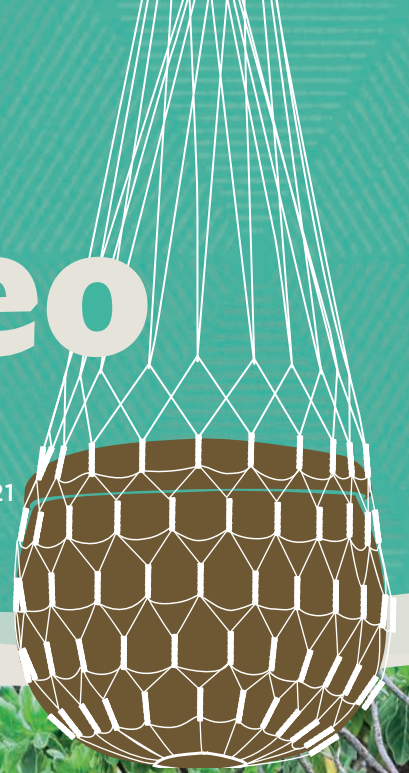


‘Umeke Kā‘eo

A well-filled calabash, a well-filled mind.

HAWAI‘I LAND TRUST NEWSLETTER | VOLUME 11, NUMBER 1 | SUMMER 2021



Celebrating

10

YEARS OF TRUST



WELCOMING EDUCATORS BACK TO WAIHE‘E

PGS. 4-7

HILT HAPPENINGS

PGS. 8-11

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

PG. 12-15



HAWAI‘I LAND TRUST



HAWAI'I LAND TRUST

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- Teresa Young, CPA

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- Laura Kaakua, Chief Executive Officer
- Scott Fisher, Ph.D., Director of 'Āina Stewardship
- Shae Kamakaala, Director of 'Āina Protection
- Angela Britten, CFRE, Director of Development
- James Crowe, Land Stewardship Manager
- Makana Reilly, Executive Assistant, Office Manager
- Rebekah Walker, Maunawila 'Āina Educator
- Denby Freeland, Waihe'e 'Āina Educator
- Kia'i Collier, Maui Steward, Educator
- Kaninau Villanueva, Kāhili Beach Steward, Educator
- Ann Eu, Kāhili Beach Steward, Educator
- Tim Asuncion, Kāhili Beach Steward
- Kealaula Fontanilla, Executive Assistant

'Umeke Kā'eo is the newsletter of Hawai'i 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.

Hawai'i Land Trust
126 Queen St., Ste 306
Honolulu, HI 96813
(808) 791-0729

www.hilt.org

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FROM THE CEO

Aloha HILT 'Ohana,

There is a time to plant, a time to grow, and a time to harvest. When I joined HILT in March 2019, I was so inspired with nonstop ideas and suggestions for my new colleagues. Early on, I suggested to Scott Fisher, HILT's Director of 'Āina Stewardship, that we should incorporate a planting activity at an upcoming summer event. Scott kindly told me that we plant in October in preparation for the start of makahiki and ho'oilō, or winter season. To plant in kau (summer) would be futile. It reminded me of the lesson in the song "Turn, Turn, Turn" by The Byrds:

*To everything (turn, turn, turn)
There is a season (turn, turn, turn)
And a time to every purpose, under heaven
A time to be born, a time to die
A time to plant, a time to reap*

My excitement would have to wait until we could plant in alignment with the onset of the ho'oilō rains. All things in due time.

2021 is Hawai'i Land Trust's 10th anniversary. Some of you reading this planted the idea and foundational elements of a local, statewide land trust ten years ago. I am so grateful to you for the thoughtfully planted seeds that have sprouted and thrived to become Hawai'i Land Trust today. Those seeds grew into the permanent protection of 21,650 acres, or 57 places, that make Hawai'i home. They bloomed with volunteers that joined dedicated staff and board members in caring for these places, and fruited with supporters and advisors who believe that protecting our precious lands now is critical to safeguarding Hawai'i's future.

This past year, shaped by the continuing COVID pandemic, has literally and figuratively been a time of intense planting and growth for HILT. You can read more about the ways that your support for HILT positively impacted Hawai'i in 2020 in our Annual Report included with this newsletter. As we transition out of ho'oilō into kau, we work in anticipation of protecting at least three more places that sustain Hawai'i by year end, and welcoming greater numbers of students and volunteers back to our public preserves when it's safe to do so.

