

HŌ'OLA 'ĀINA, HŌ'OLA IHO, HŌ'OLA KAIĀULU

Heal land Heal se lf Heal Community

Honu'aina Nichols

# Mo'olelo Style

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## Significance of Oral History

- Inspired by the mo'olelo (histories) published in nūpepa in the 19th C
- Oral traditions passed on through chants, legends, myths and mo'oku'auhau, trace the origins of the Native Hawaiian people to early Polynesian planters, fishers, healers, artists, engineers, priests, astronomers, and navigators and beyond them to the life forces of the land itself.

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Olelo No'eau

**HE ALI'Ī KA 'ĀINA,  
HE KĀUWA KE  
KANAKA**

THE LAND IS A CHIEF, THE PEOPLE ARE ITS SERVANT

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# SYSTEMIC CHALLENGES

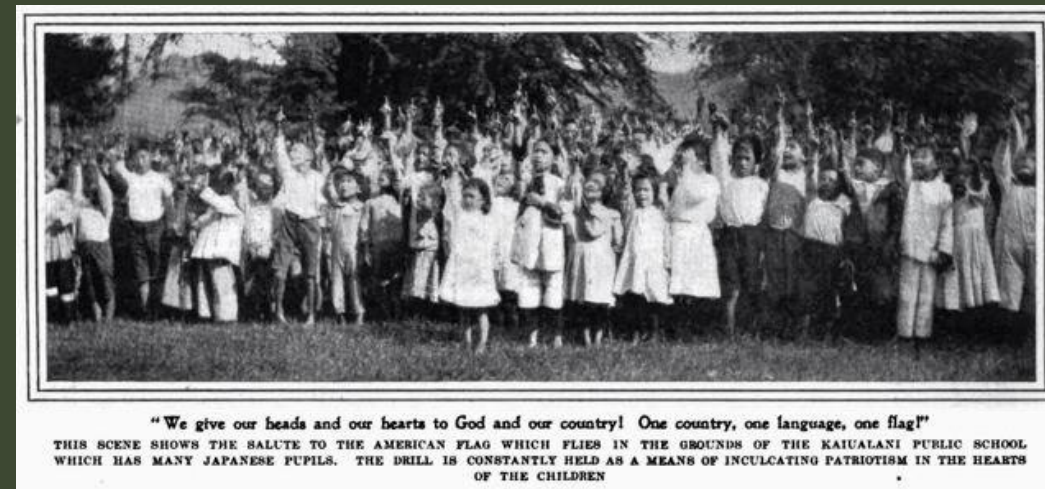
## US IMPERIALISM IN HAWAII



### USURPATION

JANUARY 17, 1893

Business insurgents and US Navy demonstrate an 'act of war' and illegally overthrew Hawaiian Kingdom



### DENATIONALIZATION

Unilaterally annexed Hawaiian Islands in 1898 during Spanish-American War

Formal Policies of banning language, cultural genocide and erasure of national consciousness



### STATEHOOD

The United States attempt to "cover up" any kū'e resistance and stifle political controversy around Hawai'i becoming a state in 1959

# Settler Colonialism Infects Mindset of the 'Ohana



Forced out.

Raymond DeCoito, my grandfather, joined the US AirForce at the age of 19 and moved to California seeking stability and an escape from poverty.

During this time, native families were ashamed of their indigenous identity. Like many other Native Hawaiian families, settler colonialism pushed my grandfathers generation to believe that assimilation to the Western World was the only way out.



## **‘O Ronald Craig Nichols ko‘u makuakāne**

**Born on Tongva Lands aka Los Angeles, CA to two Chinese/Filipino-Americans who were raised on O‘ahu**

## **‘O Rae Lynn Kahealani DeCoito ko‘u makuahine.**

**Born on O‘ahu and raised on Ohlone Lands. Responded to a kahea (call) from ancestors to bring her ‘ohana to Hawai‘i so that her keiki may grow on the ‘āina their ancestors dwelled**





# **Noho pu laua a hānau mai 'o Honu'āina Nichols. they/them/'oia**

Born on Ohlone Lands aka San Jose California. Raised on island of O'ahu in Maunaloa Bay.

## **EDUCATION**

Kamehameha Schools Kapālama c/o 2018  
Associates Political Science at Foothill College  
BS University of California, Santa Barbara Political  
Science: International Relations and Environmental  
Policy

## **EXPERIENCE**

CALA Environmental Leadership Program @ Green Foothills  
Chair UCSB Mauna Kea Protectors  
Youth Climate Leaders of Color and National Association of  
Climate Resiliency Planners @ Climate Innovation Center  
Champion for Change @ Center for Native Youth Aspen  
Institute

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**MY VEINS ARE CARRYING THE  
BLOOD OF A PEOPLE WHO  
UNDERSTAND THE SACREDNESS  
OF LAND AND WATER. THIS IS MY  
CULTURE AND NO MATTER HOW  
REMOTE THE PAST IS, IT DOES  
NOT MAKE MY CULTURE EXTINCT**

