

‘U MEKE KĀ‘EO

A well-filled calabash, a well-filled mind



HILT's Land Stewardship Manager enjoys a day with his children at Waihe'e Coastal Dunes & Wetlands Refuge. Photo Credit Bryan Berkowitz

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'**Umeke Kā'eo** is the newsletter of Hawaiian Islands Land Trust, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization committed to land conservation in Hawai'i.

As a Hawai'i organization we encourage our entire community to learn more about the Hawaiian language. Should you come across a Hawaiian word or term you don't understand in our newsletter, please visit wehewehe.org or email info@hilt.org for more information.

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Letter from the Chief Executive Officer

Laura H. E. Kaakua



Aloha HILT 'Ohana,

For those of you who I have not yet had a chance to meet, aloha. Mahalo for welcoming me into the HILT 'Ohana, a diverse group of people across Hawai'i and many oceans with a unifying love of Hawai'i. As we transition from the hottest summer yet into our rainy ho'oilō season, and watch the lands around us turn from crispy brown to green, many of us are thinking about our changing climate, the higher likelihood of severe weather in Hawai'i, and how we can help. As Hawai'i's islands-wide land trust, our HILT 'Ohana holds a great kuleana to look out for our great grandchildren's great grandchildren, starting with our actions today.

We are using our land trust tools of conservation purchases, conservation easements, community-based 'āina stewardship, and educating Hawai'i's youth, to protect and care for the lands that will sustain us all in a changing Hawai'i.

Operating with urgency, we are focused on conservation easements that permanently protect entire coastal landscapes, where the alternative to protection is residential development that will need to be mitigated as our ocean rises. We are in the home stretch of placing conservation easements on fertile lands in Wai'ānae, O'ahu, and Waikapū, Maui, which will grow healthy food for local tables, and decrease our dependence on imported goods. We are working with landowners dedicated to native forestation which literally brings back the rain, lowers temperature, and changes climate for the better.

On the seven preserves owned and stewarded by HILT throughout Hawai'i, we are building both ecological and cultural resilience through connection to place, people, and practice. A connected community is a resilient community. If we know our lands, and we know one another, we will care for our lands and each other on a daily basis, and in a crisis. Volunteers at the monthly community days at Kāhili Beach Preserve on Kaua'i, clean up marine debris, and also get to know the rhythms of Kāhili — rolling sets of waves, circling 'Iwa birds, and kids splashing in Kīlauea River. Neighbors are connected to one another through community projects such as tending the lā'au lapa'au garden at Maunawila Heiau Complex. Hula dancers at Waihe'e Coastal Dunes & Wetlands Refuge help HILT manage the fast-growing hau bush, and use the hau wood to carve hula ki'i; hand puppets used in storytelling. Connection is resilience.

For the next generation who will experience more of Hawai'i's lands developed, and intense changes to climate, teaching a mālama 'āina ethic now is imperative. HILT is ramping up staff and efforts to connect Hawai'i's students to place, and to bring math, science, art, engineering, creative writing, and Hawaiian history and values to life. Mahalo for helping to forge these life-changing connections.

Aloha 'Āina,

Laura Kaakua, Chief Executive Officer

Kuahaua

HILT Expands 'Āina-Based Education Program



Hawaiian Islands Land Trust sees firsthand the life-changing benefits that come as a direct result of connecting Hawai'i's youth and learners of all ages with the lands that sustain our communities.

This year, HILT received grants from the Saunders Family Charitable Foundation and Hawai'i Tourism Authority enabling an islands-wide expansion of our 'Āina-Based Education Program. Currently, HILT serves more than 2,500 school children Pre-K through post-secondary school at Waihe'e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands Refuge on Maui and at Maunawila Heiau Complex in Hau'ula, O'ahu. HILT hired Denby Freeland as its Waihe'e 'Āina Educator in October of this year. With Denby, we will be able to connect even more Hawai'i students with 'āina under HILT stewardship. By year's end, Denby will have formally documented the key components of these successful learning programs

at Waihe'e and Maunawila in order to create a template for tailored replication at HILT's other preserves across Hawai'i. Denby will welcome hundreds of students to Waihe'e in 2020 using curriculum that meets DOE standards while building self-awareness and kuleana.