We are grateful to the entire HILT 'Ohana - donors, volunteers, partners, advisors, and board members, who have carefully tended and nurtured those seeds planted so many years ago.

We look forward to celebrating another bountiful harvest with you soon.

Mahalo piha,

Laura H. E. Kaakua
PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER





HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE

The ‘Umeke: Celebrating 10 Years of Meaning and Deeper Symbolism with HILT

‘Umeke

Our ‘umeke unquestionably runneth over as we look back on 10 years of ‘āina protection and service to Hawai‘i. We look to Mary Kawena Puku‘i for the English expressions of ‘umeke, as we are re-understanding our next 10 years of HILT work with ‘āina serving as our ‘umeke. From the Hawaiian Dictionary:

‘Umeke
 n. bowl, calabash, circular vessel, as of wood or gourd. ‘Umeke kā‘eo, a well-filled calabash [a well-filled mind]. ho‘o.‘umeke, hō.‘umeke To assume the shape of a bowl; to assume the shape of fruit, to bear fruit. Fig., to have enough to eat.

For HILT, the ‘umeke is the physical manifestation of important values like:

- fullness - a range of protection projects across five Hawaiian Islands, coastlines, farmlands, and significant cultural sites;
- enough - a community of volunteers who join us at our community workdays to mālama ‘āina;
- supply - agricultural lands that supply Hawai‘i homes with locally grown food;

- to carry - supporters from across the world who lift and support us that we may continue this work.

These multiple English expressions of ‘umeke demonstrate how impactful and encompassing one word can be.

In their simplest of forms ‘umeke are containers for food, but this idea of a container allows us to seek other vessel forms we may find in nature such as:

‘Ohe (bamboo), with their hollow jointed stems. ‘Ohe grows in abundance at Whispering Winds Bamboo Farm in Kīpahulu on Maui. This 74-acre property was originally protected by the Maui Coastal Land Trust in 2004.

The watershed in the uplands (‘āina kuahiwi) is a vessel that holds and fosters the potential for rain. Such rainforests include Pe‘ahi Mauka, 18 acres protected on Maui since 2014; Kaloko Kona Cloud Forest on Hawai‘i Island, protected since 2017; and Kīpuka in the Volcano area of Hawai‘i Island, totaling 12 acres originally protected from 2010-2015.

Lo‘i Kalo, the irrigated terraces used to cultivate kalo. HILT protected 39 acres of lo‘i in Hanalei on the island of Kaua‘i since 2015 and just last year, 1.5 acres of lo‘i in Hakipu‘u, Kāne‘ohe, Oahu.

The mythical vessel Kūlanihāko‘i, a mythical pond or lake in the sky. Its overflow comes to the earth as rain. Literally translated to: like heaven agitated. All of our spaces rely on Kūlanihāko‘i to stay nourished.

As we celebrate our 10th anniversary and more than 10 years of this newsletter, we reassert our commitment to continued opportunities to have an overflowing calabash, to both serve as the vessel through which ‘āina protection work happens, and also the catalyst that allows ‘āina to thrive as the space, the vessel, for emergence and opportunity.



KUAHAUA

Welcoming Educators Back to Waihe'e





‘Āina-based education has long been a focus for HILT. Over the years, we’ve hosted thousands of pre-K through post-secondary students at our Public Preserves on Maui, Kaua’i and O’ahu for a variety of educational offerings. We believe that education comes alive on the ‘āina, and there’s plenty of science that proves the value of education that takes place in the field. We pivoted well in 2020, when the Covid Pandemic closed schools, however, we’re looking ahead and forming partnerships now to get students back on the ‘āina. In the beginning of March HILT hosted over 50 Waihe‘e Elementary teachers and staff for a morning of professional development on the ‘āina at Waihe‘e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands Refuge.

***We believe that
education comes alive
on the ‘āina***



“we’re looking ahead and forming partnerships now to get students back on the ‘āina.”

HILT staff welcomed a team of educators from Waihe‘e Elementary School to Waihe‘e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands Refuge to learn how they can incorporate HILT’s ‘Āina-Based Education into their classrooms.