GEORGE HELM

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# Issues to Tackle

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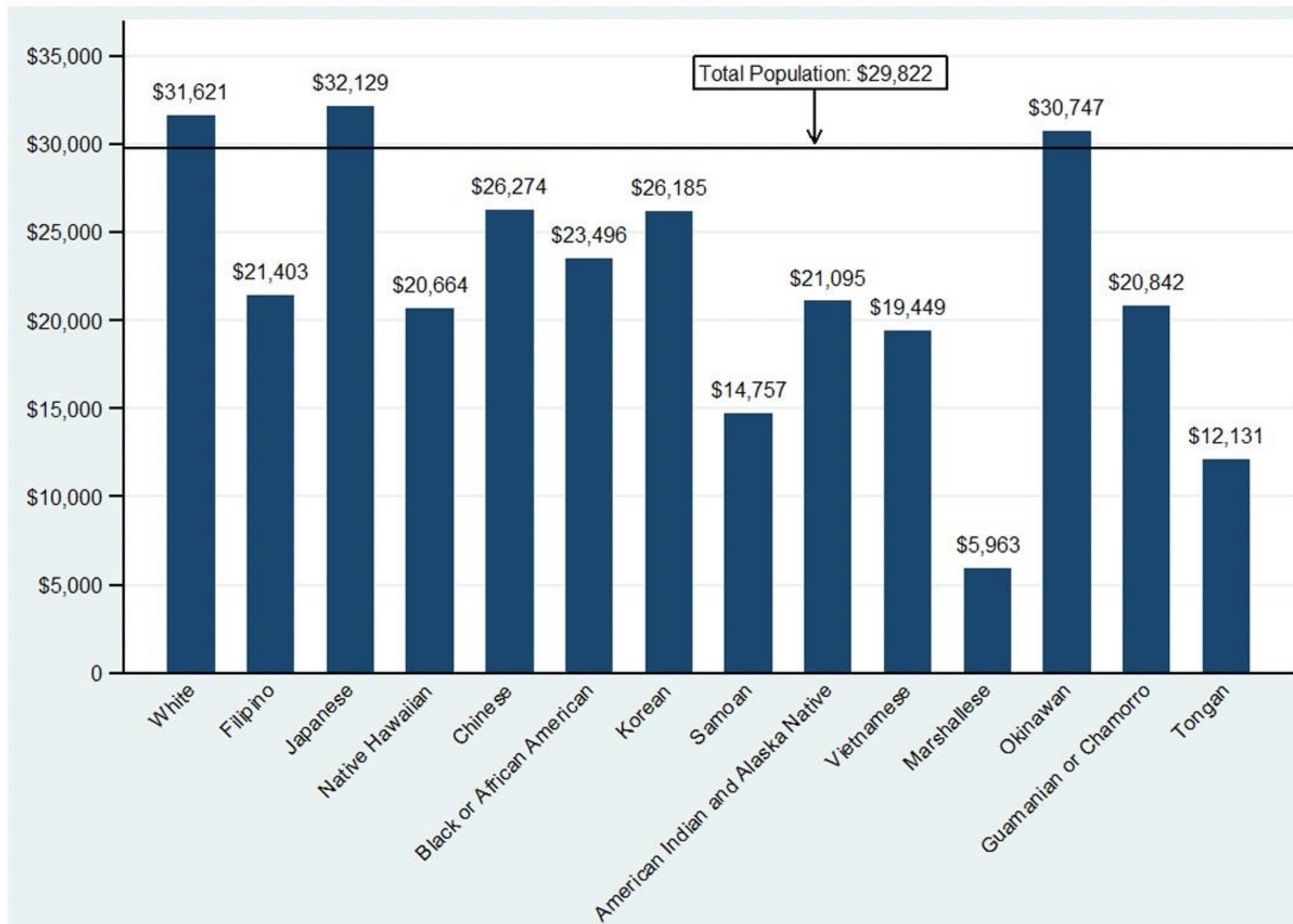
## Kanaka Maoli suffer disparities in

- Housing/displacement
- Income/economic success
- Education/increased drop out rates
- Health care/environmental racism
- Increased incarceration
- Political representation/collective consciousness

**Table 5: Educational Attainment of the Population Aged 25 and Older by Race Group**

Race Alone or in Combination	Educational Attainment (Percent of total population of race group)				
	Less than high school	High school diploma or equivalent	Some college or Associate's degree	Bachelor's degree	Graduate or professional degree
Total population	9.0%	27.9%	32.3%	20.4%	10.5%
White	4.8%	24.4%	34.8%	22.0%	14.0%
Filipino	15.0%	32.3%	33.6%	15.4%	3.7%
Japanese	5.0%	26.6%	30.8%	26.4%	11.2%
Native Hawaiian	8.2%	42.8%	32.6%	11.1%	5.3%
Chinese	11.5%	28.1%	29.3%	19.7%	11.3%
Black or African American	4.8%	20.4%	48.5%	17.5%	8.8%
Korean	9.8%	30.6%	28.7%	20.8%	10.2%
Samoan	10.4%	40.6%	34.3%	11.9%	2.8%
American Indian and Alaska Native	8.4%	26.0%	41.9%	15.1%	8.6%
Vietnamese	28.7%	25.5%	26.1%	14.3%	5.5%
Marshallese	24.0%	53.5%	19.9%	2.3%	0.3%
Okinawan	3.8%	20.5%	34.3%	28.6%	12.8%
Guamanian or Chamorro	5.9%	27.6%	46.2%	11.7%	8.6%
Tongan	11.2%	44.6%	25.8%	11.5%	6.9%