This is not Denby's first time working with the Land Trust; she educated students at Waihe'e between 2008 and 2011. We are thrilled to welcome her back and look forward to witnessing a greater number of reconnected keiki at Waihe'e as well as on Kaua'i, O'ahu, and eventually Hawai'i Island.

Denby is a cultural practitioner, educator, and artist who lives in upcountry Maui with her two children. Born and raised on O'ahu, Denby graduated from Punahou School and earned her Bachelor's degree at the University of Washington, as well as a Master's degree in Education at Heritage College, Washington. Denby's career path interweaves arts and environment in Hawai'i. She has held positions at Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center, Hawai'i Nature Center, and Maui Coastal Land Trust, and has run her own consulting business educating disabled youth. Denby is a well-known artist and Hawaiian kapa maker. Her recent works include a collection of watercolors, mixed media paintings, and kapa, which capture the light, shadow, and rhythm of Hawai'i's plants.

Denby's artwork reveals her awareness of the sensitive environment in which she lives. Her family history in Hawai'i dates back many generations. While she has enjoyed a lifetime of exposure to the renowned Hawaiian landscapes of her mother, artist Betty Hay Freeland, Denby has developed a unique style all her own. These qualities provide Denby with the unique skill set required for her 'Āina-Based Education work with HILT. Please join us in welcoming Denby Freeland!



Currents

HILT Happenings



HAWAI'I

Founding Member of Land Trusts in Hawai'i Leaves a Legacy of Inspiration and Hard Work

Longtime Land Trust devotee Stephanie Amick passed earlier this year and will be sorely missed. Stephanie was an invaluable asset to the many organizations she worked tirelessly to support. Stephanie's commitment to her community was evidenced by her dedicated service to Hawaiian outrigger canoe paddling and other Hawaiian cultural events.

In the early 2000s, Stephanie became a board member for the newly formed Kona Land Trust, where she helped acquire the 184-acre Keopuka Kai conservation easement on the shores of Ka'awaloa, just north of Kealahou Bay. This easement, a donation from the Oceanside 1250 partners, was part of a settlement for the Hōkūli'a litigation. We had to scramble to get the easement recorded in record time. I recall Stephanie's presence at every meeting, quietly emphasizing the significance of this land to the community and the need to conserve its coastline.

In 1999, a golf course was proposed for this land and would have been likely to set the tone for future resort development along the South Kona Coast. Stephanie's advocacy for conservation and preservation of historic cultural lands was resolute. Stephanie was one of the first members of HILT's Hawai'i Island Council. As such, she helped facilitate many events and educational tours, and assisted with the acquisition of two more easements, one in Ka'ū and one near Hamākua.

As HILT goes forward, it is pono to take a moment to admire this woman's commitment to local land conservation, and to offer our deep respect and gratitude. Stephanie is our kupuna; her spirit follows us as we keep her legacy alive.

—THIS CONTRIBUTION WAS LOVINGLY PROVIDED BY DR. RICK BENNETT, HAWAI'I ISLAND COUNCIL MEMBER.

KAUAI

Wai Koa Loop Talk Story Event

On April 20, the Kauai Island Council organized a Talk Story on the Land hike on the newly protected Wai Koa Loop Trail. The hike was led by Kilauea historians Gary Smith and Jack Gushiken, supported by Kauai Island Councilmembers. Starting at Anaina Hou Community Park, the day began with breakfast and a quick overview of the history of the area, including the Land Trust's role in protecting public access to the trail, and the partnership between HILT, Porter Trust, and Anaina Hou. Following an oli honoring the area and kupuna, and asking for safe passage, more than 80 people walked the 4-mile Wai Koa Loop Trail together.

