunities to tour our galleries and collections with our curators and other experts who steward and maintain our precious artifacts. Member Moana Heu brought three generations of her family along on a tour that included items from Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop, Princess Ruth Ke'elikōlani, and Queen Emma Kaleleonālani—items that helped make up the founding collection here at Bishop Museum.

The annual commitments from Stewardship Circle Members sustain the work we do to carry out our mission. Learn more at bishopmuseum.org/stewards or contact the membership team at membership@bishopmuseum.org.

Why did you decide to become a member of Bishop Museum? The incredible amount of knowledge that the Museum and its staff holds is worth way more than the cost of membership.

What has been a memorable Bishop Museum visit, exhibit, or event for you and your family?

As a docent, I was invited to view the Kalani'ōpu'u 'ahu 'ula and mahiole before it was opened to the public. What immediately struck me was the beautiful colors of the feathers. Although those objects were away from Hawai'i for 238 years, they are home now and in excellent condition due to the care that was taken of them while they were away.

What is your favorite benefit associated with your Bishop Museum membership?

The vast wealth of Hawaiian cultural and historical knowledge available basically at my fingertips.

How does our mission resonate with you as a resident or visitor to Hawai'i? I think it is important to preserve and perpetuate Hawai'i's culture and that of our Pacific neighbors. Visitors express their appreciation for the opportunity to visit and say they will recommend visiting to others.

Stewardship Circle Member Moana Heu brought three generations of her family and friends on her collection tour, a benefit of her membership



What are you looking forward to on your next visit to Bishop Museum? I always "aloha" each of the ali'i whose portraits are in the Kāhili Room when I arrive and say "a hui hou" before I leave. I did not learn a lot of Hawaiian culture from my mother as, sadly, she died when I was 10 years old. However, being at the Museum has allowed me to learn so much about Hawaiian history and culture, including acknowledging the ali'i.

UNIQLO UTme!



In partnership with UNIQLO in Hawaii, Bishop Museum has released new stamps that shoppers can use to design UTme! creations.

UTme! is an innovative on-demand printer that enables customers to customize their designs on shirts and totes, with sale proceeds supporting Bishop Museum and other local nonprofits. DIY (design it yourself) shirts and tote bags can be purchased in-store at UNIQLO in Ala Moana Center.

Currently there are eight stamp designs, including new stamps representative of Bishop Museum's cultural and natural sciences collections and its J. Watumull Planetarium, along with 2022's classic nēnē, pipipi, and honu stamps. Designed and illustrated by in-house graphic designer, Ross Yamanaka, these playful images reflect the fun and engaging interactives visitors can experience in the Museum's exhibition, *Backyard Adventures*.

ABOVE
Bishop Museum employees sharing some of the Museum's UTme! designs.

LOWER LEFT
UNIQLO in Hawaii Marketing Manager Chun En Choy (left) and Bishop Museum Director of Corporate and Travel Industry Relations Milton Lafitaga.



“UNIQLO does a great job at highlighting brands that showcase Hawai‘i. Visitors, even local people like myself, enjoy seeing the nostalgic logos of brands that are iconic to the Islands. We are proud to be included in this project and look forward to seeing what the community creates with our new stamps.”

— Milton Lafitaga, Director of Corporate and Travel Industry Relations

UNIQLO is a clothing apparel company originally founded in Yamaguchi, Japan in 1949 as a textiles manufacturer, and is now a global brand with over 1,000 stores around the world.

BACKYARD ADVENTURES



The next generation of citizen scientists have enjoyed learning and playing in *Backyard Adventures* since its opening on Nov. 19, 2022. The interactive science exhibit engages visitors with wonders that can be found in their own backyards.

"*Backyard Adventures* is a natural complement to our mission, natural sciences collection, and research here at Bishop Museum. Since Bishop Museum emphasizes the importance of natural sciences, biodiversity, and conservation, this exhibit puts science in action and encourages citizen science for all ages through engaging and playful interactives in a setting familiar to many 'ohana," said Brandon Bunag, Vice President of Public Programs.

"Our hope is that *Backyard Adventures* helps to instill a love of the sciences in many of our guests and shows how they can start their own scientific journeys and research, in their homes and outdoors."

Pasha Hawaii, the presenting sponsor of the exhibition, has been a long-standing supporter of the Museum's exhibitions and programs. Pasha Hawaii is committed to making a difference in the lives of their customers, employees, and communities.