**Figure 6: Per Capita Income by Race Group**

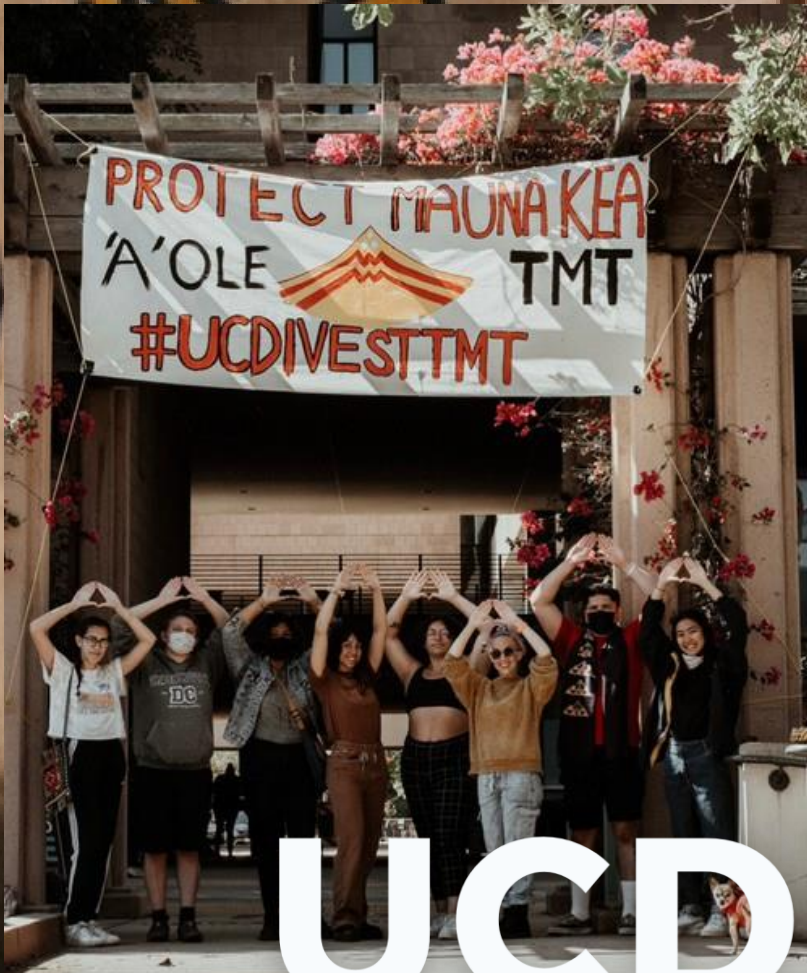


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**FAILURE TO PROTECT  
ANCESTRAL LANDS CAN  
ENGENDER FEELINGS OF  
ANXIETY, SORROW, GRIEF,  
REMORSE AND  
DEPRESSION**

DR. EMMETT ALULI AND DAVIONNA MCGREGOR

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# UCDIVESTTMT CAMPAIGN



# DECOLONIZATION/DEMILITARIZATION

- **Under Usurpation**

January 17, 1893 US Navy and 5 business insurgents conducted a coup d'état on Hawai'i shores "act of war"

- **Nuclear Target**

US INDOPACOM Center is in Kapukaki threatens our civil population as a theater of war as we learned January 13, 2018

- **Environmental Injustice**

Military presence threatens livelihood of Native population and own military personnel as well

- **Mass Education**

Normalize not radicalize  
Power of mele to create mass movements



“

## **Our Common Ground**

THE HAWAIIAN KINGDOM CANNOT BE CONSIDERED, BY VIRTUE OF THE PROLONGED US OCCUPATION, AS EXTINGUISHED AS AN INDEPENDENT STATE AND AS A SUBJECT OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, DESPITE THE LONG AND EFFECTIVE EXERCISE OF THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOVERNMENT BY THE US OVER THE HAWAIIAN TERRITORY. IN FACT, IN THE EVENT OF ILLEGAL ANNEXATION, THE LEGAL EXISTENCE OF STATES IS PRESERVED FROM EXTINCTION, SINCE ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF ITSELF TERMINATE STATEHOOD (EX INJURY JUS NON ORITUR)

DR. KEANU SAI

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# Hawai'i Food Security Crisis

## Hawaii State Legislature, 2012

As the most geographically isolated state in the country, Hawai'i imports approximately 92% of its food, according to the US Department of Agriculture. Currently, Hawai'i has a supply of fresh produce for no more than 10 days. 99% of beef, 67% of fresh vegetables, 65% of fresh fruits, and 80% of all milk purchased in the State are imported. The legislature further finds that Hawaii's reliance on out-of-state sources of food places residents directly at risk of food shortages in the event of natural disasters, economic disruption, and other external factors beyond the State's control.



**GREED IS THE  
DISEASE  
ALOHA 'ĀINA IS  
THE PRESCRIPTION**

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# Introducing my wahi pana (sacred place)

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## Loko Ea and 'Uko'a

Ea: to rise, to breathe, life,  
sovereignty/independence

Loko pu'uone nestled in Hale'iwa,  
Ahupua'a: Kawaihoa

Moku: Waialua

Loko (ponds) and pūnāwai  
(freshwater springs) were sacred  
to mo'o and held special healing  
powers