The Trail meanders through the historic Wai Koa Plantation in Kilauea, home to the over 100-year-old Stone Dam and the largest mahogany forest in Hawai'i. Gary and Jack delighted participants with both ancient mo'olelo and personal stories of their time on the land. Based on the success of the hike, HILT's Kauai Island Council hopes to provide many more opportunities to meaningfully connect the people of Kauai to 'āina.





MAUI

Hāwea Point Moonlight Walk and Waihe'e Ho'olaule'a

HILT's newest conservation easement, known as Kapalua Makai Open Space, was put to good use on May 17, when a group of 19 Maui residents and visitors gathered for a moonlight hike. We met at Kapalua Makai Open Space, near the Kapalua Coastal Trail, and then toured Hāwea Point, another property protected by a HILT-held conservation easement. Just after sunset, we settled in to watch an amazing spectacle as thousands of 'Ua'u Kani (Wedge-tailed shearwaters, a pelagic seabird) arrived home to their burrows. Patience and calm movements were rewarded with the intimacy of the birds gathering around and making their distinctive, eerie, crying call.

Saturday, July 13 was another busy day as we celebrated our annual Ho'olaule'a at Waihe'e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands Refuge. Participants kept cool on this hot day with complimentary Tobi's Shave Ice, and enjoyed 'ono, healthy Hawaiian food provided by Kahumoku Farms. Kumu Kaponō'ai Molitau offered the opening pule and blessing and Unko' George Kahumoku played sweet music. HILT invited its conservation partners to set up information booths, thus providing many opportunities for learning about various Maui conservation efforts. Cultural practitioners welcomed attendees to appreciate ka hana a ka po'e kahiko, and the need to care for Waihe'e so that our cultural practices can thrive. Attendees made cordage with Kekai Robinson, lei kauna'oa with Laura Kaakua, and kapa with Denby Freeland. Mahalo to Boeing for its financial support and to the many volunteers who made this day happen.



O'AHU

Lima Hana Providing Connection and Career Development in Hau'ula

My name is Kamalani Sayles. I am a freshman at Kahuku High and Intermediate School. I was born and raised in Hau'ula, it is my home. It is where I am meant to be. I write today to share about my participation in the Lima Hana Intern program at HILT's Maunawila Heiau this summer.

Even though I was born and raised in Hau'ula, I had never been to Maunawila Heiau or learned of its importance. When I signed up for this program, I thought it would just be a summer job. I never expected to learn so much about the history and culture of my community. This made me realize that there is so much more to Hau'ula than I thought. I want to continue to learn more.

I also enjoyed the opportunity to be in charge of a project. My work partner and I were in charge of replacing the trail markers and redoing the signs. I enjoyed the work. It was rewarding to see how my finished projects make people want to come to visit this place.

Working with other 'opio was also a learning experience. It was my first time meeting many of them. I was shy at first but as we worked alongside each other we learned about each other. In order to do our work, we had to talk to each other and figure out how to accomplish our goals. I learned how to turn a stranger into a friend.

This being my first job means I got my first paycheck. Now that I am older, I see how life can be hard and expensive. My paychecks allowed me to help my family with bills and other necessities. It made me feel really good to help my family financially. This also made me realize the importance of programs like this in our community. I hope other students will have this opportunity next year.

Being part of HILT's Maunawila Heiau 'opio has made me appreciate all the hard work that has been done at Maunawila Heiau and in our community. I am committed to continue being part of the future work to mālama Maunawila Heiau.

—KAMALANI SAYLES, KAHUKU HIGH SCHOOL FRESHMAN AND HANA LIMA PROGRAM PARTICIPANT

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS LAND TRUST 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

Message From the Board Chair

Jonathan Likeke Scheuer



Aloha friends who love the land –

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Hawaiian Islands Land Trust, I am pleased to share our annual report for 2018. Like many of you, I have been a supporter of HILT since its creation in 2011. Since becoming Chair in 2018, I have gained an even deeper appreciation for the reach and impact of HILT in Hawai‘i, and for our potential.