The morning began with the group offering 'oli and ho'okupu in the large open space just beyond the Dickey House. The ho'okupu were accepted by the five HILT team members on site to support the learning on the 'āina for the day. The group then split up to join seven stations set up on the Refuge.

In the comfort of the morning sun, **the first station**, hosted by James Crowe, HILT's 'Āina Stewardship Manager, shared about HILT's native plant restoration efforts at Waihe'e. The teachers worked to remove invasive plants and James pointed out some of the native plants our team has been propagating over the years.

At the second station, Adam Wong, Education Specialist of DLNR's Division of Aquatic Resources-Maui showed participants how to clean and fry a fish while sharing the importance of responsible food gathering via sustainable practices and the value of intentional gathering of invasive fish such as the Ta'ape.

At the third station, Waihe'e 'Āina Educator, Denby Freeland began by teaching about the rich cultural history of Kapoho and then the group learned how to make ahū'awa cordage.

The fourth station, hosted by Napua Barrows, Founder of Waihe'e Limu Restoration taught the group about different limu and shared on limu's importance to the diverse coastal ecosystem.

The final three stations included time with Diana Papini Warren, Executive Director of Learning Endeavors demonstrating how we can use apps on our phones to be "Citizen Scientists"; a hands-on experience under high power microscopes with Dav Yuen, Education Coordinator with The Digital Bus; and a short Talk Story on the Land hike with HILT's Director of 'Āina Stewardship, Scott Fisher.

Teachers received a packet of information, that included instructions for a scavenger hunt and a language arts activity to help provide ideas on how to engage their students with the outdoors.

AT THE END OF THE DAY TEACHERS SHARED...

"SO MANY IDEAS! Honestly, 4th grade could create such an awesome ahupua'a year curriculum where each quarter we focus on a different area in developing our ahupua'a. How cool would it be for Waihe'e Elementary to continually have our students clearing and working that area!?"

"The students could greatly benefit from the stations we did today. We could just modify for age level."

"I enjoyed the hands-on element to the cordage session. I think our students would enjoy it as well and it would help them to connect to the modern day ways we utilize cordage."

"I want to look into getting my students to access the overview of Kapoho and incorporating a research project to build a sense of belonging with the area and Waihe'e."

HILT was truly honored to facilitate this opportunity for the teachers to experience Waihe'e in person and we are so grateful to Waihe'e Elementary Vice Principal Kalani Au for his hard work and attention to detail to make this day run so smoothly. With so many months of virtual teaching, Mr. Au really wanted to inspire his teachers to develop ideas on how to get students more connected to the 'āina. Both now, while we're in the confines of Covid, and as we look ahead to the future when teachers and students are together in the classroom again. We can't wait for what emerges from this experience and our new pilina with Waihe'e Elementary. If your school or homeschool hui is interested in taking leaning outside, please contact Makana Reilly, HILT's Director of 'Āina Connection at makana@hilt.org



HILT Happenings

Hawai'i

HILT's Protect team has started 2021 strong on Hawai'i Island. We continue our efforts to protect the **Māhukona Navigational & Cultural Complex** as we work to submit a Federal funding application with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Recovery Land Acquisition Program in partnership with the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW). Other highlights in this new year include HILT's new partnership with Hui Ho'oleimaluō, 501(c)(3) and educational partner, Ka 'Umeke Kā'eo Public Charter School, for the permanent protection of 3 acres of fishponds at Waiolena in Keaukaha, Hilo through

the purchase of a conservation easement. HILT and partners have submitted a County of Hawai'i Open Space Suggestion Form for 2021 and look forward to continuing our work on this project and meeting the Keaukaha and greater Hilo community. Other exciting news on Hawai'i Island are HILT's USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) 2021 project applications we are developing with two separate Kohala farmers, Island Harvest and the Byrne-Baber family to protect just under 50 acres of prime soils and agricultural lands in Kohala.