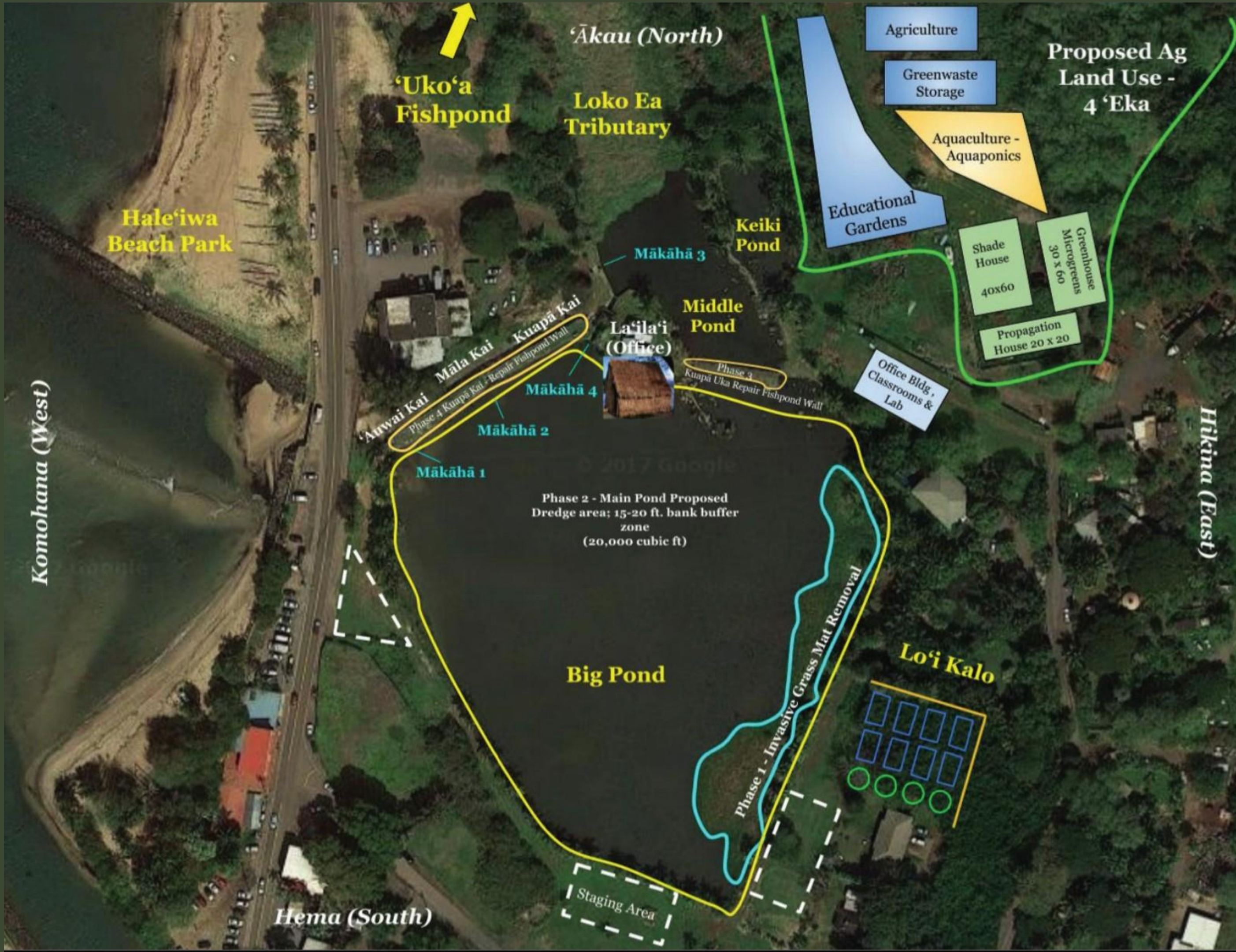


WELINA MAI

LOKO EA

FISHPOND

WELINA MAI FISHPOND  
1000 W. MAHAKULU  
HONOLULU, HI 96813  
PHONE: 808-955-1234  
WWW.WELINAMAIFISHPOND.COM



'Uko'a Fishpond

Ākau (North)

Loko Ea Tributary

Agriculture

Greenwaste Storage

Proposed Ag Land Use - 4 Eka

Aquaculture - Aquaponics

Educational Gardens

Keiki Pond

Shade House 40x60

Greenhouse Microgreens 30 x 60

Propagation House 20 x 20

Mākāhā 3

Middle Pond

La'ila'i (Office)

Office Bldg, Classrooms & Lab