There are so many ways we can measure our impact, recounting the acres we have protected (over 19,000 by the end of 2018, and still growing), and the dollars we have raised and spent on conservation. These are good numbers to know and you will see many of them in this report.

I have come to believe, however, that in many fundamental ways it is not land that we protect, in the deepest meaning of our work together. We certainly do acquire and hold land, in fee simple and by conservation easements. But in the end that is merely a mechanism for something greater.

In my mind, the deepest meaning of our work is in how we protect and strengthen relationships. This includes the relationships we protect and strengthen between people and place, and between and among communities.

I was recently privileged to meet with a number of elementary and high school students who had spent their summer working to understand and mālama our preserve that contains Maunawila Heiau in Windward O‘ahu. Caretaking of this ‘āina came to HILT as a gift from the McGregor family who had held it since the 1800s as family lands. These students I met, all from Windward O‘ahu, worked all summer cataloging sites, researching, weeding, learning, and teaching.

When I met them, their affection for the place was infectious, and their excitement to share brought maturity far beyond their years. I later learned how the small summer stipend that the high school students received (from Ka Hale Auamo, LLC, in partnership with Alu Like, Inc) had resulted in two other impacts. Not only did Maunawila benefit from significant on the ground conservation results, but the money these emerging adults earned was a meaningful help to some of their rural families’ economic well-being.

These are the kinds of relationships – to place and within and among community – that we have the opportunity to grow and strengthen. You, as a donor, supporter, and volunteer for HILT are part of this relationship and this HILT ‘ohana, a family that stretches from Halele‘a on the North Shore of Kaua‘i to our farmland easements in Ka‘ū on the southern end of Hawai‘i Island.

Mahalo for being in relationship with us. I look forward to that deepening and strengthening this year, and in the years to come, as we together protect the places and relationships that sustain us now and for future generations.

Mahalo piha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Likeke Scheuer'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jonathan Likeke Scheuer, Ph.D.

2018 Highlights and Accomplishments

2018 WAS A YEAR OF GROWTH AND EXCITEMENT FOR HILT. WE ARE PROUD OF OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS OVER THE YEAR, AND ARE THRILLED BY THE BUILDING MOMENTUM THAT WILL ENSURE THE PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP OF EVEN MORE OF HAWAII'S MOST CRITICAL LANDS. ALL THE WORK WE DO IS DIRECTLY SUPPORTED BY OUR DONORS AND PARTNERS. EVERY SPECIAL PLACE PROTECTED BEGINS WITH YOU — MAHALO!

BY THE NUMBERS

2,500 Students

24  Talk Story on the Land Hikes

2,488 Volunteer Hours



19,236.9  Total Acres Protected

PROTECT

Conservation Purchases and Easements:

- Protected Kapalua Makai Open Space via a conservation easement donated by the Cooley Trust. Kapalua Makai Open Space is a 1.27-acre parcel next to the Kapalua Coastal Trail, important for seabird habitat and community access to the ocean
- Total projects completed: 1
- Total Acreage protected: 1.27
- Significantly advanced the protection of 3 special places to be completed in 2019 and 2020

STEWARD

Mālama 'Āina Practices on HILT's 6 preserves, and annual monitoring of HILT's 34 conservation easements:

- Expanded 1 acre of native habitat at Waihe'e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands Refuge providing habitat for endemic wildlife
- **1 access improved.** Following several flooding events, Goodfellow Bros. donated the installation of a paved entry road improving access to Waihe'e Coastal Dunes & Wetlands Refuge
- Planted over **2,000 native plants** at Waihe'e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands Refuge
- Established **3 māla lā'au lapa'au** to enhance learning at Maunawila Heiau Complex in Hau'ula
- Continued cultivation of over **50 rare kalo species** through a partnership with E Kapu Ka 'Āina's Maka'aka Lo'i at Waihe'e Coastal Dunes & Wetlands Refuge