Kaua'i

Kāhili Beach Preserve has really been feeling the mālama 'āina love in the last few months as on-site stewardship work was boosted by the placement of two temporary hires from KUPU through the CARES Act. Mei Iwamoto and Sonrisa Stepath worked for two months with the Kāhili Stewardship team to continue to remove invasive plants. As we work to restore the pu'eone (sometimes also referred to as pu'uone - sand dunes), one of the things we are focusing on is bringing back Pōhuehue. In 2018 the Pōhuehue population grew in abundance on the north facing shore at Kāhili and for some reason the population has gone down to a handful of individuals that many people don't take notice of and often step all over. Now, as we are working to remove introduced invasive plant species, we are noticing many new keiki Pōhuehue popping up on the dunes. It has been a few years since we've seen any of them flower so we think this is a good sign that we are doing something right. The interns also joined our monthly **Kāhili Community Workdays**, learning a little about community organizing - albeit on a small scale due to COVID.



KUPU CARES Act hires Sonrisa Stepath (left) and Mei Iwamoto (right) with HILT's 'Āina Steward Ann Eu (middle) triumphant atop a load of brush to be hauled away from Kāhili Beach

Our first formal on-site education program continued to meet weekly through the beginning of December and we're excited to take what we learned from Kamali'i Kāhili and prepare for another cohort of Kāhili youth in the fall of 2021.

We're excited to have formalized partnerships in which teachers will utilize Kāhili Beach Preserve as a site for their curriculum with two Kaua'i schools: Kawaikini and Kanuikapono.

"Being a KUPU intern at Kāhili Beach Preserve was an amazing experience. While Kāhili might be more well known as a popular beach, I was able to learn and work with so many of its native coastal plants and birds which really highlight Kāhili's conservation importance. I was also able to be a part of the monthly community work days, where members of the community work on and learn about the land together. All in all, my positive experience as an intern was a great gateway into getting into conservation work - and I hope to continue on doing this work!"
- Mei Iwamoto



KUPU CARES Act hire Sonrisa Stepath, compacting debris for hauling.



Students from Carpe Diem Education hauled out nearly a ton of marine debris from Waihe'e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands

Maui

Coral reef ecosystems provide crucial protection to our coastlines, serving as barriers against storm waves and other types of coastal disturbances. On the land, our kuleana involves doing whatever we can to slow down the rate of sediment accumulating, and damaging, these coral reefs. Starting in October of 2020, through the CARES Act, HILT staff began taking steps to do just this at **Kālepa stream at the Waihe'e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands Refuge**. The first step was to remove the dense vegetation that stopped the steady flow of water. With the first phase complete, we had to wait for the arrival of coconut coir rolls that act as sediment barriers. As the name suggests, these are 10-foot long

tubes filled with coconut husks, a material ideal for allowing water to flow through them while trapping the reef-destroying sediment. In March, the second and third phase of the Kālepa stream project got underway with the arrival of students in a gap-year program, Carpe Diem Education. Under HILT staff leadership, these students, all in their late teens or early twenties, installed these sediment barriers in strategic locations along the stream corridor. In addition to installing these barriers, the Carpe Diem students also planted native sedges that, when mature, will also contribute to the retention of sediment, and will, we hope, protect the offshore coral reef for generations to come.

O‘ahu

At the **Maunawila Heiau Complex** we were very fortunate to host a crew from the KUPU ‘Āina Corps Workforce Program, along with other HILT sites. The KUPU ACP was funded through CARES Act funding and filled the large void left by COVID restrictions that prevent us from having our usual number of volunteers. We were supplied with 4 full-time, and 4 half-time temporary hires. These young adults were at home, distance learning since their university classes had gone online. The hires included college students from UH-Hilo, BYU-Hawai‘i, a volleyball player whose season ended early, a soccer player who was waiting for her campus to open and a couple of students from the continental U.S. who had a hard time finding work.

This program was a gift for the Maunawila Heiau Complex. The monthly visits from 5th and 6th graders

from Hau‘ula Elementary and Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Hau‘ula, had been sorely missed, as the areas they had previously cleared were slowly getting covered again with weeds. Our KUPU ACP crew stepped in and not only cleaned and maintained areas that had been previously cleared, they accomplished a tremendous amount of work to open up new areas. They cleared debris and overgrown hau along approximately 200 feet of Punaiki Stream that borders Maunawila. The stream probably hasn’t been cleared for over 100 years. This was a long-time goal for Maunawila, as natural waterway maintenance is vital to protecting Maunawila Heiau and our neighbors from potential flash flood damage. Their aloha for the ‘āina and for their kupuna showed in the work they did. Mahalo to our KUPU ACP workers, you have left the ‘āina better than you found it.