Hale'iwa Beach Park

Airwai Kai  
Māla Kai  
Kuapā Kai  
Phase 4 Kuapā Kai - Repair Fishpond Wall

Mākāhā 4

Mākāhā 2

Mākāhā 1

Phase 2 - Main Pond Proposed Dredge area; 15-20 ft. bank buffer zone (20,000 cubic ft)

Phase 3 Kuapā Uka Repair Fishpond Wall

Komohana (West)

Hikina (East)

Big Pond

Phase 1 - Invasive Grass Mat Removal

Lo'i Kalo

Staging Area

Hema (South)

# Laniwahine

Directly translates to "heavenly woman"

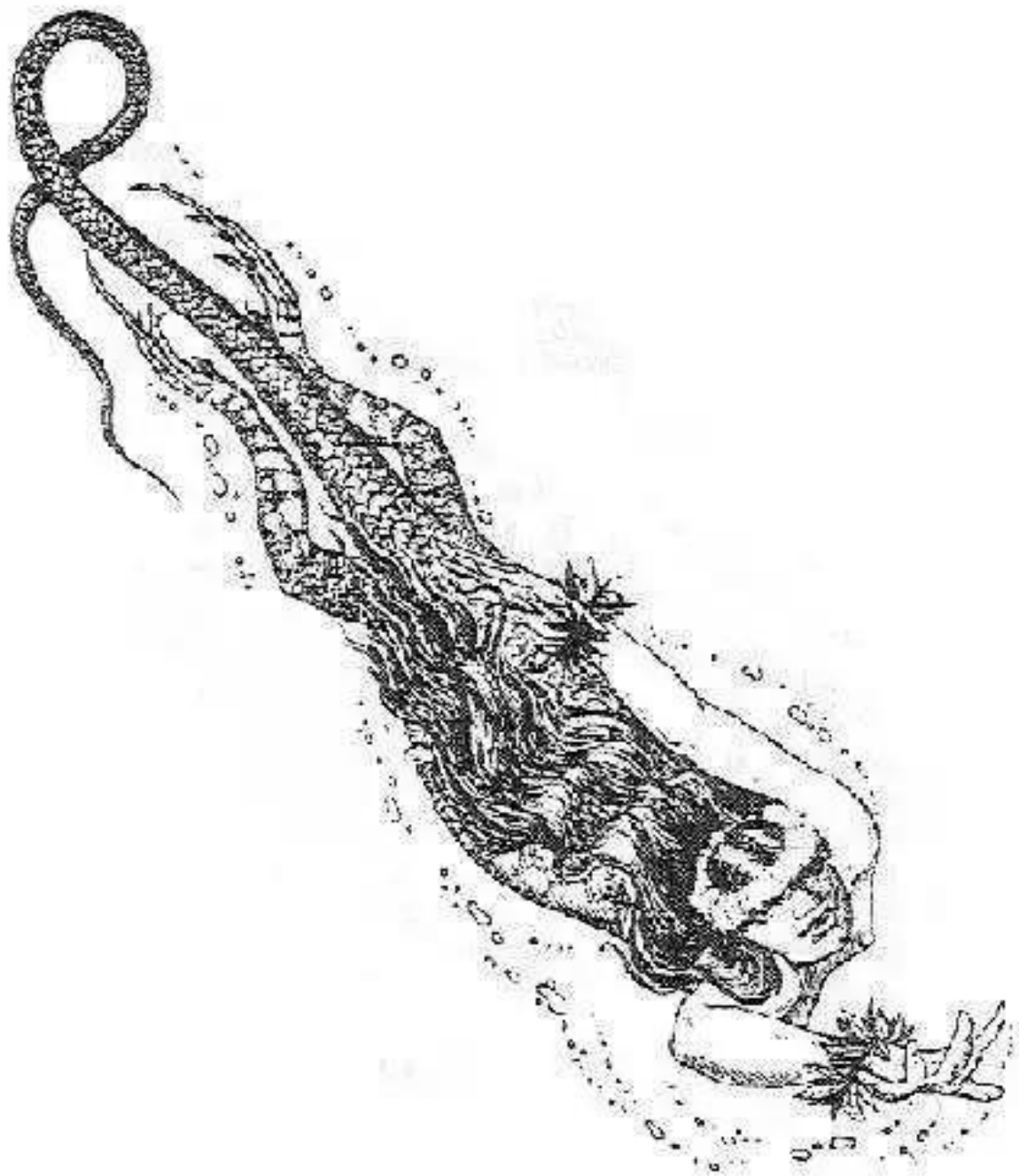
Kia'i loko (pond protector)