CONNECT

'Āina Engagement and Education:

- Led **41 Talk Story on the Land** hikes across the islands, sharing the importance of mālama 'āina with **895 learners**
- Hosted over **2,500 school children** ages pre-K through post-secondary school for 'Āina-Based Education experiences at Waihe'e Coastal Dunes & Wetlands Refuge and Maunawila Heiau Complex
- Conducted outreach to over **10 landowners** across the state to share land conservation options
- Engaged with more than **1,504 volunteers** in restoration work at our public preserves, contributing **2,488 volunteer work hours** to HILT and land conservation
- Welcomed more than **4,500 visitors** to our 6 public preserves across the Hawai'i
- Hosted **1,200 campers** at Waihe'e Coastal Dunes & Wetlands and Nu'u Refuge on Maui

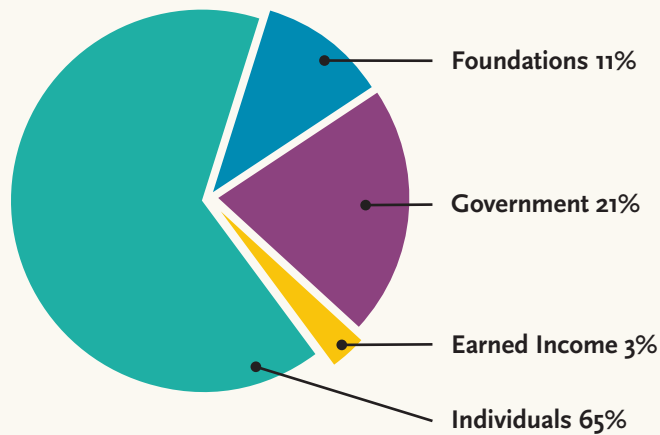
Financial Summary

COMBINED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2018

In 2018, our income exceeded expenses and we raised \$1,094,995 for operations and stewardship, enabling HILT to protect and steward over 19,000 acres of land across the state. HILT's efficiency is further demonstrated by the fact that 71 cents for every dollar raised is used directly to advance our conservation mission. The financial results depicted here are from HILT's audited December 31, 2018 consolidated financial statements.

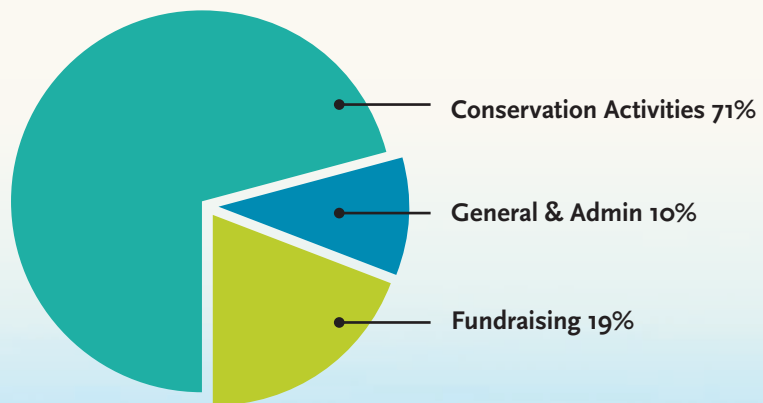
REVENUE BY SOURCE

TOTAL REVENUE: \$1,094,995



TOTAL PROGRAMMATIC EFFICIENCY

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$1,028,329



2018 Featured Supporters

NĀ KOA 'ĀINA

In 2018, Hawaiian Islands Land Trust welcomed two new Nā Koa 'Āina members. The Nā Koa 'Āina are a group of supporters whose generosity, long-term vision, and leadership has enabled HILT to fulfill its mission to protect the lands that sustain us. These steadfast supporters have made generous multi-year commitments to ensure HILT's success as we strive to steward the places HILT has protected, and to protect additional threatened special places.