KUPU ACP crew from left to right: Penina Matauu, Sheyla Tai-Hook, Makani Walker, Andrew Curley, Noelani Beebe, Rachel Tuala and Emma Hippolite



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Covid Response

Love of Hawai'i's lands and people drove every decision Hawai'i Land Trust has made since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Aloha 'Āina. Aloha kekahi i kekahi.



OPEN PRESERVES

From March 2020, when COVID reached Hawai'i, we committed to keeping HILT's preserves open to the public for everyone's mental, physical, emotional and spiritual health, while following each County's COVID protocols. The decision to keep our preserves open 24/7 turned out to be the saving grace for many who found relief and connection on the land. Locals walked daily at Waihe'e Refuge, caught fish for their family at Nu'u Refuge, found healing at Maunawila Heiau Complex, watched sunrise at Wainiha Beach Preserve, and swam in the muliwai at Kāhili Beach Preserve. Many shared how isolated or anxious they were, and how time on HILT's preserves was safe, healing, and comforting.

COMMUNITY JOBS

HILT hired and safely employed 47 local temporary workers on HILT's preserves throughout Hawai'i. Many had lost their jobs in tourism, restaurants & retail due to COVID. These new hires, supervised by HILT's experienced staff, put their hearts and minds into the physically demanding work at Waihe'e Refuge on Maui and Maunawila Heiau Complex on O'ahu. They expressed gratitude for not only the job and paycheck, but for the chance to learn about the rich cultural history of Waihe'e and Maunawila, gain leadership and practical skills, and contribute to the health of our lands and people. Federal CARES Act funding and HILT's partnerships with KUPU, Hanona, and Maui Nui Marine Resource Council made this possible. Mahalo nui. It takes a village.

'ĀINA-BASED EDUCATION

Learning comes alive for students when immersed in the environment and Hawai'i's history and culture. So, when schools went virtual and field trips stopped, HILT's educators dedicated themselves to finding creative ways to assist teachers and inspire students. We made educational videos (check out hilt.org) which teachers across Hawai'i are still using, sent hundreds of native seed packets into the schools, and Zoomed with classes from our preserves to give virtual site visits. More recently as COVID numbers have decreased, some schools have adopted our preserves as safe outdoor classrooms where HILT educators and school teachers partner on lesson plans. Nothing makes us happier than students with wonder in their eyes learning on HILT's preserves. We assist, but the land is the greatest teacher of all.

RESTORATIONS WINS

With 47 new hires on HILT's preserves, we were able to take on largescale stream restoration and cultural research projects that we have been dreaming of for years. At Maunawila Heiau Complex on O'ahu, we cleared 200 feet of dense hau bush from Punaiki Stream, exposing the streambed to light for the first time in anyone's memory. At Waihe'e Refuge on Maui, we cleared invasive grass from the banks of Kalepa Stream allowing mauka-makai ocean flow, and installed coconut fiber mats and native plants to control erosion and protect the reef. With the hālau hula Hanona, we engaged 'Āina Archaeology to conduct lidar mapping of Kealaka'ihonua heiau, and learned the footprint of the heiau is much larger than we thought. These projects are having a lasting positive impact on the ecosystem, and have inspired more community volunteers.