Mo'o wahine (lizard water diety woman)

Kinolau: beautiful woman, hau tree,

Keeper of "extraordinary fish"

Lived in 'Uko'a Fishpond and swam to Loko Ea with her brother Puhi'ula to bathe in loko and kai



In McAllister's Archaeology of Oahu, it is said that in the old days offerings were left on a certain large stone for Laniwahine, goddess of Ukoa, which stone was marked by a dead tree near Pump 4 of the Waialua Agricultural Co.

# Place-based education

Ahupua'a systems

Kilo and makawalu

Traditional implements

Native and invasive fish and plant species

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## Education through mo'olelo and mele

Laniwahine and her many kinolau  
Ended the week with a mele  
about their time at Loko Ea

RAISING KANAKA CONSCIOUSNESS

# RECONNECTING AND RECLAIMING IDENTITY

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Allowing 'āina to pull you to your kuleana

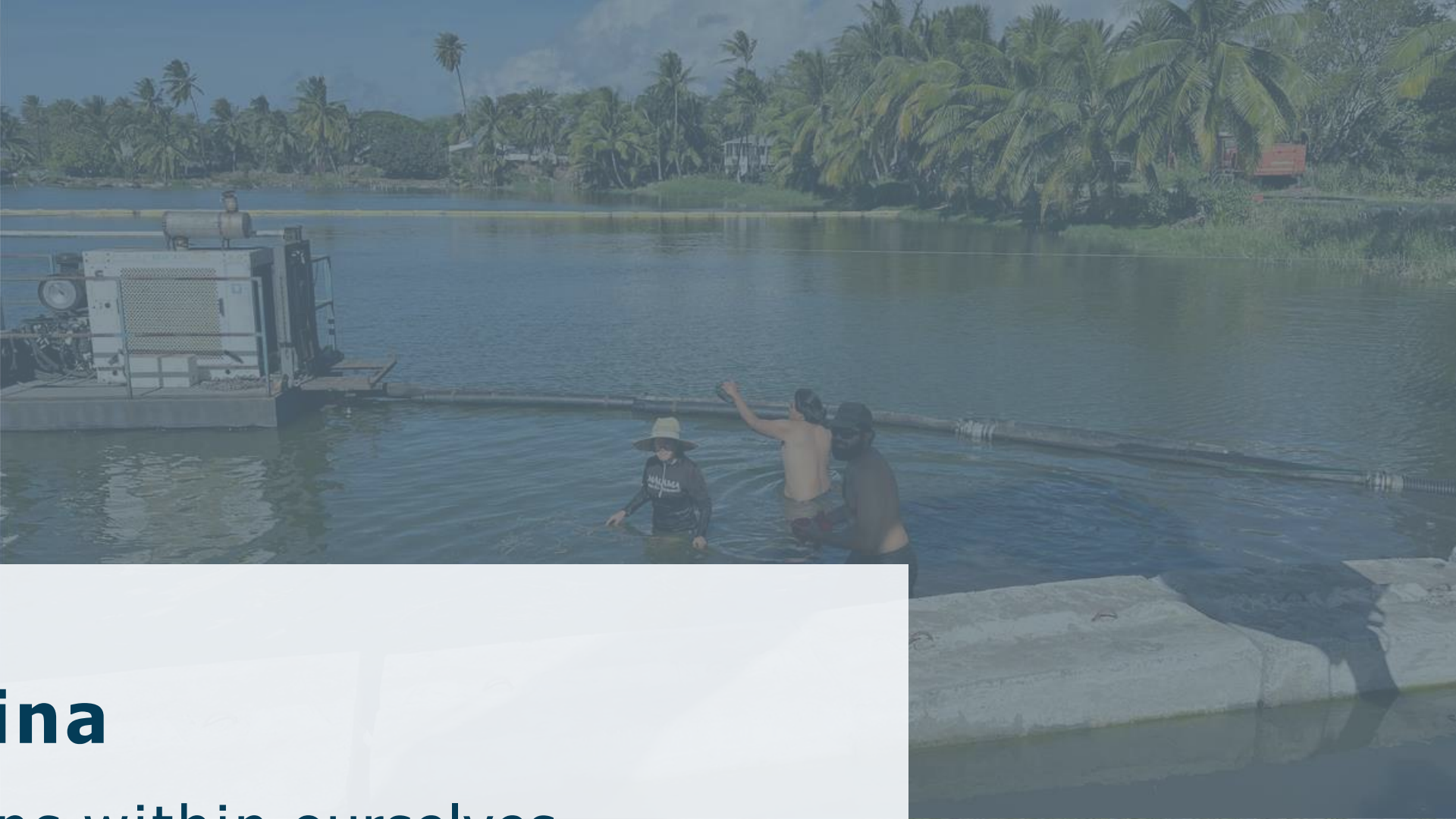
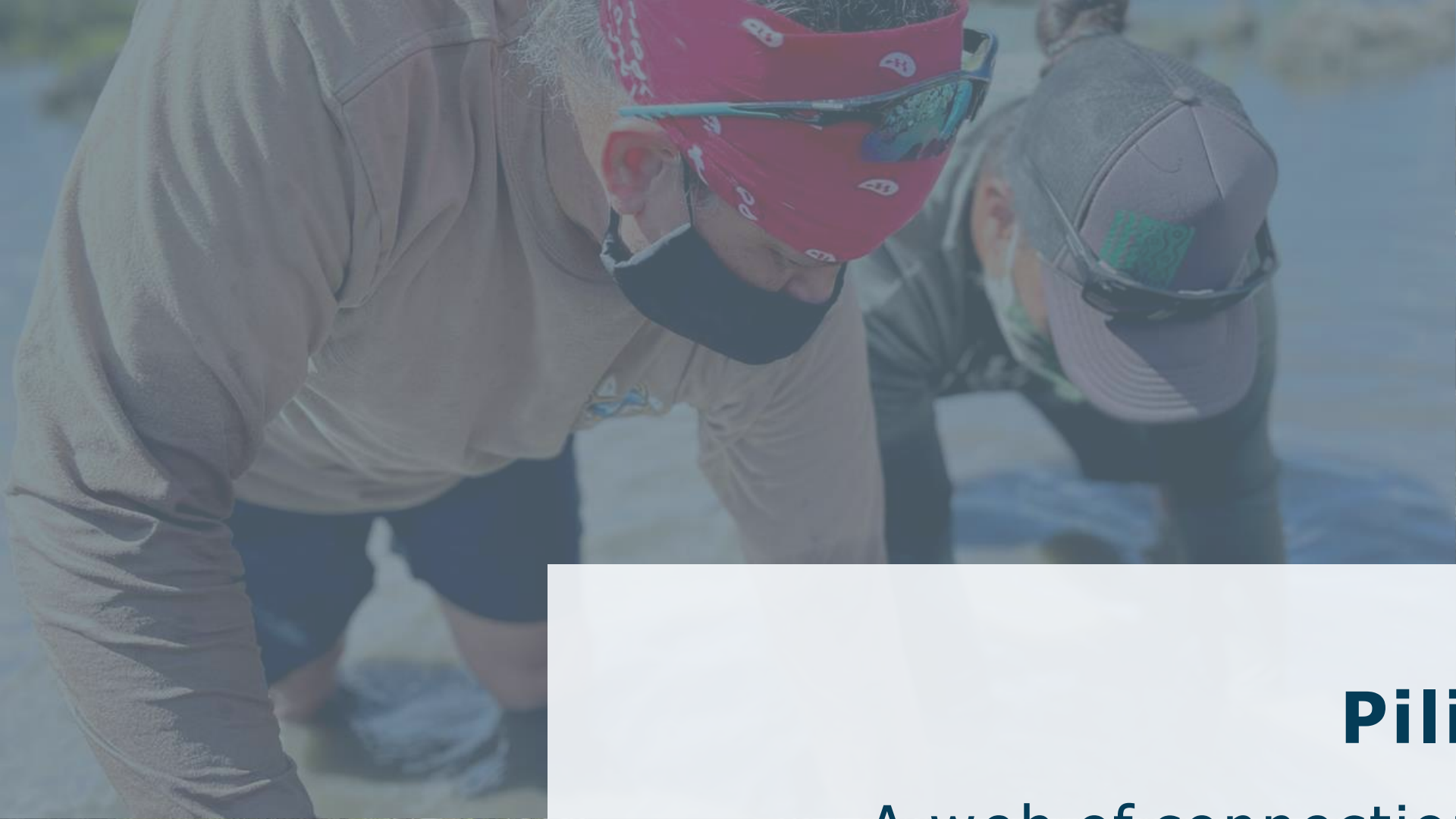
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**ALOHA IS AN ACTIVE VERB.  
IF IT DOES NOT TRANSFORM US,  
IT IS NOT ALOHA.**