Matt & Elif Beall
Pamela & Ed Bello
Susan Bradford
Hawai'i Life Charitable Fund
Hawai'i Life Real Estate Brokers
Steve & Tamar Goodfellow
Ann & Allen Jones, III
Susan & Jac Kean
Jonathan Kindred
Jacqueline Kosecoff, PhD &
Robert Brook*
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Peter & Victorine Merriman
Michael D. Moore
Gerrienne & Clyde Sakamoto
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Ulupono Fund at the Hawai'i
Community Foundation

** New in 2018*

NŌPILI MONTHLY GIVING CLUB

The nōpili is a freshwater goby known to climb waterfalls by clinging to the wet stones. The unwavering determination of the nōpili has become synonymous for showing steadfast love through small, persistent acts. We equate that with the dedication of donors who make recurring monthly gifts to HILT. These Nōpili empower HILT to take a more proactive role in protecting critical land across the State.

Jennifer Avina*
Paul Coleman*
James K. and Eleanor M. Crowe
James K. and Amy Crowe
Frances Duberstein
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Isabella M. Miki
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Alexandra Ogorman
Keoki and Kim Raymond*
Sara and Chris Smith
Robert Stoner
Larry Uyeda
William D. Van Loan

** New in 2018*

PLANNED GIVING

The 'Āina Ho'oilina Society is a committed group of loyal supporters who have included HILT in their estate planning. If you are interested in learning more about leaving a legacy to HILT through a gift in your will, visit hilt.org/support/planned-giving.

Janet Bal
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Susan L. Bradford
Jackie Brainard
Neola Caveny
Mary Charles
Mindy Frankel
Lisa Grove and Stephen Becker*
Hilary Harts
Maribeth and John Klobuchar
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Gerrienne & Clyde Sakamoto
Patricia A. and Jefferson G. Stillwell
Anonymous (3)

** New in 2018*



2018 Members and Supporters

Mahalo for your support of Hawaiian Islands Land Trust. On behalf of our Board of Directors, staff, and volunteers, we wish to thank those who contributed to HILT between January 1 and December 31, 2018

INDIVIDUALS

5 Palms
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Nyla Adams
Yvonne Ahearn
Christine Ahia
Akamine, Oyadomari & Kosaki CPAs, Inc.
Ala Moana Hotel by Mantra
Alaska Airlines
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Carol Contreas
George & Janet Allan
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HAWAIIAN ISLANDS LAND TRUST NEWSLETTER
VOLUME 9 • NUMBER 2 FALL 2019

Celebrate Conservation and Support HILT!

THIS WINTER OFFERS EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES TO COME TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE LAND CONSERVATION!

On Hawai'i Island, enjoy sumptuous fare provided by local celebrity chef Chris Kajioka of Senia, who will partner with Merriman's Waimea to create a unique farm-to-table menu for our dining pleasure. HILT's sold-out Golf Tournament, chaired by Everett Dowling, will be hosted by the luxurious Mākena Golf & Beach Resort. Please join us at our Kaua'i Island Pā'ina's new location this year at the Princeville Ranch, on Kaua'i's North Shore. And finally, the famous Old Lāhainā Lū'au will feed our guests' hearts, souls, and bellies with wonderful food and entertainment. Tickets and tables for all events can be purchased online at www.hilt.org/upcoming-events or by calling (808) 791-0731. For more information, contact Angela Britten, Director of Development, at angie@hilt.org.



Hawai'i Island Pā'ina
MERRIMAN'S WAIMEA
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2019



Friends of HILT
Golf Tournament
SOLD OUT!

MĀKENA GOLF & BEACH CLUB
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2019



Kaua'i Island Pā'ina
PRINCEVILLE RANCH
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2019



Buy Back the Beach
OLD LĀHAINĀ LŪ'AU
SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 2020