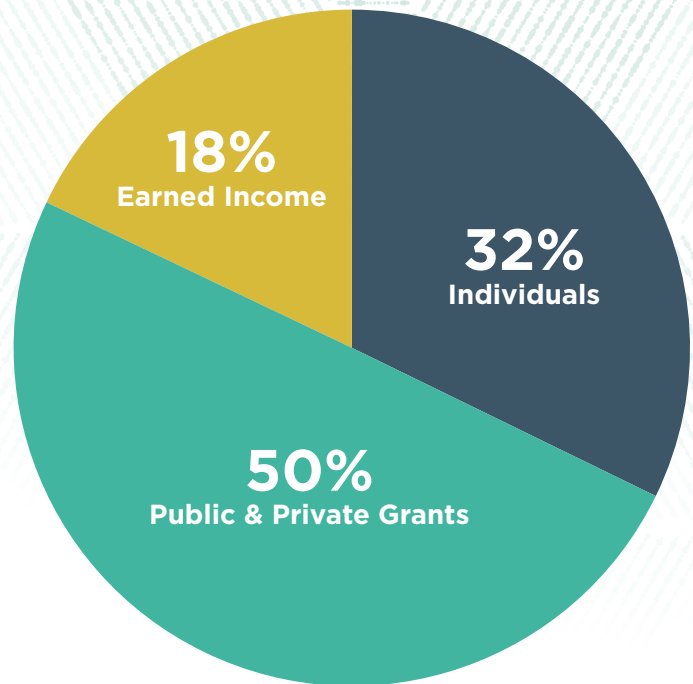
Financial Summary

COMBINED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020

In 2020 our income exceeded expenses and we raised \$1,151,249 for operations and stewardship, enabling HILT to protect and steward over 21,500 acres of land across the state. HILT's efficiency is further demonstrated by the fact that 76 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, 2020 consolidated financial statements.

REVENUE BY SOURCE

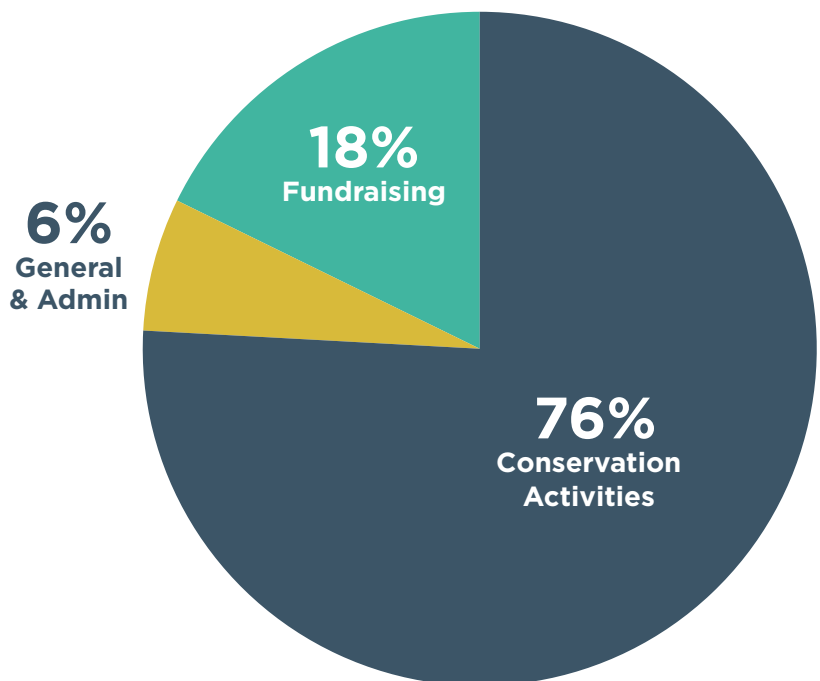
Total Revenue: \$1,151,249



TOTAL PROGRAMMATIC EFFICIENCY

Total Expenses: \$1,093,018

Summary Program Expenses: \$829,176



2020 Highlights & Accomplishments

In 2020, HILT encountered a variety of challenges and opportunities brought about by the Global Coronavirus Pandemic. However, the strong foundation built over the previous two years, our dedicated volunteer board, and support from generous donors allowed us to successfully weather these challenges. HILT retained its employees, protected 3 special places, and connected thousands with the land by welcoming everyone on our preserves, and providing 'āina-based education. We are thrilled by the building momentum that will ensure the protection and community stewardship of even more of Hawai'i's coastlines, Hawaiian cultural landscapes, and lands that grow food for Hawai'i's people.