JAMAICA OSORIO

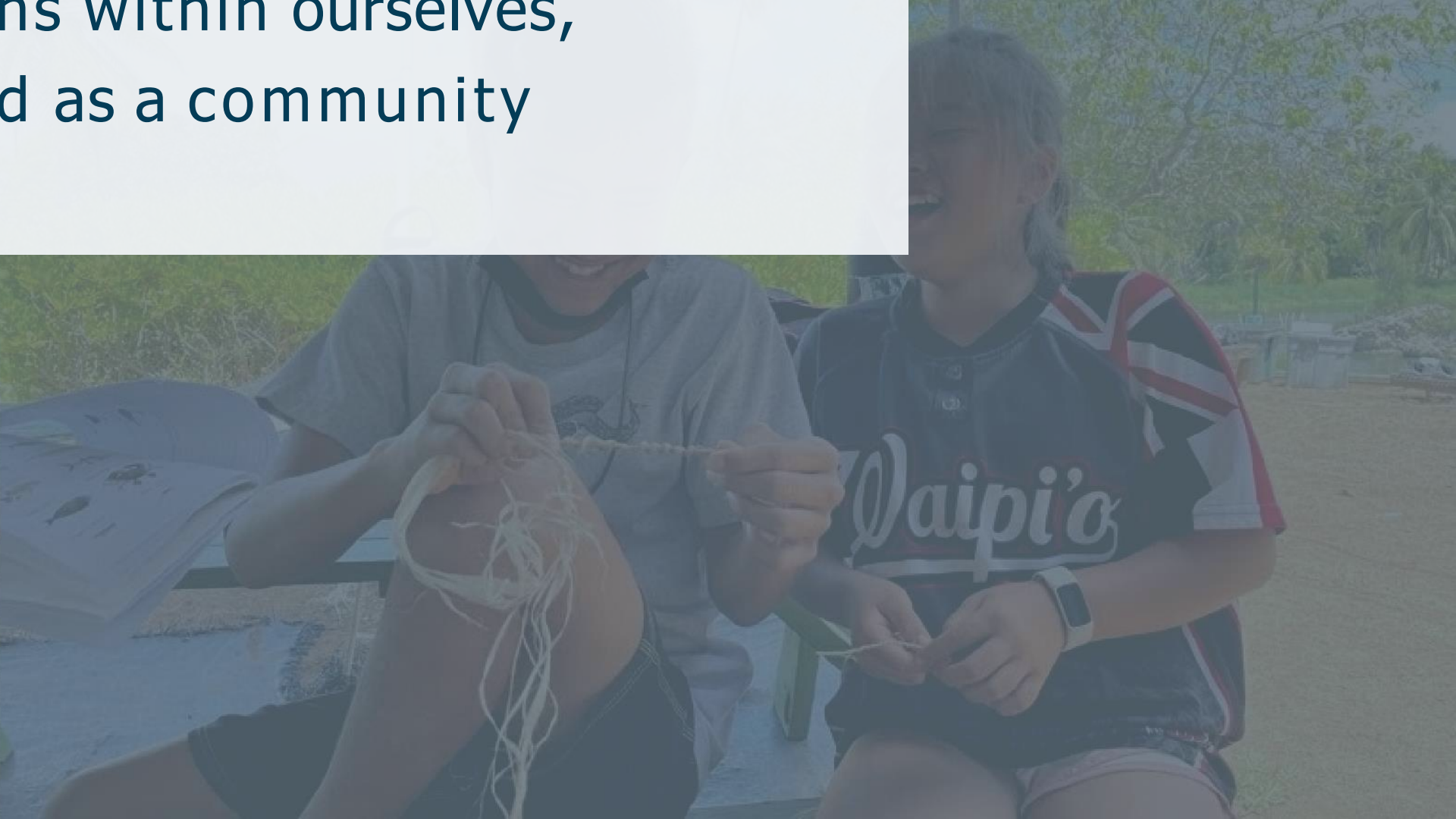
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## Pilina

A web of connections within ourselves,  
interpersonally and as a community



**‘Āina is at the center of Native Hawaiian spirituality, health and well-being.**

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Nani ke kalo, nani ke kanaka

## Issues to Tackle

- When we live on and work the land, we become knowledgeable of the life of the land
- We develop partnership with the land so as to know when to plant, fish, or heal our minds and bodies according to ever-changing weather, seasons and moons

# How Pilina With 'Āina Heals Intergenerational Trauma?

## RECONNECTION

- Spiritual, physical, emotional and mental wellness.
- Learning the mo'olelo in relation to what ahupua'a you are in
- Literal reconnection when hands are in lepo

## KULEANA/PURPOSE

- Caring for 'āina is like caring for an elder
- Protecting 'āina will pull you to different wahi
- 'Āina will speak to you -- call you to your kuleana (mahi'ai, lawai'a, kumu, wa'a)

## BRINGING LESSONS HOME

- Nani ke kalo, nani ke kanaka
- Finding pride in culture and identity by breathing life into it
- Most of the change necessary for the lāhui is healing self and the family unit

## 'A' A I KA 'ŌLELO!

We are beyond excited to provide our kaiāulu with a FREE outreach program focused on learning the language of our 'āina... 'Ōlelo Hawai'i!

WITH KUMU KAHANUOLA SOLATORIO

First class on Thursday  
**January 20, 2022**

**FREE**

**ONLINE CLASSES**

# 'ŌLELO HAWAII'

Thursday Evenings

6:00pm-7:00pm

Online Zoom platform

**LANGUAGE  
RECLAMATION**

2 classes/week for 16 weeks  
Fall and Spring Sessions

**FREE AND ACCESSIBLE**  
4,000 online students joined last  
year

**STRENGTHENS 'OHANA**  
Families are sharing the screen  
regularly to hop onto papa 'ōlelo



A photograph of three fresh fish, likely ahi, laid out on a white cutting board. A hand is visible at the top right, with fingers pointing towards the fish. The background is a wooden surface. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent green background.

# FOOD SOVEREIGNTY

Is true sovereignty

- **Dredge Big Pond**

Huge step towards Loko Ea moving beyond restoration and being ready to harvest fish for community

- **Monthly Food Distribution**

~400 Hawaiian plates are given to Waialua community from imu alongside Hawaii Food Bank

- **Planting Kits**

Free planting kits given to keiki along with lessons on how to grow your native plants

- **Loko i'a kalo**

Natural hydroponics allows for Hāloa to thrive at Loko Ea as well

# Path Towards Regenerative Agriculture



## Permits Approved for the dredge

Phase I: Dredge Big Pond  
(end of 2023)

Phase II: Rest and Restore  
(end of 2024)

Phase III: Ready for Harvest!  
(by 2025)

Phase IV: Share equipment  
with other loko i'a

# Program Overview

MLEF serving at risk and low-income families in West O'ahu. Conducted 179 events in July 2018-2019, 103 of the events conducted were education programs. 4 teacher trainings.