Senior Registrar **Cynthia Low**

The museum registrar has always been tasked with recording objects as they enter and leave an institution. Just about every museum has old, handwritten ledgers numbering, describing, and dating each and every item. While we no longer hand write information into a beautifully bound book, the core responsibility of the Registrar remains as keeper of Museum collection records and any other tasks that support this function. Part of supporting the collection records involves keeping our permits current and our records organized. It is important to know how the items in our collection came to the Museum and how to best care for them.

Every object and specimen in the collection comes with its own history and story to tell. As Senior Registrar, I'm immersed

in the collection through its notes, letters, and legal paperwork. Our department is a team of two. Every day we field questions about something in our collection. A normal day is never boring. It could be researching items we received decades ago, arranging transport of works that will be going on loan, or preparing paperwork for new accessions to the collection. Our department processes and tracks all incoming and outgoing loans. The best part of my work is that it allows me to see what is moving to and from our Museum. In addition to work on upcoming exhibitions, I am currently doing a lot of provenance research and policy development related to accessibility. The more accurate our records are, the easier it is to study, identify, and locate. With over 28 million items and specimens in our Museum, there's never a dull moment.

IN MEMORIAM

Bishop Museum remembers Abigail Kinoiki Kekaulike Kawānanakoa for her commitment to Hawai‘i and the Hawaiian people.

By DeSoto Brown, Historian and Curator for Archives at Bishop Museum



Abigail Kinoiki Kekaulike Kawānanakoa photographed with an oil portrait of Princess Kaʻiulani by Japanese artist Banko at Bishop Museum, Honolulu, Hawai‘i; October 1954. Photo by Joe Pacheco, Bishop Museum Archives, SP 44747

On December 12, 2022, Hawai‘i lost a steadfast supporter and advocate who impacted the lives of many for the better. Kekau, as she was known to her close friends, was the granddaughter of Prince David Kawānanakoa and Abigail Wahīkaʻahuʻula Campbell. David Kawānanakoa was designated a successor to the throne of the Hawaiian Islands by his uncle, King David Kalākaua. David Kawānanakoa and his two brothers were preceded in the line of succession by Kalākaua’s sister Liliʻuokalani, and then his niece, Kaʻiulani.

Kekaulike’s great grandmother was Abigail Kuaihelani Maʻipinepine Bright, who married James Campbell, an immigrant from Ireland who became one of the largest land owners in Hawai‘i.

At a young age, Kekaulike was adopted by her grandmother, Abigail Wahīkaʻahuʻula. This distinction and privilege of being raised by her kupuna gave her an up-close experience of what

it was to be an ‘ōpū aliʻi, a leader who gave generously to provide for others’ well-being. Due in part to both the Campbell and Kawānanakoa family histories, wealth, and influence, Kekaulike naturally pursued philanthropic endeavors that supported a variety of Hawaiian causes, organizations, and individuals.

Kekaulike munificently provided funding for the refurbishment of an exhibit space dedicated to Hawai‘i’s aliʻi at Bishop Museum, now known as The Abigail Kinoiki Kekaulike Kawānanakoa Kāhili Room. This project, completed in January of 2007, was the first step in the much larger project to restore the entire Hawaiian Hall complex.

Bishop Museum honors Abigail Kinoiki Kekaulike Kawānanakoa for her aloha for her culture and people. Her legacy will continue beyond her life through her bequests, in the benevolence which she recognized as her kuleana.

DATED MATERIAL



Playing With Light

Immerse yourself in the technology and wonders of light!

This enlightening new exhibition will engage visitors with stimulating light and visualization experiences. Full-body interactive exhibits will encourage visitors to engage in an array of exciting and amazing light, laser and lens-based experiences, including freezing their shadows, mixing colored lights, discovering how to shake their own hand, and making a laser beam bounce down a stream of water.

On View

October 7, 2023–March 24, 2024

Bishop Museum inspires our community and visitors through the exploration, celebration, and perpetuation of the extraordinary history, culture, and environment of Hawai'i and the Pacific.

Development	808.847.8281
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Information	808.847.3511
Membership	808.847.8296
Shop Pacifica	808.848.4158

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If you have questions about this issue of *Ka 'Elele*, please contact the Bishop Museum Institutional Advancement Division at 808.847.8281.

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I ho'okahi ka umauma, ho'okahi ke aloha.

All abreast together, one in love.

All united in harmony and love.

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