PROTECT

(Conservation Purchases and Easements):

- Partnered with the Hāna community group Ke Ao Hāli'i to protect **27** acres of coastal ranchland of great cultural significance at Pu'u Hele, Mokae, Hāna Coast, Maui
- Finalized the protection of Hakipu'u Lo'i Kalo, Ko'olauloa, O'ahu. A project more than 10 years in the making, HILT worked with community nonprofit Ho'āla 'Āina Kūpono, The Trust for Public Land, and the City & County of Honolulu to forever protect this **1.5**-acre historic wetland taro farm.
- Conserved **1,752**-acres of Ulupalakua Ranchland to be reforested with koa creating habitat for 'Ōpe'ape'a (Hawaiian Hoary Bat).
- Total places protected following HILT's Strategic Land Protection Priorities: **3**
- Total acreage protected in 2020: **1,780.5**
- Significantly advanced **8** protection projects to close in 2021 through 2023
- Increased capacity to own and steward land in **8** communities
- Signed **5-year** Agricultural Conservation Easement Program Agreement with Federal Agency NRCS
- Added **1** new position to lead HILT's Protect work. Shae Kamaka'ala was hired as HILT's Director of 'Āina Protection based on Hawai'i Island in February 2020
- Developed **1** Community Guide to Land Conservation in Hawai'i in partnership with The Trust for Public Land
- Achieved **#1** ranking for HILT's Māhukona Project by the County of Hawai'i Public Access, Open Space and Natural Resources Commission

STEWARD

(Caring for HILT's Preserves, and Conservation Easement Annual Monitoring):

- Completed **Climate Change Resiliency Plan** for Waihe'e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands Refuge
- Planted **1,659** native and rare plants planted at HILT's preserves
- 1,262** volunteers gave 4,724 hours of stewardship to HILT preserves
- Installed **950"** of ungulate-proof fence at Maunawila Heiau Complex
- Hosted **93** volunteer days at Waihe'e Refuge, Kāhili Beach Preserve, and Maunawila Heiau Complex
- Continued cultivation of over **50** different rare Kalo species through partnership with E Kupaku Ka 'Āina's Maka'aka Lo'i at Waihe'e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands Refuge
- Hired **47** temporary conservation workers during COVID-19 pandemic, getting Federal funds into local households
- Provided annual monitoring for **45** Conservation Easements per national standards
- Hired **3** part-time stewardship & education staff at Kāhili Beach Preserve on Kaua'i in March 2020
- Hosted **2** Community Kilo (observation) Programs at Kāhili Beach Preserve and Maunawila Heiau Complex
- Cleared **2** streambeds to prohibit flooding issues at Kalepa Stream (which now flows to the ocean) at Waihe'e Refuge, and Puna'iki Stream at Maunawila Heiau Complex
- Removed invasive plants from **2** acres at Waihe'e Refuge, Nu'u Refuge, Maunawila Heiau Complex, and Kāhili Beach Preserve
- Obtained **State LUC approval** to retain agricultural designation on the makai portion of Kūkūau Forest to actively restore the forest
- Mapped **1** cultural site - Kealaka'ihonua heiau on Waihe'e Refuge
- Expanded **¼** acre of native habitat at Waihe'e Coastal Dunes & Wetlands Refuge

CONNECT

(‘Āina Engagement and Education):

- Led **30 Talk Story on the Land Hikes** across the islands, sharing the importance of mālama ‘āina with over 100 participants
- Taught **566** students in āina-based education on HILT preserves and developed **12** educational videos being used by teachers across Hawai‘i
- Distributed **600** Ahu‘awa seed packets to **4** elementary schools
- Provided **23** high school and college internships in natural and cultural resource management and land protection
- Welcomed **26,300** visitors to our preserves across Hawai‘i
- Hosted **966** campers at HILT preserves
- **15** ‘āina & kai-based cultural practices perpetuated on HILT’s preserves
- Trained **9** teachers in conservation career pathways and ‘āina-based education in partnership with KUPU
- Staff presented at **3** different local and national conferences
- Ran **2** after school youth education programs at Maunawila Heiau Complex and Kāhili Beach Preserve
- Created **2** Virtual Tours for Waihe‘e and Maunawila
- Developed **2** QR Code Self-Guided Tours in English and ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i at Maunawila Heiau Complex
- Created **1** new position to lead HILT’s Connect work.
- Makana Reilly transitioned to HILT’s Director of ‘Āina Connection based on Kaua‘i.