**66.7%**

DOE TITLE I SCHOOLS

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**74.1%**

NATIVE HAWAIIAN STUDENTS

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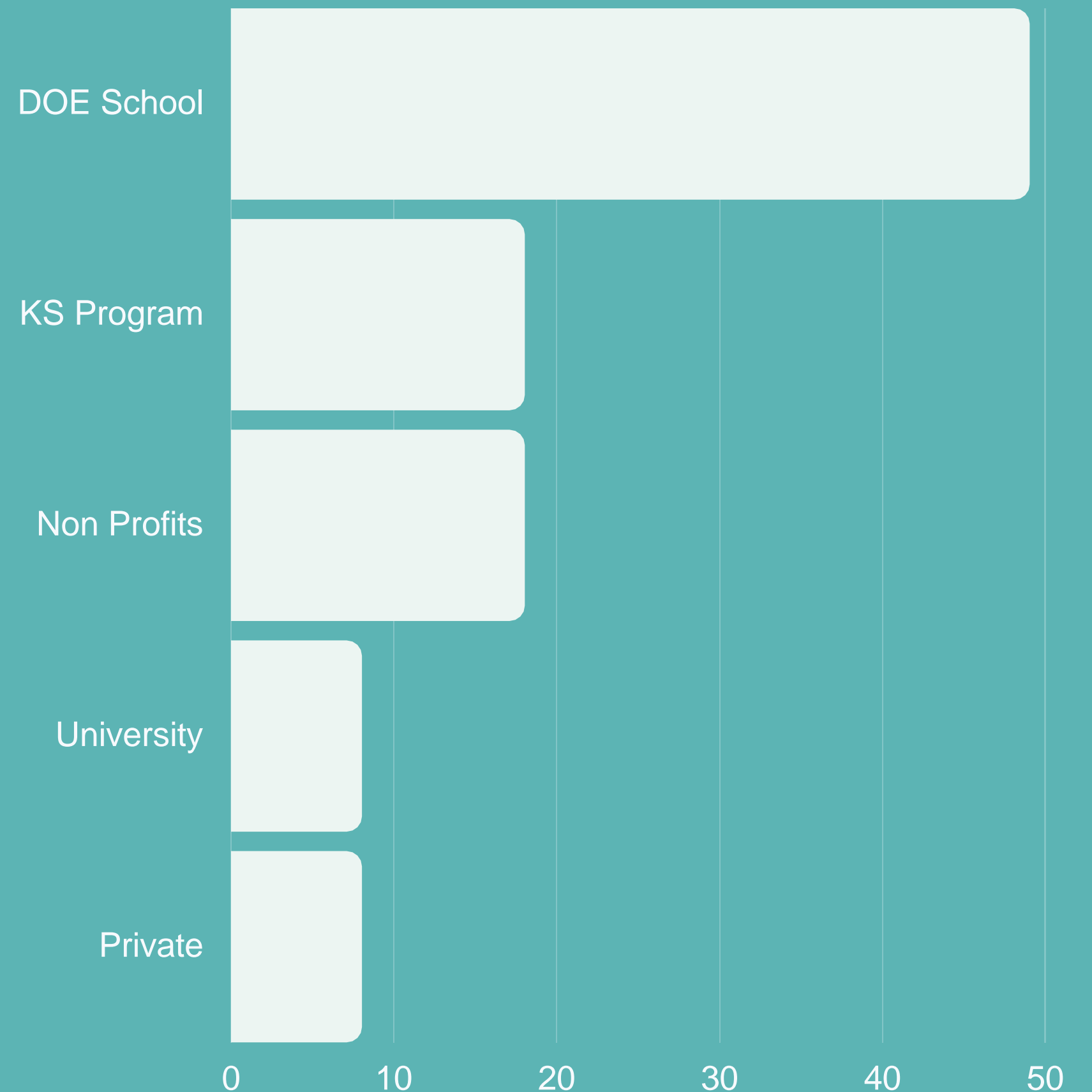
# Program Overview

**MLEF conducted 400 events in 2022**

Served over 6,000 volunteer and learners

400 Hawaiian plates/month using 'imu partnered with Hawaii Food Bank

Monthly Community Work Days





# EA WORKSHOPS

## HULIHIA

Political education relative to Hawai'i case locally, nationally, and internationally

## HOLOMUA INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Summer Interns will be trained in Popular Education and Transformative Justice practices

## 'UKO'A

Train interns in facilitation practices of community-driven action plans towards gaining access to 'Uko'a

## SHARING ROADBLOCKS AND BEST PRACTICES

Youth working in 'āina share space to discuss experiences, challenges, and stakeholders

# ALOHA 'ĀINA HAS TAUGHT ME

- **Self-Identity**

Grounds me in my identity as a kanaka maoli and ingenuity of my ancestors

- **Purpose**

Dedicating my life to the protection of these watersheds and our sacred resources

- **Aloha is Multi-faceted**

Aloha is tender. Aloha is fierce. Aloha is warm. Aloha is love in all its forms.

- **Pride**

The ingenuity of my ancestors. How 'ike kūpuna is the answer to our climate crisis if we actively breathe life into it

“

**IT IS FOR THEM THAT I WOULD  
GIVE MY LAST DROP OF MY  
BLOOD; IT IS FOR THEM THAT I  
WOULD SPEND, NAY, AM  
SPENDING, EVERYTHING  
BELONGING TO ME.**

HER MAJESTY, QUEEN LILI'UOKALANI

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