21,650 Total Acres Protected



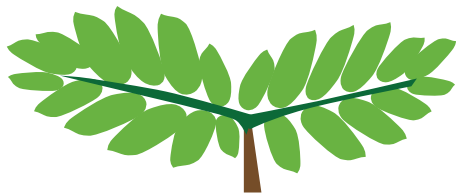
26,300 VISITORS at HILT Preserves



4,724 Community Volunteer Hours

45

HILT Conservation Easements



HILT Preserves

2020 Featured Supporters

NĀ KOA ‘ĀINA

In 2020, Hawai‘i Land Trust welcomed one new Nā Koa ‘Āina member. 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 protect even more of Hawai‘i’s most special places.

Matt & Elif Beall
 Hawai‘i Life Charitable Fund
 Hawai‘i Life Real Estate Brokers
 Steve & Tamar Goodfellow
 Hōkūala Community Association*
 Susan & Jac Kean
 Jonathan Kindred
 Jacqueline Kosecoff, PhD
 & Robert Brook

The Makana Aloha Foundation
 Katie & Dave Minkus
 Michael D. Moore
 Gerrienne and Clyde Sakamoto
 Joe & Sharon Saunders
 Ulupono Fund at the Hawai‘i Community Foundation

* *New in 2020*

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
 Ruth Craig
 James K. & Eleanor M. Crowe
 Gwendolyn Damasco*
 Jerome Dean*
 Philip Deters
 Victoria Fatula*
 Olan Fisher
 Marissa Harman*
 Raymond K. Y. & Mia S. Hew

Kalani Ho-Nikaido*
 Laura & Josh Kaakua
 Danielle Kaneshiro*
 Marty Kuala
 P. Denise La Costa
 Marguerite Lambert*
 Mary & Jim Luck
 Matt McDonald
 Isabella M. Miki
 Alexandra & Ronan O’Gorman
 Ruby Pap*
 Leah Podkaminer*

Keoki & Kim Raymond
 Ben Robinson
 Sara and Chris Smith
 Robert Stoner
 Monte Tudor-Long
 Larry Uyeda
 William D. Van Loan
 Jessica & Warren Vanlandingham*
 Erin Wilson*

* *New in 2020*

PLANNED GIVING

The ‘Āina Ho’oilina Society is a committed group of loyal supporters who have included HILT in their estate planning.

Janet Bal
 Dr. Richard H. Bennett
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Children at Hakipu'u Lo'i Kalo harvesting kalo.

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Recognizing those individuals, foundations, and companies who supported the permanent protection of Hakipu'u Lo'i Kalo, Kāne'ōhe, O'ahu in June 2020. This 1.5-acre kalo farm sits at the base of the Ko'olau mountains, adjacent to Mōli'i Fishpond. These lo'i have been in active cultivation since ancient times and are some of the last lo'i kalo in Hakipu'u. Your support protected an irreplaceable part of Hawai'i.

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2020 'Ohana

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126 Queen Street, Suite 306
Honolulu, HI 96813
WWW.HILT.ORG
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HILT 10-Year Refresh

Does this newsletter look a bit different? After 10 years, it was time for a makeover. We wanted things simpler, stylish and more consistent. We've shortened our name to **"Hawai'i Land Trust"** and updated the core brand elements. You'll see this in use as we work to update our website, collateral, signage and numerous other HILT elements.

In this process, we've been fortunate to have a friend in Winston Welborn, Founder and Chief Design Officer of Hawai'i Life. Winston volunteered time and *mana'o* to act as HILT's Creative Advisor, developing the core brand style guide, design elements, templates, typography and more. He also quickly realized that the former **"Hawaiian Islands Land Trust"** name was a mouthful and advocated shortening. While Winston does not actually produce all of our marketing, he will continue to act as advisor and help to keep our style on track.

In this edition of *'Umeke Kā'eo*, we've taken the imagery of the *'umeke*, or calabash, and the *kōkō*, the carrying net, and used it subtly throughout. *'Umeke Kā'eo*, literally translates to "a well-filled calabash," a metaphor for a well-filled mind or having enough to eat. We will explore these metaphors through our stories with you as they pertain to our work, **and encourage you to cultivate your own 'umeke kā'eo.**

THEN



**HAWAIIAN ISLANDS
LAND TRUST**

NOW



HAWAI'I LAND TRUST

*"We simplified and refined the
already trusted HILT style."*

—Winston